

# The Little Ice Age and how it was captured in the visual arts

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# THE LITTLE ICE AGE AND HOW IT WAS CAPTURED IN VISUAL ARTS

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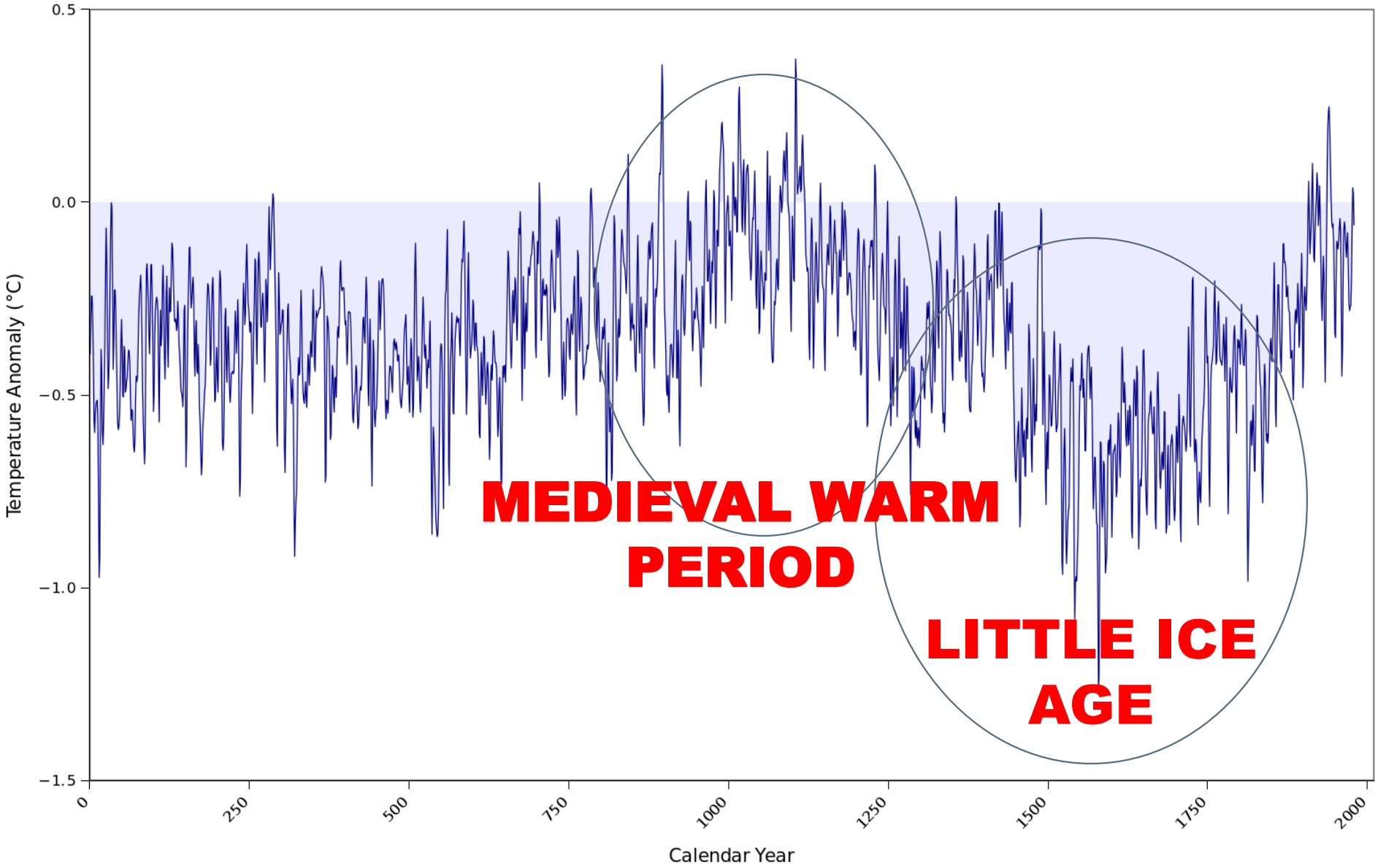
Petar Gabrić, Department of Archaeology

