Alchemy and Rudolf II

Exploring the Secrets of Nature in Central Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries

Editors
Ivo Purš and Vladimír Karpenko
This publication was issued with the support of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

Published by Artefactum, Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences

© Authors, 2016
© Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, 2016

CONTENTS

Preface
_Ivo Purš_ / 9

Edition and terminological note / 15

ALCHEMY IN CENTRAL EUROPE
AND IN IMPERIAL PRAGUE

A Path to the Rudolfine World / 19
_Vladimír Karpenko_

Alchemy at the Aristocratic Courts
of the Lands of the Bohemian Crown / 47
_Ivo Purš and Vladimír Karpenko_

The Habsburgs on the Bohemian
Throne and Their Interest in Alchemy
and the Occult Sciences / 93
_Ivo Purš_

The Scientific Education of a Renaissance
Prince: Archduke Rudolf at the Spanish
Court / 129
_William Eamon_

Rudolf II’s Patronage of Alchemy
and the Natural Sciences / 139
_Ivo Purš_

“Transforming the Whole Corpus Solis into Liquor
Irreducibilis.” Laboratory Alchemy
at the Court of Emperor Rudolf II / 205
_Rudolf Werner Soukup_

Transmutation: Miracles and Doubts / 229
_Vladimír Karpenko_

Alchemical Manuscripts in the Collections
of Rudolf II / 249
_Alena Richterová_

Alchemy at the Aristocratic Courts
of the Lands of the Bohemian Crown
_The Case of George Ripley_ / 293
_Jennifer M. Rampling_

The Yoynich MS in Rudolfine Prague / 297
_René Zandbergen and Rafał T. Prinke_

ALCHEMY PROTAGONISTS
IN THE AGE OF RUDOLF II

_Nolite de me inquirere [Do not seek to ask about
me]: Michael Sendivogius_ / 317
_Rafał T. Prinke_

Michael Maier and his Prague Activities / 335
_Ivo Purš and Jaroslava Hausenblasová_

Between Medicine and Politics: Oswald Croll’s
Activity in the Lands of the Bohemian Crown
during the Reign of Rudolf II / 367
_Jaroslava Hausenblasová_

The Word of God and the Universal Medicine
in the Chemical Philosophy
of Oswald Croll / 381
_Hiro Hirai_

Imagination and the Heavenly Body in
the Alchemic Cosmology of Oswald Croll / 387
_Jakub Hlaváček_

Matthias Erbinäus von Brandau (von
Brandow): Alchemy between Reality
and Phantasy / 393
_Vladimír Karpenko_

Tadeáš Hájek of Hájek and his Alchemical
Circle / 423
_Ivo Purš_