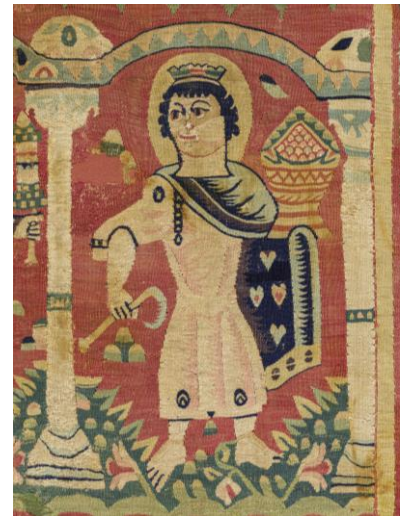


# ABEGG-STIFTUNG

Media Release, February 2026



## SPECIAL EXHIBITION 2026

### AT HOME IN LATE ANTIQUITY FURNISHING TEXTILES OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup>–7<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

**26 APRIL TO 8 NOVEMBER 2026**

**OPEN DAILY 2.00 – 5.30 P.M.**

*Textiles played an important role in the domestic interiors of Late Antiquity. They were at once luxury goods and status symbols, offered protection against the cold and draughts, and endowed living spaces with comfort, colour and grandeur. The masterfully designed wall hangings, curtains, bolsters and blankets that can be marvelled at in the Abegg-Stiftung's new exhibition give a vivid impression of the domestic culture of the age.*

The domestic interiors of Late Antiquity, unlike those of today, contained scarcely any furniture. Couches made of wood and stone were used for both sleeping and dining. Textiles, by contrast, dominated the interior designs of the time, and served as a way of lending expression to their occupants' wealth and social status. Whereas bolsters with covers made of soft woollen fabrics provided comfort, large-format hangings made of linen and wool adorned the walls. The figural depictions on the brightly coloured tapestries show music and dance, the cycle of nature and scenes from mythology. Resist-dyed linen fabrics, which could be used in a variety of ways, also played a part in refining inhabited spaces. The representative selection of such textiles on show in the exhibition gives visitors a sense of just how opulent and colourful the upper-class homes of Late Antiquity were.

Both press release and photo are available as e-mail attachments.

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Caption:

Detail of a tapestry with visual representations of the months, linen and wool, Egypt (?), 4<sup>th</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> century, inv. no. 1638. © Abegg-Stiftung, CH-3132 Riggisberg (photo: Christoph von Viräg)