



Lobkowitz
Collections, o. p. s.
Annual Report 2016

Our Mission



Peter Paul Rubens,
Hygeia and the Sacred Serpent,
c. 1614, oil on panel

Since 1994, Lobkowicz Collections, o.p.s.* has worked to preserve, protect and share with the public the works of art, music and literature returned to the Lobkowicz family in restitution after the Velvet Revolution of 1989. The organization oversees the management, conservation and restoration of The Collections and provides the curatorial, administrative and outreach assistance necessary to make these treasures accessible to the general public and to scholars worldwide.

*o.p.s. is a non-profit organization designation in the Czech Republic

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Meet the Team



William Lobkowicz
Founder



Alexandra Lobkowicz
President



Veronika Wolf
Director



Lucie Němečková
Curator



Soňa Černocká
Head Librarian



Petr Slouka
Musicologist



Marcela Vondráčková
Deputy Curator

Foreword

The year 2016 was in the name of *Tradition & Innovation*. Our goal was to revamp the visitors' experience and inspire lifelong learning through listening, watching and touching.

The breath-taking terrace of Lobkowicz Palace was made accessible to the public, who could listen to *Prague InSpires Panorama* – a new audio-guide narrated by Alexandra and William Lobkowicz, who have shared their personal stories and also introduced the history of the City of a Hundred Spires.

A couple of months later, visitors to the museum were exposed to a juxtaposition of Old Masters and contemporary art with the Temporary Contemporary II project. This 'Curated intervention' of 13 works by Ivan Pinkava, a leading Czech photographer, remarkably enhanced the elegant rooms of the Palace.

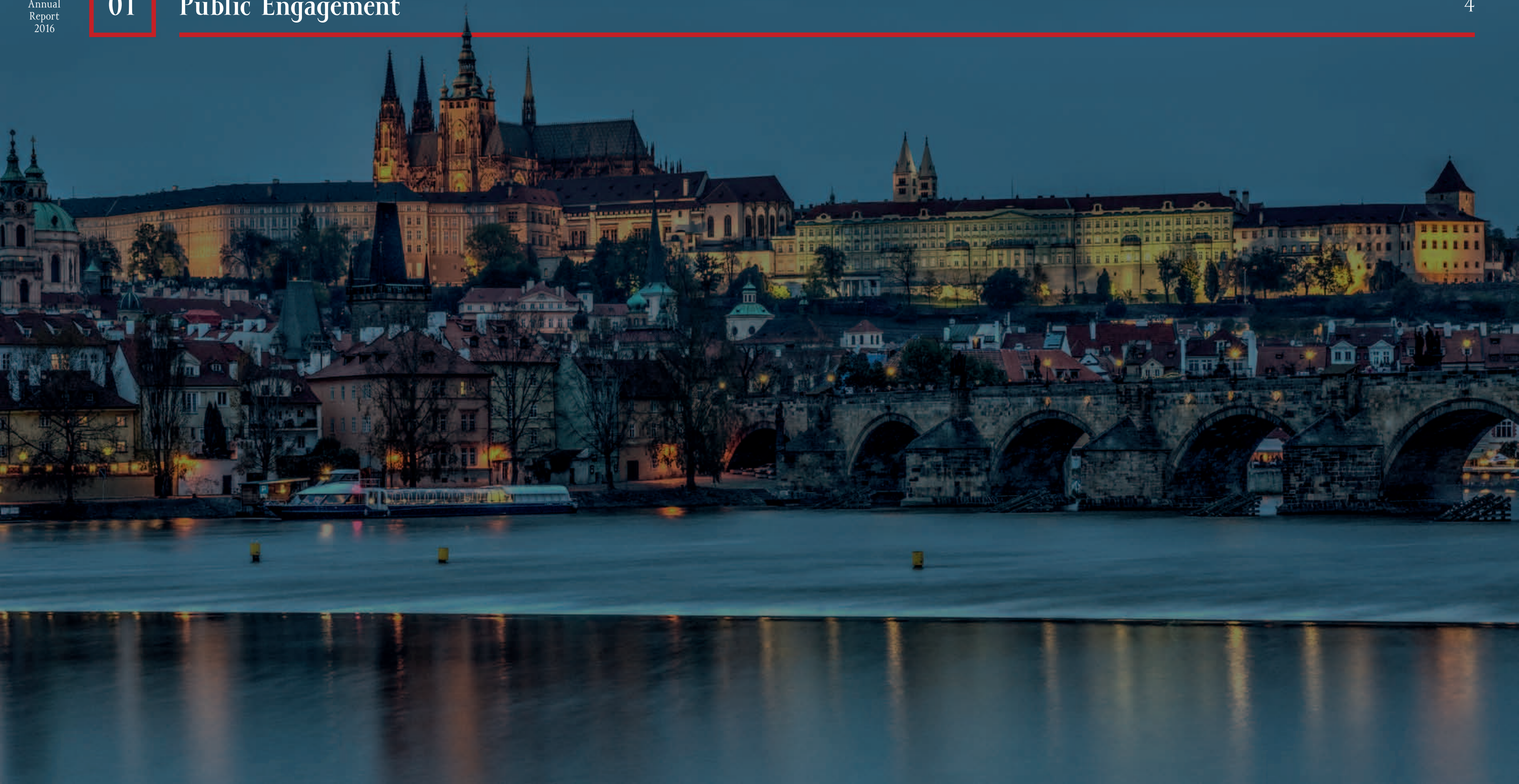
By the end of the year, the third major innovation had been introduced. In the Beethoven room at Lobkowicz Palace, a new interactive touch-screen was installed, featuring high resolution photographs with in-depth information about four of the most significant manuscripts and early prints from the Lobkowicz Music Collection. The texts were written by Dr. Kathryn Libin, a professor at Vassar College, New York.

We actively presented our magnificent art and artefacts to museum visitors by other means as well. *Spotlight Talks: Curator's Choice*, a popular program of short lectures, was expanded – both in its variety of topics and locations. In line with our mission *to care for and protect*, seven artworks were conserved. The life-sized painting of a horse is especially worthy of mention, for it took more than 6 months and was one of our biggest restoration projects ever.

We were honoured to host a number of scholars and specialists, including the Newport Preservation Society, whose executive director, Mrs. Trudy Coxé, later wrote us: *'If I could wave a magic wand, I would... help you to restore your buildings, to research and review all that is contained in your archives, to conserve the many phenomenal objects in your collection, to translate the indomitable spirit of the Lobkowicz family to the world, and to demonstrate what true grit and intelligent persistence can achieve'*

We look forward to another ambitious year in 2017, including the start of a Masterplan for Nelahozeves with UK architects Wright & Wright. The masterplan will help us plan the future care and storage of the collections, and explore the potential for a Lobkowicz Center for European music and culture at Nelahozeves.

Veronika Wolf, Director





Lobkowicz Palace, Prague



Nelahozeves Castle



Střekov Castle



Roudnice Castle

In 2016, the artworks from The Lobkowicz Collections were seen by a total of **227,862 people**.

The Lobkowicz Palace Museum in Prague and Nelahozeves Castle were visited by over 100,000 people while Střekov and Roudnice Castles were seen by almost 30,000 guests.

Additionally, nearly 100,000 visitors were able to admire selected artworks thanks to the loans to two exhibitions in the Czech Republic and abroad.



Lobkowicz Palace, Prague



Nelahozeves Castle



Střekov Castle



Roudnice Castle

“Absolutely stunning!”

Visitor from Newmarket, Canada; March 2016

“This is what a museum should be!”

Visitor from Belfast, UK; April 2016

“Terrific private historical collection”

Visitor from Los Angeles, California; May 2016

*“Worth a visit for the Canalettos
and the balcony view alone!”*

Visitor from London, UK; September 2016

“A Must in your Prague Visit”

Visitor from San Juan, Puerto Rico; September 2016

“Treated like Royalty”

Visitor from Scottsdale, Arizona; November 2016



Prague InSpires at Lobkowicz Palace

In May 2016, a new audioguide was launched. *Prague InSpires Panorama* is a 30-minute “insider’s guide” to Prague narrated by Alexandra and William Lobkowicz. It introduces visitors to more than a dozen of Prague’s most interesting and important sites; all visible from the Terrace of Lobkowicz Palace. These include: Old Town Square, Charles Bridge, Petřín Tower and many, many more.

“...It has the best view of Prague from the Castle. The ‘inspires’ tour is also very personable as it is narrated by the family, giving you a historical overview and delightful anecdotes.”

Visitor from Chicago; July 2016



Interactive Touch Screen

In December 2016, a special audio-visual device was installed in Lobkowitz Palace's Beethoven Room. This interactive touch screen makes it possible to browse through the highlights of the Lobkowitz Music Collection, exhibited in the very same room, and at the same time enjoy music previews of the featured compositions. The content is complemented with informative texts, which further emphasize the importance of the musical scores and parts.





Before



After



Priest House Renovation

In May 2016, work commenced to completely restore a 19th century priest's house, which will become housing for up to 12 visiting scholars and students, who will research The Lobkowicz Collections, the Library & Archives and the Lobkowicz Music Collection. The house, where the former clergy who presided over the chapel at Nelahozeves once lived, had fallen into disrepair over the last 50 years. The property has been brought back to life by local craftsmen. We expect to complete the renovation work in spring 2017 and hope to accommodate the first group of students by summer 2017. This capital project was made possible thanks to the generosity of **Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fath** and **Mrs. Cathryn Griffith**.

