Altarpiece - Altarpiece with 45 Scenes of the Apocalypse

Object: Altarpiece
Place of origin: Hamburg (painted)
Date: ca. 1400 (painted)
Artist/Maker: Master Bertram (maker)
Materials and Techniques: tempera and gilt on panel transferred to canvas
Museum number: 5940-1859
Gallery location: Medieval & Renaissance, Room 10, case WS, shelf EXP

Public access description
Master Bertram von Minden worked in Hamburg, painting in various churches towards the end of the 14th century. Altarpieces with scenes from the last book of the Bible, the Revelation of St John the Divine (the Apocalypse) are rare. This panel, one of 45, illustrates the beginning of chapter eight. In St John's vision, at the moment of the opening of the seventh seal, the angels stand prepared: 'And I saw the seven angels which stood before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.'

Descriptive line
Altarpiece with 45 scenes of the Apocalypse

Physical description
Tempera painting

Dimensions
Height: 123.4 cm centre piece with frame, Width: 167.6 cm centre piece with frame, Height: 137 cm wings with frame, Width: 83 cm wings with frame, Depth: 6.8 cm central piece with frame

Museum number
5940-1859

Object history note
Bought by the Museum in 1859 for £50.

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O89176/altarpiece-with-45-scenes-of-altarpiece-master-bertram/