

Neznámá medaile Jana Vermeyena

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An unknown medal of Jan Vermeyen

In March 2010, a silver medal was found in a Baroque filling during archaeological excavations in the house called 'U Mouřenína' in the historical centre of Opava. There is an image of Rudolph II (in imperial ornate with crown and sceptre) on horseback with allegoric personifications of Victory and Discord on its obverse, and allegoric figural scene, with ground plan of a fortified town and mounted military troops with standards on its reverse. Iconographic analysis of the reverse and its comparison with some iconographic elements used by Paul van Vianen (Fig. 1), Adrien de Vries and Hans von Aachen can prove the fact, that the medal was made in honour of seizure of the Raab fortress by the imperial army in March 1598. The medal obverse corresponds with an obverse of another medal made in occasion of the imperial assembly in Regensburg in 1594 (Fig. 2). Based on J. R. ter Molen, the Regensburg medal was produced by Jan Vermeyen (1559 Brussels – 1608 Prague) – an important Flemish goldsmith, wax sculptor and chaser - who was active at the court of Rudolph II in Prague since 1597. Because of the fact, that both obverses are identical, Jan Vermeyen can be regarded as the author of the recently discovered medal.

 *medal; Jan Vermeyen (before 1559–1608); Rudolph II (1576–1611); iconography.*

 *medaile; Jan Vermeyen (před 1559–1608); Rudolf II (1576–1611); ikonografie.*