

Alfred Bader

Alfred Bader Fine Arts

[Enlèvement - Brueghel]

2001-2005

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
LOCATOR	5169
BOX	12
FILE	21



DR. ALFRED BADER CBE
2A Holmesdale Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex TN39 3QE
England
Phone/Fax: 01424-222223

A Chemist Helping Chemists

May 10, 2002

Prince William Lobkowicz, CEO
L. E. Holdings, s.r.o.
Nelahozeves Castle
277 51 Nelahozeves
CZECH REPUBLIC

Dear Prince Lobkowicz,

I am sorry that you will be out of the country when Isabel and I visit the Czech Republic between the 9th and the 16th of June.

I would love to have a chance to chat with you again and wonder whether you come to England often and we might meet either in London or at Herstmonceux Castle, which Isabel and I bought for our Canadian university. We will be in England from the 23rd of June until the 26th of July, most of the time in our Sussex home near the Castle. The week of July 8th we will be in London because that week some very important paintings are coming up for sale, particularly a magnificent Rubens and a genuine Rembrandt portrait.

If we cannot get together in Europe this summer, might we be able to meet in America this autumn? Meeting with Dr. Otto Naumann or in Milwaukee would be fine.

With best wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az





L.E.Holdings, s.r.o.

Prince

William E. Lobkowicz
Chief Executive Officer

Nelahozeves Castle, 277 51 Nelahozeves, Czech Republic
tel.: +420 (205) 709 105, fax: +420 (205) 709 103, e-mail: wel@lobkowicz.cz
www.lobkowicz.org



To Otto A reminder 3/27/02

Aide Memoire

2001

One Saturday afternoon, June 16 we visited Nelahozeves Castle, near Prague. Prince William E. Lobkowitz was expecting us and spent the next two hours showing us the paintings, having tea, and spending some ten minutes with me alone to discuss the Pieter Breugel.

William Lobkowitz is a tall 40 year old, open, well spoken, good looking man, born in Boston, Harvard educated, CEO of the L.E. Holdings. This employs some 150, owns several castles, a brewery, ~~and~~ vineyards, a travel agency etc. They have organized an American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture (of which I became a \$1000 Sustaining friend some years ago).

There are hundreds of paintings, most of which are family portraits and Biedermeier landscapes.

Among the masterpieces are Rubens' Hygieia (recently restored by Van Nouwenburg at the castle), a very dark Bellotto of the Lobkowitz Palace in Vienna, two enormous, fine Canalettos of London, a Velazquez, etc. But the masterpiece is Pieter Breugel the Elder's Haymaking, probably depicting June and July, in a series of six. It is quite dirty and would

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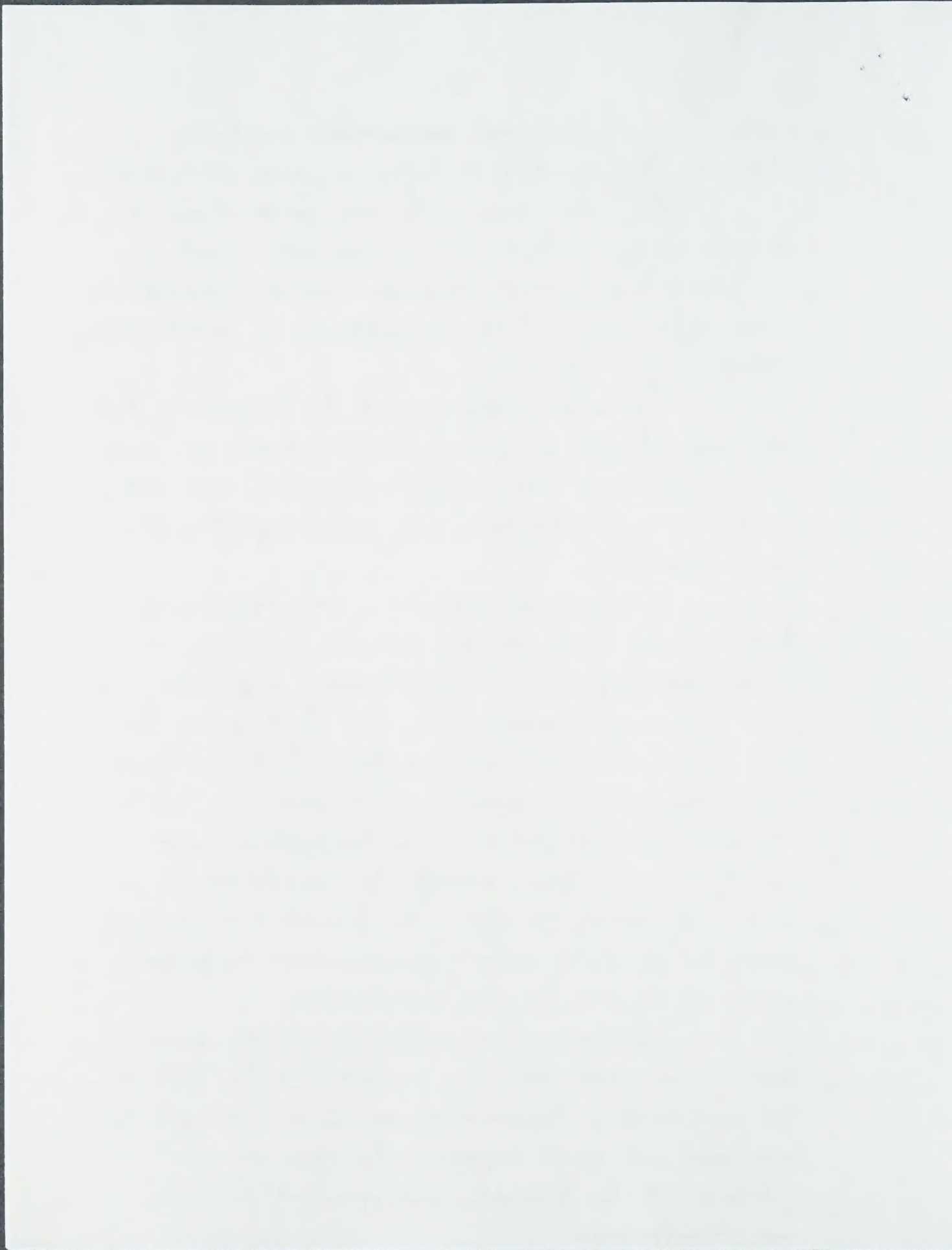
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We had come with an good chemist friend, Ing. V. Malous. I did not want to leave him alone, and so asked Isabel to stay with him while I talked to Lobkowitz alone in his office.

He had told us at the beginning that he ~~has~~ knew a fair amount about us and our efforts to help Czech chemists and art historians. I left him my autobiography for more details.

I began our discussion by explaining that I knew that at the moment receiving a Czech export permit was practically impossible, but that this may change when the C.R. joins the EU and when it can be shown that the funds could do so much good to his enormous estate in public good condition. (The foundation raises ca. \$75000 a year, enough for "bandaids"). I was prepared to pay US \$12 million subject only to a valid export permit, and to submit proof of ability to pay immediately.

Lobkowitz was most interested, said that if he could sell it, I would be the first to be disappointed - because of my Czech background and ~~our~~ our good rapport. He gave me six postcards of the Bouda and promised to send me Havigerencies.



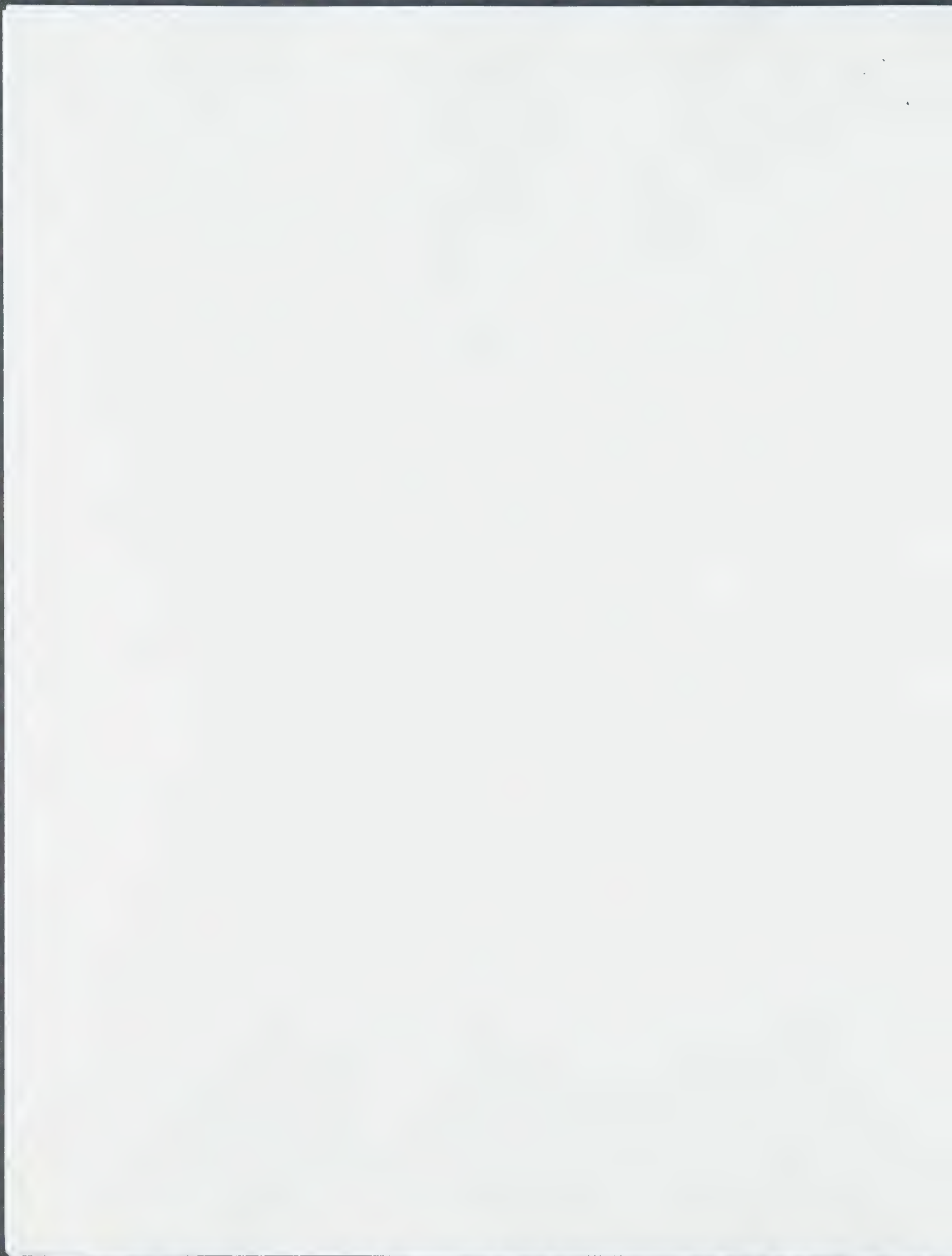
To be done:

- (1) Urge Otto & to visit the castle, easily accessible by a short train ride from Prague
- (2) The Rubens recently restored by van Pommernburg hangs close to the Bruegel. A casual conversation between Otto and S might elicit his opinion about condition.
- (3) Lobkowitz's favorite in the collection is not the Haymaking but a charming small roundel by the son. I will refer to that in my thank you note from England.
- (4) Consider possibility of other paintings.

cc Otto

M/K

June 17 01





ALFRED BADER FINE ARTS

DR. ALFRED BADER

ESTABLISHED 1961

July 30, 2001

Prince William Lobkowicz, CEO
L. E. Holdings, s.r.o.
Nelahozeves Castle
277 51 Nelahozeves
CZECH REPUBLIC

Dear Prince Lobkowicz,

You will have realized how very much Isabel and I enjoyed our two hours with you one June 16th.

I know how difficult it would be for you to part with one of your masterpieces and how close to impossible it is to obtain Czech export permits. Still, conditions may change, and so I would like to confirm my offer of \$12 million US for your *Haymaking* by Pieter Brueghel.

In going over my notes about paintings attributed to Rembrandt, I realized that I was mistaken in thinking that I had talked to your grandfather about the pair of portraits, Bredius 219 and 359, that I mentioned. Actually, in 1952 I talked to Count Lauckorenski in Vienna, you'll pardon my mistake.. That pair has now been shown to be by an able student of Rembrandt.

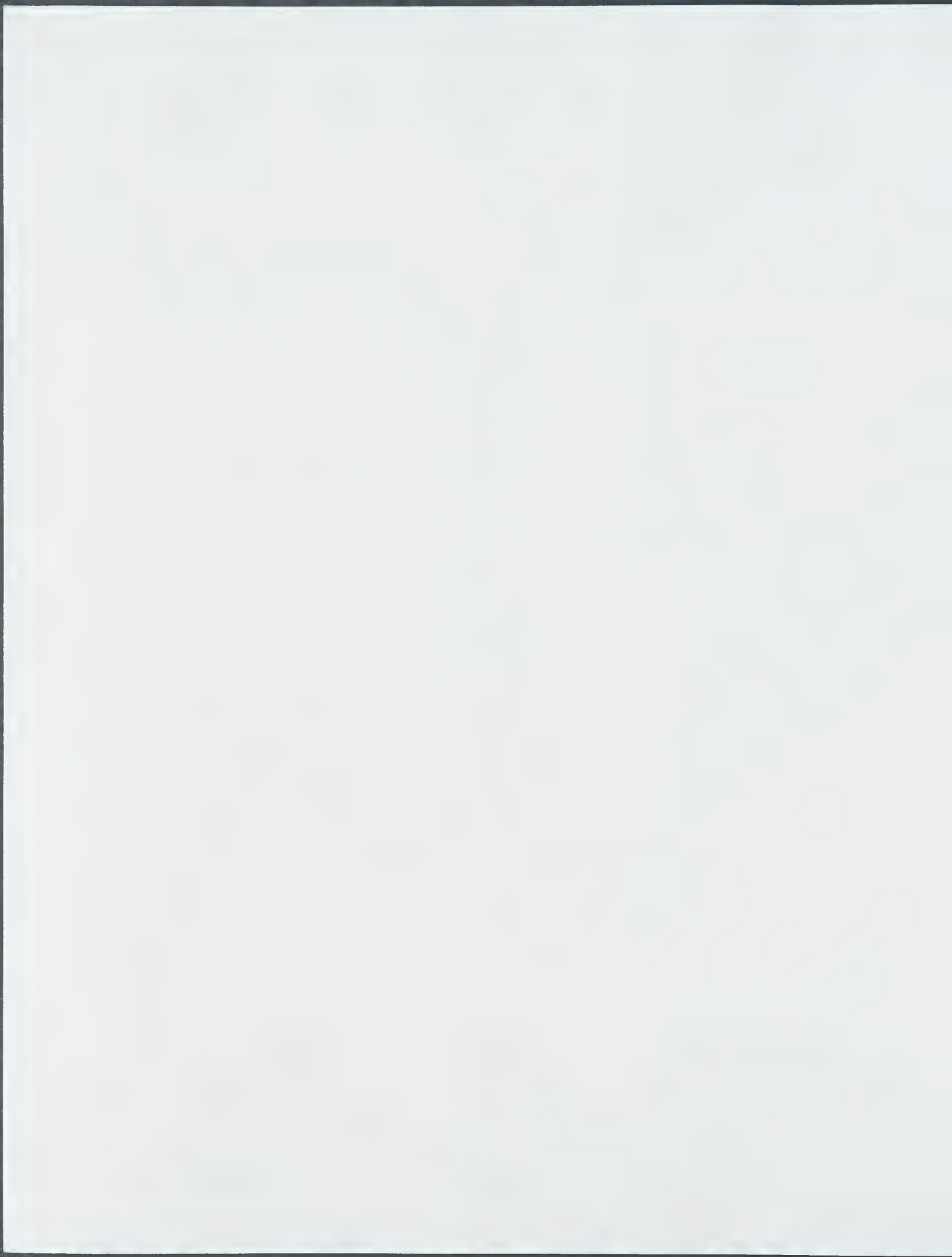
We come to Prague about once a year, and hope to be able to visit you again next June, but do please know that we would be delighted to have you visit if you come to that States and have time to visit us in Milwaukee.

