

## Temporary exhibitions and displays

- **‘This is the Great Light and the Key of Paradise. Hymns from King Sobieski’s Tatar villages’**, temporary exhibition accompanying the Seventeenth International Congress of Turkish Art (17<sup>th</sup> ICTA), from 29 December 2023 to May 2024. The exhibition was curated by Andrzej Drozd PhD (habil.), while the Museum’s organising curator was Michał Witkowski. The exhibition was the first museum presentation devoted to an unusual cultural phenomenon: the historic texts produced by the Polish-Lithuanian Tatars and their links with the culture of both the Turkic people and the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania. In the manuscript books of the Tatars of Vilnius, the Nowogródek (today: Navahrudak) area and Podlachia, old Polish apocrypha, church hymns and biblical stories are hidden beneath the layer of the Arabic alphabet, side by side with Central Asian hymns. The organisation of the exhibition was made possible thanks to the cooperation with the National Museum of Lithuania in Vilnius, which provided valuable relics of old Tatar literature. Another unusual relic, which was only shown at the exhibition for a limited time for conservation reasons, was the unique Tatar copy of the Arian bible, known as the Nieśwież Bible (Nyasvizh Bible), from 1572, held in the collection of the University of Warsaw Library, which is being prepared for submission to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register. The organisers of the Seventeenth International Congress of Turkish Art in Warsaw were the Museum of King Jan III’s Palace at Wilanów and the University of Warsaw. The congress took place from 18 to 21 September 2023. The exhibition was financed from the Museum’s own funds and a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

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- **‘Extraordinary Objects For Ordinary Days. 200 Years of Plating in Poland. From Private and Museum Collections’** – exhibition open from 29 November 2024. The exhibition was organised in collaboration between the Museum of King Jan III’s Palace at Wilanów and the Goldsmith Museum, branch of the Vistula Museum in Kazimierz Dolny (the first instalment of the exhibition was presented there from 23 October 2023). The display featured rarely-presented works from museum collections and private collections, some of which are unique and have never been exhibited before. The exhibition features products from the factories of Józef Fraget, Wincenty Norblin and the Henneberg Brothers, including popular items in the art déco style designed by Julia Keilowa, Lech Niemojewski, Roman Krzywiec and Leon Szatczsnajder (Szacsznajder). The exhibition was on show in a new space dedicated to temporary exhibitions, namely, the first floor

- of the Palace's northern wing. It was accompanied by an extensive educational programme, featuring workshops for families, curated tours and meetings with collectors.
- **‘DUM MUNDUS DURAT. The legacy of “While the World Lasts” in a fusion of science and the art of conservation and restoration of artworks’**, 10 May – 14 July 2024. A temporary exhibition of the Faculty of Conservation and Restoration of Artworks of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, hosted by the Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów. The curators of the exhibition representing the Academy of Fine Arts were Monika Jadzińska, Iwona Szmelter and Izabela Zajac, and the organising curators on the side of the Museum were Marya Nawrocka-Mierzwa and Agnieszka Pawlak.
  - **‘The History of Change’**, a temporary exhibition showcasing the modernisation, construction, conservation and restoration projects carried out at the royal palace and garden complex in Wilanów between 2003 and 2023. The exhibition was open from 9 May to 16 June 2024. It was curated by Maciej Balaż in collaboration with the Department of Architecture and the Environment.
  - **The Fourteenth Temporary Exhibition ‘Tulips’** with accompanying events: an educational programme featuring expert lectures, a sodium soap-making workshop, an embroidery workshop titled ‘Tulips Painted with Ribbons’, a botanical illustration workshop, as well as the ‘Ceramics from Iznik’ art-and-calligraphy workshop. The exhibition took place on 16 and 17 March 2024.
  - **‘The Royal Garden of Light’**, a show running from October 2023 to 3 March 2024. This was the thirteenth edition of the Royal Garden of Light event; its fourteenth edition started in October 2024. The Royal Garden of Light at the Wilanów Palace is an outdoor exhibition in which thousands of colourful diodes are arranged in fantastic shapes. It is an excellent choice for cold and grey evenings for both children and adults, and one of Warsaw's greatest attractions. The mappings developed for the autumn 2024/winter 2025 season feature a new addition: the *Otter and Friends* show which joined the line-up of the well-known and much-loved light and music shows. The Rose Garden also has a new, fresh look.
  - **‘The Nature of Curiosity’**, a temporary exhibition during which artefacts from the Wilanów collection coming from various eras and cultural circles were juxtaposed with graphic works by Professor Agnieszka Cieślińska-Kawecka, an artist affiliated with the Faculty of Contemporary Graphics Arts of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, who runs the Interdisciplinary Studio of Classical Techniques at the Department of Printmaking. The exhibition was curated by Prof. Dorothea Folga-Januszewska. The exhibition was organised in collaboration with the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and was open from

27 June to 15 October 2024. It was accompanied by an extensive educational programme, including linoleum print workshops conducted in collaboration with the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, guided tours and walks, workshops for families, as well as fragrance classes, including the *Fragrance – Colour – Shape, or synaesthesia workshops with a perfumist*.

