

This thesis focuses primarily on the iconographic analysis of ten medals made by Antonio Abondio, a court medallist at the court of Emperor Maximilian II and his son Rudolf II. The introductory part of the thesis dedicated to the biography of Antonio Abondio is followed by a short outline of the development of art medals production in Italy and in Central Europe and of the factors which had an impact on Abondio's work. The core of my study is an actual analysis of some selected pieces made on commission for prominent individuals of the said period. A particular emphasis is put on the images found on the reverse side of the medals and on their paradigm detecting.