With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader
AB/az
www.alfredbader.com

By Appointment Only
ASTOR HOTEL SUITE 622
924 EAST JUNEAU AVENUE
MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53202
Tel 414 277-0700 FAX 414 277 0700





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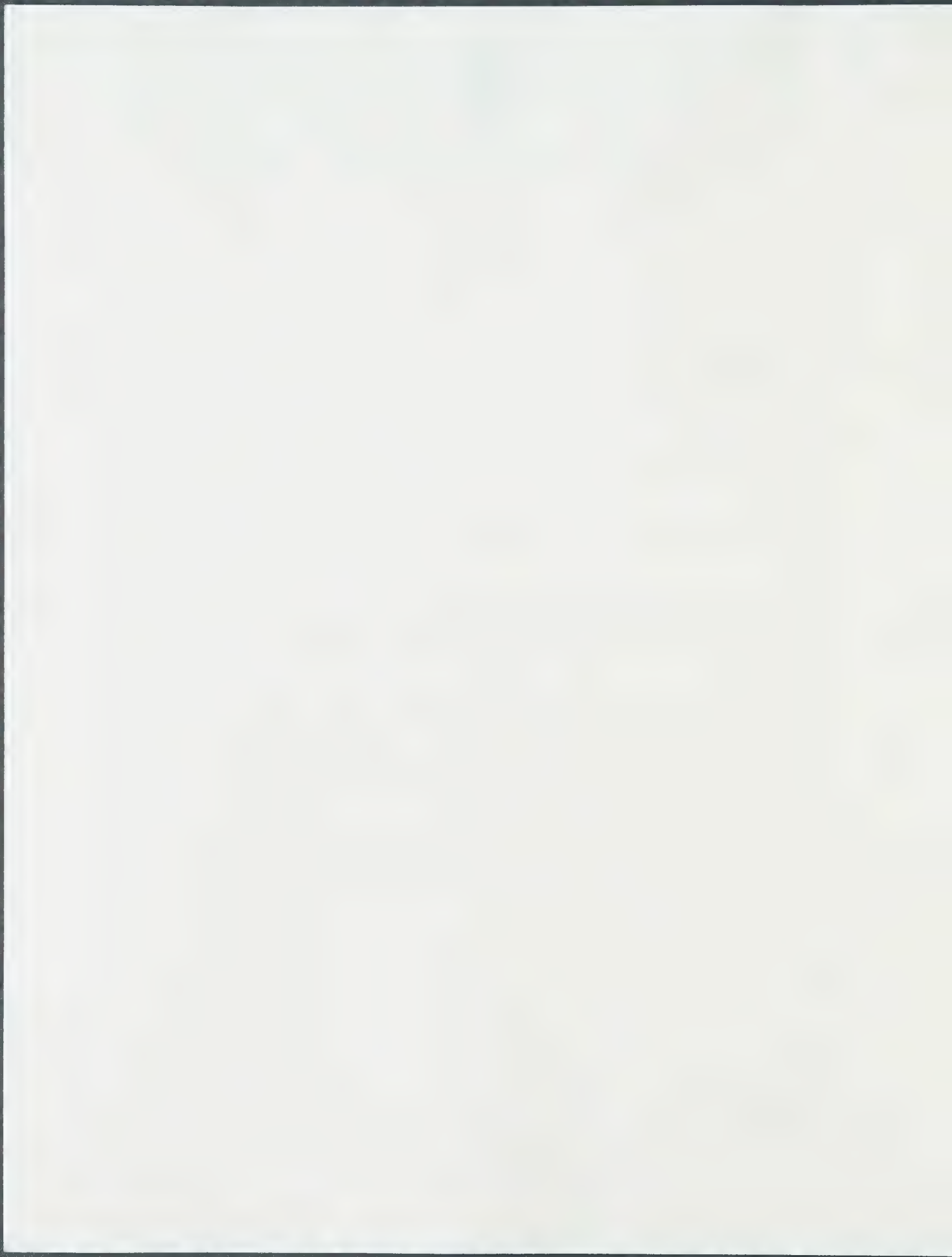
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in photo

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MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN USA 53232
TEL 414 277-0730 FAX 414 277-0709



Hide Memoire

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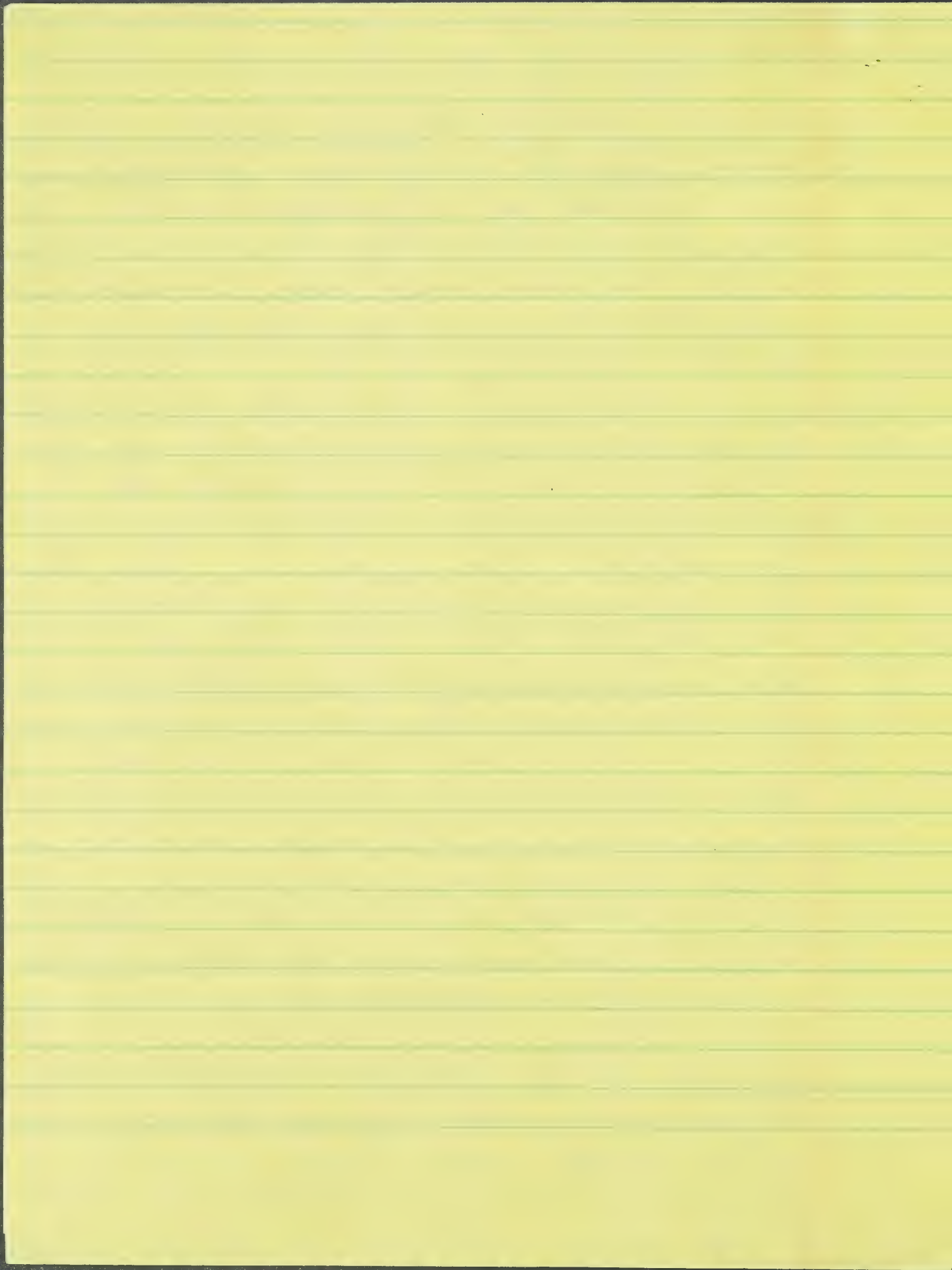
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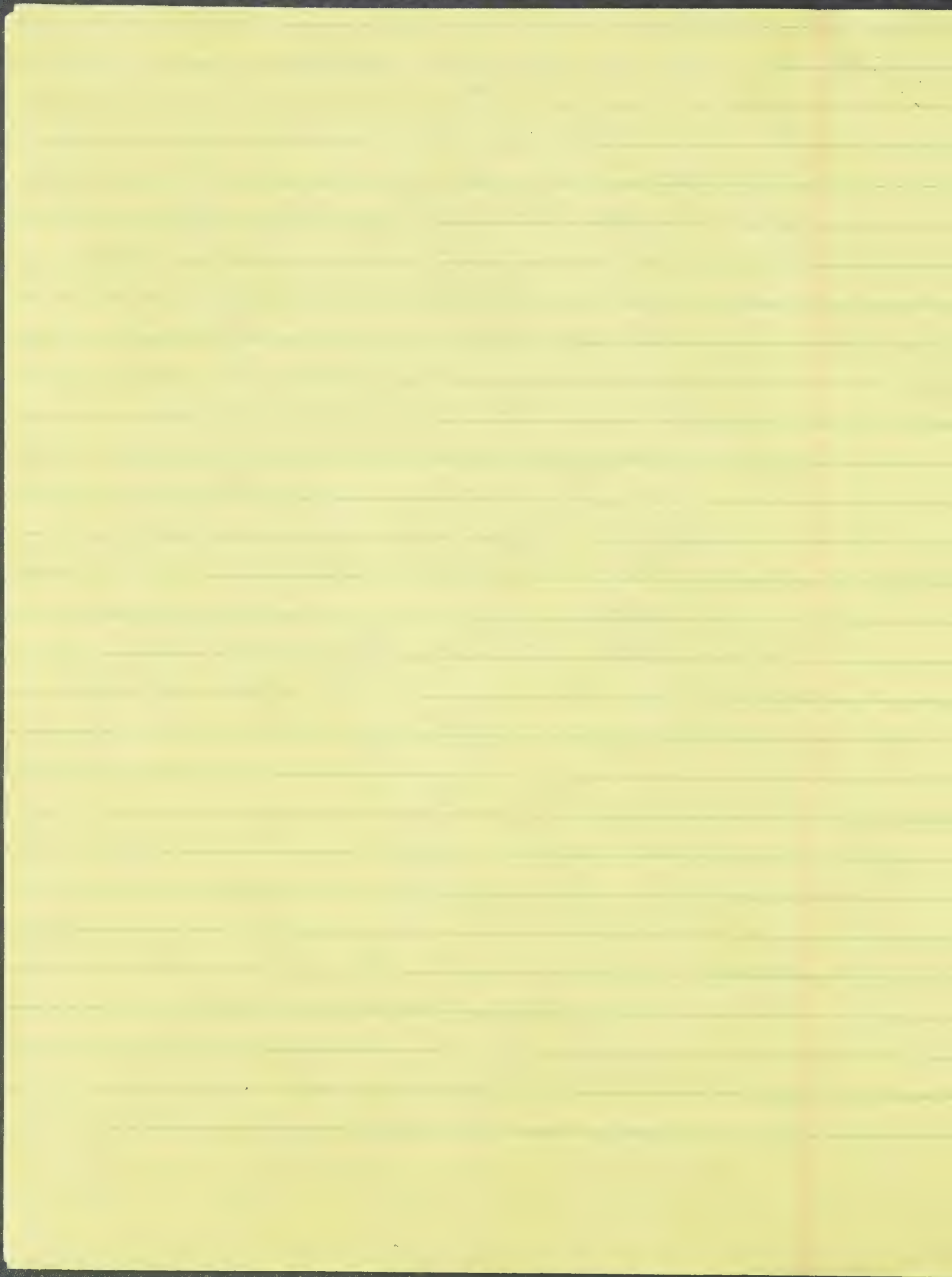
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M/K

June 17 01

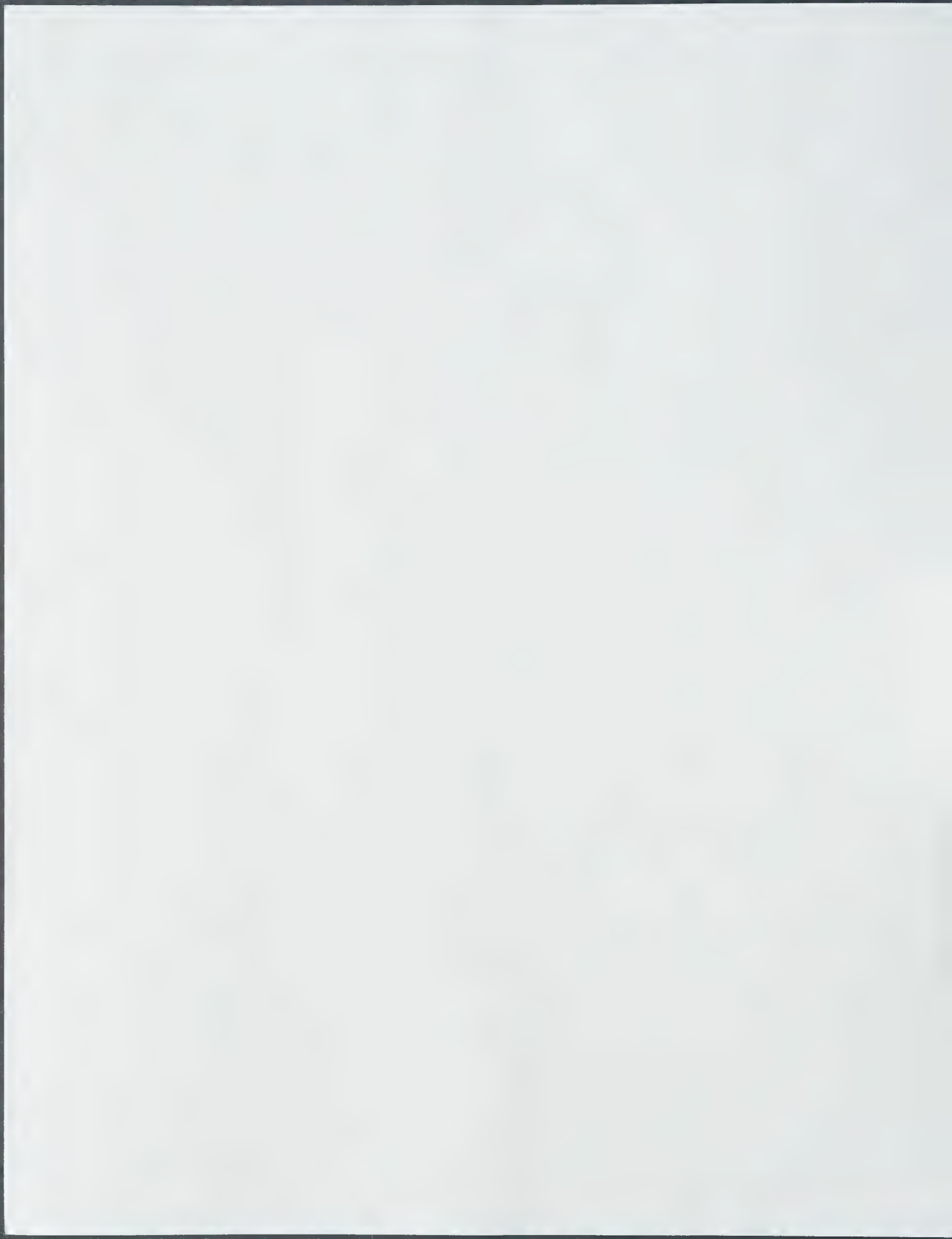




L.E.Holdings, s.r.o.

William E. Lobkowicz
Chief Executive Officer

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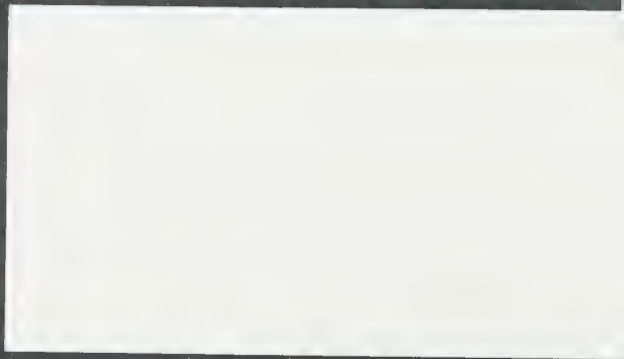
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THE ROUDNICE LOBKOWICZ LIBRARY - RARE BOOKS AND ARCHIVES NELAHOZEVES CASTLE - CZECH REPUBLIC

History

The Roudnice Lobkowicz library with its exceptional characteristics occupies a privileged place within the panorama of aristocratic libraries. Rich with nearly 65,000 volumes of which 679 are manuscripts - 114 dating back to the middle ages - and 730 incunabula, it contains an impressive number of first editions in such varied subject matters as history and geography, medicine and natural sciences, architecture and literature, theology and law in Latin, German, Italian, Spanish, French, Hebrew, Greek and Czech. Moreover, the library is comprised of a collection of more than 4,000 musical manuscripts, printed editions and first performing parts.

The library was developed in a systematic way over many centuries, not only through regular purchases of books, but also by incorporating other libraries of close or distant relatives, noblemen who fell in disgrace, and other important personalities of the political, scientific, or cultural arena.

The origins of the library date back to the 14th century, its roots grounded in the library of Bohuslav Hasistein, a well know humanist in Bohemia, writer and poet, who with the help of his friends and "special agents" collected a number of books remarkable for their breadth and rarity. Originally deposited in the Pernstein Palais in the Prague Castle, the library was moved in 1657 to the castle of Roudnice where it would remain until World War II.

After its confiscation in 1941, the Lobkowicz library passed under the administrative care of the university library of Prague. The books and manuscripts were dispersed to different depositories and libraries not only in Prague, but also throughout Bohemia. Therefore, only a very limited portion of the collection was open to the public.

Project

In 1992 the library was given back to the original owners and a few years later a major private donor allowed the Lobkowicz Foundation to proceed with the reconstruction of the library based on its historic origins: reassembling the different parts of the collection of books and manuscripts in new spaces conforming to the international norms for security and conservation, while respecting the original characteristics of the Roudnice library.

To date, many projects have already been realized including the reconstruction of a new space to house the collection in Nelažozveves Castle, inventories and management of 65,000 volumes and more than 4,000 musical parts and manuscripts, the classification of the books in the new library according to the order established in the historic catalogue, a conservation plan for the collection, and finally the opening of the library, by private appointment, to scholars and qualified students.

Special programs: individual research, seminars, and educational programs

- The study room of the library is open for research by appointment with the library curator
- Thesis programs for university students
- Conservation and restoration of books: summer seminar
- Library Science (organization, cataloguing and research in a rare books library) small group seminar in September
- Special visits and conferences for specialists

For more information or to make a contribution, please contact:

The Roudnice Lobkowicz Library
Nelažozveves Castle
277 51 Nelažozveves
Czech Republic
Tel: (420 205) 70 91 36
ldb@lobkowicz.cz



Pieter Bruegel staří (1520/25-1569)

Seniors (mense červen a červená)

Roudnická lobkowiczká sbírka, zámek Nelahozeves

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1520/25-1569)

Haymaking (the months of June and July)

Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection, Nelahozeves Castle, Czech Republic

Historische Gemälden der Lobkowitz

© The Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation





Jan I. Bruegel (1568-1625)

Sv. Martin se dělí se žebrákem o plášť, 1611

Roudnická lobkowiczská sbírka, zámek Nelahozeves

Jan Bruegel I (1568-1625)

Saint Martin dividing his cloak, 1611

The Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection, Nelahozeves Castle, Czech Republic

From: Delany, J. and others

© The Roudnice Lobkowitz Foundation





NELAHOZEVES CASTLE
The Czech Republic

Pieter Bruegel mladší (1564–1638)

Devil's Tille, 1611

Roudnická lobkowiczka sbírka, zámek Nelahozeves

Pieter Bruegel the Younger (1564–1638)

Devil's Tille, 1611

Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection, Nelahozeves Castle, Czech Republic

From: Bruegelian Art I shows

© The Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation



WITH COMPLIMENTS

Alfred -

On the website of Nelahozeves Castle, which I forwarded to you, there is a phone number 0205 785 331. It seems to be very close to Prague. I would start at \$10 million for the Brueghel, since it is worth at least \$25 mil.

OTTO NAIMAN S. LTD.

