

# Fashioning Switzerland: Portraits and landscapes by Markus Dinkel and his contemporaries

4 June to 15 September 2013

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

A display of over thirty Swiss watercolours and prints by the so-called 'little Swiss masters' dating from the mid-eighteenth to early-nineteenth century. The exhibition opens in the Shiba Gallery at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, on 4 June and features a rare selection of delicately drawn and coloured portraits of Swiss women in regional costume, by the Bernese artist Markus Dinkel (1762-1832). These pictures, never before exhibited in this country, are accompanied by drawn and printed depictions of the Swiss landscape by native artists such as Samuel Birmann, Friedrich Salathé, Sigmund Freudenberger and Johann Ludwig Aberli.



Markus Dinkel, Portrait of a Bernese woman

The prints and drawings on show were made within the century before the establishment of the Swiss federal state in 1848, at a time when foreign tourists were discovering the delights of the various cantons (districts). The images show an affectionate attachment to Swiss landscapes and culture, felt not only by those native to the country, but by the many foreign visitors who collected them as permanent reminders of their travels.

Amy Marquis, curator of the exhibition commented: 'Dinkel's miniatures portray Swiss women in a variety of intricate costumes confirming, as do the landscapes, the importance of regional identity. The carefully crafted works cultivated an image of Switzerland that appealed to both native and foreign collectors at the time and which remains with us today.'

The exhibition runs to 15 September.

- Ends -

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Notes to editors:

**Fashioning Switzerland:**  
**Portraits and landscapes by Markus Dinkel and his contemporaries**  
4 June - 15 September 2013  
The Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RB  
**ADMISSION FREE**

OPEN:            Tuesday - Saturday: 10.00 - 17.00  
                      Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays: 12.00 - 17.00

## **The Fitzwilliam Museum**

Founded in 1816 the Fitzwilliam is the principal museum of the University of Cambridge, with collections exploring world history and art from antiquity to the present day. It houses over half a million objects from ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman artefacts, to medieval illuminated manuscripts, masterpiece paintings from the Renaissance to the 21<sup>st</sup> century and outstanding collections of applied arts, ceramics, coins, and Asian arts. Welcoming over 400,000 visitors a year, the Fitzwilliam presents a wide ranging public programme of major exhibitions, events and education activities, and is an internationally recognised institute of learning, research and conservation.  
[www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk](http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk)

**Press Release | The Fitzwilliam Museum**

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