

Saint Elizabeth's spital in Pohořelec

The extant altarpieces of the spital's chapel

Abstract

This thesis deals with the Saint Elizabeth's spital in Pohořelec near the monastery of Premonstratensians in Strahov. This spital was founded by the abbot Kaspar Questenberg and was located in the western part of Pohořelec. However, the original building wasn't preserved, because it had to yield to Prague's fortification in the 60's of the 17th century. Under the abbot Vincenc Makarius Frank the new spital was constructed. There was the chapel dedicated to the patron St. Elisabeth, which was mentioned in the written sources since the beginning of the hospital existence. During few years there were also ordered altarpieces.

The contemporary literature associates only two paintings of saints with Saint Elizabeth's spital (St. Barbara and St. Rosalia). These paintings were placed on the side altars of the chapel and today are in the possession of the Royal Canonry of Premonstratensians at Strahov. Thanks to the preserved written sources, we were able to discover additional information of the spital's equipment and the chapel main altarpiece.

This thesis summarizes the previous research and determines templates of altarpieces and their sources of inspiration. The attention is also aimed to the history of the spital, which has not still been explored.

Keywords

Baroque painting, 17th century, Strahov, Spital of Saint Elizabeth, Antonín Stevens, David Norbert Altmann