- **A ceremony and exhibition held in the White Hall to mark the return of a war loss:** the *Portrait of Adam Stanisław Naruszewicz*. The ceremony, held on 20 February 2024, was attended by the Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, General Conservator of Monuments Bożena Żelazowska.
- **‘Baroque in Full Bloom: Spring Flowering Plants of the Wilanów Gardens’**, 20 April – 31 May 2024. An exhibition of spring flowers energised the atmosphere of the Baroque Wilanów and reminded us of the illustrious traditions of French garden art. The main focus on the season was the colour pink – extremely sophisticated, yet fresh and filled with energy. It was extremely popular in the eighteenth century, especially in Rococo costumes and interiors. It was often complemented by a range of blues and yellows, resulting in expressive and harmonious compositions. A total of 20,000 flower bulbs and more than 15,600 spring-flowering plants were planted in the Wilanów Garden’s flower beds. The compositions were made up of species characteristic of Baroque garden art: the crown imperial (*Fritillaria imperialis* L.) and its Persian cousin (*Fritillaria persica*), as well as many varieties of tulips and hyacinths, narcissi, forget-me-nots and violets.

## 2. Publications

### Books published by the Museum in paper format

Czerwińska-Walczak Anna, *U źródeł współczesnej konserwacji malarstwa w Polsce. Studium z zakresu działalności Bohdana Marconiego* (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-971174-9-5

Gałązka Bogdan, *Niepożyteczne trudy nowomodnych kuchmistrzów. Smak, techniki kulinarne i idee żywieniowe w pismach Jana Szytlera* (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-971174-8-8

Gawarecki Sebastian, *Diariusz drogi. Podróż Jana i Marka Sobieskich po Europie 1646–1648* (E-BOOK), edited and prefaced by Marek Kunicki-Goldfinger (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-97117-45-7 (e-pub), ISBN 978-83-97117-46-4 (mobi), ISBN 978-83-97117-44-0 (pdf)

Markuszczyńska Aneta, *W cieniu korony. Muzyka w polityce Jakuba III Stuarta i jego żony Marii Klementyny Sobieskiej w Rzymie (1719–1735)* (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-972399-0-6

Mostowicz-Kapciak Ewa, *Obraz sztuki dawnej na terenie Królestwa Polskiego w rosyjskich publikacjach starożytnych z lat 1850–1915*, Silva rerum series (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-971174-0-2

Popiołek Bożena, *Z poczucia piękna, z potrzeby posiadania. Kobiety świat rzeczy w osiemnastowiecznej Rzeczypospolitej*, Silva rerum series (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-965839-9-4

Krzywy Roman, *W podróży, przy stole i w łóżnicy. Źródła literackie jako zwierciadło staropolskich obyczajów*, Silva rerum series (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-965839-5-6

Pyzel Konrad, *Jerzy Siemiginowski. Mistrz baroku na dworze króla Jana III* (Warszawa, 2024), 2024, ISBN 978-83-965839-6-3

Pyzel Konrad, *Jerzy Siemiginowski. A Master of Baroque at the Court of Jan III* (Warszawa, 2024), ISBN 978-83-972399-1-3

### On-line publications on the Museum's website

– *The Passage to Knowledge*:

Academic and popular science articles at [www.wilanow-palac.pl](http://www.wilanow-palac.pl): sixteen new articles were published by the end of July 2024; the list of authors includes Paweł T. Dobrowolski, Anna Penkała-Jastrzębska, Michał Główka, Tadeusz Wojciech Lange and Francesca de Caprio; further texts are awaiting publication: five by Michał Czerenkiewicz, with two additional articles being commissioned from Marta Kucza.

