

Press release, Hanns Schell, Schell-Collection

Human beings have always gone to great lengths to protect their belongings.

As a joint owner of the Odörfer Co., which was founded in 1804, I started to build up a collection of fixtures and vessels nearly 50 years ago.

Although in the beginning it was made up of just padlocks which I brought back from journeys to Asia, it has developed into the largest collection of locks, keys, caskets, chests and cast iron art in the world.

Today, a specially dedicated museum exhibits more than 13,000 objects over an area of 2.500 m<sup>2</sup>.

As the owners, our family and I as the collector are particularly pleased that the Universalmuseum Joanneum, with its own outstanding and varied collections, has agreed to cooperate in an exhibition featuring the topic of enclosures and caskets.

With this joint presentation in Schloss Trautenfels, we wish to provide the visitor a closer look at the art of the locksmith and other handcraft trades of the past.