

Fan - on the occasion of crowning Leopold II to Hungarian King

Textile and Costume Collection

Accession Nr.: 59.886.1 

Place of production: Pozsony (Bratislava)

Materials: bone sticks; copper; paper; silk ribbon

Techniques: painted

Dimensions: height: 28 cm
width: 46,5 cm

The fan, which has lobular leaves, can be opened in two directions, and in this way presents four different pictures. Opened rightwards the recto presents the following scene: in a rolling landscape a hussar in a red uniform holds a laurel wreath above a bust of a man, which is mounted on a plinth ornamented with the Habsburg coat of arms. A blue-uniformed companion stands opposite him on the other side of the sculpture. On the verso, in an identical landscape, is a young couple—a man in a green hussar's uniform and a lady dressed in red—approaching a commemorative column covered in creeper. On the top of the column is the inscription LII in an oval shield, and on the top of the shield is the Holy Crown of Hungary. Opening the fan leftwards we see, in an outline-type landscape simpler than the first, Hungary's coat of arms placed on a plinth and surmounted by the Holy Crown, with a red-uniformed hussar on one side of it and a blue-uniformed hussar to on the other. On the verso there is a blue-uniformed hussar offering a bouquet of flowers to his lady behind his back are colourful flowers in a vase placed on a plinth. A festoon of leaves in golden bronze frames each scene. The two lilac guard-leaves ornamented with pink tendrils are framed by a row of egg-and-dart embellishment. In all probability this fan was made for Holy Roman Emperor Leopold II's coronation as king of Hungary (at Pozsony on 15 November 1790), cf. MAA inv. no. 4175 (Cat. No. 63). The piece Inv. no. 11172 (Cat. No. 67) in the collection is of identical form and date.

Literature

- Maros Donka Szilvia: *Bájos semmiségek. Az Iparművészeti Múzeum legyezőgyűjteménye (1700-1920)*. Balassi Kiadó - Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 2002. - Nr. 66.