### 3. Conferences and seminars organised or co-organised by the Museum

- **‘Sustainable museums: what it means to us’**, 11–12 April 2024, ARRE Technical Meeting. International seminar organised in collaboration with the Network of European Royal Residences.
- **‘The Sobieskis in Memory – Objects, Places, Forms and Meanings’**, 5–7 November 2024. International conference around the aims, forms and meanings of remembrance of King John III and the entire Sobieski family across time and space, from the eighteenth century to the present day. The aim of the meeting was to discuss what qualities and values are associated with King John III and what makes him one of the most recognisable rulers in the history of the Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania, and Poland itself, both in the country and abroad. The Institute of Italian Culture in Warsaw was a partner of the conference. The agenda featured more than thirty speeches by guests from Poland and abroad. A compilation of the papers presented at the conference is slated for release in 2025.
- **A series of seminars on ‘Provenance studies in museums – state of the art and research postulates’**, held on 5 March, 11 June and 1 October 2024. The seminars offer a platform for the exchange of experiences, a place to formulate research postulates and present the results of provenance studies to date. In 2024, the main topic of the debate was the issue of the dispersal and relocation of collections, including those of Malbork, Gdańsk, Bydgoszcz, Poznań, the Wawel Castle, the collection of the Princes Czartoryski Museum in Gołuchów

and the Lubomirski Museum in Lviv, the collection of paintings in the Łazienki Royal Gallery and the State Art Collections.

- **A series of seminars on prevention and maintenance issues** organised on 5 April and 28 June. This year's meetings focused on Far Eastern art, the climate at the Museum, as well as conservation and research work carried out in the garden galleries.

#### 4. Music projects and other events promoting the traditions and history related to the Wilanów residence

- **'Misa a Buenos Aires'**, the Orangery of the Museum of King Jan III's Palace in Wilanów, 28 January. Martin Palmeri's *Misa a Buenos Aires*, also known as *Misa del Tango*, is a work by an Argentinian composer that uses the melodic and rhythmic elements of tango. The piece was composed in 1995–1996 and its first performance took place at Teatro Broadway in Buenos Aires on 17 August 1996, where it was played by the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Cuba conducted by Fernando Álvarez. Artists: Katarzyna Trylnik – soprano, Klaudiusz Baran – bandoneon, Yaryna Rak – piano, the Władysław Skoraczewski Artos Choir, which had performed at Carnegie Hall (USA) on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the composition of *Misa a Buenos Aires* at the behest of Martin Palmeri, and the Symphony Orchestra of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music.
- **Early Music in Wilanow 2024**, 17 March, 7 April, 19 May, 16 June, 22 September, 20 October, 17 November, 8 December 2024. The 2024 edition of the Early Music in Wilanow concerts aims to support musical initiatives focused on the performance and interpretation of early music. Since the days of King John III Sobieski, music has been a part of court life in the Wilanów Palace, which is why we wanted to restore this beautiful tradition and present historic music works as they were performed originally, that is, played on historical instruments or their reproductions. During the concerts, the White Hall becomes a space filled with sophisticated, fine and fascinating sounds. Concerts of the series:
- **'A Visit to the Land of Augustyn Locci's Ancestors'**, artists: Ilusion Baroque: Alicja Sierpińska – Baroque violin, Paweł Zalewski – viola da gamba, Jowita Graicevci-Szornel – harpsichord. Programme: Biagio Marini, Arcangelo Corelli, Pietro Locatelli, Giuseppe Tartini, Antonio Bertali.
- **'Musical Revolution'**, artists: Weronika Zimoch – Baroque violin, Krystyna Wiśniewska – Baroque cello, Weronika Paine – harpsichord. Programme: François Couperin, Léger Jean-Marie Leclair, Johann Sebastian Bach, Francesco Maria Veracini, Jean-Philippe Rameau.
- **'Two Faces of the Strings: The Harp and the Harpsichord'**, artists: Musica Graziosa: Agnieszka Kaczmarek-Bialic – harp and Paulina

- Tkaczyk-Cichoń – harpsichord. Programme: Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, Georg Friedrich Händel, Johann Sebastian Bach, Bernard Andrés, Agnieszka Kaczmarek-Bialic, Paulina Tkaczyk-Cichoń.
- **‘Pièces de clavecin – Paris 1689’**, artist: Ewa Mrowcy – harpsichord. Programme: Jean-Henry d’Anglebert (1629–1691).
  - **‘Through the Darkness’**, artists: Aleksandra Owczarek – Baroque violin, Klaudia Łoboda – harpsichord. Programme: Giovanni Bonaventura Viviani – Sonata in A minor, Philipp Friedrich Böhdecker – Sonata in D minor, Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber – Doric Sonata C 139, Heinrich Litzkau – Sonata in D minor, Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber – Sonata in E minor C14.
  - **‘In the Tuileries Gardens’**, artists: Très Animé: Olga Musiał-Kurzawska – traverso flute, Katarzyna Cendlak – Baroque violin, Martyna Jankowska – Baroque cello, Dagmara Tyrcha – harpsichord, Maciej Kończak – theorbo. Programme: Jean-Marie Leclair, Marin Marais, Jean-Joseph de Mondonville.
  - **Sobieska International Music Festival**, artists: Giardino di Delizie Baroque ensemble
  - **‘Under the Queen’s Gaze’**, artists: Krzysztof Chalimoniuk – baritone, Witold Wilgos – lute, theorbo, Baroque guitar. Programme: Claudio Monteverdi, Henry Purcell, John Dowland, Jean des Fontaines, François Couperin, Gaspar Sanz, Robert de Visée.