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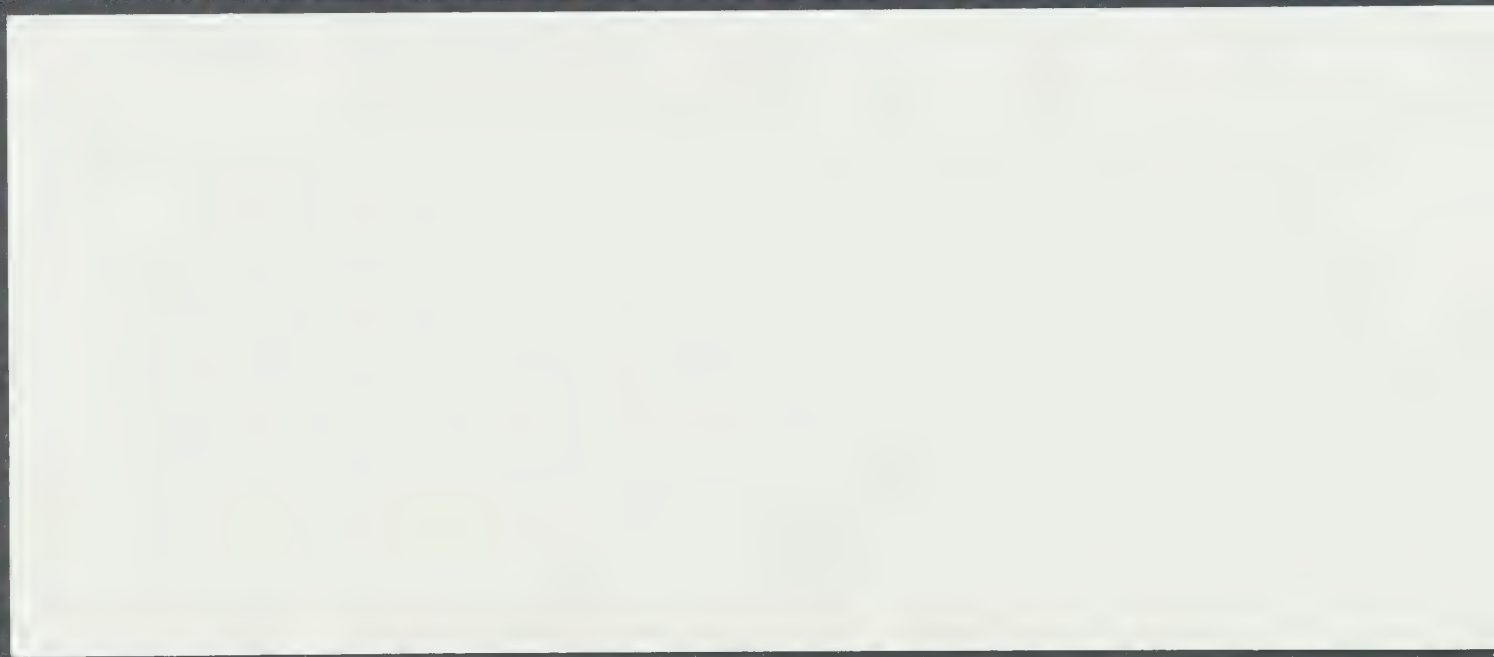
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Yours,

OTTO



From: Otto Naumann <Otto@DutchPaintings.com>
Date: Thu, 21 Mar 2002 15:37:41 -0500
To: "'wel@lobkowicz.cz'" <wel@lobkowicz.cz>
CC: "Alfred Bader (E-mail)" <baderfa@execpc.com>

ATT: William E. Lobkowicz

Dear Prince Lobkowicz,

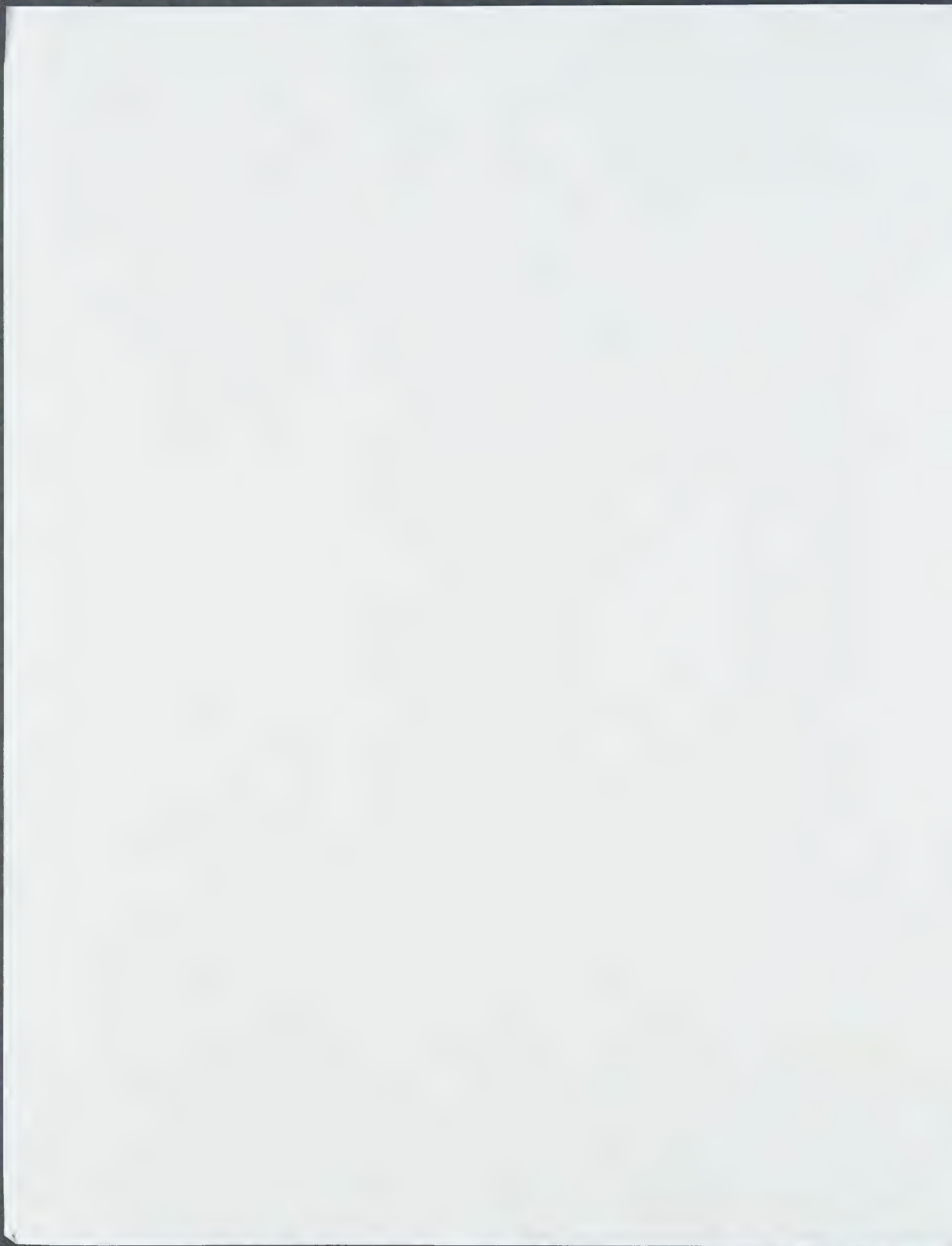
I should like to introduce myself. I am a good friend and colleague of Dr. Alfred Bader, whom I believe you know and who will be visiting you again in June of this year.

Alfred told me about the wonderful collection of old master paintings in Nelahozeves Castle near Prague, and since I am visiting that city in April, I wonder if you would accept a visit from me?

I plan to arrive on Friday morning at 10:05 am on April 12 from London, and I will be departing Prague for Amsterdam on Sunday afternoon at 4:20 pm. Is there any time within this period that would be convenient to you?

Sincerely yours,

Otto Naumann



mailbox:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/Ann/Application%20...

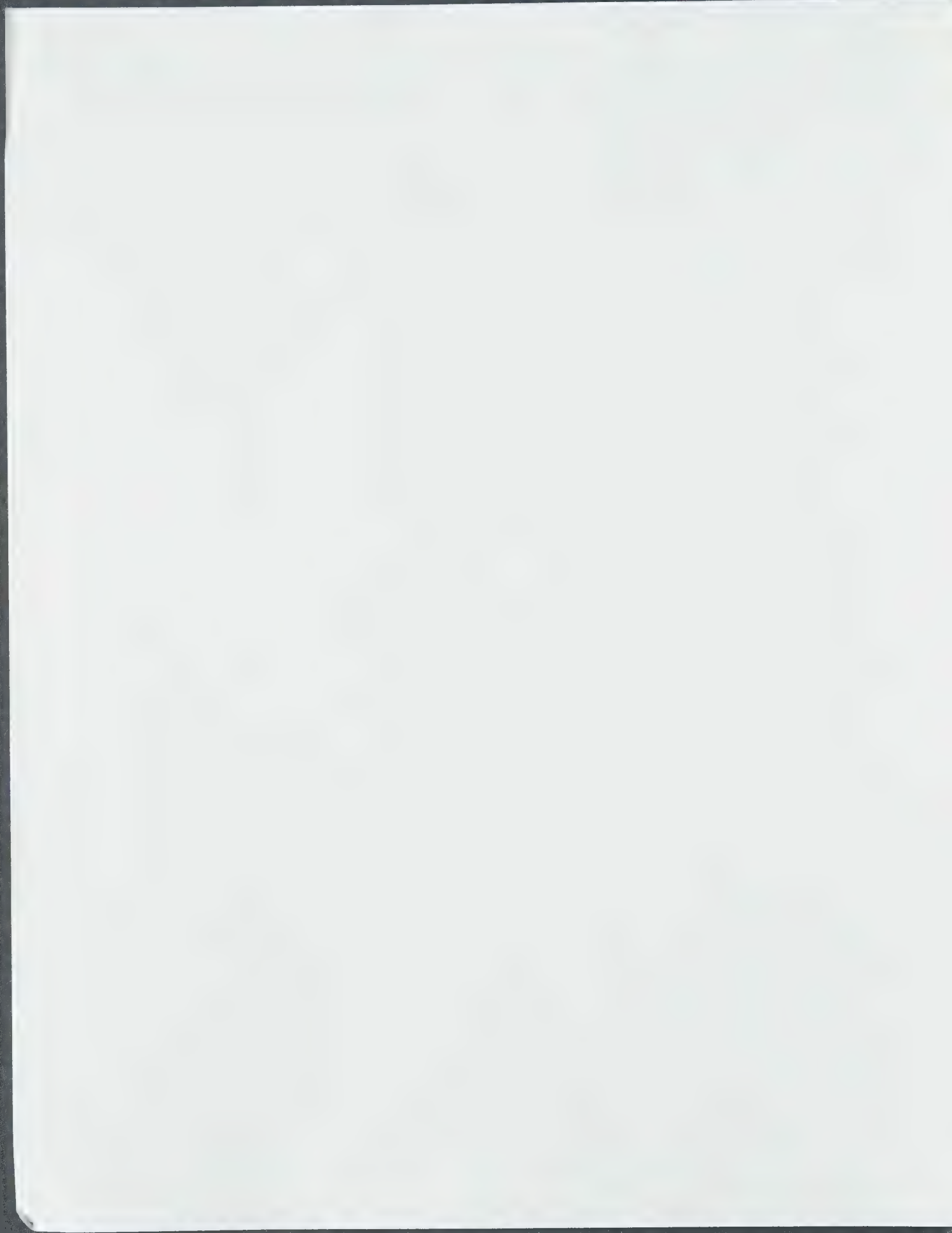
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Checked by AVG anti-virus system (<http://www.grisoft.com>).
Version: 6.0.325 / Virus Database: 182 - Release Date: 2/19/2002

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American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture

Volume IV, No. 1 • New Exhibition Opens to Acclaim • Fall 1997

Nelahozeves Castle Celebrates Opening of New Exhibition

"The Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection: Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"

A simple, dignified reception on April 1, 1997, marked the opening of Nelahozeves' new exhibition, "The Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection: Six Centuries of European Art Patronage." The new show represents the culmination of seven years of effort to reunite the collection and make it accessible to the public.

President and Mrs. Havel attended the ceremony. After a tour of the collection, the Havels joined the Lobkowitz family for a dedication of the castle's *salonek* to the President. Later, in the Knight's Hall, Martin Lobkowitz welcomed the Havels, and spoke to assembled friends, family, dignitaries and representatives of the press. Josef Suk, great grandson of Antonin Dvorak, provided the evening's music.



President and Mrs. Havel (center) join Martin, Alexandra and Brooks Lobkowitz at the opening of "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"



Haymaking

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1520/25-1569)

Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection, Nelahozeves Castle

Fine arts consultant John Somerville describes the new exhibition: "The Roudnice Lobkowitz collection of pictures is not only the most important family collection in the Czech Republic but one of the most significant in all of Europe." He continues: "Amounting to well in excess of a thousand paintings, it includes not only a series of family portraits from the 16th century to the 20th, but one of the largest group of Spanish portraits outside Spain. Among its treasures are works by such great masters as Rubens, Velasquez, Cranach, Bruegel, Bellotto and Canaletto—the works by the latter being the only ones in the country. These paintings are the largest pair from Canaletto's English period, and possibly the greatest."

"But the jewel of the collection is without a doubt a masterpiece by Pieter Bruegel the Elder," Somerville continues. "This painting, the only one by him outside of a museum, represents most likely the months of June and July. The most beautiful of the original series of six, it is one of the pinnacles of European landscape painting. Added to this illustrious list are Veronese, Sanchez Coello, Bartholomaeus Spranger, Hans von Aachen, Pantoja de la Cruz and Carl Croll. A magical group of some fifty works by Carl Croll painted in the middle of the last century depicts the family's castles, as well as their interiors."

***"It was Fascinating and Exhausting":
An Interview with Sandra Lobkowitz
on The Making of an Exhibition***

You have had lead responsibility for organizing this exhibition for well over a year. Now that it has opened, what do you see as the most important aspect of reuniting the collection in this show?

Putting the collection back in its historical context. The collection of portraits is now more cohesive—one sees the connections between the people and the objects they loved. When possible, we use archival material such as the letters between family members to bring the collection to life.

What was it like, overseeing such a big project? It was both fascinating and exhausting. Our research found new connections between family members and the paintings—very exciting detective work! We clarified some attributions, and we are now able to provide more and better information to the public than ever before.

It was wonderful to witness the progress—inexpensive things like newly painted walls, regrouping furniture—made such a difference to the rooms. The biggest challenge was keeping to the really ambitious deadlines we set. Scheduling an opening party hosted by the President kept the pressure on, as did working at times under below freezing temperatures—you can work surprisingly fast under some conditions!

What were your sources for the new exhibition?

Many of the objects we needed to really make the collection's history come alive were still on loan to various institutions. Six very important pictures—including the Bruegel—came from the National Gallery. In order to tell the story of the family's musical patronage, we brought back musical manuscripts and instruments from the Music Museum in Prague, lute "tabulatures" from the National Library and correspondence and receipts from a huge archival depository in northern Bohemia.

Now, having seen this vast collection assembled, do you have a favorite piece, a favorite room? I think we were all very moved to see the two enormous Canaletto's paired together for the first time in 40 years. Bringing the Bruegel back makes a terrific impact. I think, though, that perhaps the most special thing for me is the transition from one room to another—one moves through spaces now filled with color and atmosphere. The lovely chapel room is now



Sandra and William Lobkowitz with son William

arranged as a gallery containing the oldest paintings in the collection, and is then followed by the 19th century dining room filled with decorative arts. The nice thing is that there is something appealing for everyone.

The collection was assembled on an extremely modest budget. What sort of economies did you practice to accomplish so much? I did a great deal of research before hiring people to do the work. I interviewed five different painting contractors, then went around Prague to see their work. Many of the people hired were independent consultants living outside Prague, where prices are more reasonable. I think too that the people who helped us understood the importance of this work. Our mission is very clearly to make this collection available for the enjoyment of the public, not to decorate a family house, and I think people responded to that.

What sort of response have you had from visitors? Attendance has surpassed our wildest expectations—we've had 16,000 visitors since the exhibition opened in April! A comment I've often heard and particularly like is that the new exhibition is of interest to a whole spectrum of visitors, from tourists seeking to learn more about Czech history to scholars seeking a glimpse of previously inaccessible materials from the collection. I've also heard many people say that the exhibition is so compelling and diverse that they are unable to absorb everything in one visit and intend to return for a second tour.

"Restitution of six of the National Gallery's most famous paintings to the Lobkowitz family now makes Nelahozeves castle a must-see on any tour of Prague."

--Connaissance des Arts

The international art press has been most interested in this exhibition. What sort of coverage have you had?

We held a press conference at the Lobkowitz Palace in Prague just before the opening.

Over 50 Czech and foreign journalists were there, and their coverage in turn stirred the interest of many international art magazines and foreign journals—Xantypa in the Czech Republic, Connaissance des Arts, Elle, Vogue and Paris Match in France, Carnet and Bella Europa in Italy, and Bunde in Germany. We were also shown on cultural television programs in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. The response was very positive. They were surprised, it seems, by the breadth and the significance of the collection and were particularly interested in the story of the family and restitution of property in the Czech Republic.

What is the next big priority? Clearly and most urgently, we must focus on the Roudnice Library. We have recently received terrible reports about the need for immediate conservation of the books and archives. We must act now if this irreplaceable resource is to survive for the enrichment of future generations.

New Study Reveals Serious Threat to Books and Archives

Recent analysis by fine arts conservator Allyson McDermott reveals that severe deficiencies in current storage endanger what has historically been acknowledged to be one of the finest private libraries in Central Europe. She describes conditions at the book depository: "There would seem to be considerable amounts of atmospheric pollution being generated by local industrial activity. Soot, gases and particulate dirt have penetrated the boxes..." She notes with concern that lack of temperature controls in the storage area is "causing dangerous fluctuations in ambient conditions." She further notes damage caused by insects, mold, and acid embrittlement.

