Tankard with cover - with emblems depicting Cupid

Metalwork Collection

Accession Nr.:	18884
Artist/Maker:	Bierpfaff, Johann Christian (1600 - 1680)
Date of production:	ca. 1670
Inscription:	Id. Rosenberg 4. Nr. 8016
Materials:	silver-gilt
Techniques:	cast decoration; chased; chiselled; engraved decoration
Dimensions:	height: 23,6 cm base diameter: 14,6 cm

On the plastic footband and on that around the cover are embossed flowers. On the coat, among big bunches of embossed flowers, are three oval medallions with engraved scenes, followed by mottos in French and Italian connected with Latin distiches in the framework of the medallions. 1. / Cupid kindles the fire under a pot of water with a pair of bellows. The inscription: Au dedans je me consume. (I am consumed within) — Extra velut clausis feruor consumit in ollis / Et mea consumit viscera caecus amor (Like the closed pot boiling on the fire my heart is consumed with blind love). 2. / Cupid extinguishes the burning torch. The inscription: Qui me nourist, m'estaind (Who nurtures me, extinguishes my life.) — Ut qua nutritur pinguedine taeda liquescit / Qua vivo et nutrior quam pereo hac pereo (Like the torch melting in its sustaining oil, that which would have given me life, dissolves me). 3. / On the branch of a tree, beside Cupid, is an open cage with birds in it. The inscription: Perch'io stesso mi strinsi — (Because I afflict myself). — Servitii causam praestat sibi avara volueris [sic!] / Nec culpa hie culpe nec sua poena deest. (The cause of its captivity is the greedy bird itself neither the crime is missing here, nor the punishment). — (Translated to Hungarian by Mihaly Detshy.) On the cover of the tankard a cast decoration: a kissing of doves. The thumbpiece is two-forked on the lower end of the handle is an ornament for a shield. The source of the representations is a book of emblems published with the name Theocritus a Ganda, without date, in the first decade of the 17th century in Amsterdam, having a title beginning with "Quaeris quid sit Amor, quid amare...". Its author is identified with Daniel Heinsius or Jacobus Viverius by experts, and the engravings of the book were made by Jacobs II. de Gheyn. The medallions of the tankard were modelled after the 2nd, 5th and 21st emblems, in the order of their description.

Literature

- Szerk.: Pataki Judit: *Művészet és Mesterség. CD-ROM*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1999. - fém 60.
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- Szerk.: Szilágyi András, Péter Márta: *Barokk és rokokó. Az európai iparművészet stíluskorszakai*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1990. - Nr. 3.16. (Prékopa Ágnes)
- szerző: Petneki Áron: *Lengyel műkincsek magyar gyűjteményekben*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1978. - Nr. 8

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