

Motifs on Bohemian and Central European enameled glass. From the second half of the 16th century until the the beginning of 18th century.

This Bachelor's thesis attempts to map out a broad range of motifs painted on glass using enamel within the Bohemian and Central European milieu in the period from the mid 16th until the early 18th century. Specific attention is paid to large cylindrical goblets, the so-called Humpens. By means of concrete examples from significant Czech and foreign collections – including items intended for representative purposes as well as objects commonly used by the middle class – individual motifs or groups of motifs are identified. The thesis aims to define the function assigned to these vessels depending on the decorative theme used. The author also focuses on ornamental motifs featured on painted glass that were frequently engraved using a diamond point. To make them, painters and engravers drew their inspiration from period prints and prints from the preceding era. For this reason, these original prints are studied as well, and subsequently compared to the specific motifs used on the glass.