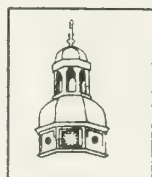
Conditions at the government-controlled archive depository are also of grave concern. Ms. McDermott notes "There seemed little attempt at environmental control, many rooms seem damp, the shutters are kept closed, and there is little effective air circulation. The archives are kept on open shelves, all are covered in a thick layer of dust and particulate dirt and one should note that they are stored in unsealed boxes. In one room, the plaster of the ceiling had come down and the upper shelves were protected with polythene sheeting. In two rooms, what appeared rodent poison was observed placed in small trays on the floor.



"The archives are kept on open shelves, all are covered in a thick layer of dust and particulate dirt...in one room, the plaster of the ceiling had come down and the upper shelves were protected by polythene sheeting..."
Conservation expert Allyson McDermott on the condition of government-owned storage of the Lobjkowitz Archives

Ms. McDermott's report concludes: "The entire archive requires removal, cleaning, and more detailed inspection. The books should be removed to safe storage as soon as possible. Here they can be carefully removed from the boxes, cleaned and checked individually by a team of conservators and volunteers, in a designated and isolated area."

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Inc.



Brooks Lobjkowitz, President
Hugh L. Warren, Treasurer
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Katherine A. Day, Director

The Friends are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the cultural wealth of the Czech nation. It is our purpose to make these national treasures more accessible to the general public, to develop opportunities for study of the Czech cultural heritage, and to garner new support for cultural life in the Czech Republic. We are recognized by the IRS as exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3), and as a public charity according to section 509(a)(1) of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to the Friends are fully tax-deductible as provided by law. Our taxpayer identification number is 04-3201394.

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The Prague Page

• Notes from Laura Bergman, Director, Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, Czech Republic •

With gratitude and sincere appreciation, we in Prague note that the *Friends* provided major support for "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage." This magnificent and highly successful exhibition would not have been possible without the help of the AFPCC, and represents a huge step toward accomplishing our goal of making the Lobkowicz collections accessible for the enjoyment of the Czech people and, indeed, the world.

The Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, in cooperation with the Friends, now must focus on its next goal: to preserve and restore the Roudnice Lobkowicz Archival Library. As Allyson McDermott's chilling report suggests, this vast and historic library is incurring irreparable damage daily from insects, pollution, moisture, acidification and improper storage. Six hundred years of archives and 60,000 books and are in grave danger.

We estimate that \$75,000 is necessary to move the books to Nelahozeves and house them in a dry, safe, temporary location until the Roudnice Lobkowicz Archival Library is built.

Projected capital costs of the Library are just under \$1 million. The design is a "bare bones" endeavor, according to architect Otto Dvorak, intended to be "functional and inexpensive." We have completed grant applications to major charitable and corporate foundations, and will seek to match AFPCC funds with foundation grants wherever possible.

Tour improvements: Our staff is working hard to improve the guided tours at Nelahozeves, fine-tuning the information provided to visitors to make it consistent, interesting, and well presented. Tours are offered in Czech, English, German, French, Italian and Spanish.

Support by Friends Helped Create "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"

Library Capital Campaign



Laura Bergman, Director, Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, chats with Milan Svoboda of Lobkowicz Travel Service

Ongoing Activities

Loans: In May, the RLF loaned 11 works to the magnificent Rudolf II exhibition in Prague, which depicts the imperial court and residential city of Rudolf II as the cultural and spiritual heart of Central Europe.

Requests from the Public: The Foundation continues to receive and process requests from the public for reproductions of Lobkowicz paintings and objets d'art. Requests come from scholars, professors, students, and history enthusiasts worldwide. The Foundation has been able to cover this administrative cost by charging small fees, which in turn go directly to conserving and preserving the collection.

Internships: After the recent *Parade* magazine article on the Lobkowicz family, nearly 500 inquiries were received by the AFPCC and the RLF. As a result, the RLF has received valuable assistance from interns, including Tiffany Keebaugh, on leave from the Eisenhower Fellowship Program. The Foundation is now pursuing internships with the International School of Prague.

Record Attendance at Lobkowicz Castles

The Second Annual 1998 Lobkowicz Summer Festival was held at Vysoky Chlumec on July 26, 1997. Over 5,000 people turned out to enjoy a day of fun that included

medieval sword fighters, renaissance troupes, contests, and delicious food. After an afternoon of activities oriented to families, popular rock and roll bands took to the stage as a hot air balloon began its quiet ascent into the warm summer evening. This summer, the **Dvorak Summer Music Festival at Nelahozeves** brought 16 concerts to hundreds of classical music enthusiasts. Now in its fourth year, the festival features internationally known artists at modest ticket prices in order to make these offerings more accessible to the general public. The imposing and scenic ruin of Strekov near the German border continues to grow in popularity. Almost 18,000 visitors have toured the Lobkowicz-owned castle since April, almost doubling last year's attendance.

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture

Volume I, No. 1 • The Roudnice Collection at Nelahozeves • Spring 1994

Nelahozeves: A 16th-Century Renaissance Palace

Nelahozeves Castle was built in the sixteenth century for Florian Griespek of Griespach, a humanist nobleman who served as royal building inspector for the Austrian Emperor and Czech king, Ferdinand I. Griespek bought the Nelahozeves property in 1550. He planned to cultivate the rich farmlands in the area and establish a residence worthy of his intellectual and social stature. He wanted to build a palace in the latest Renaissance style; he wanted a haven in which to study the ancients, to write a treatise on the economics of farming, and to enhance his art collection and extensive library; he also wanted Nelahozeves to serve as a gathering place for the literati of his day.

Griespek summoned the best Italian masons to begin construction of Nelahozeves in 1552-8 and in 1564 the castle was completed by Bonifac Wohlmut, the leading court architect in Prague. In 1623 Polyxena Lobkowitz bought Nelahozeves from the financially troubled Griespach family, and the castle remained a Lobkowitz property until 1948.



The North Facade of Nelahozeves



Roudnice Castle from the Main Town Square, 1930

Roudnice: 17th-Century Grandeur "Fit for a Prince"

When Polyxena of Pernstejn married her second husband, Zdenek Vojtech of Lobkowitz, in 1603, she brought the renowned Pernstejn art collection, the Rozmberk art collection, and Roudnice Castle to the marriage. The Castle, in the midst of a busy commercial town, had an illustrious history already. It had been the country seat of the Archbishop of Prague from the 13th- through 15th-centuries. By 1603, however, Roudnice was a hodge-podge of structures juxtaposed against a medieval, fortress-like core.

The Lobkowitzes established the family seat at Roudnice Castle in 1623, the same year in which they acquired Nelahozeves. Shortly afterwards, Vaclav Eusebius Lobkowitz, son of Polyxena and Zdenek Vojtech, determined to transform Roudnice into a vast new residence befitting the Duke and his guests. He engaged the most sought-after Italian architects to work on the designs for the Castle, first Francesco Caratti and then Antonio della Porta. From 1652 to 1684 the architects oversaw construction of more than 180 rooms arranged in four two-story wings around a central courtyard. In its monumental scale Roudnice represents one of the earliest and most outstanding examples of Baroque castle architecture in Bohemia. Roudnice castle presides over the main square of the town; the rear facade overlooks the Elbe River.

The Roudnice Collections

It was at Roudnice that the Lobkowiczes housed their prize collections of paintings, decorative arts, books, musical instruments, scores, and archives. Polyxena and Zdenek Vojtech of Lobkowicz, already richly endowed with the Pernstejn, Rozmberk, and Lobkowicz art collections and libraries, were avid collectors in their own right. From the time of their marriage in 1603, they regularly commissioned portraits, paintings, and majolica from Italian and Spanish artists and workshops; they bought works of art in their travels, they bought up libraries from impoverished noble families. The Roudnice collections continued to grow, generation by generation. Many new works were acquired through strategic marriages; many were simply the result of changes in fashion or the stylistic preferences or whims of various family members.

The Roudnice collections document nearly six centuries of the activities, historical events, the tastes, the patronage, and the habits of mind of the Lobkowiczes and their contemporaries. The paintings, the extraordinary series of 16th- and 17th-century Spanish portraits, the porcelain, ceramics, furniture, silver, coins, and weapons; the library of manuscripts, incunabula and rare books (long considered the best private library in Central Europe); the 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century musical instruments, and the 4,500 musical scores and librettos (including Beethoven's original score for the *Third Symphony*, Mozart's *Don Giovanni*, and many others with invaluable annotations by musicians and composers in the employ of the Lobkowicz family); the five kilometers of archival material (land books, official records, contracts, diplomatic reports, correspondence, journals, accounts, receipts, etc.)—all these objects and papers create a unique ensemble.

Together, the Roudnice collections reveal Central Europe's special cultural and political role in European history. They show a Prague that was once as cosmopolitan as Paris, London, or Vienna. They show the breadth of activity and influence enjoyed by the Czech nobility throughout Europe—in campaigns of war and diplomacy, in arts and letters, commerce and fashion.

The 1940s: The Lobkowiczes in Exile

The last head of the Lobkowicz family to live at Roudnice was Prince Max Lobkowicz, Duke of Roudnice, and former Czechoslovak Ambassador to Great Britain. Just before the outbreak of World War II he left Czechoslovakia for England and served as Ambassador with the Czech Government in exile. In the meantime the Germans ransacked Roudnice and took the paintings, furniture, and decorative arts to Berlin and to Linz. After the German occupation, Max Lobkowicz returned to Czechoslovakia and eventually the contents of Roudnice Castle that had not been irretrievably damaged, lost, or stolen were returned to Roudnice.



Max Lobkowicz in 1926

Three years later, however, when the signs of Communist rule were becoming all too clear, and when his friend and colleague, Jan Masaryk, mysteriously fell to his death from his office window, Max Lobkowicz quickly left Prague once again. It was March of 1948. Soon after his sudden departure, the Communists seized and appropriated the private possessions of all the leading families in Czechoslovakia, including the Lobkowiczes. Max Lobkowicz came to the United States as a refugee and settled his family in the Boston area with the generous assistance of American friends. He died there in 1967.

Roudnice Castle and Collections Under Communism

The Roudnice Lobkowicz library, archives, and art collections became the property of the State in 1948. Books, paintings, altarpieces, documents, furniture, faience, porcelain, guns, coins, and silver were dispersed throughout Czechoslovakia, and shuffled about in various state castles, museums, libraries, and depositories. Later, in 1976, much of the Roudnice art collection was put on exhibit at Nelahozeves Castle. The most important items in the Roudnice collections, however, were kept in various museums and libraries in Prague. Roudnice Castle itself was taken over by the army and used as a military music school.

The 1990s: The Lobkowicz Return

Recently, Martin and William Lobkowicz, the son and grandson of Max Lobkowicz, returned to the Czech Republic to piece together the cultural and historical traditions once represented by their family. As guardians of the Roudnice collections, they must ensure that these cultural treasures are preserved and made available to the public. Although the Roudnice art, furniture, porcelain, faience, textiles, coins, guns, musical instruments, books, and archives have been officially restituted to the family, the collections are still in the process of being reassembled from many different depositories in Bohemia and Moravia.

The Lobkowicz face many challenges. A new exhibition must be created at Nelahozeves. Measures must be taken to *care* for the many objects that are in desperate need of conservation and repair. Adequate security is a pressing concern—especially now when art and rare-book thefts are commonplace in the Czech Republic. Finally, the collections deserve proper documentation and research (the most reliable catalogue was published nearly ninety years ago, in 1907, by the famous art historian, Max Dvorak, who was also the family's archivist and librarian).

The Roudnice Restoration Project Sponsored by the *Friends*

Restoration of the Roudnice art collections, library, and archives is a demanding responsibility—the neglect and damages of the past forty years will take a generation to repair. Given the international importance of the Roudnice collections, the *Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Inc.* will assist in their preservation and preparation for public use and enjoyment.

One of the *Friends'* first steps, taken with the support of the World Monuments Fund, will be to hold an international Symposium in 1994. Experts from Europe and the United States will analyze Nelahozeves and Roudnice castles and the collections and help forge a long-term plan for the conservation, management, and development of the Lobkowicz properties for the various needs of scholarly research, cultural vitality, and tourism.

Announcing the Dvorak Summer Weekend Concert Series at Nelahozeves—last two weekends in July and the first two weekends in August! The *Friends* hope that all Founding Members and Contributors to the Roudnice Collection at Nelahozeves will be there. Please call (508) 785-0864 for reservations.



Nelahozeves and Roudnice lie just north of Prague on the main route to Dresden

Immediate Steps

Prior to the Symposium, the *Friends* will work to make the cultural offerings of Nelahozeves better known to the public. New programs and exhibitions of the Roudnice collection at Nelahozeves will make visits to the castle stimulating for Czech visitors and foreign tourists, for general audiences and for specialists and historians.

The *Friends* will pursue the following plans to revitalize Nelahozeves in 1994:

1. The exhibit at Nelahozeves will be reworked to portray the many facets of Czech social and cultural history. We shall emphasize the international character of the Roudnice collections and highlight the role of the leading Czech families in European history, diplomacy, and the arts. We aim to offer an unusual and imaginative experience for the visitor—very different from the Czech castles run by the State.

The famous Roudnice collection of Spanish portraits from the 16th- and 17th-centuries, and the impressive series of Dutch, German, and French portraits from the 16th- through 19th-centuries commemorate leading characters in the history and culture of Bohemia. The portraits of these extraordinary men and women will be displayed with objects that illustrate their accomplishments, their roles as diplomats and military lead-

ers, as patrons of the arts and as collectors, as writers, bibliophiles, and musicians. The new exhibit will include the paintings they commissioned, the books that they valued, the friends they chose, the journals and letters they wrote, the memorabilia they saved, the musical instruments they played, the furniture they bought, their table settings, the accoutrements of their daily life.

On November 1, 1993, a meeting was held with a group of Czech specialists on the Roudnice Castle and collections and on the history of the Lobkowicz family. The group included historians, historians of art and the decorative arts, musicologists, experts on the Roudnice library and archives, exhibit designers, etc. each of whom has generously agreed to help define the specific contents and mode of presentation for the new exhibit. Once the organizing principles for the new display of the Roudnice collection have been established, a Director will be selected to oversee the new installation and run the museum.



Portrait of Maria Manrique del Lara and Child

2. Nelahozeves will serve as a satellite exhibit space for the main museums and galleries in Prague. Thus, when the great show, *Prague in the Age of Emperor Rudolph II (1576-1612)*, opens this summer at the Prague Palace, there will be a related exhibit at Nelahozeves. Likewise, when the National Museum of Applied Arts has a special exhibit, there will be a complementary one at Nelahozeves.
3. New catalogs and brochures—in four languages—will reflect the changes at Nelahozeves, and provide more up-to-date research on the Roudnice collection. Brochures will be distributed to the museums in Prague, to travel agencies throughout Europe, the United States and Japan as well as to the Ministry of Tourism, the major hotels and the tour planners in Prague.

4. A Dvorak summer concert series will be presented at the castle in collaboration with the Dvorak Museum in Nelahozeves. (The Dvorak Museum is in the house of Dvorak's birth just down the hill from the castle and is also owned by the Lobkowiczses). We shall offer special opportunities for visitor groups and for the local community to come to Nelahozeves on "concert days". Josef Suk (renowned violinist and great grandson of Antonin Dvorak) has already agreed to perform.
5. Educational programs for children will be prepared, so that they can explore and take pleasure in European and Czech history.
6. The gardens around the castle will be extended, creating a pleasant space for visitors.

These activities towards the revitalization of Nelahozeves and the exhibition of the Roudnice collection constitute the *Friends'* first project in the Czech Republic and will continue through the next few years. In 1995, we shall expand our work at Nelahozeves. In collaboration with several U.S. colleges and universities, we shall establish student research fellowships for work on the Roudnice collections and to help with the cataloguing of the Roudnice library, archives, and works of art. Other projects to help preserve the historical and cultural monuments and treasures in the Czech Republic will follow.

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Inc.

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Hugh L. Warren, Treasurer
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Ingrid Swanson

The *Friends* purpose is to help restore and preserve the national cultural treasures in the Czech Republic, to make these national treasures more accessible to the general public, to develop opportunities for study of the Czech cultural heritage, and to garner new support for cultural life in the Czech Republic.

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American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture

Volume III, No. 1 • Work in Progress • Summer 1996

Major New Exhibition Planned at Nelahozeves Castle

"The Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection: Six Centuries of European Art Patronage" set to open in April 1997

How do you tell the story of six centuries of ardent collecting? Most of us wince when confronted with the task of cleaning out a mere attic or assembling a personal resumé, but the Lobkowicz family is tackling the task of bringing together the art, archives, books, musical scores and decorative objects representing this Czech family's long and passionate history of art patronage. Storerooms and state museums, archives and galleries are offering up their treasures for this one-of-a-kind exhibition.

"It can be overwhelming at times," concedes **Alexandra Lobkowicz** who is coordinating the development of the show, "The sheer mass of excellent material, and the extraordinary personalities we've had over the centuries, makes this great fun to pull together—if a little daunting."

"The Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection: Six Centuries of European Art Patronage" is slated to open at Nelahozeves Castle in April of 1997. Nelahozeves, a lovely Renaissance period castle located just north of Prague, is a fitting setting. The castle has been in the family since 1623 and now serves as the main museum and education center for the extensive Lobkowicz family collection, hosting over 40,000 visitors in 1995.

Curating the show reflects a team effort drawing on both Czech and foreign art consultants, including **John Somerville**, a well-known British art historian. The exhibition is distinguished by its mission to place outstanding European art and objects into the context of Czech history by bringing to life the connections between Lobkowicz family members and the works they loved, lived with and supported.

The exhibition will highlight many of the great paintings of the collection, including works by **Canaletto, Cranach, Coello and Bellotto**, and will tie these chronologically to family history through galleries organized according to specific themes and periods. An entire gallery will be devoted to **Beethoven** and his patron, **Josef Frantisek Maximilian Lobkowicz**. Musical scores, manuscripts and instruments along with family portraits and decorative arts have been selected to bring the exhibition to life; many of the objects chosen have never before been available to the public.

Attendance at Nelahozeves castle, open year round to the public since 1994, has surged and interest is already running high for the upcoming exhibition. More visitors will provide badly needed revenues to help offset the costs of keeping the castle open to the public and restoring damaged and neglected portions of the collection.



