

## Dresden Cityscape (1865)

### Abstract

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This painting by Franz Wilhelm Leuteritz (1817–1902) shows members of Dresden society strolling on the Brühlsche Terrasse, known as “the balcony of Europe.” Leuteritz’s view includes the Augustus Bridge, one of the many bridges over the Elbe River. Dresden’s *Neustadt* lies in the distance. A stone bridge had spanned the Elbe at this location as early as 1287. The bridge pictured here, however, was built between 1727 and 1731 according to plans by Dresden’s famous Baroque architect Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann (1662–1737). At the time of its construction, the bridge measured 402 meters long by 11 meters wide and was considered one of Europe’s finest examples of bridge design. Reconstruction in 1907-10 increased its width to 17 meters. The bridge was named after August the Strong [August der Starke]. During August’s reign as Elector, as Friedrich August I of Saxony (1673–1733), and finally as August II of Poland (1697–1733), many of Dresden’s other architectural splendors were built, including the Zwinger, Schloss Pillnitz, and the Frauenkirche. The Augustus Bridge was temporarily renamed the Georgi-Dimitroff Bridge during the German Democratic Republic.

### Source

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Source: Franz Wilhelm Leuteritz, *Blick von der Brühlschen Terrasse nach Neustadt* [View from the Brühl Terrace to Neustadt]. Oil painting (1865). Photo: Hermann Buresch.

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