During Renovation







TEMPORARY CONTEMPORARY II
Nothing Will Come of Nothing. Speak Again.

Lobkowitz Palace, Prague
September 2016–October 2016

The second year of the *Temporary Contemporary* exhibition presented the works of the renowned photographer Ivan Pinkava (b. 1961) and the fashion designer Oldřich Vojtá (b. 1991), whose designs are the main motifs of the photographs on display. As indicated by Shakespeare's subtitle of the exhibition – *Nothing Will Come of Nothing. Speak Again.* – it was the time of William Shakespeare that influenced Vojtá's fashion designs. His retrospect of the Elizabethan era is a memento of historical glitz, lifestyle, and clothing.

Ivan Pinkava captures elusive and intimate moments, which despite their isolation breathe their own stories to us. The photographs, which depict the collection of fashion designs by Oldřich Vojtá, are very similar to the collection of Spanish portraits of the 16th century. In both cases, fashion is the major motif and focusing on the finest detail is a principal bearer of the artworks' importance.

Ivan Pinkava: *Untitled / Nothing Will Come of Nothing. Speak Again.* 13 photographs, 2015



Willem Piso (1611–1678): *De Indiae Utriusque re naturali et medica...*, Amsterdam, 1658

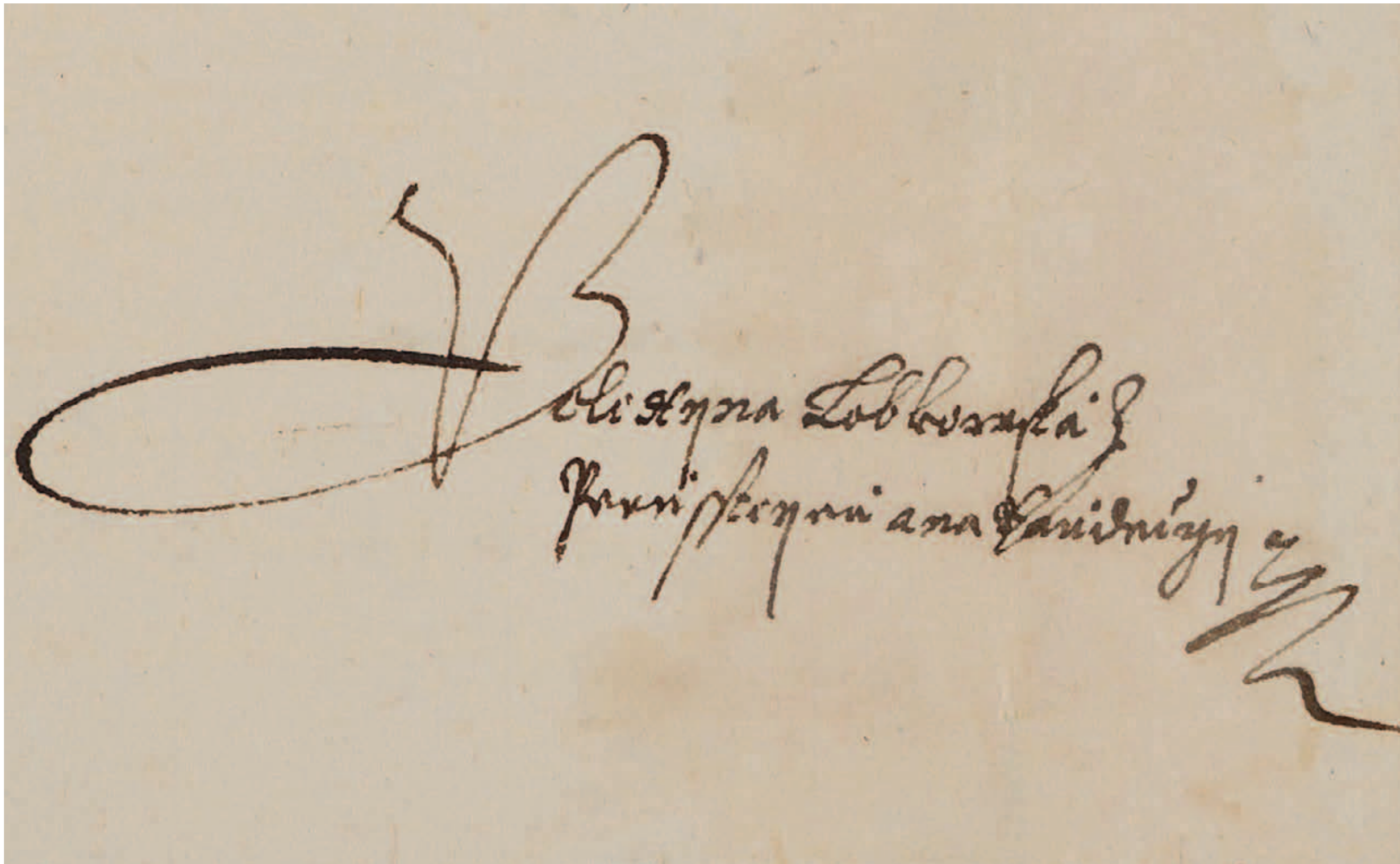
from the Lobkowicz Library

Exotic Fauna and Flora in 17th Century Books

Lobkowicz Palace, Prague
December 2015–August 2016

The exhibition entitled *Exotic Fauna and Flora in 17th Century Books* showed two 17th century publications on the subject compiled by renowned Dutch naturalists, who travelled to distant lands. The books are illustrated with numerous engravings introducing exotic animals and herbs to the European public.

The Dutch East India Company was established in 1602 to compete with the Portuguese in regard to trade with Southeast Asia. Similarly, the Dutch West India Company was founded in 1621 to operate in the Americas, the Caribbean, and South Africa. Many botanists, physicians, geographers, and other scientists travelled alongside the merchants dispatched by both Companies on expeditions to these exotic lands. Due to the excellent quality of typography at Dutch printing houses, works published in the Netherlands on overseas geography, botany, zoology, etc., often represented the peak of period book production.



Polyxena's Czech signature in her own hand from the letter to Karel Žerotín, 1610

