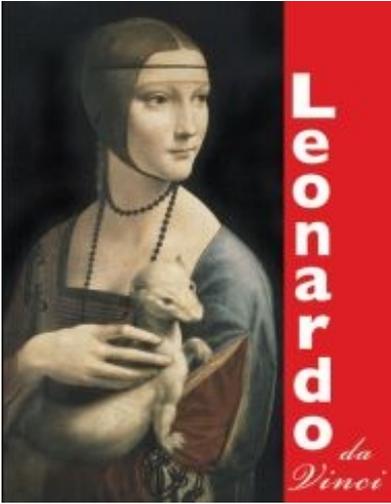


# Lady with an Ermine and other masterpieces from Czartoryski Museum in Cracow



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Open since **May 18<sup>th</sup>** 2010 through **February 28<sup>th</sup>** 2011

Which painting best represents Leonardo da Vinci's true genius? While there are no clear answers, one of them is certainly *Lady with an Ermine* from the collection of the Czartoryski Museum in Kraków – one of the artist's most valuable masterpieces, the only one in a Polish collection, and one of a dozen or so the authenticity of which has never been in dispute. The beauty of the portrait of Cecilia Gallerani is striking for its masterful suggestive depiction ca. 1490 of the countenance and nature of the young lady who enjoyed the favours of Count Ludovico il Moro, as well as for the carnal allure of the face and hands of Cecilia, whose portrait seems to be an allegorical apotheosis of Renaissance female beauty.

The second most valuable painting in the Czartoryski collection – *Landscape with the Good Samaritan* by Rembrandt is one of three masterpieces by the great painter held in Polish collections. It is an extraordinary painting in Rembrandt's artistic legacy, firstly due to the subject matter, where the dramatic composition of the biblical parable is also created by the landscape – the actual subject of the painting study. The atmosphere of the painting is also unusual, achieved masterfully with its bright and muted contrasts of tone.

The two masterpieces are accompanied by an exhibition of works selected from the Czartoryski Museum's vast collection, including works by such significant artists as Dirk Bouts and Jean Pierre Norblin, as well as brilliant artefacts of craftsmanship from Europe as well as the Middle and Far East.

Text by Przemysław Mrozowski, PhD, Exhibition Curator

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## OPENING HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: between **10 am - 4 pm**

Sunday between **11 am - 4 pm**

The last visitor is admitted one hour before the exhibition closes

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## TICKETS:

regular rate - **15 zlotys**

reduced rate - **10 zlotys**

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Please be welcomed