Statuette - to be dressed, Mary from a Pieta group

Textile and Costume Collection

Accession Nr.:	52.3340.1
Date of production:	mid 18th century
Place of production:	Austria (presumably)
Materials:	damask; pillow (bobbin) lace with metal thread; silk; tulle; wood
Techniques:	carved; painted
Dimensions:	height: 60 cm

The carving and painting of the head and hand is good quality, but this does not apply to the remaining shoe, which is rougher. The body itself is only roughed out, as is usual in the case of statues to be dressed. The formation of the arm is special: the carved hand continues in an arm stiffened with wire. The bendable metal wire was probably necessary to attach firmly the body of Christ held in the lap of the Virgin and to dress the statue. Both arms retain only the stumps of these wires, which were damaged instead of the wires being replaced, the sleeves of the dress were stitched to a ribbon decorated with lace and fastened to the wrist. The dress is cut to the waist and has only a "front", not covering the rear side of the statue. Because of its bad condition it was restored, but somewhat roughly. On the front of the dress the cut and the wedge-shaped décolleté is trimmed with woven metal thread trimming. The wristbands of the set-in sleeves and the border of the dress are decorated with metal thread pillow lace. Among the new acquisitions of the Archdiocese of Eger there is a chasuble made of similar textile to that of the dress of this statue. The bonnet does not belong to the dress, but is from the same period. From the posture of the sitting figure, the reconstructed position of the hands, and the turning of the eyes towards the corpse in her lap, the statue may be identified with the Virgin of a Pieta-group it is thus one of the most common types of devotional statues. The corpus is undiscovered.

Literature

- Szerk.: Szilágyi András, Péter Márta: *Barokk és rokokó. Az európai iparművészet stíluskorszakai*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1990. - Nr. 7.12. (Prékopa Ágnes)



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