

Anglická anotace

The Green Vault is among Europe's most exquisite and most famous treasure chambers. It was established as a baroque museum by the Saxon elector and Polish king August the Strong (1670-1733) between 1723 and 1730. During that period, the Wettin dynasty's sumptuous collection of Renaissance and Baroque treasures was placed on view for the first time in eight presentation rooms of the Royal Palace. The inventories of 1733 have survived and form the basis for the present reinstallation of the treasure chamber. In those documents, this group of rooms is referred to as the "Secret Repository of the Green Vault of Dresden. The malachite-green hue of various architectural elements in the rooms of the secret repository probably led to their colloquial designation as the "Green Vault" from as early as 1572.

Between 1723 and 1730 August the Strong realized his vision of a Baroque synthesis of the arts as an expression of wealth and absolutist power. In harmony with the festive architecture, 3,000 artworks were presented standing freely against a background of richly embellished and mirrored display walls and on ornamental tables. In this incomparable Baroque setting, the individual artwork receded behind the overflowing abundance of the whole. The rooms themselves have their origins in palace expansions of the sixteenth century and were initially used for the safekeeping of precious objects and important documents. The Green Vault climaxes in the Jewel Room where the jewel sets of August the Strong and his son are on view - a unique historical collection of eighteenth-century ceremonial jewellery.

One of the most important object in the collection is *Der Hofstaat zu Delhi am Geburtstag des Großmoguls Aurangzeb* (Palace at Delhi of the Mogul Aurangzeb at his birthday), which represents the imagination of European monarchs about Arabic Palaces in India. It is a miniature with about 150 persons and animals. It was created from 1701-1708. The *Golden Coffee Service*, which presents the cups and saucers and sugar bowls on an elaborate pyramidal etagère surmounted by the coffeepot, all in enamelled gold, a cabinetpiece unique in Europe. Augustus took the recently-completed ensemble with him to Warsaw at Christmas 1701, to dazzle the nobles of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth of which he was the nominal ruler. The *Juwelen-Garnituren* (Jewel garniture) is the largest collection of jewels in Europe. They represented the claim of absolute power of the monarchs.

- **Kunstkammer** – chamber of art and curiosities as well as precious objects, scientific items or toys
- **Silberchamber/ Silberzimmer** – chamber of precious silver objects or plates
- **„beth Stübigen“** – private chamber of precious objects of saxon elector – kings in Dresden castle until 1701
- **Kunststück** – plastic object made from different materials, which combines technique, art and science
- **Galanterien** – articles of luxury of a very little size