

	Object:	"Initiation. Mannbarkeitsritual."
	Museum:	Ethnologisches Museum Arnimallee 27 14195 Berlin 030 / 83 01 273 <a href="mailto:em@smb.spk-berlin.de">em@smb.spk-berlin.de</a>
	Collection:	Südsee und Australien
	Inventory number:	VIII B 1897

## Description

Handschriftlich unter dem Foto:

Hierauf ergreift jeder einen Jüngling u. trägt ihn unter großem Jubel auf den rein gefegten Festplatz, wo sie sich niedersetzen.

Zeichn. v. S. Mützel

Gustav Mützel (7.12.1839 - 29.10.1893), Zeichner des Originals

[Es handelt sich um die Kopie einer Zeichnung, die in Wilhelm von Blandowskis 1862 zu Gleiwitz erstelltem "Australien in 142 Photographien" veröffentlicht wurde. Über dieses Werk heißt es:

"William Blandowski (1822–78) was a pioneer in many ways. Born in Gleiwitz, Upper Silesia (present-day Gliwice, Poland), he went to Australia in 1849 to compile "a natural history, a botanical classification, and a geological arrangement of this country." He joined an early gold rush in Victoria, where he invented a powerful water pump. Blandowski went on several expeditions, on which he collected numerous specimens and attempted to compile the first checklist of the mammals and birds of Victoria. His drawings are notable for their accuracy and artistic value. Largely unknown is his application of the newly invented technology of photography for scientific purposes. This album, created as the author's copy after his return to Germany from Australia, contains Blandowski's album of photographic prints of drawings and engravings (only some are strictly speaking photographs), together with handwritten annotations and some plates from the portfolio of his unpublished book *Australia Terra Cognita* (today in the State Library of New South Wales, Mitchell Collection). Only the pamphlet with Blandowski's annotations, minus the prints, was printed by Gustav Neumann in Gleiwitz (1862), which explains why only two copies of the album are known to exist: the author's copy in Berlin (text and prints) and an incomplete copy with the prints only in the Haddon Library, at the University of Cambridge. This rudimentary publication marks Blandowski's final effort as an Australian natural historian.

When it failed and nearly bankrupted him, he gave up and established himself as a studio photographer in Gleiwitz. (<https://www.wdl.org/en/item/15128/>)

## Basic data

Material/Technique:

Präsentationsform: auf Karton

Measurements:

Kartonformat (Foto): 23,6 x 32,1 cm;

Bildformat (Foto): 6,8 x 9,8 cm

## Events

Template  
creation

When

Who

Gustav Mützel (1839-1893)

Where

Intellectual  
creation

When

Who

William Blandowski (1822-1878)

Where

[Relationship  
to location]

When

Who

Where

Australia

[Relation to  
person or  
institution]

When

Who

Indigenous Australians

Where

## Keywords

- Initiation
- Photography