

## THE MUNICH SHOW-2014: A FEAST FOR THE MINERAL HUNGRY

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1. Poster of the Show 2014.  
Photo: Mineralientage, ©Munich Show, 2014.

### Photo:

Albert Russ if not mentioned other.

2. Open ceremony of Munich Show, 2014.  
Photo: Goran Nitschke, Mineralientage,  
©Munich Show, 2014.

3. Princess Auguste with new registered bavarian "Machtenstein" meteorite.  
Photo: Mineralientage, ©Munich Show, 2014.

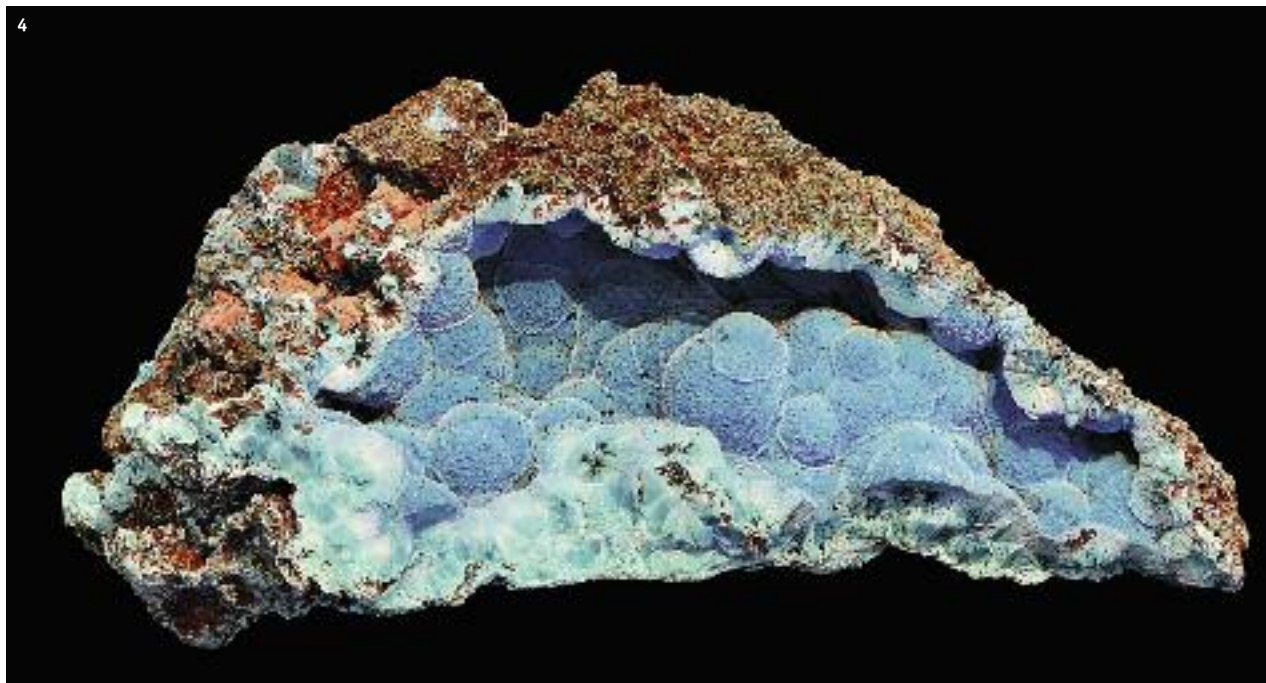
The Munich show has been for many decades THE SHOW to visit in the autumn and perhaps only the Saint-Marie aux Mines show (which used to be much smaller in the 1980–90s) and the Tucson Show can really compete for the rest of the year. As a kid I was dreaming to come to Munich Mineralientage. I am not sure anymore how I knew there was a great mineral show in Munich, Germany, perhaps from a Gemologist in my home city Göteborg, but around 1970 I knew about Munich and Tucson and at that stage it was a BIG DREAM to attend these shows. There was none yet in Scandinavia but an annual mineral specimen Auction for jewelers in Copenhagen. Thirty years ago the dream became real, but at that time I was a young student, too poor to afford fine specimens.

The 2014 show provided many fine specimens and not everything has to be newly found to be interesting. On the contrary, a lot of old collections have been coming up for sale the last decade and the number of them is increasing as many old collectors pass away. Prices in many cases were reasonable and even some high quality specimens were affordable. I think it would be a very nice gesture to the collectors if dealers would publish a small text with the most important information on the collector and his/her/their collection at the time of sales. Such texts could also be sent to the major mineralogical journals for publishing and thus saving some of the Mineralogical Heritage.