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb**

**Zagreb, 2015**

# 2,000 Years of Temperature Change

Moberg, 2005

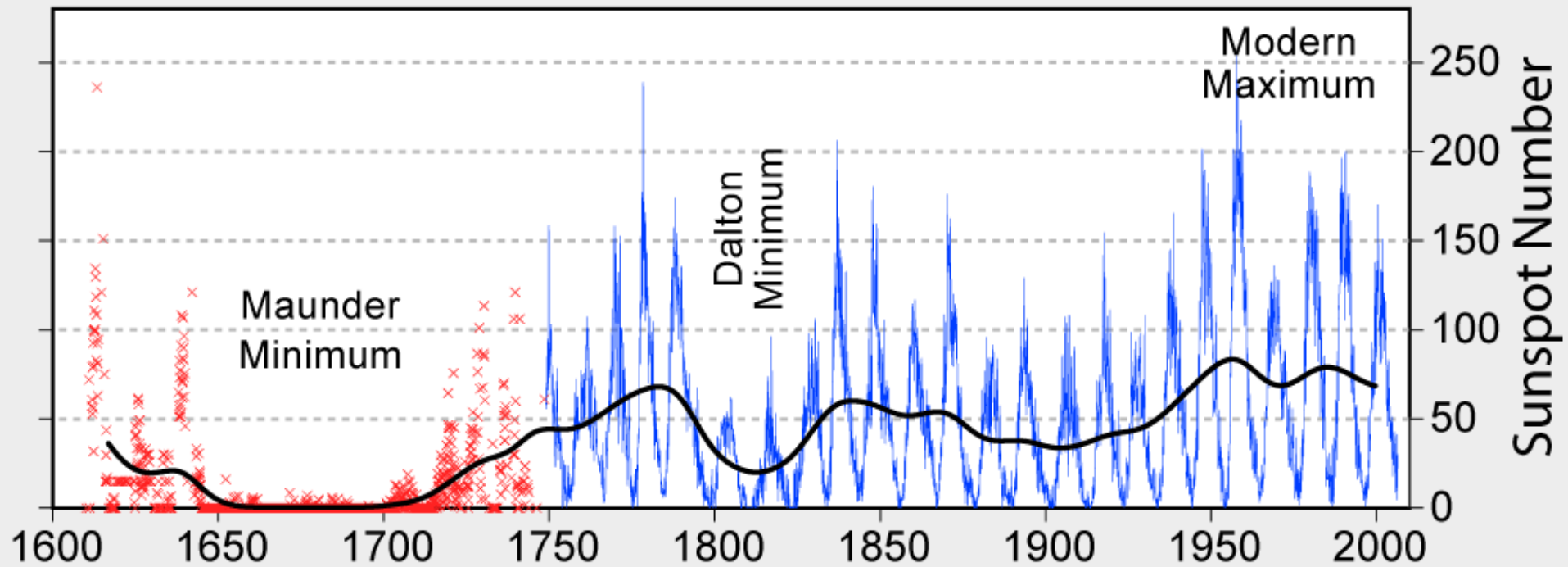


# LITTLE ICE AGE

- a change in 0,8°C
- Europe, Alaska, New Zealand, East Asia, Patagonia
- possible causes: volcanic eruptions, changes in thermohaline circulation, reduced number of sunspots

