

Hlavní referující

Collegium historiae artium

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Téma

Discontinuities and Persistence: Visual Representations of the Razumovsky Family through Its Private Art Collection



Joseph Kiss, Portrait of Count Camillo Razumovsky and His Family, 1892, Silesian Museum.

Across more than two centuries, portraits and other collected objects helped the Razumovskys, a noble family of Ukrainian Cossack origin, articulate, preserve, and repeatedly reinterpret their identity amid profound political, social, and geographical change. Selected eighteenth-century painted and engraved portraits of Hetman Kyrylo Rozumovsky reveal how his position between the Ukrainian Hetmanate and the Russian imperial court was negotiated in visual terms. The focus then shifts to Count Camillo Razumovsky's collecting activities in Austrian Silesia, viewed as part of a broader programme of aristocratic self-representation, the cultivation of family memory, and the family's social positioning. Finally, the collection's dispersal as a result of war, forced migration, confiscation, and institutional transfer is considered alongside recent efforts to reconstruct its historical contexts and internal connections through provenance research combining evidence from the family's private archive in Austria with surviving objects held in public collections in the Czech Republic.

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