Preparations for the exhibition require extensive reorganization of the galleries at Nelahozeves

"Assembling this exhibition fits well into the family's long-range mission here in the Czech Republic," notes

William Lobkowicz. "We view our collection as a proud example of the historical connections of the Czechs to European culture as a whole, and as a wonderful educational tool to help foster further international research. This marks an important step in our overall goal of making our family's history and collections accessible for the enjoyment of all."

Summer Music Series at Nelahozeves Celebrates Dvorak

Nelahozeves Castle's summer music series opened June 22 with an all-Dvorak program featuring The State Philharmonic Orchestra, setting the theme for a season program dedicated to the 155th anniversary of Antonin Dvorak's birth. The ambitious, 21-concert series included a wide range of other composers and an extraordinary group of artists. Attendance has broken all previous records as the series has expanded and become better known. Weather permitting, the concerts are held in the courtyard of Nelahozeves castle.

Antonin Dvorak was born at Nelahozeves on September 8, 1841 in a house which now serves as a museum dedicated to this great Czech composer. The summer music series, now in its third year, frequently features Dvorak's work. Josef Suk, world-renowned violinist and the great-grandson of Dvorak, has been a noted supporter of the concert series.

World-Renowned Soprano Featured at Nelahozeves

On Friday, August 16, Renée Fleming performed a program including Schubert, Schumann and Fauré at Nelahozeves Castle as a part of the



Renée Fleming

summer music series. Since her Metropolitan Opera debut in "The Marriage of Figaro" she has appeared in opera houses worldwide, including La Scala, The Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, Vienna State Opera and at Carnegie Hall. She has performed together with such stars as Luciano Pavarotti and Plácido Domingo. Ms. Fleming enraptures audiences with her natural beauty of tone.

Appearing in a growing collection of live telecasts and recordings, Ms. Fleming has already established her position among leading sopranos. She has performed with Luciano Pavarotti on PBS's "Live

From Lincoln Center", in BBC telecasts, and on recordings for several labels including Sony, London/Decca, and BMG.

This year, she has been chosen to be the first recipient of The Sir George Solti Prize, to be given to an outstanding younger singer. Renée Fleming's other awards include the Richard Tucker Award, the George London Prize, the Grand Prix at the international singing competition in Belgium, and a Fulbright Scholarship to Germany.

Ms. Fleming's grandparents were from Prague, and she was welcomed to Nelahozeves Castle in a homecoming speech in Czech by William Lobkowitz at the start of the concert. She sang outdoors despite poor weather, and brought tears to many an eye in the audience when she concluded with the Czech *Rusalka*. Steinway and Sons made a remarkable exception to their usual no-sponsor policy and provided a magnificent 9-foot grand piano for the occasion.

The Friends Support Dvorak Society

Brooks Lobkowitz, President of the *American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture*, presented a grant of 100,000 Crowns to the **Antonin Dvorak Society** in May of 1996. Below, a smiling PhDr. Jarmil Burghauser, Chairman of the Antonin Dvorak Society, accepts the grant from Brooks Lobkowitz on behalf of the *Friends*.



Brooks Lobkowitz and Dr. Burghauser

The Dvorak Society is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the works of the great Czech composer, born 155 years ago on the grounds of Nelahozeves Castle.

From Boston to Bohemia: A Very Special Tour

In May, the *Friends* hosted a week-long "insider's tour" of Prague and the Czech Republic. Organized by Julia White of Moran Travel, and accompanied by local guide Vladimir Davidovic, the tour led 24 hardy Americans on a quest to understand the history of the Czech Republic and the forces shaping contemporary life there. In Prague, the group visited Prague Castle, with its beautiful St. Vitus Cathedral and the Royal Palace, and spent an afternoon in the city's Jewish Ghetto. Brooks Lobkowitz, President of *The American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture*, accompanied the tour, and led the group to sites of importance in the history of the Lobkowitz family. These included the Lobkowitz Palace in Prague, Roudnice Castle and winery for a picnic lunch and wine tasting, and Nelahozeves Castle's Roudnice Lobkowitz collection and the birthplace of Dvorak.

In her introduction to the tour, Julia White described the magic of Prague: "Mozart is said to have hoped that should he achieve a place in the heavenly kingdom it would be just like living in Prague. Whether this is fact or fiction is questionable, but there are certainly many who have been thoroughly entranced by the beauty and charm of this old world city. At present Prague is enjoying an unprecedented cultural renaissance. Its cobblestone streets are filled with excited tourists whose enthusiasm is shared in great measure by Czech counterparts. All this slightly frenetic activity takes place against a background of gold-tipped spires, ancient bridges and alley-ways, all interspersed with new restaurants, hotels and bistros. Prague is a gracious hostess ready to show off the old and the new and to welcome all comers."



The "From Boston to Bohemia" tour
pauses at Vysoky Chlumec

CNN Profiles William Lobkowitz

CNN television news came to Prague this past spring to follow William and Sandra Lobkowitz's daily activities for several days. CNN accompanied William to Nelahozeves Castle and filmed a section of show on the Roudnice Lobkowitz collection housed there. The focus of the program was the family's restitution experience in the Czech Republic.

Field Day at Vysoky Chlumec Draws a Huge Crowd

A festival to celebrate the history and enduring appeal of Vysoky Chlumec castle drew over 5,000 people to this lovely, Lobkowitz-owned castle in Southern Bohemia in July. The crowd visited the castle, toured its exhibition, and sampled refreshments including Lobkowitz beer. The latter is brewed near the castle, in the village of Vysoky Chlumec, where the Lobkowitz Brewery has been in continuous operation since its founding in 1466.

The castle was opened to the public for the first time in its 541-year history on July 10, 1994, and now features six rooms furnished with exhibits of family furniture and collections, along with a small gift shop and a new café.

Upcoming Events

Fall visitors to Nelahozeves Castle will include a **WGBH Learning Tour**, organized by Boston's public television station and a group visiting under the sponsorship of the **Mellon Foundation**. Welcome!

Some comments from members of the "Boston to Bohemia" tour: "We loved every minute and were fascinated by everything we saw." "You gave us such a superb tour of Prague and environs that we are still savoring every moment of that remarkable week." "It was such an incredible experience to visit these amazing, stunning properties which have been restituted by the state..." "We came away in total awe of everything the Lobkowitz family is doing and has accomplished. It is completely mind-boggling." "...a multi-dimensional, very informative trip."

Prague Staff Notes

Laura O. Bergman has joined the Prague team as Director of the *Friends'* Czech counterpart, the Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation. She holds a Master's degree in public management from Carnegie Mellon University and was highly successful in raising funds through grant-writing in her last position as Deputy Director of the Center for Democracy in Prague. At the Center, she oversaw all programs, focusing mainly on the creation and administration of educational programs for Czech students. She is also a published writer in the area of social programs and tax reform in the Czech Republic. A native Californian, Laura was involved in politics before coming to Prague.

In April, the Lobkowicz family and staff in Prague welcomed hard-working volunteer Alexandra Ames, Harvard '93, who received a support grant from the John Anson Kittredge Educational Fund of Augusta, Maine. The grant enables Ms. Ames to live in Prague and assist with the Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection. Ms. Ames has collaborated closely with Alexandra Lobkowicz on preliminary planning for the exhibition of the collection scheduled to open in April of 1997 at Nelahozeves Castle.

Welcome, Laura and Alexandra, and thank you for your fine work!

Dolphin Trust Approves Grant

In July, the *Friends* received a \$12,500 grant from The Dolphin Trust of Boston, Mass., to help support the new exhibition at Nelahozeves Castle. In her request for the grant, Alexandra Ames, a volunteer working with the Lobkowicz collection in Prague noted, "This exhibition promises to be an excellent re-evaluation of the family's collection and will reflect the significant role the Lobkowicz family played, not only in the history of Bohemia, but throughout European history as well... The benefits of this improved exhibition of the collection are many. The family seeks to carefully maintain and effectively present this important part of Czech cultural heritage for the benefit of the people of the Czech Republic, as well as for people throughout the world, for whom this great collection will be made more accessible and comprehensible."

Czech Foundation Established to Support Roudnice Lobkowicz Collections

The endeavor to keep the Roudnice Lobkowicz art collection, library and archives accessible to the

public has been an immense but important task taken on by the Lobkowicz family over the last five years. The Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation was recently established in the Czech Republic to assist the family in this monumental goal. The *Friends* and the new Czech foundation share the administrative and financial support for the preservation of the collection, and plan to share resources in order to strengthen and solidify their mission.

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Inc.



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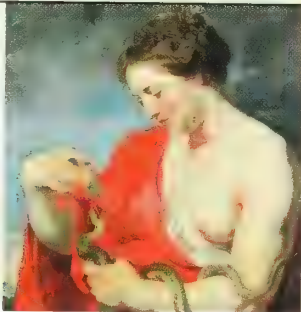
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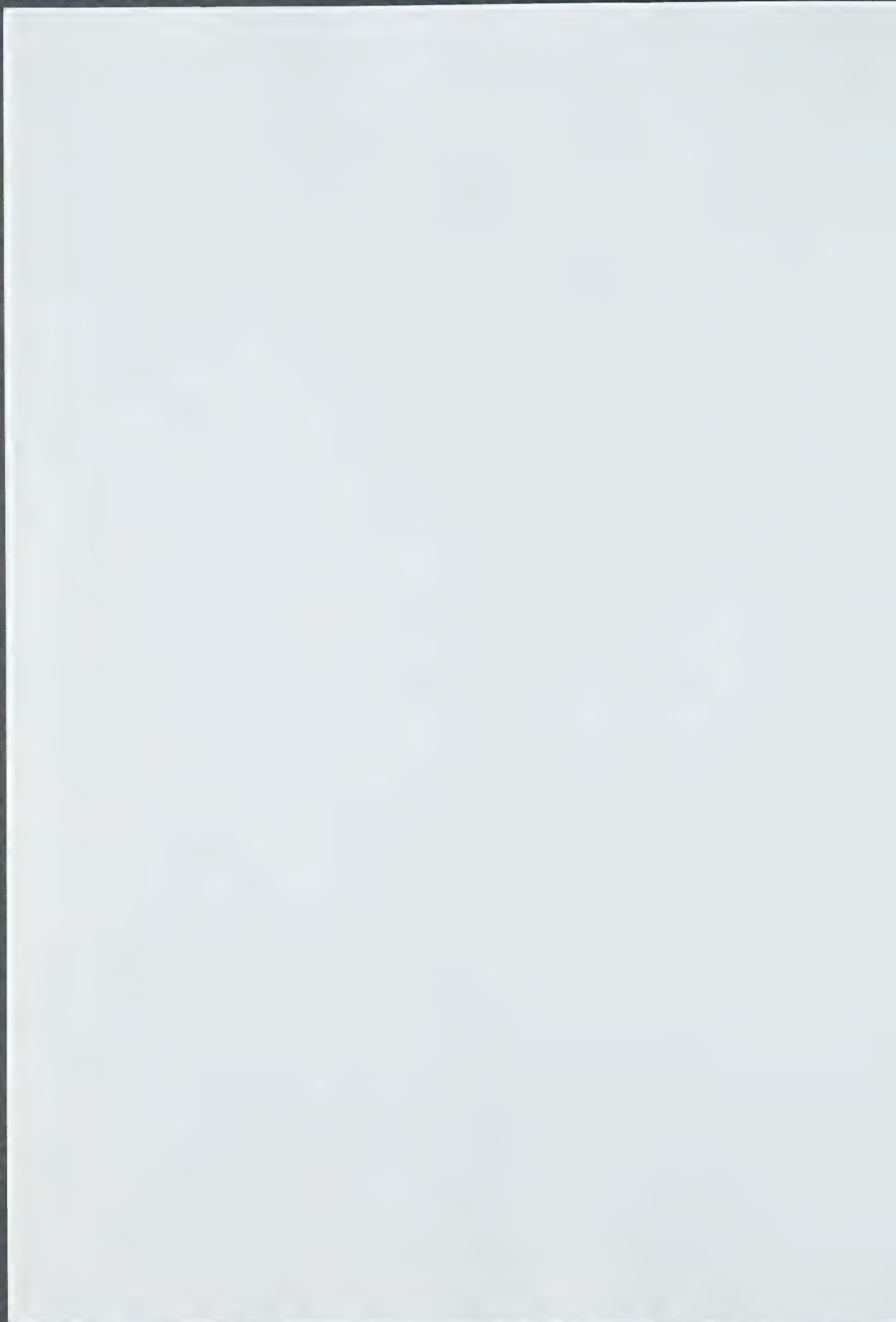
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Lobkowitz Travel Services

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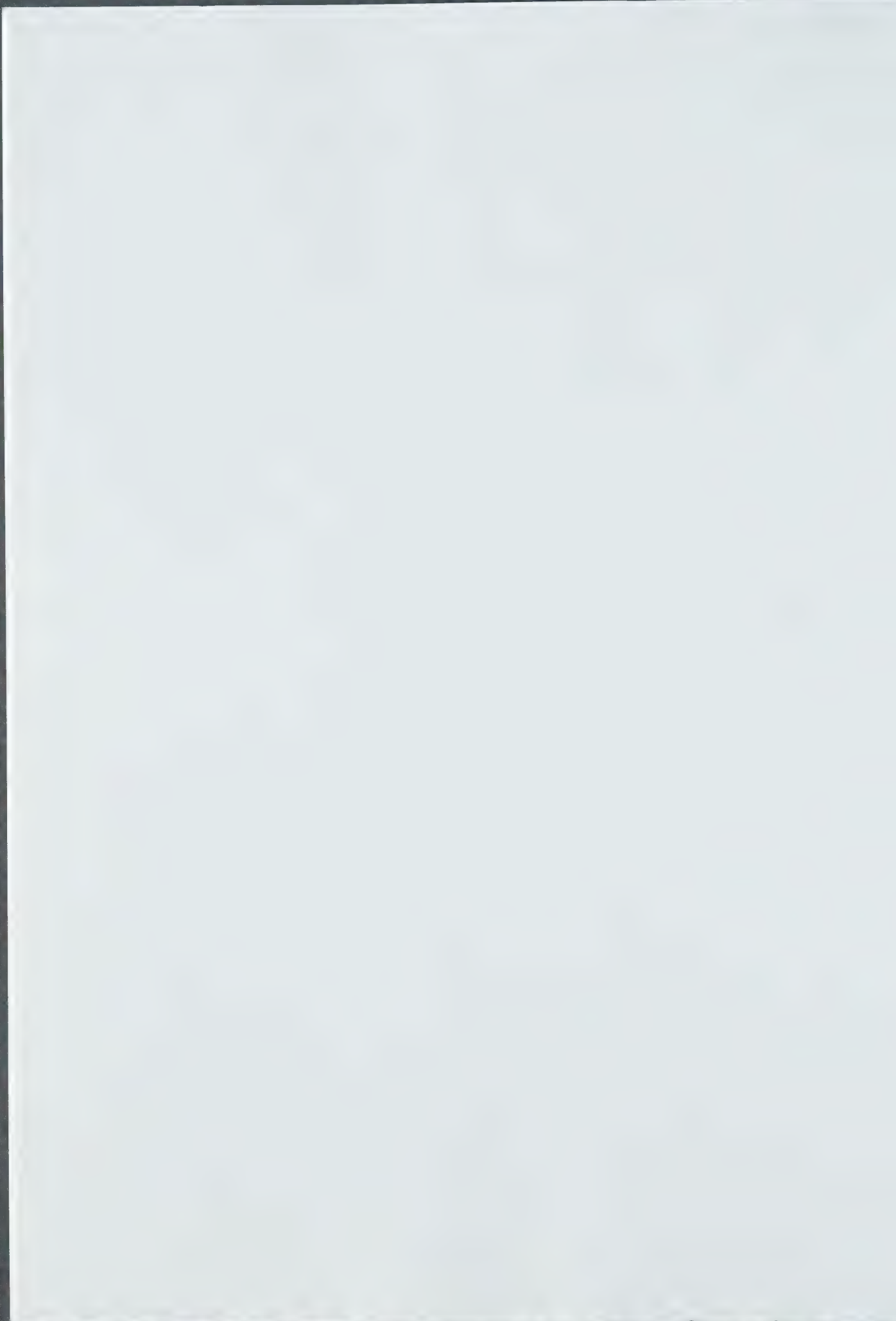
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PROFILE OF LOBKOWICZ TRAVEL SERVICES (LTS)

Founded: 1995

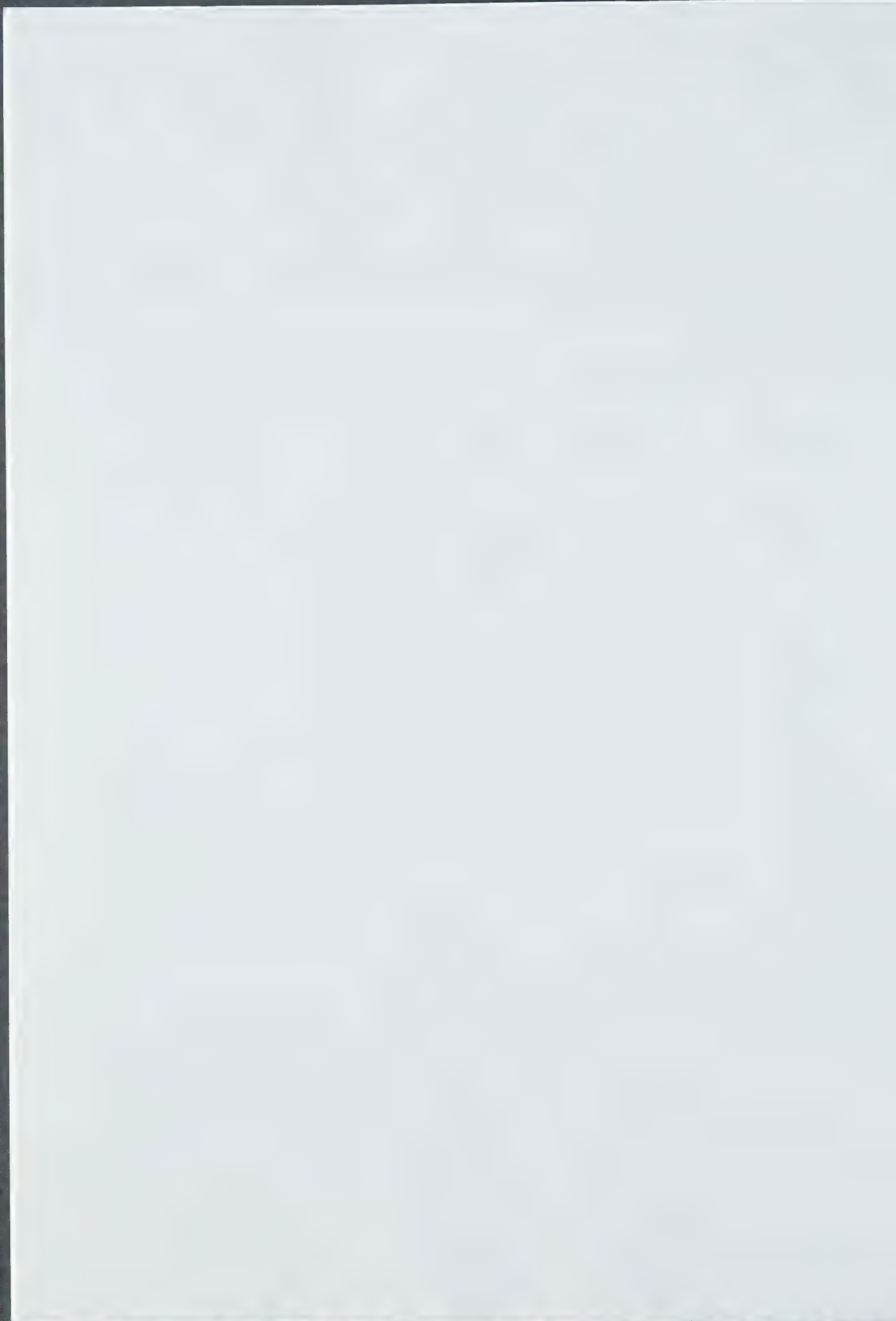
Target: Incentive and Group Tourism
Congress & Business Organization

