Wardrobe

Furniture Collection

Accession Nr.:	59.88.1
Artist/Maker:	Bindriehm, Gottfried Johann
Place of production:	Western Hungary (presumably)
Materials:	maplewood inlay; pinewood base; poplar root inlay; walnut inlay; walnut root inlay; walnut wood veneer
Techniques:	ink drawing; inlaid; painted; with carved details
Dimensions:	height: 230 cm width: 180 cm depth: 59 cm

This masterwork by Johann Gottfried Bindriehm is an outstandingly fine example of a wardrobe with a polygonal gable.

The shape itself can be traced back to gables appearing in Danzig (Poland) around 1680. In the second half of the 18th century wardrobes supplied with a Danzig gable were made throughout Austria. Examples ornamented with such gables have survived in Hungary, too: journeyman cabinetmakers may have become acquainted with the type in the Austrian and German territories in the course of their compulsory study-tours abroad. The Hungarian coats of arms, executed in intarsia, on the doors of the Bindriehm cupboard make it likely that the piece was made in Hungary.

In the projecting inset-fields on the doors there are symbolic depictions of the Four Elements: Sky, Earth, Fire, and Water.

Literature

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