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Renaissance sgraffito decoration of castles Benátky nad Jizerou, Nelahozeves and Brandýs nad

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Abstract

In this bachelor thesis, I focus on the exterior mural sgraffito décor of three Renaissance castles connected by the Royal Bohemian smelter. I concentrate this thesis on the cultural and historical context of the Renaissance Art period in the area of the Bohemian kingdom, the sgraffito craftsmanship, and its development in the Northern European regions. For this work, I have chosen three renaissance castles – Benátky nad Jizerou, Nelahozeves and Brandýs nad Labem. Firstly I will introduce their historical value and I will explain connections between the castles, the Royal Bohemian smelter, and the Renaissance sgraffito decoration, which I will also use to analyze singular iconographical motives, to which I will add the original graphical artworks, that were used as examples for illustrating particular scenes and topics. As a conclusion, I will try to compare the artistic level of mural sgraffito decorations and I will also add some more examples of this kind of decoration in the same period, location, and quality.

Keywords

Renaissance Art, sgraffito, renaissance mural paintings in Bohemia, renaissance castles, sgraffito décor of castles, themes of renaissance mural paintings, castle in Benátky nad Jizerou, Nelahozeves castle, castle in Brandýs nad Labem