Contact: Nelahozeves Castle, 277 51 Nelahozeves, Czech Republic
tel.: +420 (205) 709 111 - Reception
fax: +420 (205) 709 112
e-mail: lbs@lobkowicz.cz
website: www.lobkowicz.org

Affiliations: SKAL
ACK CR

Company
Structure:

William Lobkowicz	C. E. O., Owner	tel.: +420 (205) 709 105
Alena Brezinová	Managing Director	tel.: +420 (205) 709 153
Ilona Hronková	Head of Castle Events Department	tel.: +420 (205) 709 154
Klára Linhová	Head of Incentive & Conference Department	tel.: +420 (205) 709 156
Zuzana Rousová	Project Manager	tel.: +420 (205) 709 157
Tomas Brabec	Sales Assistant	tel.: +420 (205) 709 155
Dalibor Matyáš	Castle Events Coordinator	tel.: +420 (205) 709 160
Monika Widtmannová	Reception	tel.: +420 (205) 709 111





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OFFER OF SERVICES

Lobkowicz Travel Services (LTS), provides its clients with services in the areas of incentive and group tourism, as well as congress and business meeting organization. It is also the exclusive agent for the Lobkowicz family castle of Nelahozeves, near Prague in the Czech Republic.

Incentive and Group Tourism

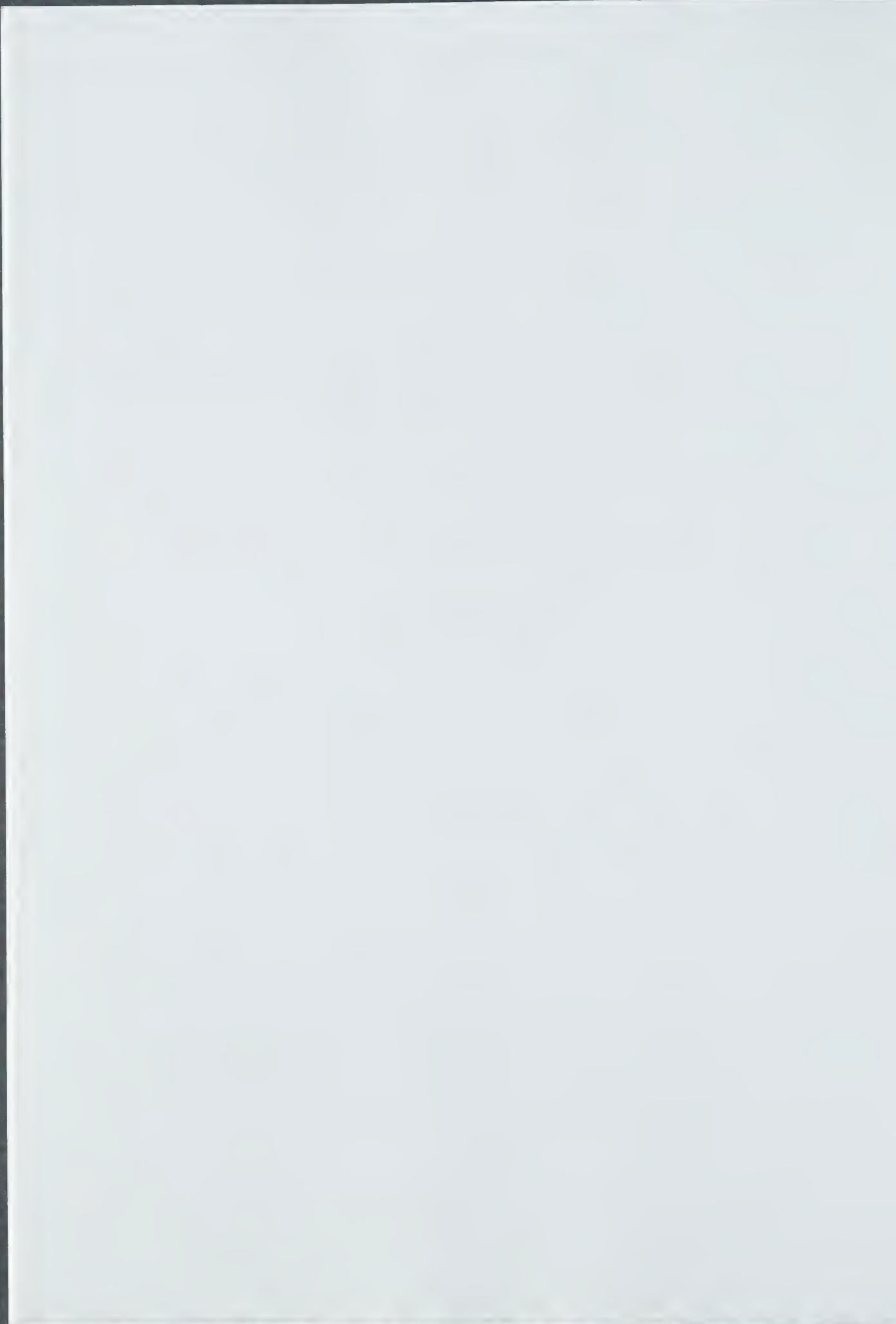
- ◆ Tailor made tours and programs in the Czech Republic
- ◆ Organization of social gatherings, gala dinners, cocktail and garden parties
- ◆ Cultural and theme tours
- ◆ Accommodation for groups
- ◆ Transfers in vintage cars, trams and trains
- ◆ Ticket reservations for cultural and sporting events

Congress & Business Meeting Organization

- ◆ Complete organization of congresses, conferences, seminars and company presentations
- ◆ Accommodation services
- ◆ Interpreting, translating, total event coordination
- ◆ Excursions, spouse programs, tour guides
- ◆ Post conference programs
- ◆ All forms of transfers and transportation

Rental of Lobkowicz Castle at Nelahozeves

- ◆ The Lobkowicz Collection exhibition: "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage" (including works by Bruegel, Canaletto, Rubens, Velázquez and Cranach)
- ◆ Conference, seminar and company presentations
- ◆ Gala dinners, receptions, cocktail and garden parties, medieval banquets
- ◆ Dvorák Nelahozeves music festival, musical and theatrical events, concerts
- ◆ Castle Restaurant with full catering services
- ◆ Museum Shop - unique gift items inspired by historic objects





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HISTORY OF THE ROUDNICE LOBKOWICZ FAMILY

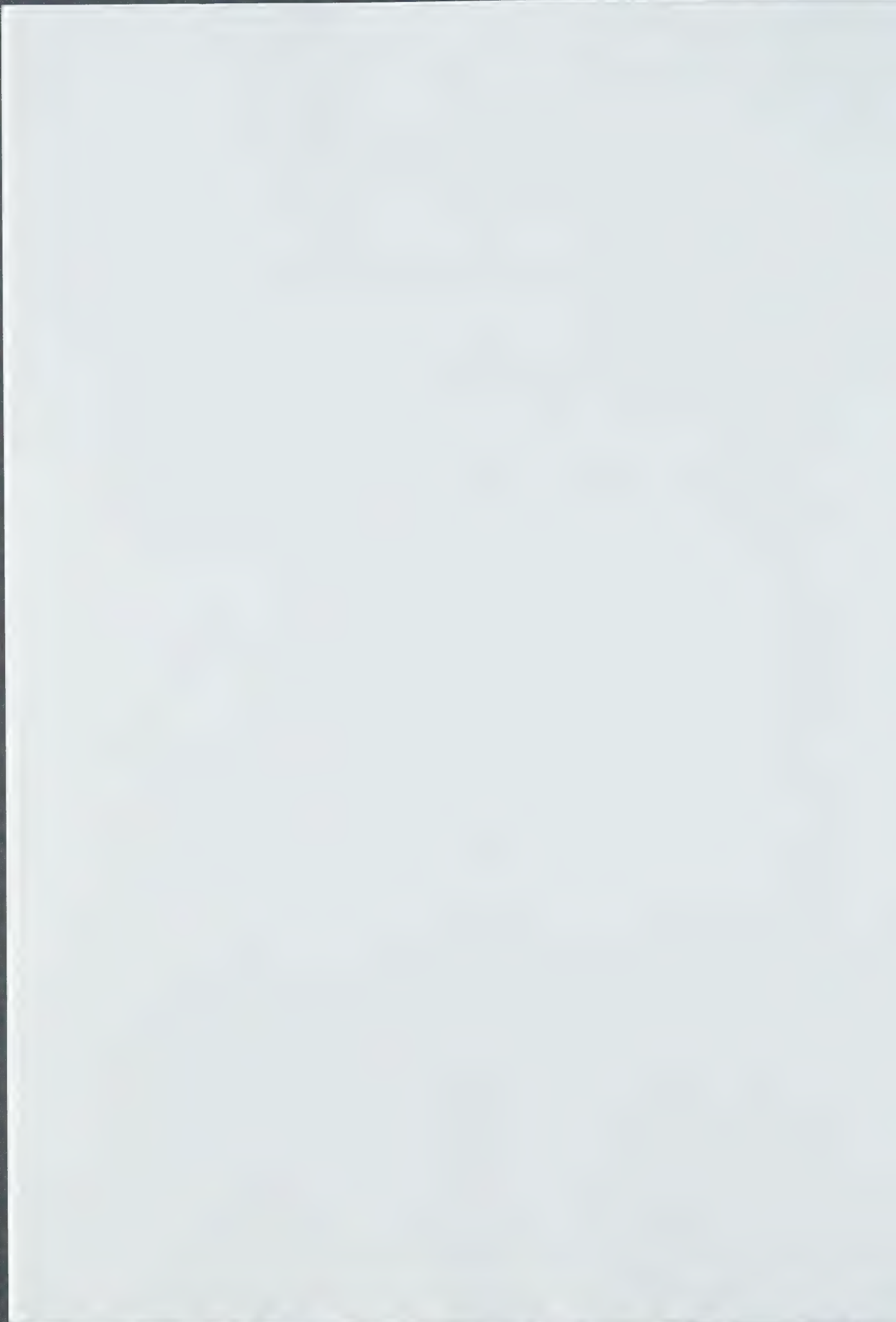
The Lobkowicz family dates back to the 14th century and is one of the oldest Bohemian noble families. The Lobkowiczes have historically played an important role in European politics, as Princes of the Holy Roman Empire, High Chancellors of Bohemia, Dukes of Sagan and Roudnice, Princes of High Chlumec, and many times bestowed the Order of the Golden Fleece, the highest honor of the Holy Roman Empire.

The Roudnice branch of the Lobkowicz Family was perhaps best known as a patron of Beethoven, Goethe and Dvořák. Gluck began his career in the family orchestra; his stay at the Lobkowicz castle at Střekov inspired Wagner's creation of *Tannhäuser*; and Beethoven dedicated numerous works to Franz Josef Maximilian Lobkowicz, including the 5th, 6th and 3rd Symphonies (*Eroica*), with *Eroica*'s world premiere performed at the Lobkowicz Palace in Vienna. Art and cultural interests created extensive and unique collections of works of art, libraries, archives, musical manuscripts, instruments, all compiled over the centuries; and all of which have been restored to the family.

With the founding of the Czechoslovak Republic in 1918, titles were abolished and large scale nationalization took place. A lawyer by training JUDr. Maximilian Lobkowicz, son and heir of the last Prince and Duke of Roudnice, was a noted Czech nationalist and dedicated Republican; and a supporter of Thomas Masaryk, the founder and First President of the Republic. During the 1920s, he joined the diplomatic service becoming First Secretary and later Ambassador to Great Britain for the Czechoslovak government in exile during World War II. He was active in the underground movement against the Nazis and was decorated for his service to the country in 1947. He held his ambassadorial post until he was forced to flee Czechoslovakia two months after the Communist take-over in February of 1948.

After the fall of communism, Martin and William Lobkowicz, the eldest son and grandson of Maximilian, returned to Czechoslovakia. One of the results of the Velvet Revolution of 1989 was the passage of restitution laws, designed to repair the injustices of the previous 41 years and encourage swift revitalization of the country. The process of returning immovable and moveable assets was thus set in motion.

Nine castles were restituted back to the Roudnice branch of the family, most in a state of disrepair. Those in best condition and worth noting are Nelahozeves and Roudnice. Nelahozeves, a Renaissance chateau which was acquired by the family in 1623, is located in the village where composer Antonin Dvořák was born, his birthhouse also being returned to the family. The chateau continues the tradition of the family in patronizing the arts by remaining open to the public, offering permanent collections as well as special exhibits. The castle itself is the site of many popular commercial and cultural events year-round, including the Dvořák Nelahozeves music festival started in 1993. The complete renovation of Dvořák's house is scheduled to be completed in 2004 to mark the 100th anniversary of Dvořák's death. Roudnice castle, for centuries the Seat of the Archbishop of Prague, came to the family in the 16th century and was rebuilt in its present Baroque style by the High Chancellor, Prince Vaclav Eusebius Lobkowicz. The castle wine-cellars, founded in 1603, still produce one of the finest and most popular wines in the Czech Republic. The castle is presently occupied by the Czech military.

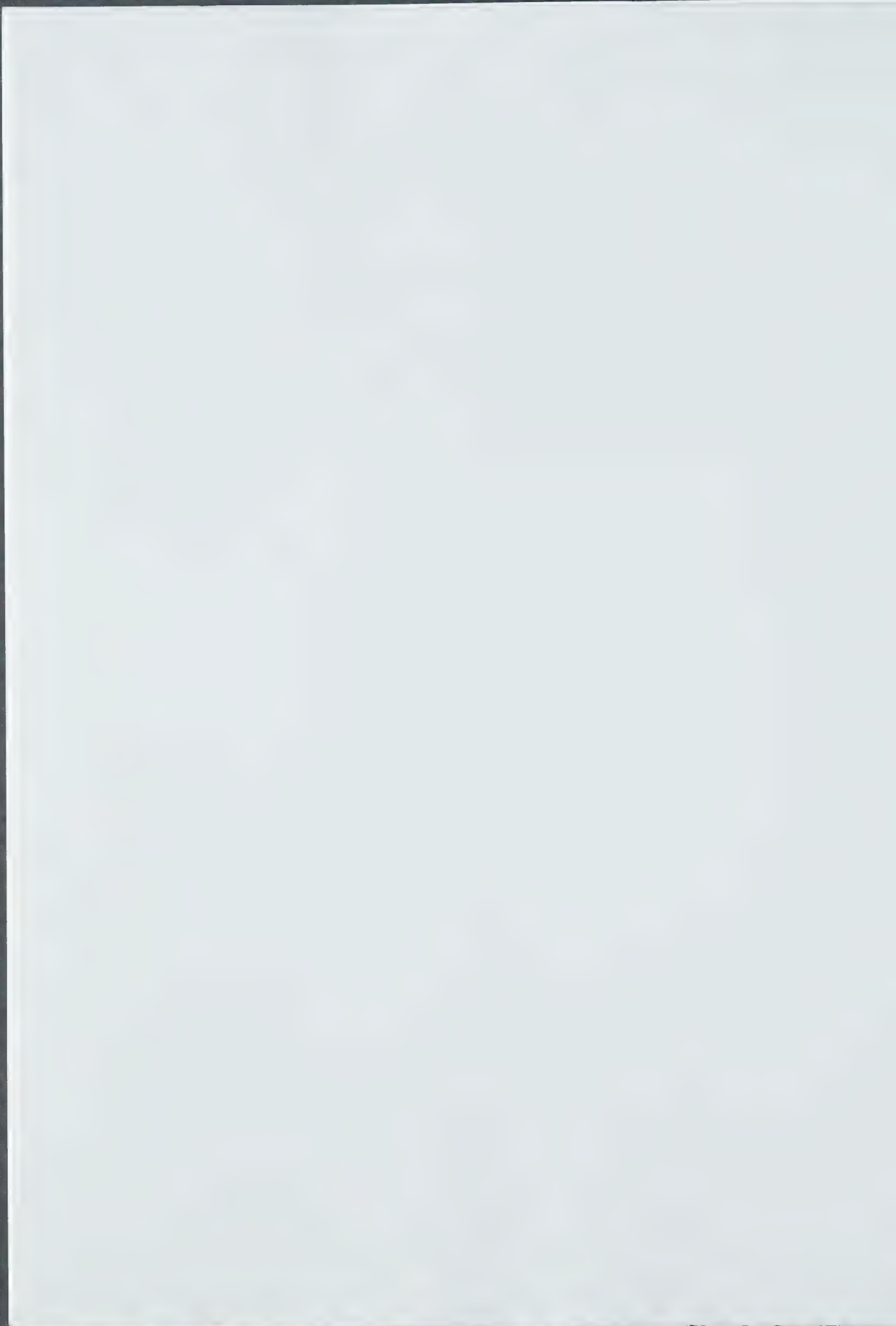




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The family is actively pursuing projects surrounding art and cultural life in the Czech Republic, a country which has such a rich past and tradition. For more than a decade, the Roudnice Lobkowicz family has begun the long process of trying to restore the collection of art, books, and other objects to its former grandeur for the benefit of the public. These activities are carried out through a non-profit organization called The Lobkowicz Collections, established to offer both financial and administrative support. In addition, the Roudnice winery and Lobkowicz brewery (established in 1466) are producing high quality beverages which are available throughout the Czech Republic and the world. Lobkowicz Travel Services, (established in 1995) along with managing all activities at Nelahozeves Castle, offers congress and business meeting organization, as well as incentive and group tourism services in the Czech Republic.





