


Wedding chest - with 'Italian jug' motif and '1669 - EW' inscription

Furniture Collection

Accession Nr.:	58.1312.1 
Place of production:	Hungary
Materials:	pinewood base
Techniques:	carved decoration; maplewood inlay; walnut wood veneer
Dimensions:	height: 67,5 cm width: 170 cm depth: 70 cm

The front is divided into three fields, each with a chessboard decoration. There are identical motifs in the corners of each spandrel between the pilasters with compartments and triglyphs: rampant lions with two tails. The initials EW of the bride and the date of the wedding, 1669, are above the arches.

The motif of the Italian jug, so often used in Late-Renaissance, appears with symmetrical tendrils springing from it. The tendrils bear buds and flowers. "The 17th century Hungarian version of the Italian jug motif on furniture is very similar to the *Maikrug* motif of 17th century Southern German furniture. However, this motif already existed before its Southern German form came into being so we might assume that, in spite of the strong Southern German influence in the 17th century, Hungarian furniture decoration had already developed its own variant of the motif, which was quite frequently used on the 17th century Hungarian furniture" (Batári). The vivid colouring of the intarsia is typical of the decoration of Hungarian furniture at this time. In fact, the "colours" were created purely by the use of different woods only the green colour was added by staining.

Literature

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