

Image Series: *Rural Festival* (1535)

Abstract

A festival in an early modern village was a welcome opportunity for entertainment and socializing. These three woodcuts, part of a series by Nuremberg artist Hans Sebald Beham (1500-50), portray village merry-making. The first image shows a wedding receiving line (background), a barber-surgeon pulling a tooth (center middle-ground), lovers embracing and beer being poured (left foreground), and men haggling over the price of a calf.

The second image shows men drinking and socializing (left), lovers embracing, a drunken man vomiting next to a dog, friends at a table, and musicians (far right).

The third scene features, among other things, a horse race (background) and a village brawl (middle-ground).

Source





Source: Hans Sebald Beham, *The rural feast*, woodcut series, 1535.

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