

9. The Trinity Statues in Cítoliby and Valeč in Context of Braun's Work

The objective of this work is to determine the authorship of the columns in Cítoliby and in Valeč. These villages are situated in the western part of Bohemia. As the author of both of these works is designated very famous architect, who cooperated with the sculptor M. B. Braun in a lot of causes, F. M. Kaňka. This authorship came from E. Poche and it was assumed by many other authors in the past as so as in the present time. On the basis of the archival materials and the resemblance of the appearance with the column on the Lesser Town square, the author of this study assumes, that the architect of the column in Cítoliby could be G. B. Alliprandi. In the second case in Valeč the architecture of the column could have been projected by one countryman of G. B. Alliprandi, G. B. Rossa, according to the meaning of the author of this study. The second man built there the castle and also the castle church opposite to the column, which is from the same time.

At Cítoliby, there is one problem with the right date of the rise of the column. For a long time it was thought, that it had been built in 1725. But according to the chnonogram on the cartoché of the column and the date of death of the man (1715), who ordered this architectur, it was built in 1715. There are three sculptures in the above-lifesize on the column. The first one represents God Father, the second one Christ and the last one was seen as the Saint Spirit or the archangel. The last figure has a long vesture, a pilgrim cloak and sandals and the figure of God Father next to it wears a pilgrim hat. That is reason, why the author thinks, that this sculpture could represent St. James the Major. The second one is the church opposite to the column, which is dedicated just to this saint.

Because of the top quality of the statue on the column in Cítoliby and because of his other work in this city (sculptures in the Saint James the Major church, figures of Chronos and Religion on the garden wall next to the church) is the author convinced, that these sculptures were made by the Braun's workshop. In Valeč it is sure, that this workshop is the author of the allegoric sculptures in the castle garden. They come from the year 1733. To that year is A. Braun mentioned in the register of Valeč. But he is mentioned there two years ago, too. That means, that he was in contact with this village even before the mentioned order. To make it sure, the author compared the sculptures of the column with other saints, which were made by the workshop. It is evident, that these sculptures go out of contemporary patterns.

The column in Valeč and its sculptures are in a critical state. For this reason were the sculptures transported to the Kladrubby monastery. They are put on the boards in one part of the convent, which is for the public cloused. It is a very damp milieu, which is very harmful for sandstone. The only possibility, how to save these sculptures, which are in worse state than the column, is to get a grant.