



The paintings on show to the German press

Messina 15 May 1972 - Emma Hess receives the visit of the German consul Friedrich Löbau and a group of German journalists. Invited by the provincial tourism board, they are given a preview showing of Christian Hess' recently restored paintings. This is the period in which the project for the Rediscovery of Hess' works is getting underway. Two years later the traveling exhibition set out from Palermo, crossed Italy and then entered Austria before reaching its final stage in Munich. The meeting provided a fruitful exchange of ideas between the press and the artist's sister as she explained her plans to restore to German culture one of its leading artists, whose early death at the age of 48 followed an allied bombing raid on Innsbruck. Emma told the journalists of how, on the eve of Italy's entry into the war, she received the custody of her brother's paintings as the artist left his voluntary exile in Sicily and sought refuge in neutral Switzerland. During the war many of the paintings - almost all of them unframed - suffered various forms of damage as they were moved - rolled up in a series of wrappings - from one air-raid shelter to another. The restoration work had brought the paintings back to their original glory.

The photographs show some moments from the visit by the German journalists. These are followed by the signatures of those present and a letter from the Palermo Tourism Office agreeing to send on the photos to the Italian Tourism Board in Munich, which in turn would forward them to the participants.



German journalists at the preview showing

15.5.1972

Ursula Peters	Süddeutsche Zeitung München
LUDWIG STEINKOHL	BAY. LANDTAG, MÜNCHEN CSU - PRESSESPRECHER
Frau Inge Lillhög Fich Tatit	OPD - München Axmann - Reisen München Fotograf
Angelo LOMBARDO	Ufficio Viggi Axmann - München
Maria Thiele	8 München 2 (Jasmin) Neuturmstrasse 10
Christoph Lindenmeyer	8 München 1 Rundfunkplatz Bayerischer Rundfunk Privat: 8 München 19 Hilblestr. 36
Uwe Wulke	Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt Hamburg
Horst Werner	BILD - München
Heidi P. Jansen	Bayer. Anstaltzeitung

AZIENDA AUTONOMA DI TURISMO
DI PALERMO E MONREALE

Palermo, 26 MAG. 1972

V. Direttore

2598

Egregio Dottore,

in riscontro alla Sua lettera del 16 maggio 1972, sono lieto di comunicarLe che l'Assessorato Regionale al Turismo, con nota n.8387 del 19 corrente che Le invio in copia, ha dato notizia di essere interessato alla realizzazione della Mostra retrospettiva del pittore L.C. Hess.

Per l'ulteriore prosieguo della pratica è necessario conoscere i termini di partecipazione del Goethe Institut e della Famiglia del Pittore.

Per quanto concerne il comunicato da dare alla stampa tedesca, ove Ella lo volesse predisporre e corredarlo della documentazione fotografica, sarà mia cura farlo pervenire alla Delegazione E.N.I.T. di Monaco per la distribuzione ai Giornalisti intervenuti a Messina.

Cordiali saluti.

(Dott. Giuseppe Provenza)



Ill.mo Sig.
Dott. Domenico M. Ardizzone
M E S S I N A