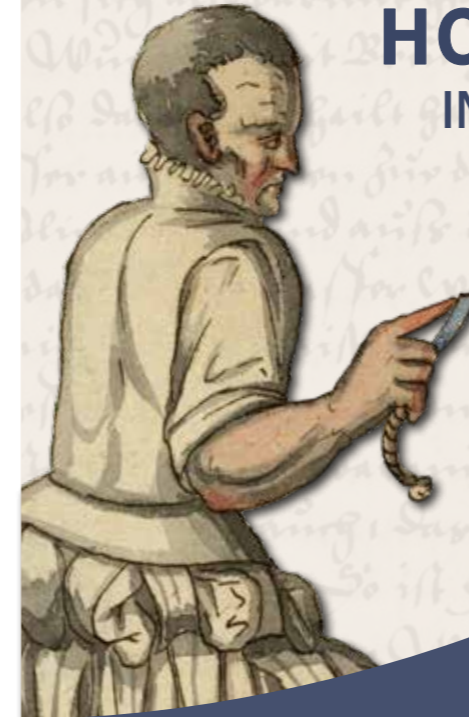


steinreich

THE FUGGER SURGICAL HOSPITAL IN AUGSBURG



Deutsches Medizinhistorisches Museum

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Open

Tue – Sun 10.00 – 17.00
For holiday opening hours please see our website.

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dmm-ingolstadt.ticketfritz.de

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Medizinhistorisches
Museum

3.11.22-17.9.23

Bladder stones and patient details. Illustrated manuscript.
Paper, leather, cardboard, Augsburg, 1st third of the 17th
century; Deutsches Medizinhistorisches Museum



IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE MANUSCRIPT

In 2016, the Friends Association of the Deutsches Medizinhistorisches Museum acquired a spectacular manuscript for its collection. It contains pictures of bladder stones and information about the patients. It quickly transpired that the records came from the vicinity of the ‚Schneidhaus‘ – a hospital specializing in surgical treatments that the Fugger family founded in Augsburg in the 16th century.



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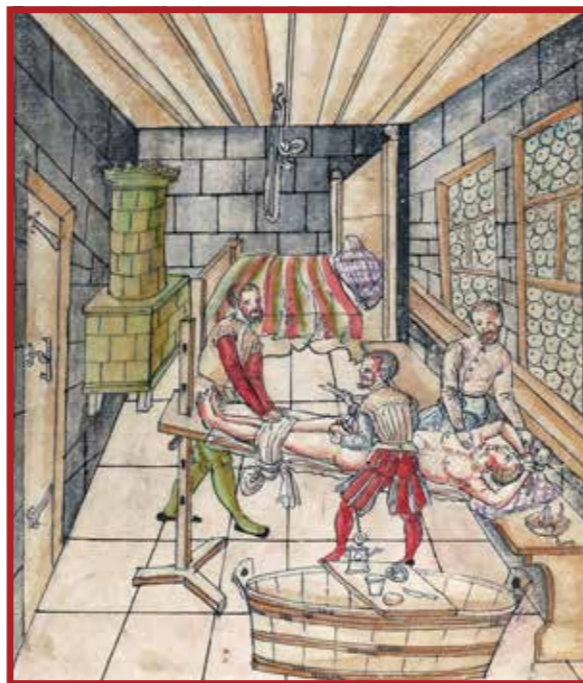
This unique manuscript provided the impetus for a project funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation).

The surgical hospital was the subject of scholarly research for the first time from 2019 to 2022. The results can now be seen in the STEINREICH exhibition.

THE PATIENTS' PROGRESS

The exhibition narrative traces the ordeal of bladder stone sufferers step by step: from the first pains and the worried look at the cloudy urine to the medical and religious offers of help, to Augsburg, and to the Fugger surgical hospital. Following the operation, several weeks were spent in the infirmary, where nurses cared for the patients and practiced the Catholic faith with them.

One of many hundreds of patients who took this path was 20-year-old Niclaus Kurtz from Ingolstadt. He was afflicted with a bladder stone and had a successful operation in the surgical hospital in 1624. His story, as a graphic novel, forms the common thread running through the exhibition.



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hernias, the remainder from bladder stones. The patients were predominantly male and mostly very young. About two thirds of them were under 15 years old. They stayed in the surgical hospital for an average of eight weeks. Over 90% of those operated on were discharged as „cured“.

THE SURGICAL HOSPITAL

An excellently qualified surgeon worked in the Fugger surgical hospital as a permanent employee. Any sick person whose condition could be treated surgically could apply for admission, provided they were ‚needy‘ and Catholic. The Fugger Foundation paid for the operation and care. After the wound had healed, the patients were released to go home. The Fugger's Schneidhaus was the first ‚surgical clinic‘ that we know of!

The Fugger administration functioned so thoroughly that it is possible to provide statistical information for some decades: most of the patients suffered from



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ACCOMPANYING PROGRAMME

Accompanying the exhibition we present a diverse programme with guided tours, lunchtime visits, concerts and lectures as well as school workshops. To find out more, visit our website.

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Annemarie Kinzelbach,
Monika Weber (Hg.):
STEINREICH. Das Schneidhaus der Fugger
in Augsburg. Ingolstadt 2022 (Catalogue of
the Deutsches Medizinhistorisches
Museum Ingolstadt 48) 21 x 21 cm,
hardcover, 212 pages, richly illustrated,
€ 18, in German language.

- 1 Bladder stone. Cut in half, late 19th c.; Berliner Medizinhistorisches Museum der Charité
- 2 Operating knife. Iron, wood, 16/17th c.; Universität Zürich, Institut für Evolutionäre Medizin (IEM)
- 3 Watercolour drawing. From Caspar Stromayr, Practica Copiosa. Manuscript from 1559; Formerly Reichsstädtische Bibliothek Lindau (B)
- 4 Bladder stone. Mounted in iron as a votive offering; Wallfahrtskirche St. Rasso in Grafrath
- 5 Child's rosary. Wood, metal, late 17th c.; Diözesanmuseum Freising, loan from the Edith-Haberland-Wagner-Stiftung