

Height of the Baroque Era

Art of the Straub family in the former Zagreb Archdiocese

The exhibition, organized by the Croatian Conservation Institute and the Archdiocese of Zagreb, presents the heritage of the Straub family of sculptors explored as part of the *Tracing the Art of the Straub Family* international project (TrArS). Croatian Conservation Institute (project leader), Bavarian State Department of Monuments and Sites, Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia, and Universities of Ljubljana and Graz participated in its implementation together with associate researchers from other heritage, religious, scientific and educational institutions. The project was co-funded by the European Union through the Creative Europe programme.

The project explored the history and art of several generations of the Straub family. The work of five brothers from the third generation that grew up in Wiesensteig was particularly interesting. In the 18th century, they were leading sculptors in several cities in present-day Germany, Austria, Slovenia and Croatia. When their birth town, and their father's and uncle's carpentry workshops, became too small, they set off in search of work. In time, they became leading sculptors in several cities in Central Europe (Munich, Graz, Maribor, Bad Radkersburg and Zagreb) leaving behind cultural and ecclesiastical heritage, particularly altars and pulpits, of great artistic value. The work of three Straub brothers has been preserved in Croatia: Philipp Jakob, who had a workshop in Graz, Joseph, who chose Maribor as his residence, and Franz Anton, the youngest brother who lived and worked in Zagreb.

Out of several artworks in Croatia made in the workshop of Philipp Jakob Straub, authorship of the high altar from the pilgrimage church in Trški Vrh and the pulpit in the Varaždin cathedral have been confirmed, an important fact in the international context considering the lack of archival sources on 18th century artists and church inventory.

Stone sculptures made for the façade of the Ursuline church in Varaždin, along with several wood-

en works of art, made by Maribor sculptor Joseph Straub have been preserved in Croatia. His involvement in the construction of the altar of St. John of Nepomuk for the same church is also confirmed by archival records.

During the 1760s, Franz Anton Straub designed a series of altars and pulpits proving himself not only as an excellent sculptor, but also a competent carpenter. The elegant and outstanding craftsmanship make these pieces stand out in the ecclesiastical heritage of continental Croatia, a fact that was also recognized by Franjo Thauszy, Zagreb bishop and the artist's greatest patron and commissioner. His work is a harmonious blend of often complex compositions of imaginative solutions, lavishly carved ornaments with mostly rocaille motifs, and sculptures with powerful physical volumes that exude expressive emotional gestures and refined individuality.

The project included documentation and archival research of the entire body of work of the Straub family of sculptors, with basic conservation research being carried out on individual *objets d'art* as a prerequisite for future works. All research results were published on the website of the project (www.trars.eu), and a monograph about the work and art of the Straub family was published with a complete catalogue.

The exhibition was organized as part of the *European Baroque in my Homeland: Socialising with the Straub Family Heritage* designed to highlight the importance of recognizing the value of our own heritage in a wider, European context. With the transfer of project results stemming from positive experiences of international and interdisciplinary collaboration, the events promote the idea of a unique, yet diverse European cultural space in both the past and the present. Various activities encourage the search for solutions for the protection of cultural heritage through scientific and professional activities, as well as through active involvement of the community as a guarantee of its continued preservation.



Pakrac



Gornja Jelenska



Čučerje



TrArS

Tracing the Art
of the Straub Family



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Vrhunac baroknog poleta

Umjetnost obitelji Straub na području negdašnje Zagrebačke nadbiskupije



Trški Vrh

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Izložbom u organizaciji Hrvatskog restauratorskog zavoda i Zagrebačke nadbiskupije predstavlja se baština kiparske obitelji Straub istražena u sklopu međunarodnog projekta *Tragom umjetnosti obitelji Straub* (TrArS). Uz Hrvatski restauratorski zavod (voditelj projekta), u njegovoj su provedbi sudjelovali i Bavarski državni zavod za zaštitu spomenika, Javni zavod Republike Slovenije za zaštitu kulturne baštine te Sveučilišta u Ljubljani i Grazu, uz pridružene ostvarenja ističu u sakralnoj baštini kontinentalne Hrvatske, što je prepoznao i majstorov najveći mecenat i naručitelj, zagrebački biskup Franjo Thauszy. Njegova su djela su skladan spoj složenih kompozicija maštovitih rješenja, raskošno rezbarene ornamentike mahom rokajnih motiva, te skulptura snažnih tjelesnih volumena koje odišu izraženim emotivnim gestama i profinjenom individualnošću.

Franz Anton Straub je 1760-ih godina oblikovao niz oltara i propovjedaonica na kojima se dokazao ne samo kao vrstan kipar nego i kao kompetentan stolar. Elegancijom i vrsnoćom izvedbe ta se ostvarenja ističu u sakralnoj baštini kontinentalne Hrvatske, što je prepoznao i majstorov najveći mecenat i naručitelj, zagrebački biskup Franjo Thauszy. Njegova su djela su skladan spoj složenih kompozicija maštovitih rješenja, raskošno rezbarene ornamentike mahom rokajnih motiva, te skulptura snažnih tjelesnih volumena koje odišu izraženim emotivnim gestama i profinjenom individualnošću.

