

## FAIENCE CABINET

Historical names: Upper rooms and cabinets (17th century),  
Porcelain Cabinet/Faience Cabinet (18th century),  
Side Cabinet/First Cabinet (19th century),  
Queen's Bathroom/Faience Cabinet (20th century).

Years of origin: 1681-1683

Architect: Agostino Locci - 17th century.

Artists: Amsterdam workshop of Jan van Oort and Utrecht manufactory of Gerardus van Oort; unknown artist - stucco decoration, late 17th century, partially transformed in the 18th century.

### Description:

The room was created as a result of the palace extension in the 1680s. Around 1687, the original beamed ceiling was replaced by a dome covered with stucco decoration in the form of coffers filled with rosettes. The circular opening at the top of the dome features a painting and artistic composition depicting an ascending eagle raising the Sobieski family's coat of arms and three putti with laurel branches. This Baroque decoration is a symbol of the apotheosis of King Jan III as equal to the gods and a guardian of the cosmic order. The stucco decoration of the coiving with allegories of the four elements (Water, Fire, Air, Earth) dates back to the 17th century.

The walls were covered with ceramic tiles made in the Amsterdam workshop of Jan van Oort (panels with vases, biblical scenes) and the Utrecht workshop of Gerardus van Oort (other tiles).

The cladding was probably installed in the late 17th century. The decoration was partially destroyed during World War II. Its missing parts were later reconstructed.

### Selected literature:

Fijałkowski Wojciech, *Wnętrza pałacu w Wilanowie*, Warsaw 1986, p. 75, 85.

Karpowicz Mariusz, *Sztuka Warszawy czasów Jana III*, Warsaw 1987, pp. 121-122.