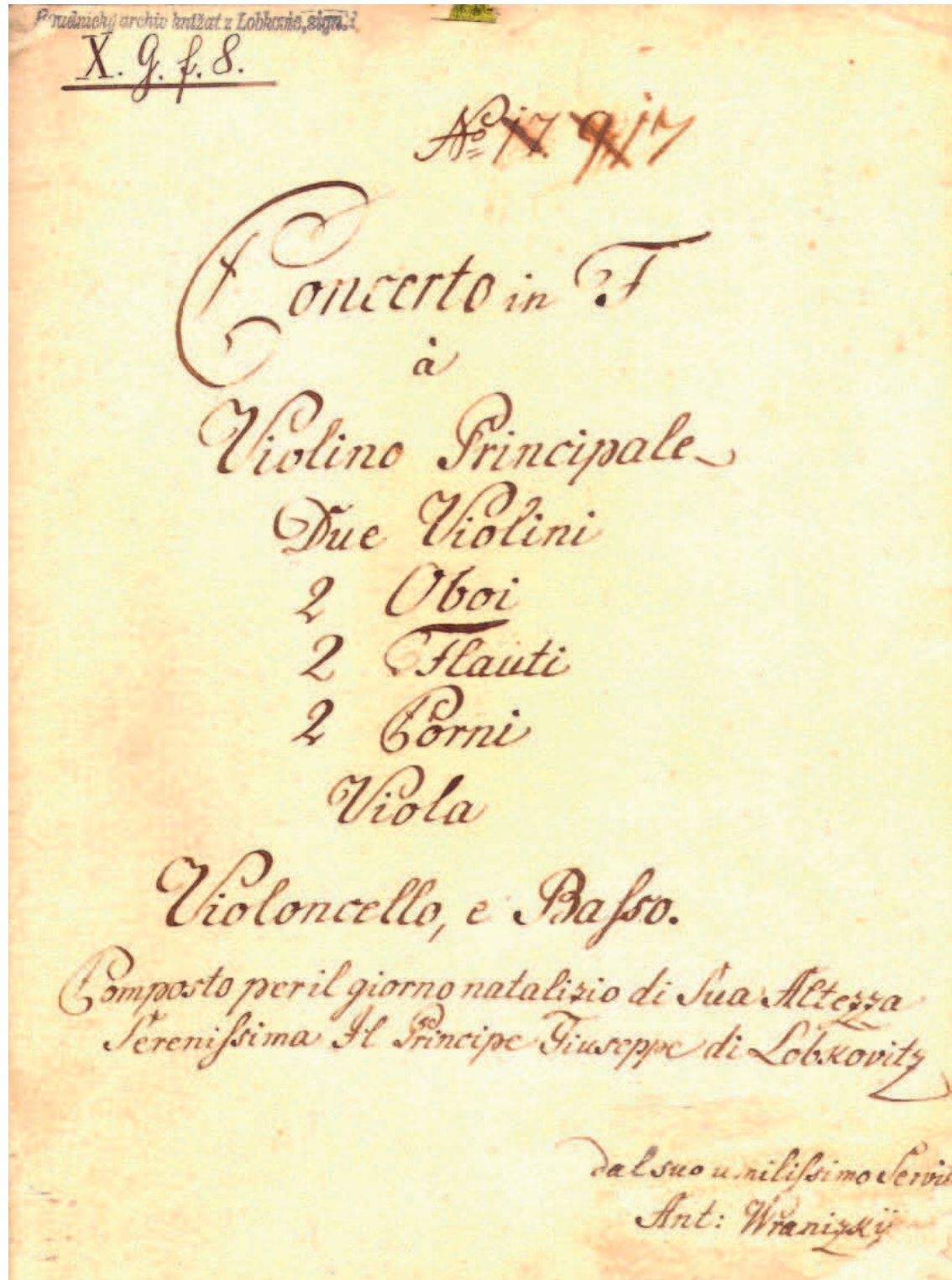
from the Lobkowitz Library

**Polyxena,
The Lady blessed with a high intellect**

**Lobkowitz Palace, Prague
August 2016–December 2016**

The private correspondence between Polyxena, born Pernstein (1566–1642), and her husband Zdeněk Vojtěch Popel, Prince Lobkowitz, survived mostly in Spanish. But apart from her mother tongue, Polyxena also used other languages. Her Czech correspondence with the Moravian intellectual Karel the Elder of Žerotín (1564–1636) is particularly remarkable. Žerotín was the most outstanding figure in the Protestant opposition of the Bohemian Crown Lands against the Counter-Reformation efforts of the Holy Roman Emperor. Though devoutly Roman Catholic Polyxena and staunchly Protestant Karel stood on opposing sides politically, their relationship was always full of mutual respect.

The most famous and illustrative testament to this is Karel's letter to Polyxena of April 1599, in which he openly praises Polyxena's intellectual qualities. In another letter Karel addresses Polyxena as The Lady blessed with a high intellect. Exhibited were two unpublished letters dated 1608 and 1610.



Antonín Vranický, Concerto in F



from the Lobkowicz Music Collection

Music pieces by Antonín Vranický composed for the birthdays of the 7th Prince Lobkowicz

**Lobkowicz Palace,
December 2016–March 2017**

The works of the Czech composer Antonín Vranický (1762–1820) are played rarely today. However, he was one of the most remarkable authors of Viennese classicism.

Antonín Vranický dedicated most of his career in music to service to the Lobkowicz family. A large number of his compositions are dedicated to his employer (and close friend), the important music patron Josef František Maxmilián, 7th Prince Lobkowicz (1772–1816). Many of these compositions preserved in the Lobkowicz Music Archives were prepared for festive events, such as the Violin concerto in F major composed in 1790 for Josef František Maxmilián's 18th birthday and the Symphony in D major for his 24th birthday.





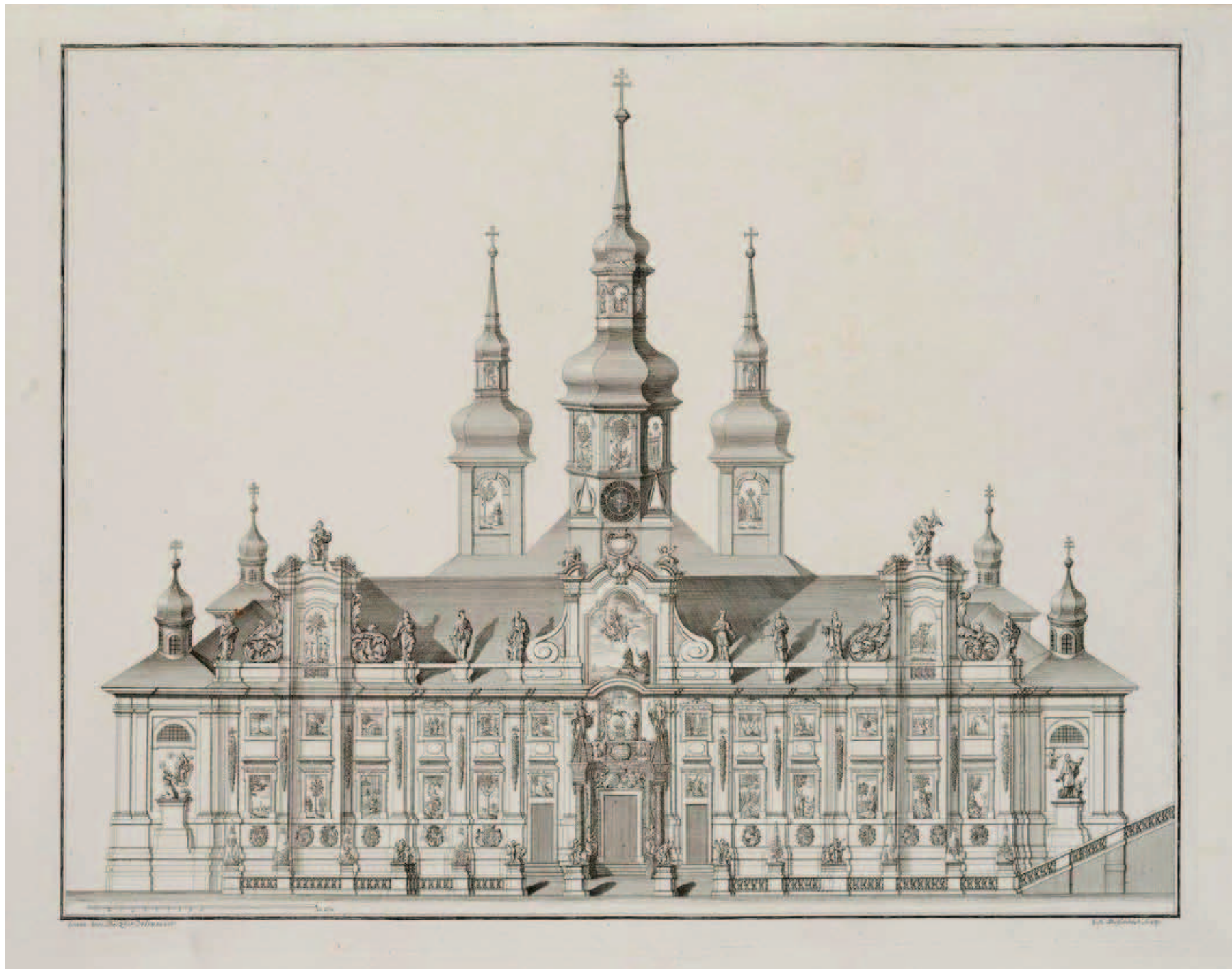
Princely Splendour: The Power of Pomp

Österreichische Galerie Belvedere,
Winter Palace, Vienna,
March 2016—June 2016

The exhibition considered the contribution of picture collections to princely display and prestige between 1600 and 1800. It was centered around the lavish gallery catalogues, known as *Galerienwerke*, which recorded the Baroque galleries of princes all over Europe, predominantly in Austria, Germany, France and England. For the first time, this ambitious exhibition explored these gallery catalogues from a pan-European perspective and compared the most important princely collectors from the Baroque period – from the French King Louis XIV to the court of the Russian Empress Catherine II.

The exhibition was visited by 18,176 people.

Cornelis de Baellieur,
A Cabinet of Curiosities,
1606, oil on canvas, LR5253



J. A. Delsenbach after J. J. Diezler,
View of the façade of the Loreto Prague,
copper engraving on paper, LR9917/290

Dientzenhofers and Loreto. The Story of Loreto Facade

Loreto, Prague,
June 2016—December 2016

Prague Loreto is one of the most popular sights in Prague and the history of its façade was the main theme of the 2016 annual exhibition held there. In cooperation with leading experts on Baroque architecture and heritage preservation, in an engaging and interactive way the exhibition told the story of this recognized Baroque landmark, with special focus on the 17th and 18th centuries – the period when the façade as we know it today was conceived and created by the important architect Kryštof Dientzenhofer with the support of Philip Hyacinth, 4th Prince Lobkowitz and finished by Dientzenhofer's son Kilián Ignác.

The exhibition at Prague Loreto was visited by 80,206 people.



*Iconography of reliefs on the
Prague Loreto balustrade,*
ink on paper, LRR R 7/47, fol. 4



Before



After



E. Vos,
*Eagle with coat of arms of William,
Margrave of Baden-Baden,*
oil on canvas, LR4725

The painting by E. Vos is dated 1664 and depicts the genealogy of **William, Margrave of Baden-Baden** (1593–1677). He was the father of Maria Anna Wilhelmine Baden-Baden and Hochberg (1655–1702) and thus, father-in-law of Ferdinand August, 3rd Prince Lobkowicz (1655–1715). The painting needed a new stretcher and relining, as well as consolidation of the color layer. In this case, the extensively repainted areas not only required cleaning and retouching, but also thorough research in paleography.

The conservation work was done by Martin Martan from December 2015 until February 2016 and was made possible thanks to a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

***Neo-Renaissance sideboard,
with carved doors, LR7025***

The Bohemian, 19th century sideboard made from oak wood is richly decorated with carvings of flowers and oak leaves. Some of the carved details were missing, as well as one of the bun feet. Overall cleaning and strengthening of the wood was essential in order to display the sideboard in Lobkowitz Palace.

The conservation work was done by Petr Hrabica from December 2015 until February 2016 and was made possible thanks to a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.



