

Wilhelm Leibl, *The Newspaper Reader* (1891)

Abstract

The artist Wilhelm Leibl (1844–1900) dedicated himself to realistic but sensitive portrayals of everyday life in rural Germany. This painting shows an older peasant reading the *Münchener Neueste Nachrichten*. Leibl's implied commentary on the ceremonial, gendered nature of newspaper reading (and the similarly gendered public discourse in which well-informed readers were supposed to participate) is amplified by the presence of two women who sit quietly in the background, gazing at each other but not engaging in conversation.

Source



Source: Wilhelm Leibl, *Der Zeitungsleser* [*The Newspaper Reader*] (1891). Original: Folkwang Museum Essen. Reproduction: *The Yorck Project: 10.000 Meisterwerke der Malerei*. DVD-ROM, 2002. Distributed by DIRECTMEDIA Publishing GmbH and made available on Wikimedia Commons, www.commonswikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Wilhelm_Maria_Hubertus_Leibl_005.jpg

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