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HISTORY OF NELAHOZEVES CASTLE

The monumental Renaissance castle of Nelahozeves is located in a small village, near Kralupy on the Vltava river in the central Czech region, known as the birthplace of Antonín Dvořák.

The builder of the castle was an influential nobleman, Florian Griespek from Griespach. From 1532, he acted as a personal assistant to King Ferdinand I, and from 1538 served as his adviser. In 1544, Griespek bought agricultural land in the region. Griespek's fast social rise, as well as the short distance between Nelahozeves and the king's court in Prague, motivated him to start building a new and ambitiously constructed residence.

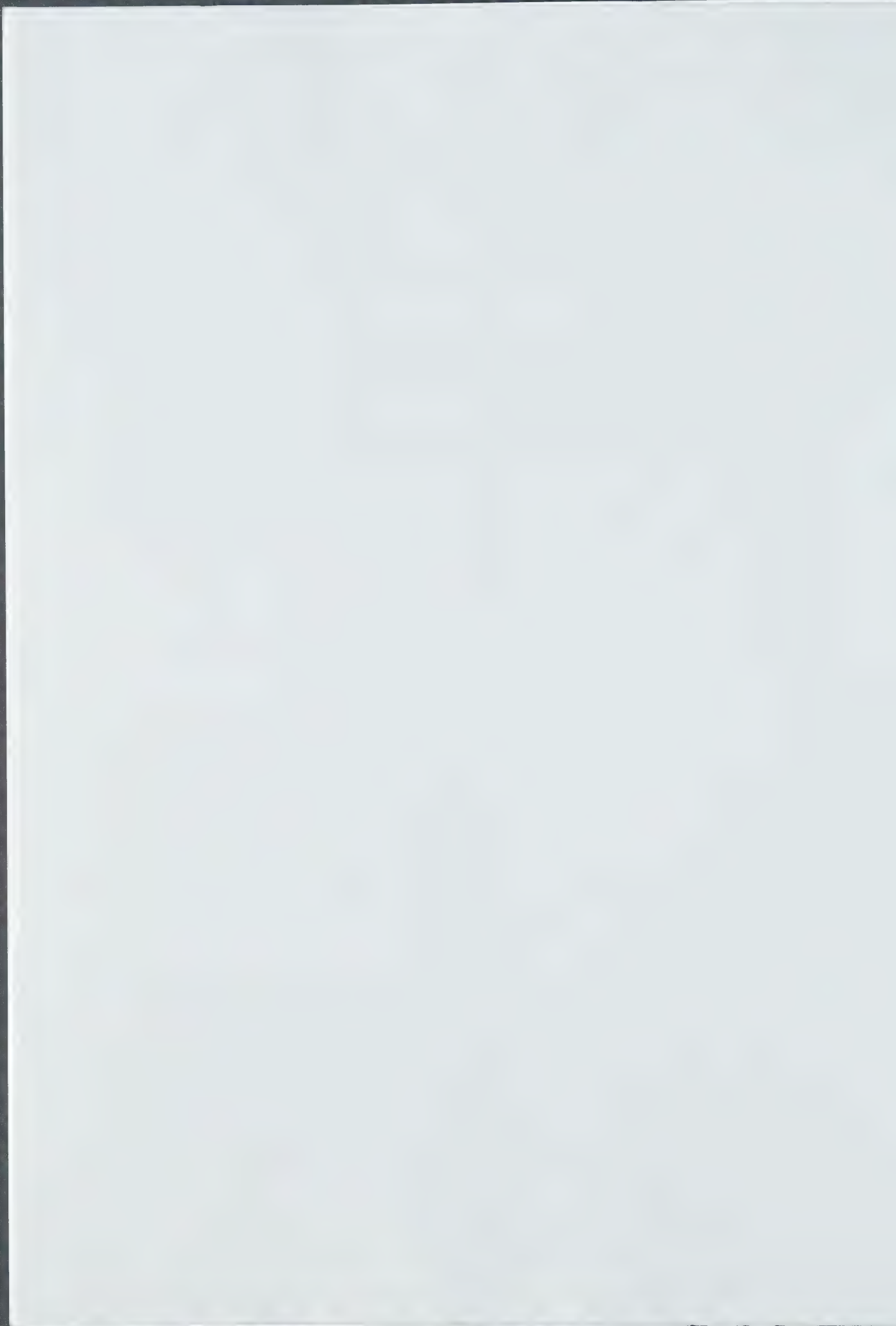
Though the entry in the public registry from 1572 describes Nelahozeves as a "castle", implying that the building was completed, the construction work was actually still in progress. This delay was caused by the death of the builder in 1588. The construction continued through the time of Florian's son, Blazej Griespek, and his wife, Ofka from Bubno, until the beginning of the 17th century (the evidence can be found on the sign placed on the arch of the eastern wing which is dated 1613).

Nelahozeves remained in the property of the Griespek family for only three generations. In 1623, the niece of Florian, Veronika, sold the indebted property to Polyxena of Lobkowicz, whose Roudnice branch of the family owned the castle until confiscated by the Communists in 1949.

During the Thirty Years War, Nelahozeves was seriously damaged several times by military attacks. The son of Polyxena, Vaclav Eusebius Lobkowicz, started its reconstruction, although the repairs were mainly cosmetic since the castle was only used for managing his properties. The building was slowly deteriorating when the Lobkowiczes planned a complete renovation. Small improvements started in 1860, and in 1876 Franz Riedl worked out a plan for reconstruction in the neo-Renaissance style, although the reconstruction was never realized. Partly endangered sgraffito was saved, as well as arcades in the North wing; some of the interiors were also modified. Thus the original structure benefited from limited changes that would have dramatically altered its present original and historic look.

In the early 1950's, part of the Roudnice painting collection was on display at the castle in the state's Central Czech Regional Gallery. Since the second half of the 1960's, the outer castle structure was maintained, though the Lobkowicz farm was demolished during the general restoration of the area surrounding the castle.

Among the castle interiors, the most noteworthy are the Arcade Hall on the first floor, and the main hall named Paradise (later named the Knight's Hall) in the northeastern corner of the building. The hall has a dominant fireplace, a beautiful stucco ceiling, and partly preserved paintings on the walls. Many details of the original Renaissance period and later decoration are still preserved, such as the woodcuts in the ceiling and the notable stone work on the portals. The castle was returned during restitution to the Roudnice branch of the Lobkowicz family in the second half of 1993. The new owner is Martin Lobkowicz, son of JUDr. Maximilian Erwin Lobkowicz, who was the last owner before the takeover of the castle by the state in 1949. Inside, the new permanent exhibition of the most important pictures and art objects from the Roudnice Lobkowicz collection, originally in the main family castle at Roudnice, are on permanent display for the public.





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EVENTS AT NELAHOZEVES CASTLE

Lobkowitz Travel Services is the exclusive agent of the historical premises of the Renaissance castle in Nelahozeves. Its rooms are used for gala-dinners, receptions, cocktails, concerts, company presentations and other social or business gatherings.

Welcomings

On their arrival, guests are welcomed with historic guards with halberds and arms or with fanfares by costumed trumpeters.

Welcome by the owner of the castle

Upon the customer's special request, it is possible to arrange a welcoming by Prince William Lobkowitz, who will talk to guests about his family's history, their aims and efforts in attempting to preserve their cultural traditions.

Tour of the exhibition

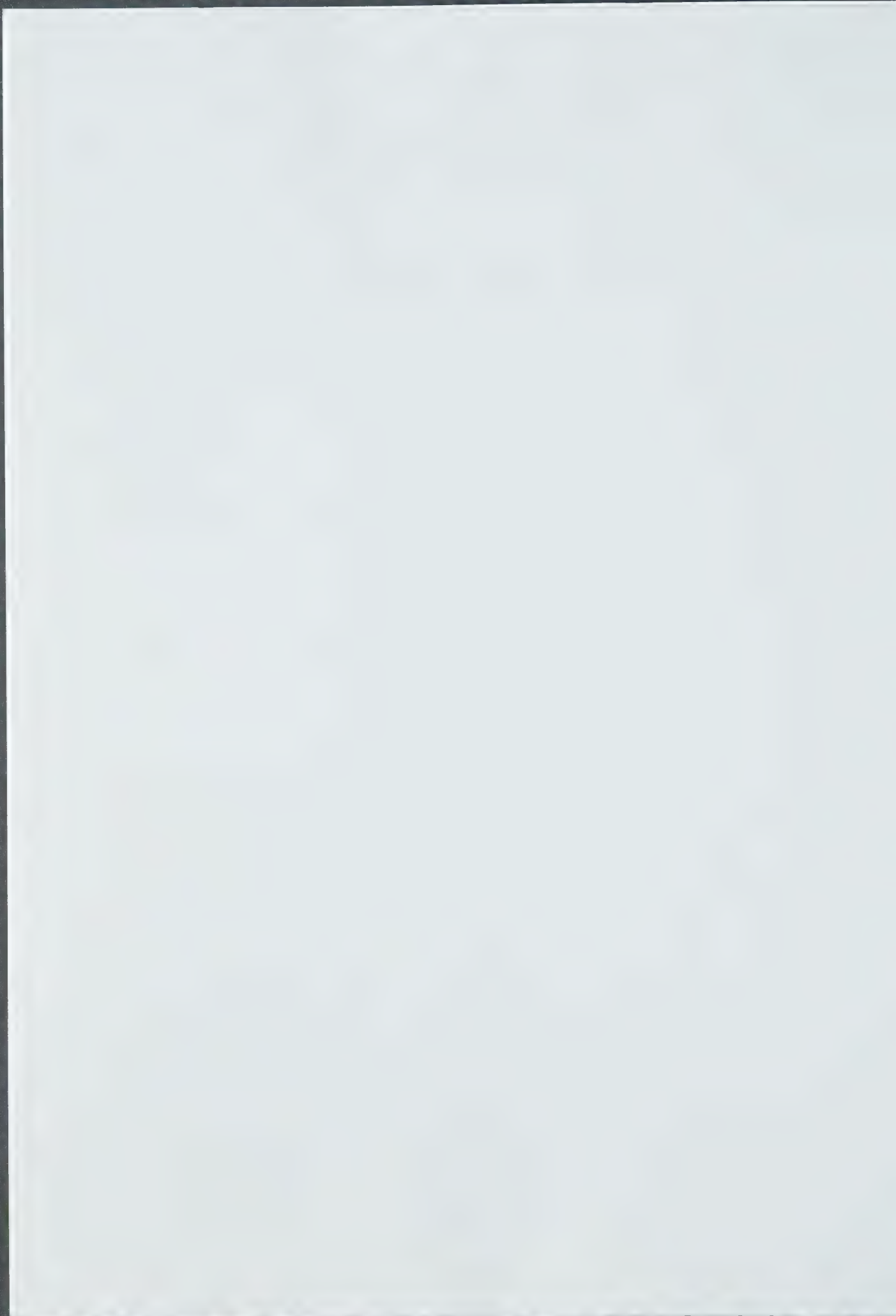
1997 marked the ceremonial grand opening of a unique collection, never before seen, of paintings, decorative arts, musical instruments and manuscripts spanning six centuries. Distinguished guests included the former Prime Minister, Minister of Culture, and President Václav Havel and his wife. This permanent exhibit entitled „Six Centuries of European Art Patronage,, is one of the largest and most significant private collections in Europe.

Entrance fee

	<i>Groups</i>	<i>Individuals</i>
Guided tour I	180 CZK/5.00 USD	330 CZK/ 9.00 USD
Guided tour II	55 CZK/1.50 USD	100 CZK/ 3.00 USD
Guided tours I+II	200 CZK/5.50 USD	380 CZK/10.50 USD

Concerts and banquet music

In the Knight's Hall, we arrange private concerts of various kinds of music. To add a special ambience to the dinner, banquet music can be arranged from classical soloists to chamber ensembles.





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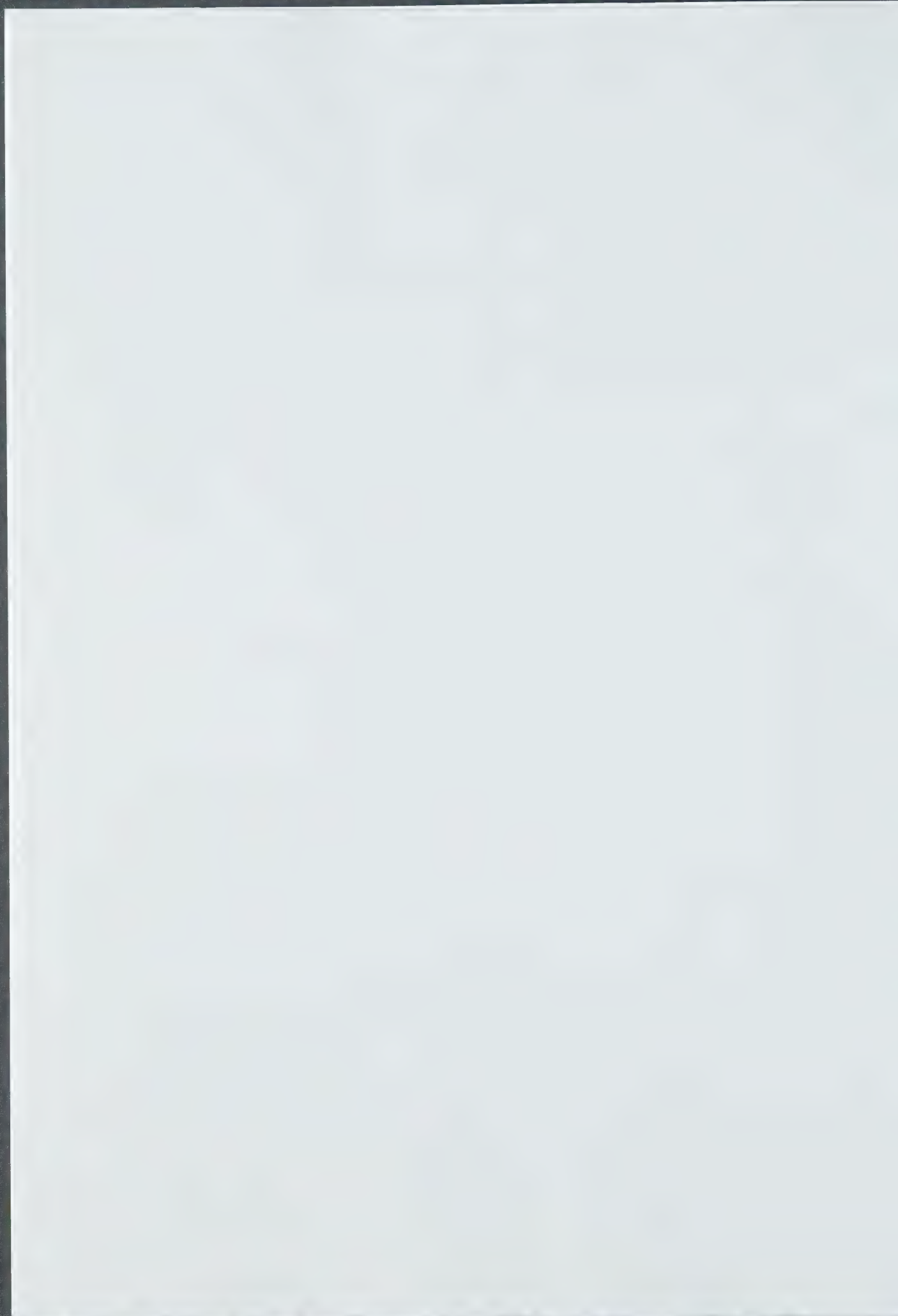
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Period fencing and dancing performances

The evening can be accompanied with a performance of period fencing in historical costumes. The performance of period dances can be held in the castle premises or in the courtyard.

Wine tasting

Roudnice winery was founded in 1603 and is located in the beautiful Romanesque cellars of Roudnice castle, the 250 room Princely residence of the Roudnice Lobkowitz family. Today, it is known as one of the finest vineyards in the Czech Republic, offering a wide assortment of wines to Prague's finest restaurants. The tastings can take place in a variety of rooms at Nelahozeves castle.

Sampling: two varieties of wine (white and red approx. 100 ml.) including a brief history and description of the wines.

Full degustation: five varieties of wine (approx. 100 ml, incl. two archival wines) with a brief history and description of the wines.

Courtyard dances

Selected styles of classical, modern or folk dance in beautiful period costumes.