Before



After



Bohemian School,
*The Family Tree of Prince
Johann Georg Christian Lobkowicz*,
oil on canvas, LR4691

The painting depicts the ancestors of **Johann Georg Christian Lobkowicz** (1686–1755), who was the youngest son of Ferdinand August, 3rd Prince Lobkowicz (1655–1715) and his second wife Maria Anna Wilhelmine Baden-Baden and Hochberg (1655–1702). He was a highly accomplished military man and the founder of the Mělník line, who in 1739 received the Order of the Golden Fleece. The canvas was severely damaged with local ruptures and the colour layer was flaking in many places. Careful relining, cleaning and retouching was necessary in order to save the painting.

The conservation work was done by Martin Martan from December 2015 until February 2016 and was made possible thanks to a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Before



After



Pair of Mirrors,
in gilt wood frames, LR5116, LR5117

These elaborately decorated mirrors were heavily damaged with many missing pieces. Strengthening the frames was crucial to avoid further deterioration. They required overall cleaning and replacement of the missing parts before the final retouching of the gilded surface.

The conservation work was done by Petr Hrabica from December 2015 until February 2016 and was made possible thanks to a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Before



After



Hans Krell,
Portrait of Emperor Ferdinand I,
3rd quarter of the 16th century,
oil on canvas, LR4765

The painting is the last full-length portrait of the Holy Roman Emperor and King of Bohemia Ferdinand I (1503–1564). Born in Spain, Ferdinand I was the first Habsburg the members of the Lobkowitz family served. The painting is signed by Hans Krell (c. 1490–c. 1565/1586), an important German painter of the 16th century who specialized in portraying members of nobility and the royal houses of the time.

Before the restoration, the portrait was in poor condition overall; the paint was discoloured by surface dirt and yellowed in places by an old brown varnish. Old patches and over-paint distorted the appearance of the historically significant artwork. The painting required complete conservation including new stretcher, relining, consolidation of the colour layer and retouching.

The conservation work was done by Martin Martan from May until September 2016 and was made possible thanks to the generous contribution of **Ms. Adrienne Naessil** and **Ms. Renee Voltmann**.

Before



After



Follower of Elisabetta Sirani,
Salome with the Head of John the Baptist,
oil on canvas, LR4697

The widely known story of Salome, who demanded the head of John the Baptist as a price for her sublime dance, is depicted by an anonymous follower of Italian Baroque painter Elisabetta Sirani (1638–1665). Sirani was one of the most famous female painters in Bologna and even though she died at young age, she produced hundreds of drawings and over 200 paintings. She was well known for employing brilliant colours and for her innovative compositions often featuring women.

Before the restoration treatment, the painting was seriously damaged and in poor condition overall. In order to save the artwork and bring out the colourfully vivid painting, the collapsed stretcher needed to be replaced and brittle canvas had to be strengthened. The paint layer, criss-crossed by heavy craquelure, had to be consolidated and significant paint loss sensitively retouched before applying the final layer of varnish.

The conservation work was done by Martin Martan from October until November 2016 and was made possible thanks to the generous contribution of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

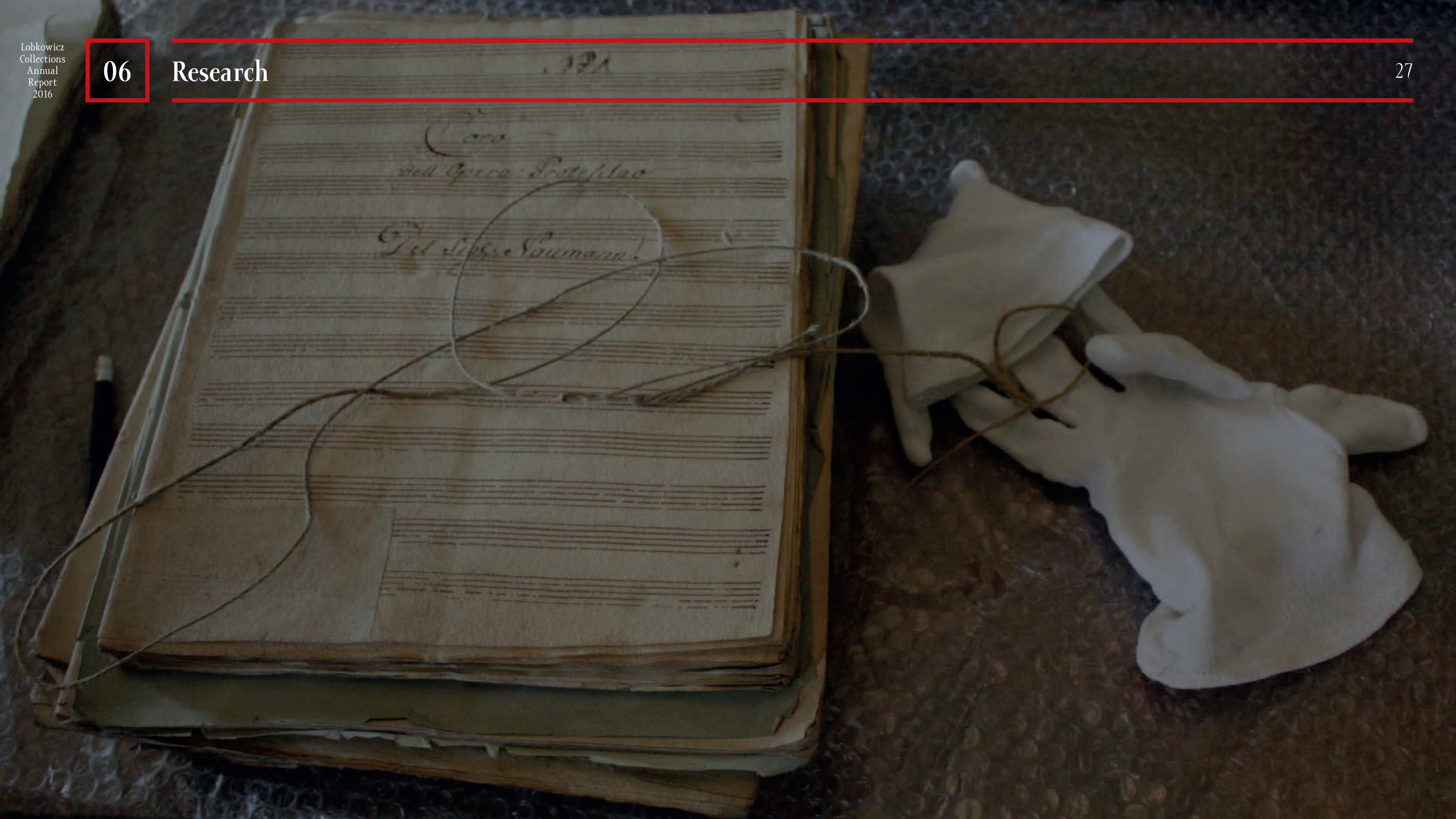


Attributed to Johann Georg Hamilton,
Life-size Horse Painting,
18th century, oil on canvas, LR4739

The Flemish painter Johann Georg Hamilton (1672–1737), son of a Scottish still-life specialist, spent the greater part of his life at the Vienna court of Emperor Charles VI (1685–1740), specializing in portraits of horses in the Imperial stables and those belonging to Court nobility, such as the Princes Lobkowicz and Liechtenstein. The collection of four large scale horse paintings from The Lobkowicz Collections is among the earliest examples of life-size horse portraits in European art.

The canvas was wrapped on the roll and badly damaged, having been unstretched and folded for over 60 years after its removal from Roudnice Castle. The painting required complete conservation including a new stretcher, relining, and consolidation of the colour layer before final retouching.

The conservation work was done by Martin Martan from April until December 2016 and was made possible thanks to the generous contributions of **Global Income Investments** and **the Crowe family**.

