

## Hans Baldung Grien, *Witches' Coven* (1510)

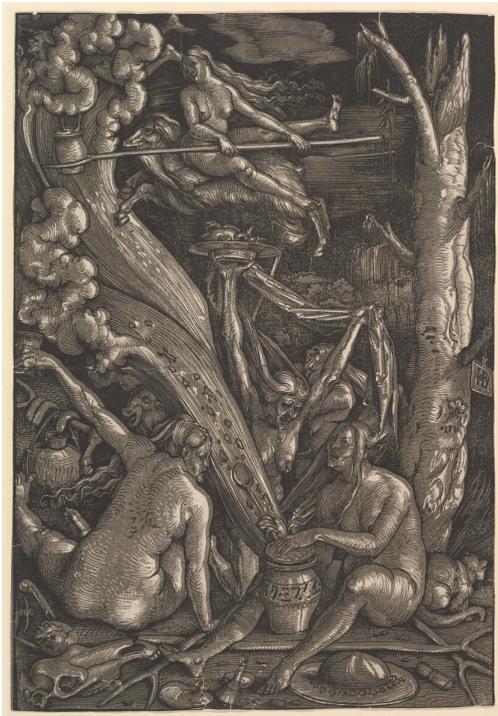
### Abstract

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The belief in witches and the resulting persecution of witches were both widespread in the sixteenth century, especially after a treatise on the identification and persecution of witches entitled *Hammer of the Witches* [*Malleus Maleficarum*] was published in 1486. Strasbourg artist Hans Baldung Grien (1484/85-1545), a former apprentice of Albrecht Dürer, developed a keen interest in this subject around 1510. This image of a so-called *Hexensabbat* (witches' coven) attests to contemporary beliefs about the occult rituals supposedly performed by witches.

### Source

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Source: Hans Baldung Grien, *The Witches*, Chiaroscuro woodcut, 1510. Metropolitan Museum of Art, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/363491>

Metropolitan Museum of Art

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