



Konrad Kramar

MISSION MICHELANGELO

How miners from Altaussee saved art treasures looted by the Nazis from destruction

With numerous illustrations, 2nd edition

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The greatest art historical thriller of World War II.

The Allies had won the war, Hitler was dead, but a fanatic Gauleiter was still set on destroying Europe's greatest art treasure: an enormous collection of art works confiscated by the Nazis. The Gauleiter gave orders to blow up the tunnels of Altaussee's salt mine where the stolen art, intended for the 'Führermuseum', had been hidden since 1943. Masterpieces by Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Rubens, Vermeer and Leonardo da Vinci were almost blown to pieces. But luckily, a handful of local men from Salzkammergut (and a few accomplices) managed to save the priceless treasure from destruction. Mission Michelangelo is the story of a few brave men and one of the most mysterious episodes from the last days of World War II.

KONRAD KRAMAR

born 1966 in Vienna, studied pharmacy. He has been working as a journalist since 1984. Kramar began writing for the daily newspaper "Kurier" in 1992, and became an editor for the foreign desk in 1999. He is the author of several acclaimed books on historical subjects such as "Die schrulligen Habsburger" and "Prinz Eugen".