U sklopu projekta istraženi su povijest i djela nekoliko naraštaja kiparske obitelji Straub. Osobito je zanimljiva djelatnost petorice braće iz trećeg poznatog nam naraštaja stasalog u Wiesensteigu, koji su djelovali tijekom 18. stoljeća u nekoliko gradova današnje Njemačke, Austrije, Slovenije i Hrvatske. Nakon što su im rodna sredina te očeva i stricrva stolarska radionica postale skučene, braća su se otisnula u potragu za poslom prema jugu i istoku. S vremenom su postali vodeći kipari u nekoliko srednjoeuropskih gradova: Münchenu, Grazu, Mariboru, Bad Radkersburgu i Zagrebu, ostavivši u naslijede kulturnu i sakralnu baštinu, osobito oltare i propovjedaonice, velike umjetničke vrijednosti. U Hrvatskoj su sačuvana djela čak trojice braće Straub: Philippa Jakoba, koji je imao radionicu u Grazu, Josepha, koji je za svoje sjedište odabrao Maribor, te Franza Antona, najmlađeg brata, koji je živio i radio u Zagrebu.

U sklopu projekta provedeno je evidentiranje i arhivsko istraživanje cijelokupnog opusa članova kiparske obitelji Straub. Na pojedinim umjetninama izvedena su i osnovna konzervatorsko-restauratorska istraživanja kao preduvjet budućih radova. Svi rezultati istraživanja objavljeni su na mrežnim stranicama projekta (www.trars.eu), a izdana je i monografija o radu i djelu obitelji Straub s cijelovitim katalogom umjetnina.

Izložba je organizirana u sklopu događanja *Europski barok u mom zavičaju: druženje zajednice s baštinom obitelji Straub*, osmišljenih s ciljem upućivanja šire javnosti na prepoznavanje dragocjenosti vlastite baštine u širem, europskom kontekstu. Uz prenošenje rezultata projekta proizašlih iz pozitivnih iskustava međunarodne i međudisciplinarnе suradnje, događanjima se promiče ideja o jedinstvenom, ali istovremeno raznolikom europskom kulturnom prostoru u prošlosti i sadašnjosti. Raznovrsnim aktivnostima radi se na rješenjima za očuvanje kulturne baštine kroz znanstvenu i stručnu djelatnost te aktivnim uključivanjem zajednice kao jamca su, uz više umjetnina u drvu, sačuvane i kamene njazine održivosti.



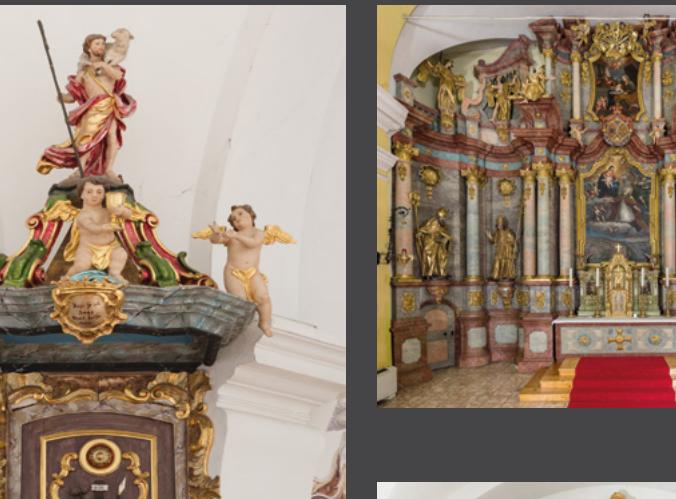
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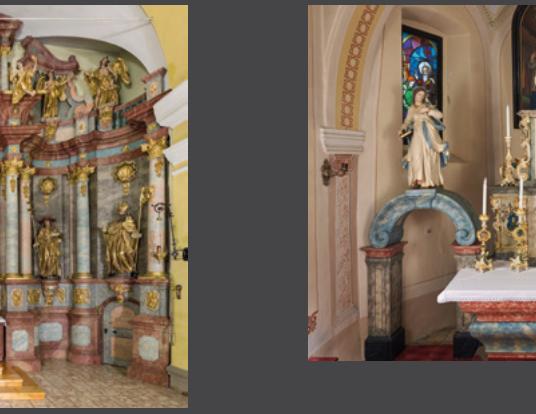
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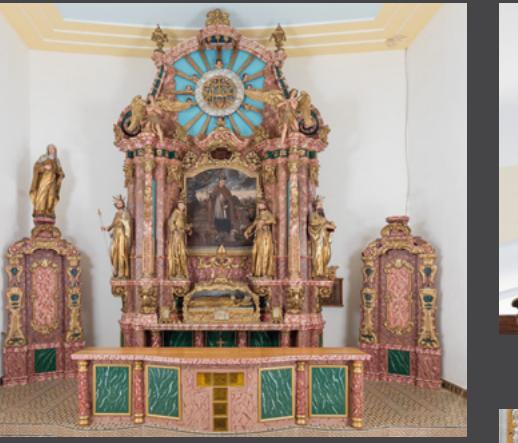
Taborsko



Zlatar



Marija Gorica



Cernik



Varaždin



Brezovica



Brezovica



Prepolno



Lužnica



Sveti Petar Čvrstec



Velika Ludina



Hrvatska Kostajnica



Kutina



Kloštar Ivanić



Bedenica