

Ornamental album - Diploma of honorary citizenship for count Gyula Andrassy, Pest, 1871

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Accession Nr.:	64.242.1 
Artist/Maker:	Posner, Károly Lajos (1822 - 1887)
Inscription:	Posner Pesten
Materials:	glass; moire silk; parchment; velvet
Techniques:	embedded polychrome enamel
Dimensions:	height: 47,5 cm width: 33 cm weight: 4670 g

The centre of the album, which is bound in blue velvet, shows a painted and gilt coat of arms under cut glass: the coat of arms of Pest city, with two gilt griffin supporters. There are two horns of plenty, striped in red and gold, full of roses and forget-me-nots, their ends tied with ribbon. The blue ribbon inscription above the coat of arms says *Arma / Liber et Regia, Civitatis pesthiensis*. There is a red drapery with a pommel and gold fringes at the top, enriched with crowned escutcheons: from right to left, the coat of arms of Croatia, Hungary, the Austrian Empire, Bohemia and Dalmatia. The border is jointed symmetrically by round compartments on the middle and squares in the corners it is filled with rich, enamelled foliage. The back plate is decorated with lighter metal applications, in contrast with the strict compartments and foliage of the front. The blue colour and material of the velvet dominates the decoration. Originally, it was equipped with four corner mounts of two griffins rampant and guardant, with a large knob in between. The corners have small metal plates, engraved with stylised leaves. The centre of the back plate shows an escutcheon, with enamelled dates, originally 1871 there are two floating angels supporting the arms, holding a bay wreath in their raised hand. Below the coat of arms, there are lives connected with ribbons.

The album has two set-in pages: one is covered with silk, presenting the coat of arms of the Count Andrassy family of Csíkszentkirály and Krasznahorka. The blue border of the other, ornamental parchment inset is decorated with acanthus leaves the centre depicts the coat of arms of Pest city, with the Hungarian royal crown. The surface shows a handwritten text in various letters and initials: the city of Pest awards Count Gyula Andrassy (1823- 1890) the Honorary Citizen title on November 15, 1871. The ex-Prime Minister of Hungary, the earlier Minister of Defence received the title on the day after he had been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Literature

- a kiállítást rendezte: Batári Ferenc, Vadászi Erzsébet: *Historizmus és eklektika. Az európai iparművészet stíluskorszakai*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1992. - Nr. 594. (Horváth Hilda)