For a couple of years I was the host for the Munich Show video with Bryan Swoboda of *Blue Cap Productions* filming some of the mineral specimens for sale and some of the special exhibits. It is really different to show audiences who could not attend the show



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4. **Shattuckite** spherulites on matrix.  
Tantara mine, DR Congo. 15 cm across.  
Specimen: Valere Berlage.

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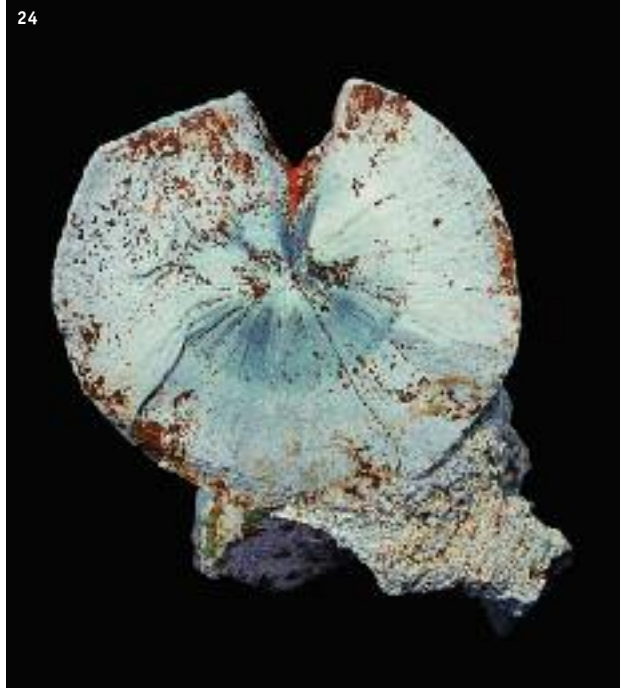


5. Green **beryl**.  
Volodarsk-Volynskii, Ukraine.  
12 x 9 cm. Private Collection.

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27. Gemmy gwindel **quartz** from Winterstock, Uri, Switzerland. 7 cm tall.  
Specimen: Patrick Reith.

28. Gemmy gwindel smoky **quartz** from Tiefenglacier, Uri, Switzerland. 10 cm tall. Specimen: Patrick Reith.

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23. Dark pink **topaz** crystal (2 cm).  
Katleng, Mardan District, Pakistan.  
Specimen: Mustafa Ghulam,  
*Fine Art Minerals*.

24. **Shattuckite**. Tantara mine, DR Congo.  
8 cm tall. Specimen: Valere Berlage.

25. **Quartz** (var. **Amethyst**).  
Veracruz, Mexico. 10 cm tall.  
Specimen: Jurgen Margraf.

26. **Quartz** (var. **Amethyst**) scepter on  
quartz. Tsitondroina, Fianarantsoa province,  
Madagascar. 20 cm tall.  
Specimen: *Merveilles de la Terre*.

to financially recover from the allegedly high expenses for the organization of the *Gold* exhibit with insurance, airline tickets and hotels for curators from half the globe.

The “*Meteorites*” theme spanned from in time from the old classic Gibeon and Pallas Iron meteorites to fresh ones like from the Chelyabinsk February 2013 fall with a great large format photograph from the cockpit of an Airbus 320 taken at 11,000 m altitude.

The design and layout of the exhibition area was exquisite, as always, however many voices were heard that the meteorite exhibit itself, i.e. the variety and quality of specimens shown was not so exciting.

The annual *Alpine exhibit* in Hall A5 this year was devoted to the Rauris Valley in Austria showing typical alpine minerals including large free growing Rutile crystals, large orange Scheelites, etc, as well as images from pockets and the terrain. A very nice pocket showed gemmy green Spheene (Titanite) twins among Quartz, Adularia feldspar and black tourmaline (Schorl).

In the *private collectors display cases* there are always some very interesting exhibits well worth a visit. One display showed typical examples of the colorful Argentinian Condor agates, another a nice display of pegmatite specimens from Beryl to Quartz from the Assuncao Mine in NE Portugal where some giant green Beryl crystals to over 2 m have been found in the past.

In my eyes, the most interesting and beautiful display of the entire Munich Show 2014 was the one put in by mineralogist Johan Kjellman, curator of the Museum of Evolution, Uppsala University, and curator Jörgen Langhof of the Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm. In special celebration of the UNESCO Year of Crystallography 2014, a very interesting, novel, and unique exhibit showcased the very first development and history of crystal models, namely those made by Swedish chemist, mineralogist and mineral collector Johan Tidström, one of Carl Von Linnaeus’ students. A suite of 4 types of Tidströms crystal models which he made for himself and later for the more famous scientists at the time, including