Cabinet - from the interior of the Ráth Villa

Furniture Collection

Accession Nr.:	52.3876.1-2
Artist/Maker:	Schickedanz, Albert (1846 - 1915) / designer Sipos, Henrik / manufacturer
Place of production:	Budapest
Materials:	mahogany; maplewood; pearwood; pinewood; rosewood (palisander); walnut wood
Techniques:	carved; inlay; polished
Dimensions:	height: 208,5 cm width: 134 cm depth: 52 cm

The body of the cabinet rests on a console table it is divided into three parts. The plinth, resting on the four feet, creates the bottom part, supporting the comparted back and the two carved front pilasters. The two drawers of the table are separated by carved volutes and a turned ornament in the middle. The front of the cupboard is divided by three lisenes and closed by a jointed, dentil corniche at the top. Inside, there are two doored compartments. The door of the cupboard is divided into geometrical fields and lined with mahogany on the inside. The back and side panels, just like the inner plates of the doors are decorated with mosaic intarsia in a ribbon framework. On the top, like a continuation of the back, there is a cresting with compartments. Albert Schickedanz, an architect and a painter (1846–1915) became famous first of all for the buildings of the Műcsarnok (Kunsthalle Budapest) and the Museum of Fine Arts, which he planned together with Fülöp Herzog. At the same time, he made several designs for applied arts. He was a teacher of the Hungarian Royal School of Applied Arts from 1880 to 1901. The cabinet, which used to be in the gallery of the Ráth residency, is a fine example of furniture planned by architects. While the outside is decorated with motifs borrowed from German Renaissance such as the comparted fields and hexagons standing on the tip, the geometrical intarsia of the inside refers to motifs of the Early Italian Renaissance.

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