

**Abteilung für Asiatische und Islamische Kunstgeschichte SoSe 2023**

**Vortrag von Nathalie Neumann M.A.**

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**“Felix Ganz (Mainz) – A Man and his Collection  
- Vanished almost without Traces.”**

**Montag, 22.05.2023, Beginn: 18.15 Uhr**

Abteilung für Asiatische und Islamische Kunstgeschichte, Adenauerallee 10, ÜR (EG)  
<https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/62848748062?pwd=ZTdVOGlBa0xFWk5NExPTkp2SnNyQT09>

Felix Ganz (1869-1944) was a successful businessman from Mainz and managing director of Ludwig Ganz AG, which imported and manufactured oriental carpets and textile products for furniture and home décor. He was also an art collector with an important collection of art objects from the Middle East and East Asia. In 1934, Ludwig Ganz AG was ‘aryanized’. In 1942 he and his second wife Erna were deported to Theresienstadt, where they survived for two years, and were murdered in the Auschwitz concentration camp in October 1944. His art collection disappeared with only have a rough description of the items from restitution claims. In 2019 some objects belonging to Felix were discovered in the Landesmuseum in Mainz.

Adam Ganz is the great-grandson of Felix Ganz and his research on family history has already featured in exhibitions in Mainz and the Historical Museum in Frankfurt. In autumn 2018 he and Nathalie Neumann successfully applied to the German Lostart Foundation (DZK Magdeburg) to research the fate of the collection in conjunction with the University of Mainz.

The method to reconstruct the art collection is to place Felix Ganz in the center of a network of family, friends, and business and administrative relationships in order to understand and reconstruct historic exchanges whether of information or objects. The aim of the research is to find the art collection of the Ganz family but one of the effects is also to reconstruct the memory and connections of this assimilated Jewish family in Mainz.



Photo: Felix Ganz (left) with his family, family archives © Ganz Family