## 5. Educational projects

- **The winter break programme at Wilanów** – activities for individual guests (calligraphy workshops, botanical workshops); along with winter classes.
- **‘Four Seasons in the Polish Culinary Tradition’** – planning and initiating a new iteration of an international project in cooperation with Benrath Palace and the Polish Institute in Dusseldorf (a conference, seminar and culinary workshops focusing on historical cuisine of Poland and Germany), this time entitled **‘From Queen Marie Casimire’s wreath to Kartoffelsalad. Potato in the Polish and German culinary traditions’** – culinary and calligraphy meetings (with the renowned expert K. Bachmiński).
- **‘Holidays at the King’s’**, summer classes in July (three thematic series) and classes for young people in August 2024.
- **‘Summer Games’** – a summer break programme and cruises with educators on the Wilanów Lake (kayaks and gondolas in July and August 2024); activities in the park – a series of meetings with history reenactors entitled **‘Encounters with Living History’** – a field game and meetings with a printer, geographer, herbalist, usurer, washerwoman, the Potocki family, blacksmith, and beekeeper; dancing – open historic dance workshops in the gardens.

- **Summer breakfasts on the grass** – 21 July and 18 August 2024. – breakfasts at Villa Intrata with activities led by educators and with reconstructed dishes featured in the oldest Polish cookbooks.
- **‘Wil.Lab’** – a unique place established at the Museum of King Jan III’s Palace at Wilanów. A space where anyone can come to pursue their artistic passions and interests. We co-founded the new space together with the community of Ukrainian artists, with free (thanks to a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage) intergenerational activities available to all visitors. The Wilanów Ideas Lab is a programme for families linked to the operation of the museum garden.
- Inauguration of archaeological workshops – a new addition to the Museum’s educational offer.
- **‘Botanical Illustration’** – a botanical illustration workshop led by Izabela Wolska-Kuśmider, DipSBA(Dist), member of the Society of Botanical Artists and the American Society of Botanical Artists. The following workshops took place at the Museum: ‘Tulips’, ‘Oranges’, ‘Lemons’, ‘Lilies and Daylilies’, ‘Treasures of the Garden’.
- 525 free lessons and workshops carried out thanks to the grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (starting in September and ending on 31 December 2024).
- **‘The Fourth Royal Festival of Crafts’**, 14–15 September 2024. An outdoor event featuring demonstrations and workshops by more than a hundred exhibitors, including craftsmen and history reenactors.
- **‘ECHOCAST’** – a project involving the development and implementation of a new training module entitled ‘The Open Museum’, as well as a free training course for Polish museum workers, with a particular focus on the staff of visitor service and education departments.
- **‘A Royal Birthday’** – a follow-up to the programme intended for visitors who want to give their children a memorable and special birthday celebration. The combination of fun, shared moments and educational elements guarantees an unforgettable experience, all in the unique space of a Baroque palace and park.
- 2024 Night of the Museums – 18 May. The event encompassed an open-air polonaise demonstration in cooperation with the Marie Casimire Foundation.
- **‘Shakespeare in the Park’** – a series of summer outdoor performances in June/July 2024, including William Shakespeare’s plays *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *The Twelfth Night*.
- **‘The Gardener King’** – a follow-up and conclusion of the educational programme carried out in cooperation with the Veolia Polska Foundation. The project featured the organisation of eighty free environmental classes for excluded groups (in schools and educational institutions) and an outdoor educational event for families on the Night of the Museums, this year falling on 18 May.



- **‘The Wilanów Sensorium’** – activities that enabled people with sensory issues to explore the Museum as independently and actively as possible and participate in cultural events. The project was subsidised by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage from the Fund for the Promotion of Culture – a special-purpose state fund. In 2024, sensory backpacks for children, sensory walks and a quiet room have been implemented.