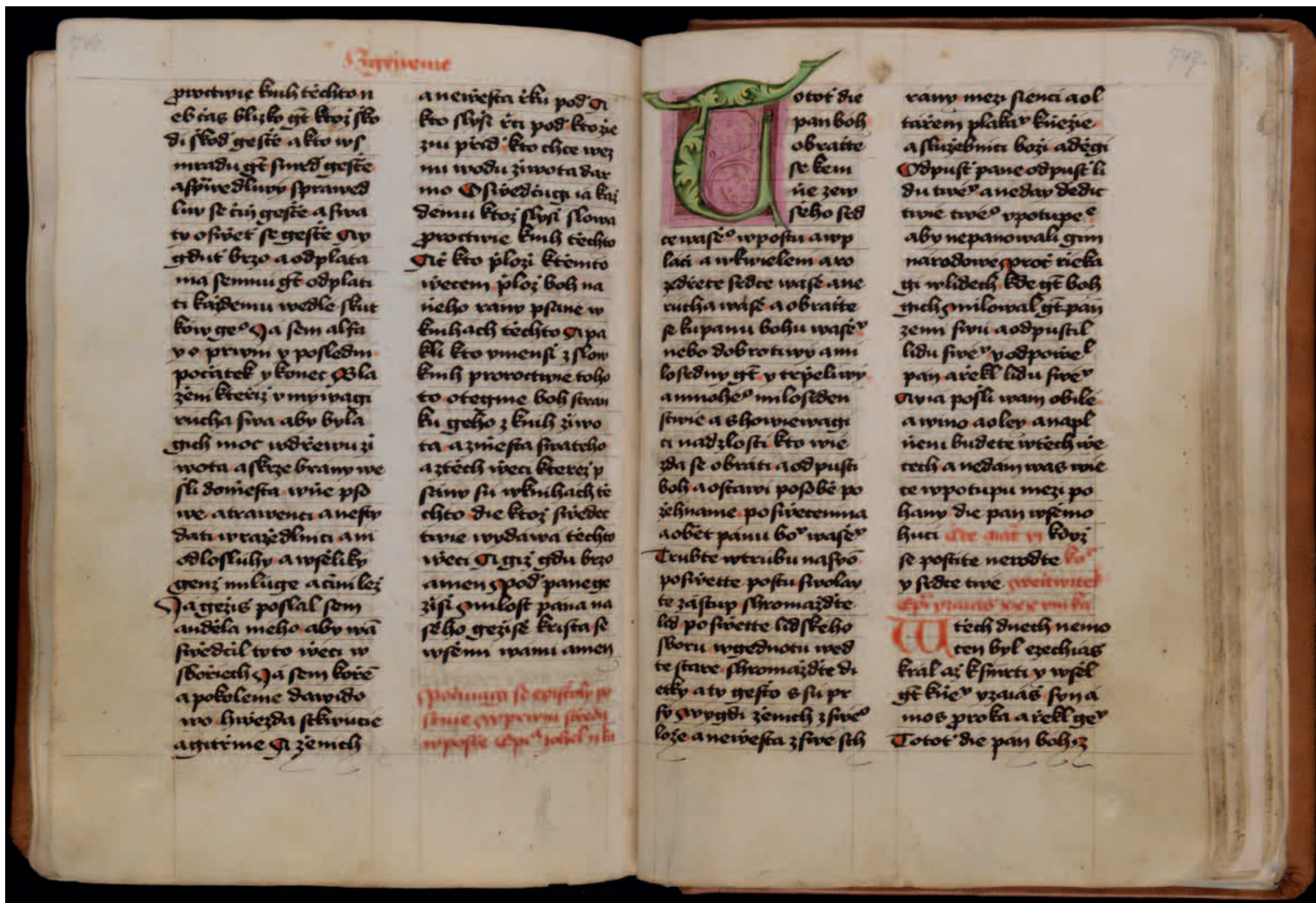




Prof. Philippe Daverio at Lobkowitz Palace

In January 2016, Prof. Philippe Daverio, a recognized author and one of the leading popularizers of art on Italian television, with programs on art & culture running for over a decade, visited The Lobkowitz Collections together with H. E. Aldo Amati, Italian Ambassador to the Czech Republic. During a special tour through the Collections with Veronika Wolf, Prof. Daverio explored with great interest the artworks exhibited in Lobkowitz Palace, with a special focus on Italian masters on display.

Prof. Philippe Daverio (in the centre)
next to H.E. Aldo Amati, Italian Ambassador
to the Czech Republic, and Veronika Wolf



Research of Biblical texts

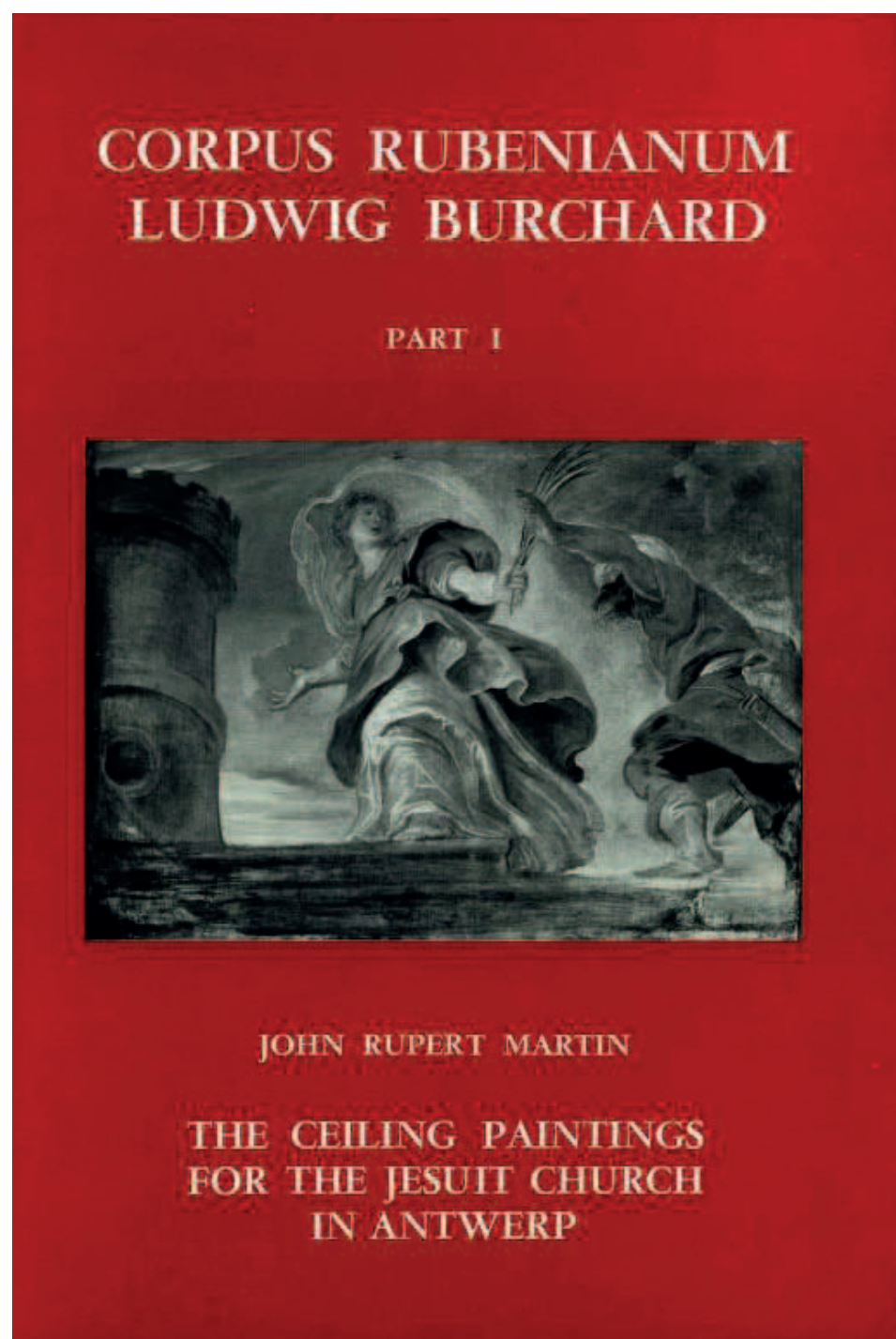
In late January 2016, three scholars from **The Czech Academy of Sciences**, Department of Czech studies, Andrea Svobodová, Markéta Pytlíková and Kateřina Voleková studied several Biblical texts in old Czech. The research was part of a long-term project of the Academy of Sciences focused on the language development of medieval Czech, studied via a variety of different documents, such as religious manuscripts, but also including botanical texts and early newspapers.

The Lobkowicz Library holds medieval manuscripts with the Czech text of both the Old and New Testaments, as well as volumes with Czech prayers. The survey in the rare 14th and 15th century books from The Lobkowicz Library was crucial to completing the research done in other historical book collections throughout the Czech Republic and Central Europe.

15th century manuscript from The Lobkowicz Library with the Czech translation of the New Testament

Peter Paul Rubens Catalogue Raisonné

In March 2016, Prof. Nils Büttner from Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste Stuttgart visited Nelahozeves Castle. Prof. Büttner is one of the co-authors of the highly respected, multi volume Peter Paul Rubens catalogue raisonné **Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard**. He is in charge of the volume of *Allegories and Subjects from Literature* which will also feature Rubens' masterpiece from The Lobkowitz Collections, *Hygeia and the Sacred Serpent*. Prof. Büttner carefully studied the painting *in situ* at Nelahozeves Castle and his expertise led to several new discoveries regarding the working technique of the artist.



The first volume from the **Corpus Rubenianum Ludwig Burchard** catalogue raisonné: *The Ceiling Paintings for the Jesuit Church in Antwerp*



Peter Paul Rubens,
Hygeia and the Sacred Serpent,
c. 1614, oil on panel



Rare early edition of works by Italian composer **Carlo Tessarini (1693–1766)**, bound in visually attractive cover



Petr Slouka, musicologist, during the cataloguing process

Music Cataloguing Project, The Lobkowitz Music Collection

In June and July 2016, the cataloguing of the Lobkowitz Music Archives continued under the supervision of Dr. Kathryn Libin, Vassar College, NY. The project commenced in 2013 and until now **495 boxes** (out of 577) – which represents **2161 documents** – of the Music Archives have been processed in the electronic catalogues.

The cataloguing process is attended by a **detailed survey**, which helps to understand the collection as a complex and to bring to light much interesting background information on particular pieces. Numerous **unknown precious items have been discovered and some anonymous and questionable works have also been identified**. The most important discoveries made during the 2016 cataloguing include a number of **precious Baroque compositions for String Orchestra**. Many of them listed in the inventory as anonymous have been identified as compositions by **renowned musicians such as Carlo Tessarini (1693–1766) and Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (1714–1788)**, a son of Johann Sebastian Bach. The discoveries also include a **unique copy** of *Six Sonatas for 2 Flutes and Basso Continuo* (Op. 8) by **Arcangelo Corelli (1653–1713)** and a **rare first edition** of *Sonate pour Piano Forte avec un Violon* (Op. 24) by **Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)**.



