

EUROPEAN CIRCLES OF THE KHUEN-BELASI FAMILY – THE FATE OF A NOBLE COLLECTION IN THE POST-WAR PERIOD

SUMMARY

The Khuens are an old noble family originally from Tyrol, whose members lived on the territory of the Habsburg Monarchy. After his marriage in 1782, General Antun Count Khuen-Belasi came into possession of the Nuštar estate in Slavonia, which previously belonged to his wife's family. It is an estate between Vukovar and Vinkovci, with a large manor and chapel in Nuštar, created through several time phases, from the 18th to the 20th century. In their manor, they owned a valuable inventory, including an art collection. During the evacuation from Nuštar in 1944, the family stored part of their property (archival material, books, works of art) in Zagreb, and took the rest abroad. Today, most of this material is kept in Austria, in the possession

of the heirs of the family. Archival material and preserved works of art enabled the authors of the work to reconstruct the contents of their art collection, about which we had very little information up to now. The collection was created in the same way as other collections of the Slavonian nobility, by transferring works of art from abroad at the beginning of its creation, and then by commissioning works of art from domesticated, visiting and local artists, with an emphasis on portraits of family members and their relatives.

Keywords: Khuen-Belasi, Nuštar, art collection, nobility.