Drink horn - From the Old Ivory series

Ceramics and Glass Collection

Accession Nr.:	21351
Manufacturer:	Zsolnay factory (Pécs)
Date of production:	1888
Place of production:	Pécs
Inscription:	a kürt szájnyílásának belsejében, máz felett arannyal rajzolt öttorony, alatta: 71
Materials:	porcelain-faience
Techniques:	cast; embossed decoration; glazed in ivory colour; with metallic lustre
Dimensions:	length: 48 cm opening diameter: 9 cm

The shape imitates an elephant tusk, equipped with two bulging belt resembling metal bands they are lined by relief foliage and plaits. The reliefs lining the top rim depict a horse running on a hill, a lonely warrior on horseback and a pair of riding warriors, in separate fields divided by buildings, flowers and trees.

The drink horn of the Zsolnay factory belonged to a group called *old ivory*. According to the referring lines in Teréz Zsolnay's memories (see Zsolnay 1975, p. 154), this "manner" was started in July 1888, following the medieval ivory carvings borrowed from the Hungarian National Museum. Most of the models were made in 1889.

The drawing number 2415 in Teréz Zsolnay's notebook (Pécs, Janus Pannonius Museum, Inv.No. 1578-91-1584) remarks the following: *1889 VII old ivory 2/56 Erstes Stück der Elefantin-Ivori*. It means that the drink horn was the first piece of that character.

Imre Katona called the object "Lehel's horn" and dated it between 1884-1887.

Literature

- Szerk.: Csenkey Éva, Steinert Ágota: *Hungarian Ceramics from the Zsolnay Manufactury, 1853-2001*. Yale University Press, New Haven és London, 2002. - Nr. 56.
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- Szerk.: Jakabffy Imre: Les céramiques eosinées Zsolnay précoces. *Ars Decorativa 3*, 1975. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1975. - 131-142. (Katona Imre)

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