## 6. Research projects and exhibition technique projects

### Conservation research projects:

The Prevention and Conservation Department led conservation projects involving studies, as well as conservation and restoration works. The studies included:

- **Research on the Wilanów collection of objects decorated with Oriental lacquer and European lacquering techniques (*chinoiserie*, *japanning*)**. Funding: Sumitomo Foundation. Follow-up to the research and conservation work on export casket decorated with lacquer and fabric, inv. no. Wil.3001 – research on technique and technology (in progress), grant from Sumitomo Foundation, start of Phase II of the Task (planned completion date in 2025).
- **Research and conservation work on the Wilanów Rubensiana and portraits of Anna Jagiellon from the Polish collections**. Follow-up to the research and conservation work, expanding cooperation with other institutions holding portraits of Anna Jagiellon. Compilation of results from previous studies in the form of a joint report and collection of summaries from individual researchers (based on studies carried out in previous years). Preparation of a draft summary for four portraits of Anna Jagiellon.
- **Research on the work of King John III’s court artists**. Compilation of the results of conservation, as well as physical and chemical studies carried out in 2022 and 2023, concerning the tondo *Allegory of Philosophy* from the King’s Library and two medallions (one with portraits of Copernicus and Ptolemy, the other of Homer and Ovid).
- **Research on the history of architectural transformations and changes in decoration, and into the state of preservation of the decoration of the ground floor rooms of the north wing of the palace**. The study is aimed at developing a comprehensive conservation and restoration works project concerning the interiors on the ground floor of the north wing of the palace – follow-up. In the first and second quarter of 2024, the research focused on the Lady’s Bedroom, the Painting Gallery Called the Museum, and the Staircase with Cast Iron Stairs.
- **Research on the Museum’s environment in the context of preventive conservation**. Comparative analyses of the climate conditions in



the past (over the last three years), in particular of the relative humidity and temperature in the palace interiors, to prepare risk maps and identify areas of the palace at risk of unstable conditions. In addition, research is being carried out to compare the internal climate conditions in the palace in the 1970s and in 2022. Data for seven rooms of the palace have been analysed. Information on the external climate in the years compared (meteorological data from the Institute of Meteorology and Water Management) was also used for comparison.

- **Research on the works by King John III's court artists / Monumentum Sobiescianum.** The aim of the programme is to gather and shape knowledge about the first owner of the royal residence, King John III. As part of the programme, a query is being carried out in museum collections and among private owners for portraits of the king and his family – follow-up. The work carried out this year included an in-depth examination of portraits from private collections, portraits offered for sale and works in the Wilanów collection (including *Portrait of John III Surrounded by his Family*, Wil.1123).
- **The Royal Townhouse in Lviv. Monograph on history and conservation.** Gathering sources for a monograph on this historic structure, the former home of the King John III's National Museum in Lvov (today: Lviv) – follow-up to a multi-year research and publishing project funded by the Polonika Institute. Authors: Michał Witkowski, Małgorzata Myślicka (National Museum in Warsaw).
- **Medallions from the exequies of King John III.** Signing of a trilateral cooperation agreement between the King Jan III's Palace in Wilanów, the Polonika Institute and the Collezione d'Arte Antica, Museo Barberini, in connection with a project for the conservation and a temporary exhibition of four medallions made to commemorate the funeral ceremony of King John III *sine corpore* in the church of St Stanislaus in Rome. The project will be carried out in 2024–2029.

### Studies and conservation of the palace's interiors – preventive

#### measures:

As part of preventive care, a set of mobile display cases with a transport and storage system was ordered and installed to complement the equipment of the exhibition space in the New Gallery on the first floor (task: 'Specialist exhibition and storage system' co-financed by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage as part of the Cultural Infrastructure government programme). Other plans include installing a system for storing historic frames in the Orangery Storage Area, as well as building and installing modular display systems (showcases) for the new temporary exhibition space on the first floor in the north wing of the palace.

Work is underway on the design of a new display for the sculptures in the South Gallery.

The most valuable paintings displayed on the first floor of the palace were protected against potential vandalism by the installation of specialised museum glass (15 paintings were framed in the first half of the year).

### The ‘Rubensiana’ and ‘Anna Jagiellon’ research projects:

At the end of 2022, the Museum launched the research projects **‘Rubensiana. Collectors’ fascinations in Poland from the seventeenth to the twenty-first centuries’** and **‘Portraits of Anne Jagiellon in widow’s weeds in Polish collections’**. The project was made possible thanks to a grant of 1,335,000 PLN from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (of which 625,000 PLN was earmarked for research, publication and exhibition activities, and 710,000 PLN was allocated towards conservation studies and the conservation of paintings).

