

QUIET ROOM

Historical names: Upper rooms and cabinets (17th century),
Room above the King's Bedroom/First Quiet Room (18th century),
Third Chinese Room/Room with Chinese Items (19th century),
Chinese Dining Room/Quiet Room (20th century).

Years of origin: 1681-1683

Architect: Agostino Locci, 17th century.

Artists: Martin Altomonte or Michelangelo Palloni - painting on the ceiling,
17th century - not preserved,
Giuseppe Rossi? - wall paintings, 18th century,
Wojciech Jaszczold? (architect, painter, decorator), Jan Cybulski?
(carpenter), Wojciech Kiciński (painter) - Chinese decor of the room,
second quarter of the 18th century
Antoni Strzałecki and his team of painters - Chinese decoration on the
ceiling, 1884 - not preserved.

Description:

The room is located on the first floor of the main body, which was added in 1681-1683. It was modified several times. In 1694, the wooden ceiling was replaced by a vault, which was covered with a painting decoration depicting the concepts of the elements of art dressed in human figures: *Nature*, *Imitation*, *Idea*, *Artistic Practice*, *Artistic Knowledge*, *Imagination* and *Ingenuity* against the background of architecture in 1696. The illusionistic character of the fresco decorations indicates that they might have been created by Martin Altomonte or Michelangelo Palloni, artists who practised quadratura painting.

In the 19th century, Stanisław Kostka Potocki ordered the re-arrangement of several rooms on the first floor of the palace according to the Chinese style. The present Quiet Room was probably one of them. Work on the Chinese decorations was also conducted at the end of the 19th century. It was carried out by a team of painters under the direction of Antoni Strzałecki, who created the vault decoration removed in the 20th century as secondary. The walls were covered with wallpaper in Chinese or Japanese representations glued to the walls or hung in frames. The decor was complemented by a floor decorated in geometric "labyrinth" patterns.

The room owes its present 18th-century appearance to the post-war restoration.

Selected literature:

Fijałkowski Wojciech, *Wnętrza palacu w Wilanowie*, Warsaw 1986, p. 127, 130, 167.