

SOUTH GALLERY

- Historical names: Gallery (17th century),
Open Gallery/Transparent Garden Gallery (18th century),
Gallery/Open Gallery (19th century),
Open Gallery/South Gallery (20th century).
- Years of origin: 1681-1682
- Architects: Agostino Locci - fourth quarter of the 17th century,
Giovanni Spazzio and Józef Fontana?, Johann Sigmund Dyebel - first third of the 18th century,
Leandro Marconi - 19th century, 1875.
- Artists: Michelangelo Palloni - paintings on the ceiling, 1688-1696
Saxon artists (Julius Poison, Lorenzo Rossi, Johann Samuel Mock) - two oil paintings on the ceiling in the new gallery bays, 1732.
- Description:

Both garden galleries with towers were added between 1681 and 1683 during the palace extension. The South Gallery originally had four bays. In the first third of the 18th century, it was extended by two bays enclosing the tower from the south. In the second half of the 19th century, the bay by the King's Library was separated by order of August Potocki's wife and transformed into a room used for exhibiting monuments of ancient sculpture and architecture, referred to as *the New Belvedere at the Wilanów Palace* (Lapidarium).

The gallery ceiling is decorated with three paintings from the cycle depicting the story of Cupid and Psyche painted between 1688 and 1696 by Michelangelo Palloni, the court painter of Jan III, including *The Oracle of Apollo*, *Psyche on Mount Thorus*, *Psyche in the Palace of Cupid* (the fourth painting *The Wedding of Psyche's Sisters* is in the Lapidarium, the others remain in the North Gallery). The paintings decorating the ceilings of the added bays in the southern part of the gallery were created by Saxon artists around 1732. The first, *Sleeping Psyche*, refers to the story of Cupid and Psyche, while the second, the *Apotheosis of Jan III* as a defender of Christianity, is a travesty of the painting by Annibale Carracci located in the Dresden Gallery. The paintings are complemented by stucco plastic decoration in the form of fruits and leaves, as well as ribbons with sentences related to the works:

ADSTAT HYMENAEIS
PVLCHERRIMA PSYCHE SORORVM
Beautiful Psyche is present at
the wedding of her sisters.

INNVP TAE GENITOR PSYCHES
ORACVLA POSCIT
The parent of unmarried Psyche asks the oracle for advice.

MONS ERIT ISTE, THORVS; SVNT
HAEC RESPONSA DEORVM
This mountain shall be the marriage bed -
this is the gods' answer.

[ECCE SVAE OOMINAE]
FAMVLANTVR IN AEDIBVS VMBRAE
[Here, the Lady] in the palace is served by shadows.

The walls of the gallery are decorated with 18th-century fresco landscape paintings of lower artistic value.

The recess under the tower accommodates a statue of Jan III Sobieski, which was moved there around 1730 from the Grand Vestibule. A panegyric of Jan Herakliusz Lubomirski created on the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Vienna was placed on the pedestal of the monument. During the last maintenance of the palace, two plaster statues of Hercules were found in its vicinity. They were surrounded by a wall in the 19th century and allude to the valiant and victorious deeds of the heroic creator of Wilanów.

A plaque informing visitors about the successive palace owners and their contribution to the development of the mansion and the museum was placed above the entrance to the White Hall.

ANNO MDCLXXXVI AEDES QUAE JOHANNES III VICTRICI MANU
ESTRUXIT TEMPORUM ET BELLORUM INIURIA COLLAPSAS
RESTAURAUERUNT ET AMPLIARUNT ELISABETH/A/ DE PRINCIPIIS
LUBOMIRSKI VIDUA SIENIAWSCII SUPREMI DUCIS EXERCITUM REGNI -
ALAM MERIDIONALEM AUGUSTUS II REX POLONIAE - ALTERAM AB
AQUILONE ADIUNXERUNT AUGUSTUS PRINCEPS CZARTORYSKI
PALATINUS RUSSIAE UNA CUM FILIA SUA STANISLAI PRINCIPIS
LUBOMIRSKI MAGNI MARESCHALCI REGNI CONSORTE, DOMICILIS
AUXERUNT STANISLAUS COMES POTOCKI PRINCEPS SENATUS REGNI
POLONIAE ET ALEXANDRA DE PRINCIPIBUS LUBOMIRSKI CONIUGES -
BIBLIOTHECA, PINACOTHECA TABULIS PICTIS SIGNIS ET QUAE
SINENSES RARIORA HABENT ORNAVERUNT. LOCI AMAENITATI

EXTENSIS HORTIBUS COLONORUM COMMODO ATQUAE AGRORUM.
CULTURAE AEDIFICIIS PROVIDERUNT.
ANNO MDCCCXXI

THE BUILDING, WHICH JAN III ERECTED IN 1686 WITH HIS VICTORIOUS HAND, DESTROYED BY TIME AND WAR, WAS RENOVATED AND EXTENDED BY ELŻBIETA OF DUKES LUBOMIRSKI, WIDOWED WIFE OF SIENIAWSKI, THE GREAT COMMANDER (HETMAN) OF THE CROWN ARMY - THE SOUTH WING BY AUGUST II, THE KING OF POLAND - THE OTHER, NORTH WING, WAS ADDED BY PRINCE AUGUST CZARTORYSKI, VOIVODE OF RUTHENIAN VOIVODESHIP, WITH HIS ONLY DAUGHTER, THE WIFE OF STANISŁAW LUBOMIRSKI, THE GREAT CROWN MARSHAL. THE RESIDENTIAL PART WAS ENLARGED BY COUNT STANISŁAW POTOCKI, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE OF THE KINGDOM OF POLAND, AND ALEXANDRA OF DUKES LUBOMIRSKI, A MARRIED COUPLE, WHO DECORATED THE LIBRARY AND PINAKOTHECA WITH PAINTED PICTURES, STATUES AND THE RAREST ITEMS THE CHINESE POSSESSED. THEY IMPROVED THE VILLAGE WITH LARGE GARDENS, TOOK CARE OF THE COMFORT OF THE INHABITANTS AND CREATED (FARM) BUILDINGS FOR FARMING.

1821

Selected literature:

Fijałkowski Wojciech, *Wnętrza pałacu w Wilanowie*, Warsaw 1986, p. 105.

Ważbińska-Milewska Barbara, *Amor i Psyche w pałacu w Wilanowie. Kontekst literacki*, in: *Studia Wilanowskie*, T. XVI, 2009 r., pp. 97- 107.