- The **‘Rubensiana’** project is the first attempt to sum up and showcase the influence of the art and personality of Peter Paul Rubens on Polish artistic culture and collections since the seventeenth century. The main objectives of the research include deepening and promoting knowledge of the systematic and reasoned nature of the Wilanów collection. Other important challenges include examination of the nature of Wilanów’s sizeable collection of works related to Rubens in the context of their reception in other collections in Poland and Europe. The conclusions will be combined with the results of a programme of comprehensive conservation studies (using state-of-the-art physical and chemical methods) of Rubensiana from the Wilanów collection, including a comprehensive conservation of the *Allegory of the Four Rivers of Paradise*.
- **‘Anne Jagiellon’** involves researching representations of Anne Jagiellon in widow’s weeds, which are among some of the most famous Polish portraits of the sixteenth century and which had an enormous impact on later art. Four high-quality paintings in similar style are extant in Polish collections, all attributed to the eminent artist Marcin Kober. The best-preserved, which is perhaps the prototype for the replicas produced by painter himself or in his studio, can be found in the collection of the Wawel Royal Castle. Three others remain in Warsaw museums: the Museum of King Jan III’s Palace at Wilanów, the National Museum in Warsaw and the Royal Castle in Warsaw. All of these museums, which are national cultural institutions, have expressed their willingness to collaborate on the best possible examination of the history, technique and technology underpinning their creation. The project activities carried out throughout 2024 were concluded with the temporary exhibition **‘Queen Anne Jagiellon’**, which was opened on 5 December. The comprehensive project is a follow-up in the ‘What is What?’

Original, replica, copy...' series, which started with the 'Leonardiana. Collectors' Fascinations in Poland' exhibition and the accompanying catalogue and which is an important contribution to the debate of the relationship between the original work, other versions, replicas, copies and imitations, taking into account the historical changes in the approach to the issue.

The project will be summarised in three publications (collective works) and a joint display of the presented works in the space of the Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów.

## 7. Conservation and restoration works

- **'Carrying out conservation and restoration works in the rooms of the Lower Vestibule, the Lady's Bedroom and the Staircase with Cast Iron Stairs of the Wilanów Palace – stage I'**, financed with a dedicated grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. At the end of March 2024, the first phase of conservation and restoration works was completed in the Lady's Bedroom and on the ground floor of Staircase with Cast Iron Stairs. Alongside the works on the decorations on the walls and ceiling, conservation works were carried out on the floor, as well as on the wooden and stone decorative elements of the interior. Commissioned by the Museum, hand-printed reconstructions of paper wall upholstery with a raised ornament were made by the French Atelier d'Offard studio using a woodblock technique; the company then completed the decoration of the walls of the Lady's Bedroom in autumn 2024.
- **Conservation and restoration work on the second span in the North Garden Gallery – as part of the project entitled 'Conservation and restoration work on individual decorative elements in the North Garden Gallery – Span II'**, follow-up, stage II – completed on 30 July 2024. The conservation work project funded by the Omenaa Foundation (for other work funded by the foundation, see: **Maintenance and interventions completed in 2024**).
- The first half of 2024 saw **the continuation of the development of programmes for the second stage of conservation and restoration works in the ground floor rooms of the north wing** of the Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów – the Painting Gallery Called the Museum, the Landscape Gallery with its annex, and the communication section – the Lower Vestibule and the Staircase with Cast Iron Stairs. The contractor for the works was selected in a public tender at the end of August.

The Museum of Culture and National Heritage grant will also be used to finance finishing work in the Lady's Bedroom. The French company Atelier d'Offard installed hand-printed wallpaper with a raised ornament on the walls of the Lady's Bedroom in early September.

## Conservation procedures and interventions concluded in 2024

### Other conservation procedures financed from the Omenaa Foundation funds:

- Wil.1539, *The Mystical Wedding of St Catherine* – conservation work on the painting, which began as part of the showcase work for the TOP CHARITY 2023 pre-auction exhibition, was completed at the beginning of the year;
- Display conservation procedures of seven selected objects of the Wilanów collection of antiquities during the exhibition ‘Window to the World’ in the Wilanów Palace Orangery as part of the TOP CHARITY 2024 Grand Charity Auction: Wil.5401, Nolan amphora; Wil.5146, Black plate; Wil.5183, Red-figure lid; Wil.5191, Red-figure situla; Wil.5214, *Trozzella*; Wil.5265, Red-figure lekythos; Wil.5312, Red-figure amphora.

### Concluded conservation intervention procedures:

- on the wall decorations in the Chinese Gazebo, inv. no. Wil.Rza.107 (column) and the window in the Chapel;
- on paintings and their frames: Wil.1993, *Apollo and the two Muses*; Wil.1081, *Tivoli Cascades*; Wil.1588, *Cupid with a branch of myrtle*, and the frame to painting Wil.1959;
- on the sculpture Wil.2665, *Medusa Rondanini* – head.
- **reconstruction of King John III’s cabinet** – completion of the works and installing the cabinet as part of the permanent exhibition in the King’s Antechamber. The reconstruction was carried out by Ireneusz Bazelak, Michał Rogoziński and Tomasz Majcherek.