Bruegel Research Project

Alice Hoppe-Harnoncourt, a researcher from **Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna** and a member of the Bruegel research project group of internationally renowned scholars and curators, visited Lobkowitz Palace in September 2016. In connection with the forthcoming exhibition in Vienna, the aim of her visit was to research the history and provenance of The Lobkowitz Collections' celebrated painting *Haymaking* by Pieter Bruegel the Elder. On the occasion of the 450th anniversary of the death of Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1525/30—1569), one of the foremost Netherlandish painters of the 16th century, Kunsthistorisches Museum is preparing a unique monograph exhibition of the artist.

Pieter Bruegel the Elder,
Haymaking,
1565, oil on panel



Hungarian Manuscript

In October 2016, the researcher Réka Pappné Kocsis from **Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest** studied the 1514 manuscript written in old-Hungarian. In total, there are around 45 medieval codices in old-Hungarian that have been preserved until today. Most of them are kept in Hungarian libraries and collections and the only one outside Hungary belongs to The Lobkowitz Library.

Though the manuscript has been studied in the past and the critical edition on the volume was published in 1999, the current research is focused to the physical description of the manuscript, including period marginal annotations. This research might help to illustrate the use of the manuscript in the past and potentially also help to illuminate its unclear provenance. For this reason it was necessary for the researcher to physically consult the volume in the study room at Nelahozeves Castle.

Hungarian manuscript
from The Lobkowitz Library,
1514





Night at the Castle, Nelahozeves

Educational Programs

Successful educational programs for children of all ages continued at Nelahozeves Castle in 2016 as well. The collection of the already-established programs *Life of a Young Nobleman*, which aims to deepen the children's knowledge of history and art through an interactive tour of Nelahozeves Castle, and *Cheeky Dvořák*, that teaches children through recreating scenes from the composer's operas to interpret Dvořák's musical creations, was further enriched this year. In the Easter period, the *Easter – Celebration of Spring* creative program introduced the history and traditions of this movable feast to children of younger ages and towards the end of the year, a special program entitled *Advent and Christmas Time* shared with kids various Christmas stories, carolling and the significance of Christian traditions. In addition, *Night at the Castle* brought children back to history with period games in the courtyard of the Castle, theater performances and night-time guided tours with a quiz.

Throughout the year, more than **3,500 children** participated in educational programs at Nelahozeves Castle.



International School of Prague, Nelahozeves Castle

Junior Curator Program

The **Junior Curator Program** asks students to take on the role of curators and to conduct their own research on objects from The Lobkowitz Collections. Their task is to determine what the objects are, how they were used historically and what impact they had on society.

Successful co-operation with the **Mensa Grammar School in Prague**, a private school for gifted students, also continued in 2016. In April, 24 students visited Lobkowitz Palace and took part in the *Junior Curator* educational program. In June 2016, the students presented the results of their research to nearly 100 guests during an evening held at Lobkowitz Palace.

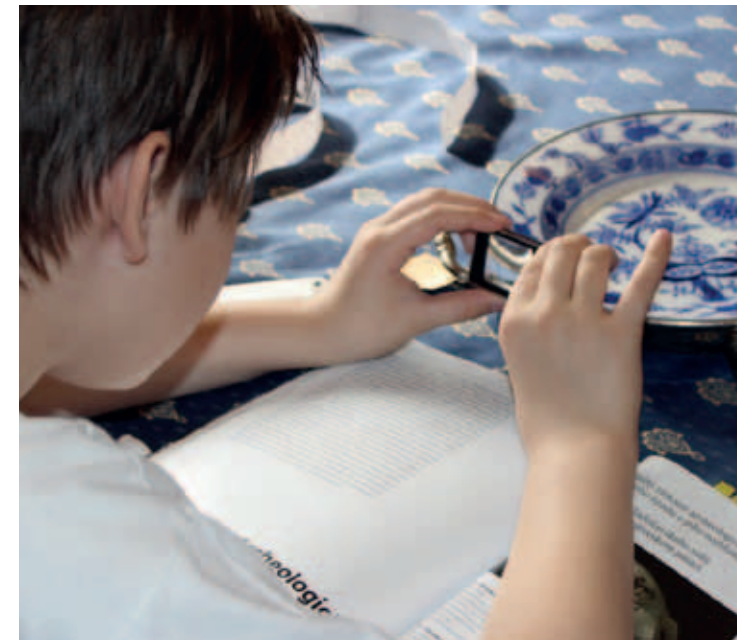
78 students from the **International School of Prague** and 20 students from **Deutsche Schule Prag** participated in the 8th annual *Junior Curator* educational program. The students first met in September 2016 at Nelahozeves Castle where they were introduced to the objects and a month later visited Lobkowitz Palace to study reference literature and to learn more about the history of the Lobkowitz family. Students presented the final results of their research in December 2016 to almost 200 guests during an evening event held in the Imperial Hall at Lobkowitz Palace.



Mensa Grammar School, Lobkowitz Palace



International School of Prague, Nelahozeves Castle



International School of Prague, Lobkowitz Palace



Rebecca Selch with Ileana Lobkowitz working at the objects depository



Drawing inspired by
The Lobkowitz
Collections's artworks
by Aimanda Gulick

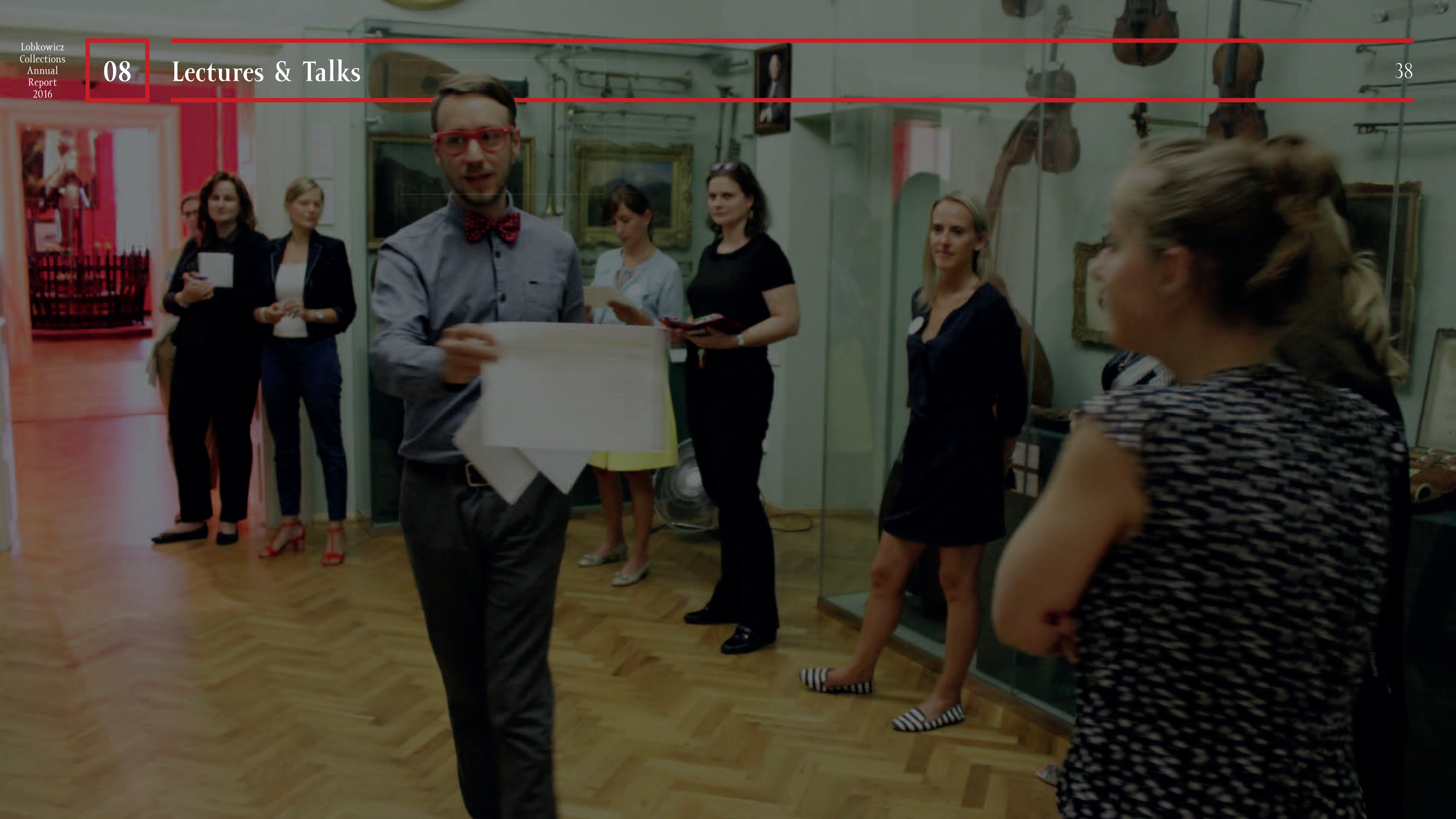
Internships

Guénaëlle Colin, a student at St Edmund Hall, **University of Oxford**, spent a month-long Spring Internship (17 March–18 April 2016) at The Lobkowitz Collections. Guénaëlle divided her time between Lobkowitz Palace and Nelahozeves Castle, where she took part in preparing the exposition for a new season.

