

# Table cover - with the arms of the Thököly family

Textile and Costume Collection

Accession Nr.: 52.2799.1 

Place of production: Hungary

Materials: atlas silk

Techniques: metal thread embroidery

Dimensions: length: 202 cm  
width: 152 cm

In its four corners are diagonally placed, symmetrical pomegranate stems, and on its whole surface are scattered larger flowers, around the smaller ones. The corner motifs and some of the ornaments (flowers) are characterized by the style of the late renaissance Hungarian embroideries. The bluebell and sunflower of the longitudinal side follow, however, the engravings of Western-European pattern-books (for example J. T. Bry: *Florilegium Renovatum*, Frankfurt, M. Merian, 1641). The pattern in the middle: in the shield is a black embroidered two-headed eagle in the four fields a two-tailed rampant lion, in the first and fourth field with a sword, in the second and third field with a flower above its head. The embroidery was badly damaged after the Second World War, so in the originally stylized coat the placing of the flowers cannot exactly be reconstructed. Probably the flowers of the Esterházy coat-of-arms were placed to the coat of Éva Thököly. So the cover might have been made in the years between 1682—1687, that is between the marriage of Pál Esterházy and his acquisition ducal rank. In the Esterházy inventories its first known mention is from 1725: "A bed cover embroidered with gold and silver thread, with beautiful flowers". (Inventarium Thesauri Fraknensis Anno 1725. Almarium Sub. Nris. 75 et 76 Nro. 7. — Inventory of the Museum of Applied Arts 236/1957).

## Literature

- Szerk.: Pásztor Emese: *Az Esterházy-kincstár textíliái az Iparművészeti Múzeum gyűjteményében*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 2010. - Nr. 27.
- Szerk.: Szilágyi András, Péter Márta: *Barokk és rokokó. Az európai iparművészet stíluskorszakai*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1990. - Nr. 5.11.