### Ongoing conservation procedures (selection):

- As part of another grant from the Sumitomo Foundation (Japan), work is being carried out on a box with oshi-e decoration and lacquer, inv. no. Wil.3001.
- Conservation work on Wil.RzA.147 and Wil.RzA.402 as part of two Master’s theses by students of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw;
- Wil.6312, *King John III (1629–1696)* – portrait
- Wil.1160, *Anna Jagiellon (1523–1596)* – portrait
- Wil.3091, library closet
- Wil.3092, library closet
- Wil.1047, *Caritas*
- Wil.1796, *Madonna with the Child*
- Wil.1846, *Boucher François (1703–1770)* – portrait
- Wil.1317, *Potocka Marianna née Kątska (Kącka) (1722–1768)* – portrait

and

- Wil.964, Couch; restoration (painting reconstruction) of the seat
- Wil.5533, Fragments of a structure with a (clockwork?) mechanism
- Wil.328, Casket
- Wil.5936, Vase lid; Wil.5937, Miniature lid; Wil.5938, Vase lid;

- Wil.5939, Vase lid; Wil.5940, Lid; Wil.2207 Plate
- Wil.9/489/84, Small basket
- Wil.6007, Feather fan
- Wil.1213, *Stephen Bathory (1533–1586)* – portrait with frame inv. no. R.640 Wil.
- Wil.796, *Allegory of Sight* – figurine
- Wil.3180, Small table
- Wil.412, Couch; conservation of textiles
- Wil.6152/1, Wil.6152/2, Wil.6152/3, Wil.6152/4, Wil.6152/5, Wil.6152/6 – 6 chairs
- Wil.6149/1, Wil.6149/2 – 2 armchairs
- Wil.5622, Couch
- Arch.56 Wil., Intervention concerning the *Glass Ball*
- Wil.1083, *Landscape with Staffage*
- R.336 Wil. and R.588 Wil., Grain-finished frames
- Wil.9/242/80, Display case
- Wil.1833, *Male Portrait*
- Wil.857, *Personification of America* – figurine – intervention

## 8. Modernisation projects

- **Reconstruction of a part of the north wing of the Wilanów Palace as part of the task of ensuring accessibility for visitors with disabilities on three floors, entitled NEW GALLERY** – completion of works, March 2024. Adaptation works carried out in the interiors of the north wing of the palace were aimed at modernising the operations of the Museum of King Jan III's Palace in Wilanów by carrying out the necessary accessibility changes to open the three floors of the museum building to visitors with motor disabilities. To this end, as part of the project, the palace building was equipped with a lift facilitating movement through the three floors of the palace (basement, ground floor, first floor), a toilet adapted to the needs of wheelchair users and persons with other mobility impairments, and specialised mechanical devices to enable movement across the floors (platforms). In addition, the gallery on the first floor of the wing has been equipped with a modern ventilation and air-conditioning system, new electrical installations including new lighting, electrical sockets, new ICT installations with a new server room supporting access control systems, burglary and assault alarms, fire alarms and CCTV monitoring equipment. All of the work was carried out thanks to a grant received from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.
- **Construction of a lightning protection system for the Museum buildings: the Marconi House, the Fig Hothouse and its outbuilding, the Orangery, Stables and the Sculpture Pavilion**, July to December 2024. The works are aimed at improving fire safety of some of

the architectural structures located in the complex of buildings of the royal residence at Wilanów. The measures constitute a follow-up to the work started in previous years. The work was funded with a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

- **Construction of an emergency lighting system for the interiors of the Museum buildings: the Palace and Villa Intrata**, July to December 2024. The safety of the public is a fundamental priority in the pursuit of the cultural and educational mission carried out by the Museum, side by side with ensuring the safety of the heritage artefacts held in the Wilanów residence. To this end, the institution is taking steps to overhaul and expand systems which ensure the safety of people and property. Both the Palace and the Villa Intrata are frequented by visitors the most, which is why the installation of a professional emergency lighting system is a crucial necessity, and obligatory for the Museum. The work was funded with a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.
- **Vine support**, July to December 2024. The idea behind the project carried out by the Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów is to create a barrier between the temporary construction sites and the educational space. The space used to host a fruit and vegetable garden. The museum aims to restore the historic purpose of the site and use it for educational purposes. The work was funded with a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.
- **Construction of the ticketed area pavilion**, July to December 2024. In order to increase the level of terrorist and epidemic security, the Museum has introduced a new organisation of admission to the royal residence in Wilanów. A new entrance to the Museum has been built at the south gate. This change was also intended to avoid visual interference with the historic view axis, which still exists today. The pavilion will not only serve as a canopy over the automatic ticket gates, but will also provide shelter from adverse weather conditions for the Museum staff supervising visitor traffic and for the visitors themselves as they pass through the gates or line up to enter. The entrance and exit have been fitted with ramps to facilitate access for wheelchair users and adults with children in prams. The pavilion is organised to ensure a collision-free passage. The pavilion will be equipped with the electrical and tele-technical installations necessary to power and operate the ticket gates, as well as a lighting system, which is particularly necessary during evening visits to the park. The work was funded with a grant from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.
- **New website of the Museum of King Jan III's Palace in Wilanów** – follow-up works on the development of the new Museum website. In

