ANNUAL REPORT 2015
The Commission of Conservators-Restorers
of the Association of Museums and Galleries in the Czech Republic

The Commission of conservators-restorers (CCR) of the Association of museums and galleries (AMG) in the Czech Republic is the professional association of 233 members (institutional-conservators-restorers of museums and galleries and individual-specialists in the area of protection of objects of cultural heritage); see http://www.cz-museums.cz/web/amg/organy-amg/komise/komise-konzervatoru-restauratoru/clenove-komise, whose main objective is the promotion and development of conservation-restoration of the museums objects and the improvement of the general level of protection of the cultural heritage in the Czech Republic. Their members are organized in the form of the regional sections and working groups, with the aim to apply of scientific research in the context of the material investigation and technology treatment, to assess of conservation-restoration interventions, to disseminate of knowledge on the basis of presentation and educational activities, including increasing the credit profession among the professional and lay public.

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Out-puts 2015:

- Periodically, every year is organized in cooperation with the Methodological Centre of Conservation of the Technical Museum in Brno (http://mck.technicalmuseum.cz/lang/en/)


The Conference 2015 was held in Plzeň and was attended by more than 250 participants. Contributions made at the conference were published in Forum for conservators-restorers 2015, ISBN 978-80-87896-32-7, ISSN 1805-0050.

- Workshops and seminars

The two days seminar/workshop was organised by the Methodical Centre of Conservation of the Technical Museum in Brno (MCK TMB), the Commission of conservators-restorers of the Association of museums and galleries of the Czech Republic (CCR). In connection with this workshop was published the book Decorative Techniques in Metals, :

The publication includes separate papers focusing on selected decorative techniques in metals and its alloys. A great attention is paid to enamel and etching, which are among the oldest artistic workmanship on metal objects. The introductory chapters summarize the various processes enamelling from prehistory to the present. Important development stages of this technology are mentioned, including some well-known craft workshops such as the Byzantine or Limoges enamel. The oldest presented objects include fibulas from the Roman era, originating from the Mušov – Burgstall site. The results of their investigation are presented.

The investigation focused on the chemical composition of the enamels combined with the Millefiori technique. The samples of the collection of precious and base metals from the Moravian Gallery in Brno document different uses of enamel, etching and colouring of metals in the period from the late 17th century to the creations of today's modern artists. In this context, the method of restoration of metal objects is also interesting, especially those which are characterized by original finish resulting from the modification of various historical and new procedures of avant-garde artists. The follow-up part of the publication addresses the conservation and restoration of paintings on the iron surface. The case study of an object from the early 20th century discusses how to ensure the stabilization of corrosion processes with minimal interference in the paint layer.

Practical experience with the treatment of metal objects provided with the mentioned decorative techniques are described further. An example is the procedure of restoring the enamel reliquary of St. Maur or the etching painting technique used on historic weapons and craft tools. The experience with different etching agents and the methods of their application when making copies of weapons is also described. A paper on the production of galvanoplastic replicas of jewellery from the period of Migration Period also provides valuable knowledge.

updated version from November 2016

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