

EXHIBITION

Heads up

Hats, Hoods, Hip-hop Caps

20 October 2022 – 30 April 2023

Headwear has always been an important element of self-expression. It is precisely with this particular accessory that people of all ages and across all strata of society have succeeded in giving their own appearance a special twist.

With around 250 hats, bonnets, caps and other original headwear from its unique collection, the Bayerisches Nationalmuseum is for the first time offering a comprehensive overview of the historical and cultural development of this fashionable accessory from the Middle Ages to the present day. What immediately stands out is that head coverings were and still are a prime means of communication. They lend dignity to the wearer and make hierarchies visible, can strengthen the sense of community, but also can create distance.

The exhibition examines the constant transformation in headgear over the centuries from a variety of perspectives. The bandwidth of the objects shown ranges from magnificent mitres to delicate women's caps, from clearly structured men's hats and lavishly decorated women's hats to current designer head wear.

In addition to fashion history, the exhibition also focuses on social and economic contexts and gets to the bottom of the most diverse materials and production techniques. You can also get background information on those who once wore the headgear. The Bayerisches Nationalmuseum owns several hats of Bavarian kings and queens, including more than 40 headpieces of Ludwig I. Other prominent hats come from the fairytale king Ludwig II, Reich Chancellor Otto von Bismarck and Stephanie of Austria, the widow of Crown Prince Rudolf, who died so tragically.

At the centre of the large exhibition stand the historical originals. Sculptures, porcelain figures, costume dolls and paintings serve to illuminate how hats, bonnets, hoods, veils, wreaths and caps were worn from the 16th to the 19th century.

Essential men's hat fashions of the 20th and 21st centuries such as Fedoras, Trilbies, Porkpies, top hats, and the various flat caps are represented in the exhibition. Important private collectors

Weitere Informationen

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confirmed iconic ladies' hats from the ateliers of Dior, Pierre Cardin, Yves Saint Laurent, Christian Lacroix and Moschino as loans. Unique pieces by international stars such as Philip Treacy, Stephen Jones and Cécile Feilchenfeldt as well as the latest creations by Munich-based fashion designers and hat artists are further highlights.

Princess Gloria von Thurn und Taxis is the patron of the exhibition project and will also contribute two original items from her personal wardrobe.

Headgear from the past to the present clearly demonstrate: headwear functions both as social markers and fashion statements, offers a unique variety and is simply wonderful!

The exhibition is generously sponsored by the iconic American brand Stetson and complemented by loans from the company archive.

A generously illustrated catalogue presents all the exhibits and provides a wealth of additional information.

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