The Summer Internship Program established in 2015 in collaboration with **Wellesley College, Massachusetts** continued successfully in 2016 with two exceptional students – Rebecca Selch (30 May–5 August 2016) and Aimanda Gulick (20 June–12 August 2016). While Rebecca contributed greatly in the photo-documentation of thousands of artworks from the objects depository, among other tasks, Aimanda employed her creative side in creating a collections-inspired colouring book for children.

"It was a truly inspiring experience to have the opportunity to work with art objects from such a vast European collection. I am positive that the newly gained skills and knowledge will follow me in my future museum work."

Rebecca Selch; Wellesley College





Italian Master,
16th century, Detail of
ceiling stuccoes with
Gaius Mucius Scaevola,
Nelahozeves Castle

Spotlight Talks: Curator's Choice

A program of short lectures led by curatorial staff on a specific artwork or artist from The Collections was introduced in 2015 and gained immediate popularity. It was therefore expanded in 2016 from the Lobkowitz Palace Museum to Nelahozeves Castle as well and covered a wider variety of topics.

Exotic Fauna and Flora in 17th Century Books

January 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

The lecture introduced a new, temporary book exhibition which presented two 17th century publications compiled by renowned Dutch naturalists who traveled overseas. The books were illustrated with numerous engravings introducing exotic animals and plants to the European public.

New Additions on Permanent Display

May 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

In 2016, the public spaces at Lobkowitz Palace were enriched by several newly-restored paintings, especially portraits. During the restorations, a number of interesting facts about the sitters and also the theme of the paintings were discovered. This short lecture presented all those additional findings in the contexts of the newly-displayed artworks.

Musical History of the Lobkowitz Family

June 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

The presentation was focused on the enormously rich musical history of the Lobkowitz family against the background of the famous Lobkowitz Music Collection. The exceptional connections of the family members with outstanding music composers, as well as the important musical patronage of the 7th Prince Lobkowitz in the context of other musical connoisseurs, were discussed as well.

Iconography of the Knight's Hall

July 2016, Nelahozeves Castle

One of the most noteworthy interiors at Nelahozeves Castle is the so-called Knight's Hall. It is a well-preserved Renaissance room dating back to 1564, with wall paintings depicting larger-than-life military figures and ceiling stuccoes illustrating Titus Livius' interpretations of five Roman virtues. The history and iconography of this remarkable space was introduced at this first talk at Nelahozeves Castle.

Baroque Lute Tablatures

July 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

It was a great passion for Ferdinand August, 3rd Prince Lobkowitz and for his son Philip Hyacinth, 4th Prince of Lobkowitz to play the lute and other plucked instruments. Thanks to these two



Händel's *Messiah*
annotated by
W. A. Mozart

Princes the biggest private collection of Baroque lute tablatures in the world is preserved within the Lobkowitz Music Archives.

Peter Paul Rubens and Jan Brueghel the Elder
August 2016, Nelahozeves Castle

Peter Paul Rubens and Jan Brueghel the Elder were among the most respected artists in contemporary Antwerp. They produced a number of paintings together, but it was not only their prolific collaboration which joined the artists together – first and foremost, they were close friends. Their “working friendship” was examined during an afternoon session.

Händel feat Mozart – The Messiah
August 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

The presentation introduced the manuscript copy of the score for the 3rd Act of Händel's oratorio *The Messiah* with reorchestration and annotations in Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's own hand. Information about the circumstances of Mozart's reorchestration and about the first performance of this new version in Vienna in 1789 was included as well.

Polyxena, The Lady Blessed with a High Intellect
September 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

Commemorating the 450th anniversary of the birth of Polyxena Lobkowitz, a short talk introduced a

new, temporary exhibition from the Lobkowitz Archives. The two exhibited letters between Polyxena and the Moravian intellectual Karel Elder of Žerotín are evidence of the mutual respect between these two remarkable personalities, even though Žerotín was the most outstanding figure in the Protestant opposition of the lands of the Bohemian Crown against the Counter-Reformation.

Beauvais Tapestry
September 2016, Nelahozeves Castle

The Beauvais Tapestry manufacture, founded by Jean-Baptiste Colbert, the finance minister of King Louis XIV, was one of the most important workshops of its kind. The long history and fruitful production of this French gobelin enterprise was discussed based on an example of its production from The Lobkowitz Collections, currently on view at Nelahozeves Castle.

Haydn's Oratorio The Creation
November 2016, Lobkowitz Palace

One of the greatest compositions of the period of Viennese High Classicism – the oratorio *The Creation (Die Schöpfung)* by Josef Haydn and its performances, including those which were arranged in the Czech Lands by the 7th Prince Lobkowitz, were mentioned in detail. These Czech performances were highly contributive for Czech musical and literary history.



Specialist Lectures and Tours

April 2016 – a presentation focused on The Lobkowitz Library and Music Archives at Nelahozeves Castle was given to 17 representatives of US travel and event companies.

May 2016 – a specialized library presentation, followed by a tailored, guided tour of Nelahozeves Castle, was given to 23 teachers and students of history from Charles University in Prague.

June 2016 – David Maenaut, General Representative of the Government of Flanders, visited Lobkowitz Palace and with great interest particularly discussed with the curator Flemish paintings, painters and influences within The Lobkowitz Collections.

August 2016 – Prince Guillaume of Luxembourg with his wife Princess Sibilla and their four children visited Lobkowitz Palace in Prague and enjoyed a private tour through the museum with the director of The Lobkowitz Collections.

October 2016 – a lecture presenting the treasures of The Lobkowitz Library was given to 22 members of The Preservation Society of Newport County, a private, non-profit organization founded in 1945 in Newport, Rhode Island.

November 2016 – the director of The Lobkowitz Collections was invited as a guest speaker to the General Meeting of The International Women's Association of Prague (IWAP) and gave an engaging presentation on the history and highlights of The Collections.

Veronika Wolf presenting
at the General Meeting of
The International Women's
Association of Prague





Spring Pottery Market,
Nelahozeves Castle

Public Events

The 14th annual **Spring Pottery Market** at Nelahozeves Castle took place in April 2016. The two-day program enlivened the Castle with a falconry show, a variety of traditional arts and crafts workshops, traditional dulcimer music and training for young knights. The festival was attended by **5,411 people** in the single weekend.

The successful collaboration with *PKF – the Prague Philharmonia*, established in 2015, brought **The Second Noble Soirée** concert to Lobkowicz Palace in April 2016. One of the most promising musicians of his generation, Spanish oboist Ramón Ortega Quero played pieces by Giuseppe Sammartini and Johann Sebastian Bach in a sublime performance which was applauded by more than **500 guests**.

In October 2016, Nelahozeves Castle hosted **Pumpkin Day**. This special event, with pumpkin specialities prepared by the castle restaurant and a competition in carving and decorating the pumpkins, remains immensely popular among children as well as adults. This one-day event was enjoyed and participated in by **1,469 people**.

In November 2016, the popular **Advent Festival** took place at Nelahozeves Castle. In addition to special guided tours in period costumes, Advent concerts, Christmas markets and gingerbread cookie decorating, the 2016 program was enriched by a pig roast. This traditional winter feast has been widely popular for centuries as a social event as well as for its favorite dishes, such as liverwurst or brawn. This event was attended by **6,497 people** over the course of the weekend.



Pumpkin Day,
Nelahozeves Castle



William Lobkowicz with Ivan Pinkava and Veronika Wolf



Private viewing of Rousseau exhibition

Membership Program

Founded in 2009, the membership program enjoyed a fruitful year in 2016. This community of art lovers and history enthusiasts, brought together by an appreciation for The Collections' mission, enjoyed several extraordinary members-only events that were held throughout the year.

- In February 2016, the members' event entitled *The Venus Code – Hidden Ciphers of Love* was held at the Lobkowicz Palace honouring St. Valentine. A captivating lecture by Olga Kotková, an Old Masters specialist, guided the members through the signs of love in paintings from The Lobkowicz Collections.
- In May 2016, The Collections' members were the first to listen to the new *Prague InSpires Panorama* audio guide, an enchanting insider's guide to the city narrated by Alexandra and William Lobkowicz. The evening culminated with cocktails on the Palace's terrace.
- In September 2016, The Collections' members

enjoyed a preview of the new temporary exhibition entitled *Temporary Contemporary II: "Nothing will come of Nothing. Speak Again"*. Renowned photographer Ivan Pinkava and young fashion designer Oldřich Vojta joined forces to create Renaissance-fashion-inspired designs as the main motifs of the photographs on display.

- In December 2016, a soirée organized in collaboration with the National Gallery in Prague brought the members to Kinsky Palace for an exclusive private viewing with the curator of the acclaimed *Douanier Rousseau: Painter's Paradise Lost* exhibition. The exhibition was conceived in co-operation with the Paris Musée d'Orsay and featured a number of loans from prestigious Czech and foreign institutions as well as private collections.



