

Flower pot

Ceramics and Glass Collection

Accession Nr.:	1263 
Artist/Maker:	Klein, Ármin (Hermann) (1855 - 1883) / pattern design and painter
Manufacturer:	Zsolnay factory (Pécs)
Place of production:	Pécs
Inscription:	alján masszába nyomva: ZW PÉCS 1; bekarcolva: 606 (formaszám); máz alatt kobalttal bélyegzett öttornyos gyári jegy: Zsolnay / Pécs-TJM
Materials:	porcelain-faïence
Techniques:	handpressed in an impressed' mould; with high-fired polychrome glaze
Dimensions:	height: 18 cm base diameter: 11,9 cm opening diameter: 19 cm

The rectangular, straight foot supports a gradually splaying, fan-shaped body, with rounded top edges. The four sides are decorated with a garden scene: the horizon is closed by a pink wall in the background. On one of the longer sides there is an ornamental iron rail gate with columns and a palm in a pot in the front. The path that leads to the side is lined by pomegranate trees, symbolic motifs of fertility. On the adjoining side, there is a well in the wall niche, the water springing from the mouth of a serpent that scrolls over a naked female statue. The main decoration on the other longer side is a galant couple, with the lady sitting on a bench, waiting for the bowing man to kiss her hand. There is a palm at their feet in a dish decorated with antique motifs. Behind them, two birds sit next to each other on the edge of the wall - another symbol. The dress of the young couple, as well as the scene itself, recalls Italian quattrocento art. The sensitive, delicate lines and the light, happy, green, blue, brown and purple colours, on the other hand, imitate the principles of contemporary English art reformers. In the documentary book by Teréz Zsolnay (see Janus Pannonius Museum, Inv.No. 1578-91-1584), beside the contour drawing of No.606 there is a brief remark: "1880 III (March) Kelin's s.g. (=sogenante) englische Figuren D.350. Jardiniere bunt á 15 f (= price in forints). The facon number 607 is a similar, wider flower pot with a similar remark. It is likely that this object was painted by Armin Klein himself, for in Décor Book 2 of the Zsolnay factory many of the delicate details are not present in the ink sketch of the model No.350. Remark: "Klein 1880 III."

Literature

- Csenkey Éva, Hárs Éva, Weiler Árpád: *Zsolnay. A gyűjtők könyve*. Corvina Kiadó, Budapest, 2003. - Nr. 104.
- Szerk.: Szilágyi András, Horányi Éva: *Szecesszió. A 20. század hajnala. (Az európai iparművészet korszakai.)* Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1996. - Nr. 9.70. (Csenkey Éva)