June 2024, phase 2 of stage IV (out of five project stages) was concluded. Launch of new Museum website – January 2025.

## 9. Projects subsidised from European Union Funds

- Erasmus+ language courses (1 June 2022 – 31 May 2024). The aim of the project was to increase the multilingual competence of museum staff. Thanks to the grant, 14 employees and partners took part in the project, attending language courses abroad.
- Erasmus+ Accreditation. Communication and language courses in 2024 (1 June 2023 – 31 May 2025). The aim of the project is to develop the key competences of the Museum's adult education staff in order to improve the quality of their communication with the public and to increase the accessibility of the museum's educational offer (both onsite and online). The project involves 20 staff members.
- Green Erasmus+ (1 June 2024 – 31 May 2025). The aim of the project is to further the Museum's educational sustainable development projects and to introduce green solutions into its daily operations.

## 10. New items in the Museum's collection

### Purchases

- *John III Sobieski (1629–1696), King of Poland – portrait*, engraving, paper, Christoph Hartknoch, 1684, Wil.6381.
- *Austrian Envoy and Papal Nuncio Visit John III Sobieski*, lithograph, paper, Frédéric Sorrieu, 1833, Wil.6382.
- *Maria Clementina Sobieska (1701–1735) – portrait*, engraving, paper, Pierre Drevet, 1723–1730, Wil.6383.
- Print commemorating the funeral ceremonies of Maria Clementina Sobieska, *Parentalia Mariae Clementinae Magn. Britan. Franc., et Hibern. Regin. Iussu Clementis XII.*, engraving, paper, engravings by Giovanni Paolo Panini, Giovanni Girolamo Frezza, Filippo Juvarra, Maximilian Limpach and Anton Fritz, 1723–1730, Wil.6385/1-3.
- Salad bowl from a service decorated with the Pilawa coat of arms of the Potocki family, porcelain, Fauburg St. Denis (factory), early nineteenth century, Wil.6386.
- *Wilanów Palace Viewed from the Main Courtyard*, wet technique, pencil, paper, Wilibald Richter (signed as WR), 1845, Wil.6387.
- Copper plate with the portrait of Ignacy Potocki, copper, engraving, artist unknown, eighteenth century, Wil.6452.
- Backgammon token (Brettstein), fruitwood, Nuremberg, late seventeenth/early eighteenth century, obverse with portrait of King John III Sobieski, reverse with coronation scene of King Augustus II, Wil.6447.
- Backgammon token (Brettstein), fruitwood, Nuremberg, 1683, obverse with a view of Vienna, reverse with a battle scene, Wil.6448.



- Medal commemorating the liberation of Vienna from the Turkish siege, silver, Vienna 1683, Wil.6449.
- Flask, silver, Oława, C. Wolter, ca. 1700, Wil.6451.
- *Equestrian portrait of King John III*, canvas, oil, circle of H. Gascar (?), seventeenth/eighteenth century, Wil.6450.

## 11. Donations

- Collection of 70 livery buttons, nineteenth/twentieth century, donated by Jacek Rutkowski of the Museum of Buttons, Wil.6388-6446/1-7.
- *Jan Sobieski*, manuscript of a poem with an image of the king, signed 'Lucio M.', donated by Emil Przepiórski, Wil.6384.

## 12. Awards

- Special Sibylla Prize from the Minister of Culture and National Heritage for educational programmes at the Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów – creative spaces and building relationships with the public.
- Honourable mention in the Museum Book of the Year 2024 contest for the book *Z poczucia piękna, z potrzeby posiadania. Kobiety świat rzeczy w osiemnastowiecznej Rzeczypospolitej* by Bożena Popiołek. The publication, supervised by Elżbieta Grygiel and Marcin Wielgo, is the sixty-ninth volume of the Wilanów Museum's series *Silva Rerum*.

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