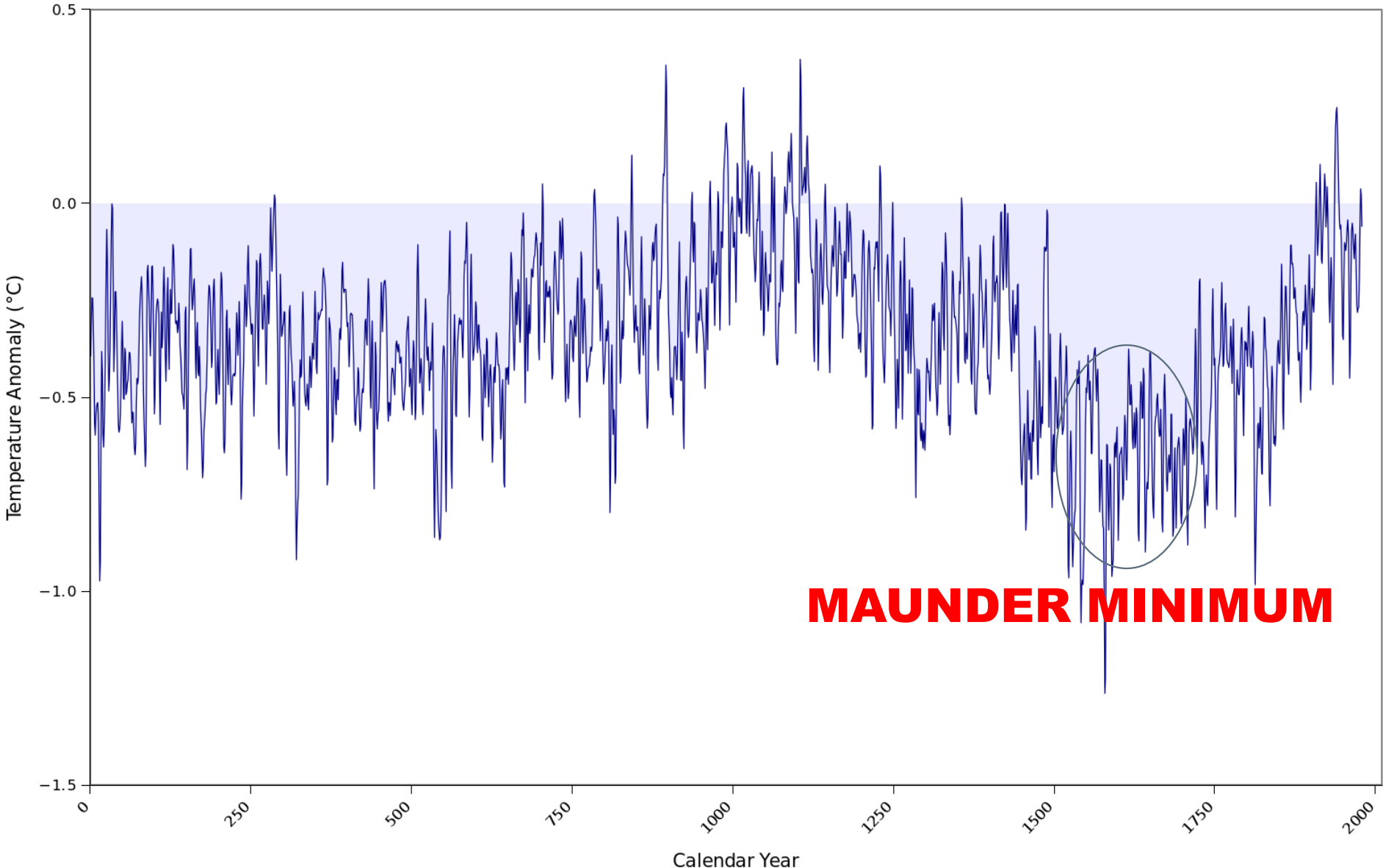
# MAUNDER MINIMUM

## 400 Years of Sunspot Observations



# 2,000 Years of Temperature Change

Moberg, 2005



- Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *The Corn Harvest* (detail), 1565



- Hendrick Avercamp, *Winter Landscape with a Windmill*, 1610-1620





# THE LITTLE ICE AGE (LIA) AND VISUAL ARTS

- Are the paintings and the real weather correlated?
- Do the paintings genuinely show how the weather was when they were painted?
- The Dutch Golden Age (17th century)
- the Dutch landscape paintings of the 17th Century

- Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *Winter Landscape with Skaters and a Bird Trap*, 1565



- Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *Massacre of the Innocents*, 1565 - 1567



- Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *The Census at Bethlehem*, 1566



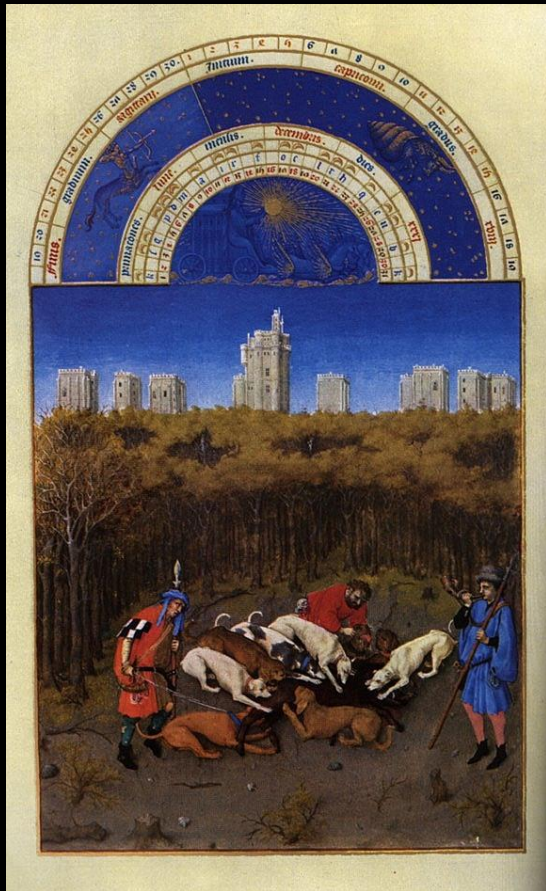
- Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *The Adoration of the Magi in the Snow*, 1567



- Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *Hunters in the Snow*, 1565



- Brothers Limbourg, *Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry*, 1412 - 1416
- illumination of December



- Hendrick Avercamp, *Numerous Figures on the Ice at Sunset* (date unknown)





- Adam van Breen: *Landscape with a frozen Canal, Skaters and an Ice Boat* (*Winter Entertainment*), 1611



- Adrian van de Venne: *The Winter, 1614*



- Isack van Ostade: *Icy landscape with sleigh and frozen boats*, 1645



- Jan van Goyen: *Ice Pleasure in front of a Tavern*, 1650



- Aert van der Neer: *Winter Landscape with Skaters*, 1655/60



- Jacob Isaackszon van Ruisdael: *Winterlandscape with a view of the River Amstel and Amsterdam, 1670/75*



- Jacob Isaackszon van Ruisdael, *A Village in Winter*, 1665



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