



Roman Triumph

Artist	Weaving workshop in Tournai - Arnold Poissonier
Origin date	around 1510-1520
Origin place	Tournai
Type	tapestry
Material	wool
Technique	woven
Sizes	magasság: 367 cm szélesség: 360 cm
Inventory No.	1958.2.1



Description

This vividly coloured tapestry depicts a Roman triumphal procession. In the crowded scene, fourteen figures clad in armour proceed from left to right. The Roman soldiers, arranged across a field strewn with flowers, wear armour and, in some cases, laurel wreaths. They carry triumphal standards mounted on poles, as well as statues of deities. The city models raised high on poles symbolize conquered and vanquished cities. Among the gods, Mercury appears on the left, wearing his winged helmet and holding a caduceus, the herald's staff entwined with serpents. The female figure in the foreground is a statue of Venus. The third statue represents the goddess Ceres, holding a cornucopia. The fourth divine figure holds a bundle resembling arrows and may therefore be identified as Diana.

Among the colours of the tapestry, red predominates, with blue also playing a dominant role. The Renaissance border, sharply distinguished from the central field, has a red ground. Within the border are arranged vases, cuirasses, shields, weapons, masks, and small tablets inscribed with the letters S.P.Q.R. The cartoon may have been made using Andrea Mantegna's nine-part painting series *The Triumphs of Julius Caesar* (1485-1490; now at Hampton Court Palace), for which a contemporary print series was also produced; see Mathias F. Müller and Anne Röver-Kann, *Künstler und Kaiser: Albrecht Dürer und Kaiser Maximilian I.*, exhibition catalogue, Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen, 2003, pp. 73-75.

Another possible prototype is the large woodcut series *The Triumph of Caesar*, made in Venice in 1504 by Jacobus Argenterotensis after Benedetto Bordone. According to written documents, in 1510 a set of eight tapestries on the theme of the Triumph of Julius Caesar was exhibited in Brussels. A comparable example is currently preserved at Haarzuilens, Kasteel de Haar.

Provenance

Ipolyi Arnold gyűjteménye

Restoration

1966 Szőnyegjavító Szövetkezet Budapest

Exhibitions

- 2002, Bremen, Kunsthalle, Albrecht Dürer und Kaiser Maximilian I.

Bibliography



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- Kunst der Refomationszeit. Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, 1983, 302, 303, E. 14.
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