Furniture tile

Ceramics and Glass Collection

Accession Nr.:	51.834.1
Manufacturer:	Zsolnay factory (Pécs)
Date of production:	ca. 1904
Place of production:	Pécs
Inscription:	nincs
Materials:	hard earthenware (presumably)
Techniques:	hand-pressed; zink-oxide crystal glaze
Dimensions:	height: 8,8 cm width: 8,8 cm thickness: 1 cm

These square tiles with a smooth reverse side were used for panel inlays of small cupboards, table tops or built-in furniture. They are decorated with large glaze crystals in an irregular pattern resembling to ice flowers. The crowded blue crystal spot colour the basic glaze, which is shaded in rich tones of light bluish-green to dark ultramarine, creating a silky, spectacular surface. Vilmos Zsolnay already started dealing with crystal glazes in 1899-1900, shortly before his death, but the Zsolnay novelties were introduced first only at the 1903 Christmas exhibition of the Society for Applied Arts. The factory produced furniture panel tiles in varied colours of crystal glaze they could produce huge crystals on these luxury tiles that were fired in a lying position and cooled gradually.

Literature

- Szerk.: Szilágyi András, Horányi Éva: *Szecesszió. A 20. század hajnala. (Az európai iparművészet korszakai.)*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1996. - Nr. 9.113. (Csenkey Éva)



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