Opening speech of Oldřich Vojta at Temporary Contemporary II preview



Sophia Lobkowicz with guests at the Fundraising Gala

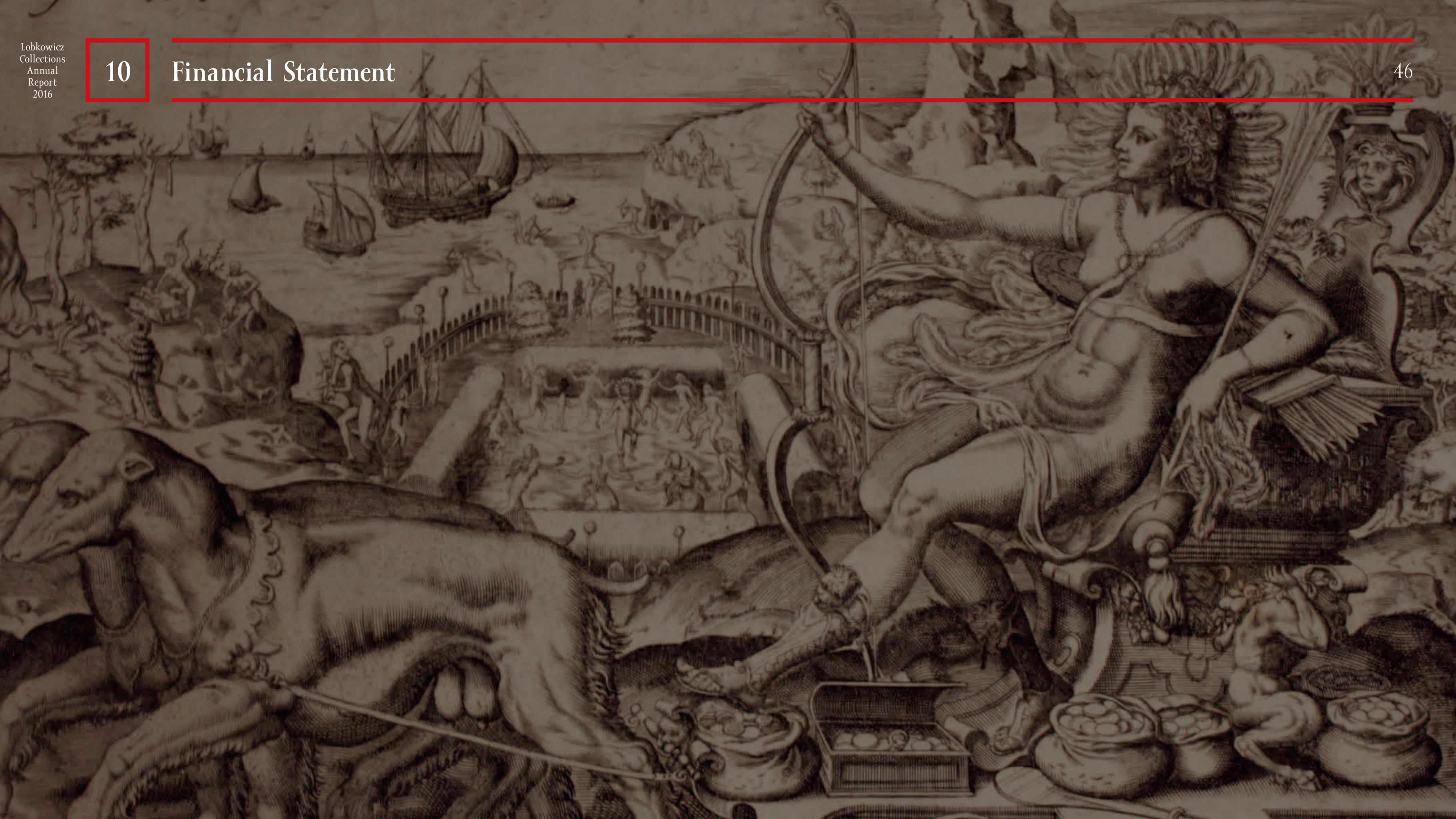


Fundraiser

The kickoff event to the 2016 Fundraiser entitled **Fashion Forward Gala** was a lecture by Jonquil O'Reilly, a specialist in Old Master Paintings at Sotheby's, focused on Renaissance fashion featured in the portraits of The Lobkowicz Collections. The main gala evening, held the next day, honored the 450th anniversary of the birth of Polyxena Pernštejn, 1st Princess Lobkowicz. Nearly 130 distinguished guests enjoyed a live, multi-dimensional, theatrical performance that featured Jan Thompson, HM and British Ambassador to the Czech Republic, in a custom-made Fashion Collection inspired by artworks from The Lobkowicz Collections. The evening continued with a lavish Renaissance-era-inspired nouvelle cuisine dinner and culminated with tournaments in the 17th century gambling game *Glückhaus*.

from above:

Jan Thompson OBE performing Polyxena
Ballet and fashion performance
Guests enjoying Glückhaus gaming



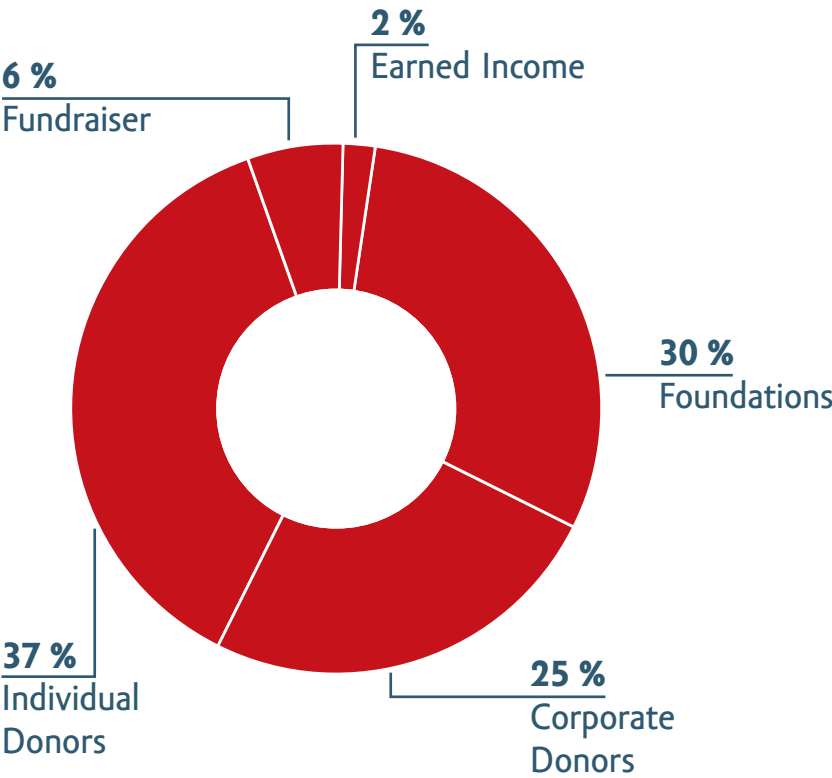


Bartholomeus Spranger, Zdeněk Vojtěch, 1st Prince Lobkowicz,
c. 1600, oil on canvas

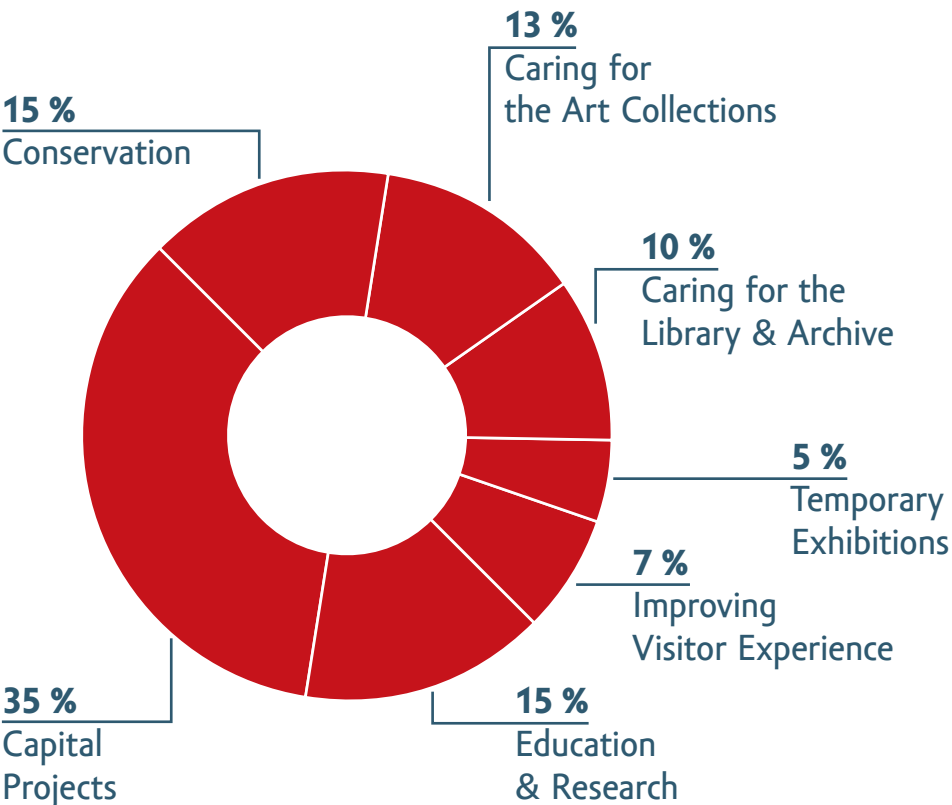
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* o.p.s. is a non-profit organization designation in the Czech Republic

Funding breakdown by sources



Funding breakdown by uses





Attributed to Roland de Mois, *Portrait of Polyxena Pernštejn*, c. 1585, oil on canvas

We thank our generous donors

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