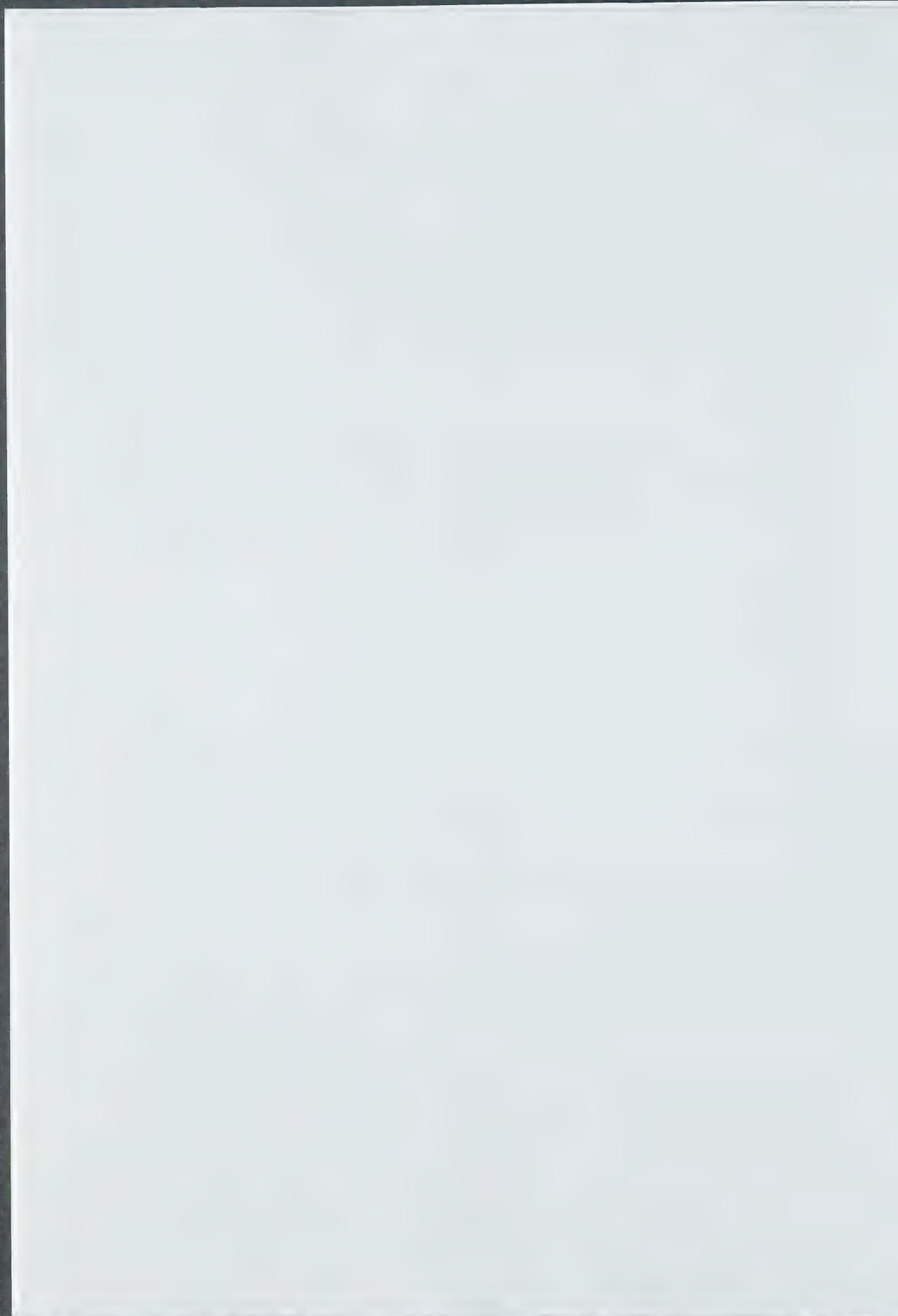
Castle restaurant - Catering at the Castle

Nelahozeves houses a restaurant specializing in international and Czech cuisine (70 person capacity) which is open to the public from 9AM to 5PM daily (Monday's by appointment only). The restaurant is operated and managed by La Forza catering company, also providing complete catering services for commercial functions in the castle.

For information on menu offerings, see separate listing.

Sample momentos of the evening

In the castle museum shop, visitors can purchase unique souvenirs of Nelahozeves Castle and the Lobkowitz collections. Objects include hand-blown historic glassware, porcelain, an exquisite line of fine jewelry, specially printed cards with images from the collections, memorial coins, prints, and much more.





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GALA EVENING AT NELAHOZEVES CASTLE*

PROGRAM PROPOSAL

5:45pm Arrival at Nelahozeves Castle (15 miles from Prague)

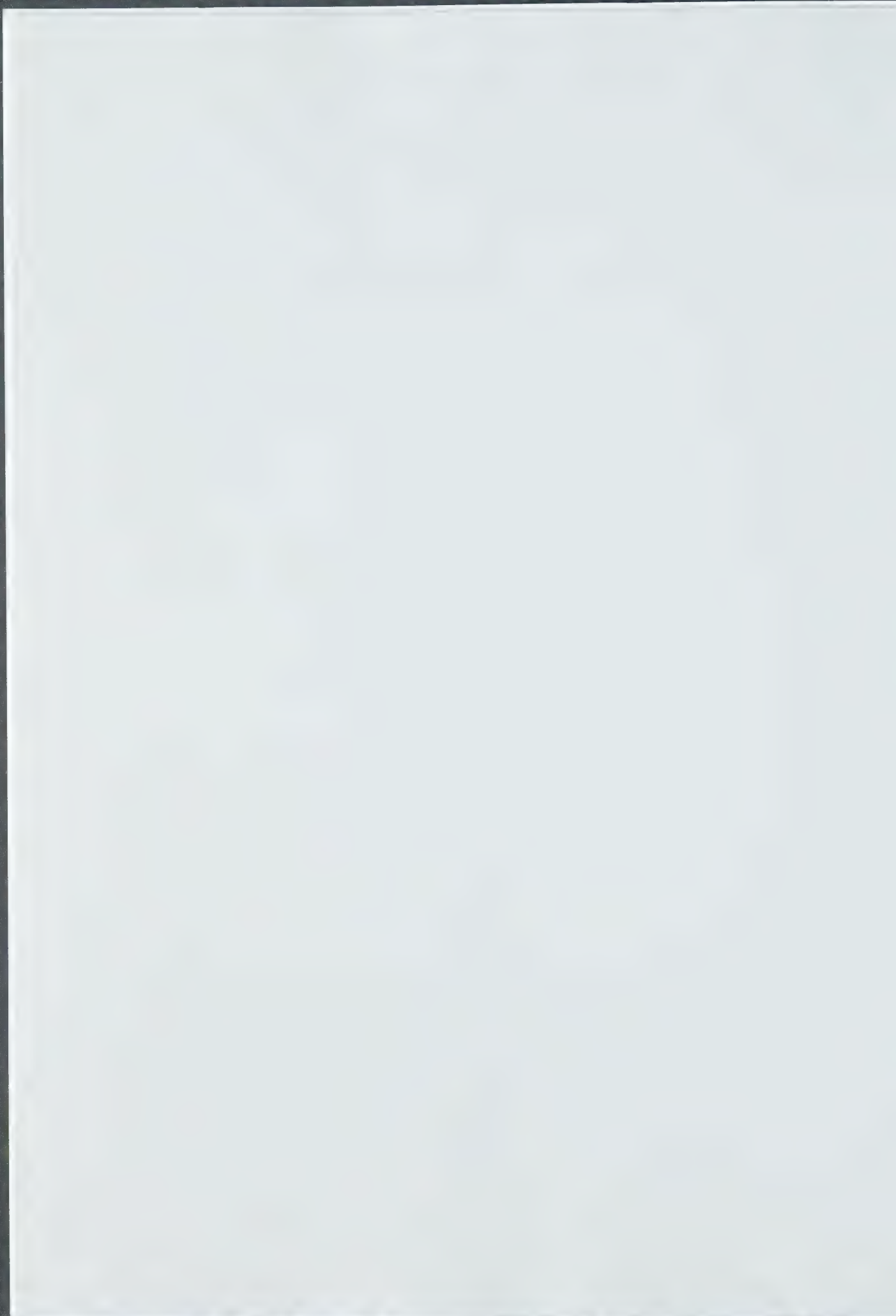
5:50pm Welcoming by Prince William Lobkowicz

Prince Lobkowicz personally welcomes the arriving group before they visit the gallery upstairs. His introduction will present the family history and current activities to preserve their cultural heritage. He will also describe the reconstruction of the Lobkowicz family brewery (founded in 1466) and winery (founded in 1603). During the discussion, Lobkowicz wine and beer will be served with hors d'oeuvres.

6:10pm Tour of the exhibition "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"
opened in 1997 in the presence of President Havel

Over the course of six hundred years, the Lobkowicz family assembled one of Europe's most significant private collections of paintings, rare manuscripts and decorative arts. In the 20th century, that collection was lost twice: first, in 1939, to the Nazis, who intended to incorporate many of the best pieces into Hitler's museum in Linz, and a decade later, to the Czech Communists, who dispersed the collections throughout Czechoslovakia. With the passage of the 1991 restitution laws, however, the family's treasures were painstakingly reassembled, and in 1997 - for the first time in 50 years - the collection was displayed as a whole at Nelahozeves Castle. The resulting exhibition, "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage", draws connections between the artists, their patrons, and the works that passed between them. The 25 exhibition rooms begin with the Family Portrait Galleries, which present the family's connections to royal courts throughout Europe alongside commissions by Bartholomeus Spranger, Jacob Seisenegger, and Alonso Sanchez-Coello. Visitors will also enjoy the Dutch Cabinet Room, which includes major works by Rubens and Cranach, as well as Pieter Breughel the Elder's masterpiece "Haymaking". Another gallery is devoted to Ludwig van Beethoven and his patron, Prince Joseph Franz Maximilian Lobkowicz, presenting musical scores and manuscripts never before seen by the public. Throughout the exhibition, the artwork is complemented by important pieces of furniture, sculpture, ceramics, porcelain, glass, metalwork, family photographs, and arms and armor that once decorated Lobkowicz castles throughout Bohemia.

*The program can also be arranged as a gala luncheon.





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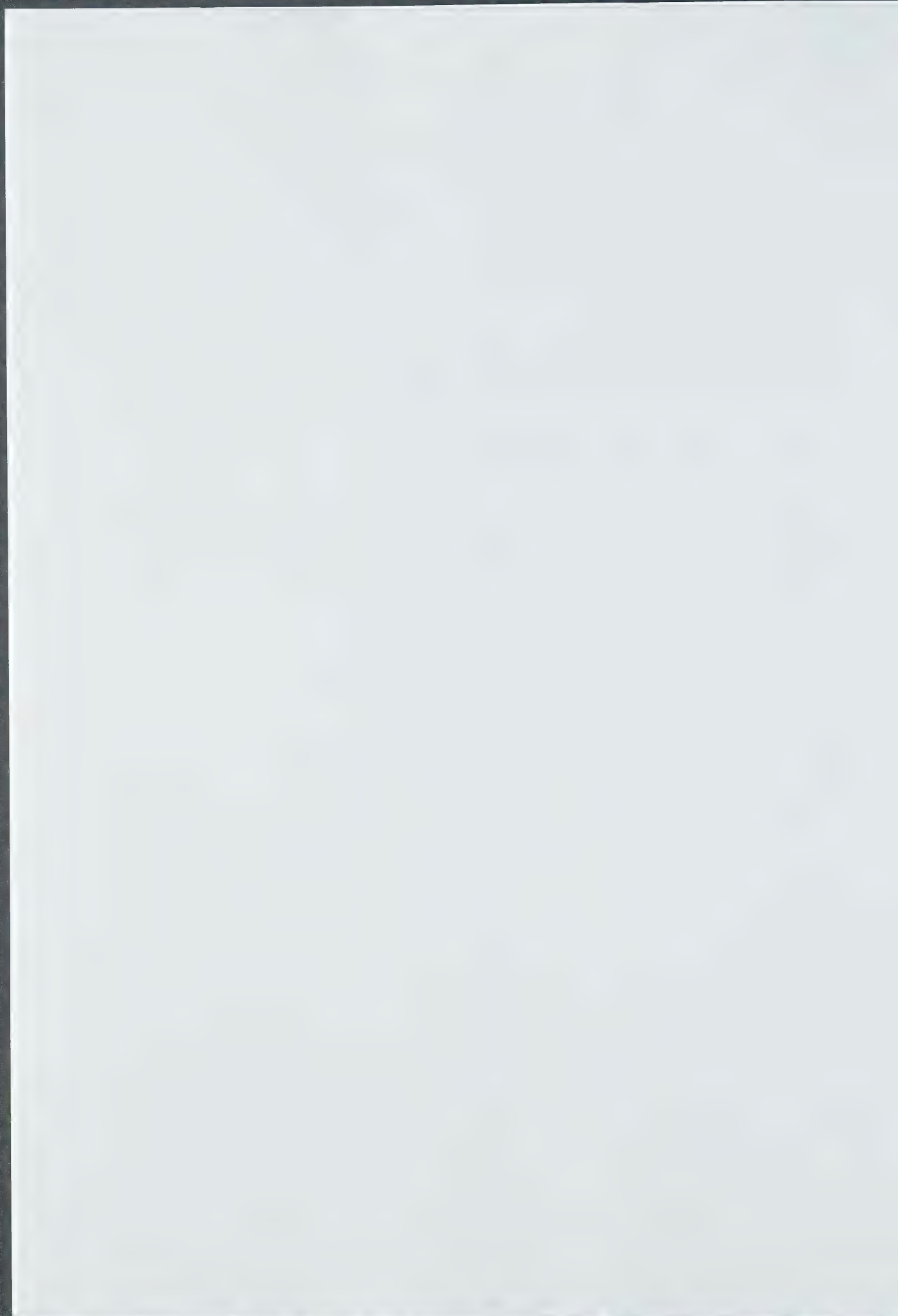
7:10pm Gala dinner in the Knight's Hall

This spectacular room, with its massive carved stone fireplace, 16th-century frescoes and coffered ceilings, provides the setting for an incomparable dining experience. Whether one selects an international menu or a more traditional Czech feast, those who attend a Nelahozeves banquet will never forget it!

9:30pm Visit the Castle museum gift shop

Peruse historical reproductions, fine hand-crafted work by Czech artisans and other unique souvenirs of Nelahozeves castle and the Lobkowitz collections. Objects include hand-blown historic glassware, porcelain and an exquisite line of fine jewelry, specially printed cards with images from the collections, memorial coins, prints and even a "children's corner" in the shop tower complete with soft toys and educational products.

10:00pm Return to Prague

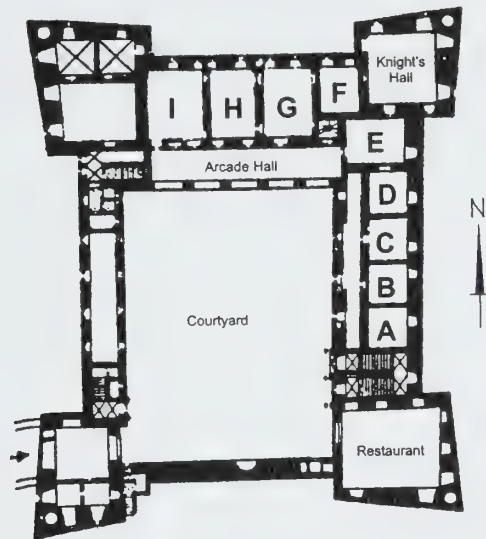




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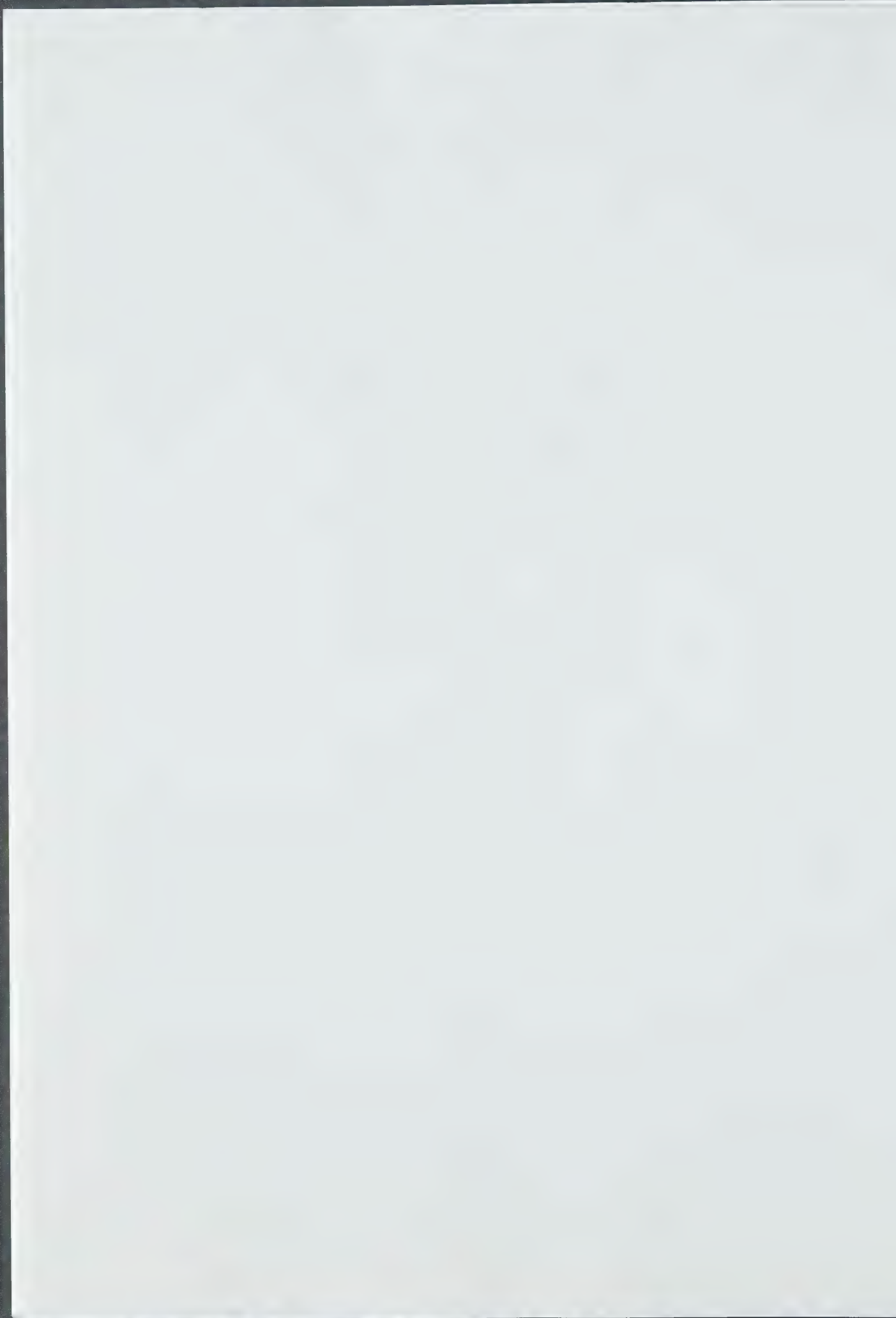
PLAN OF NELAHOZEVES CASTLE

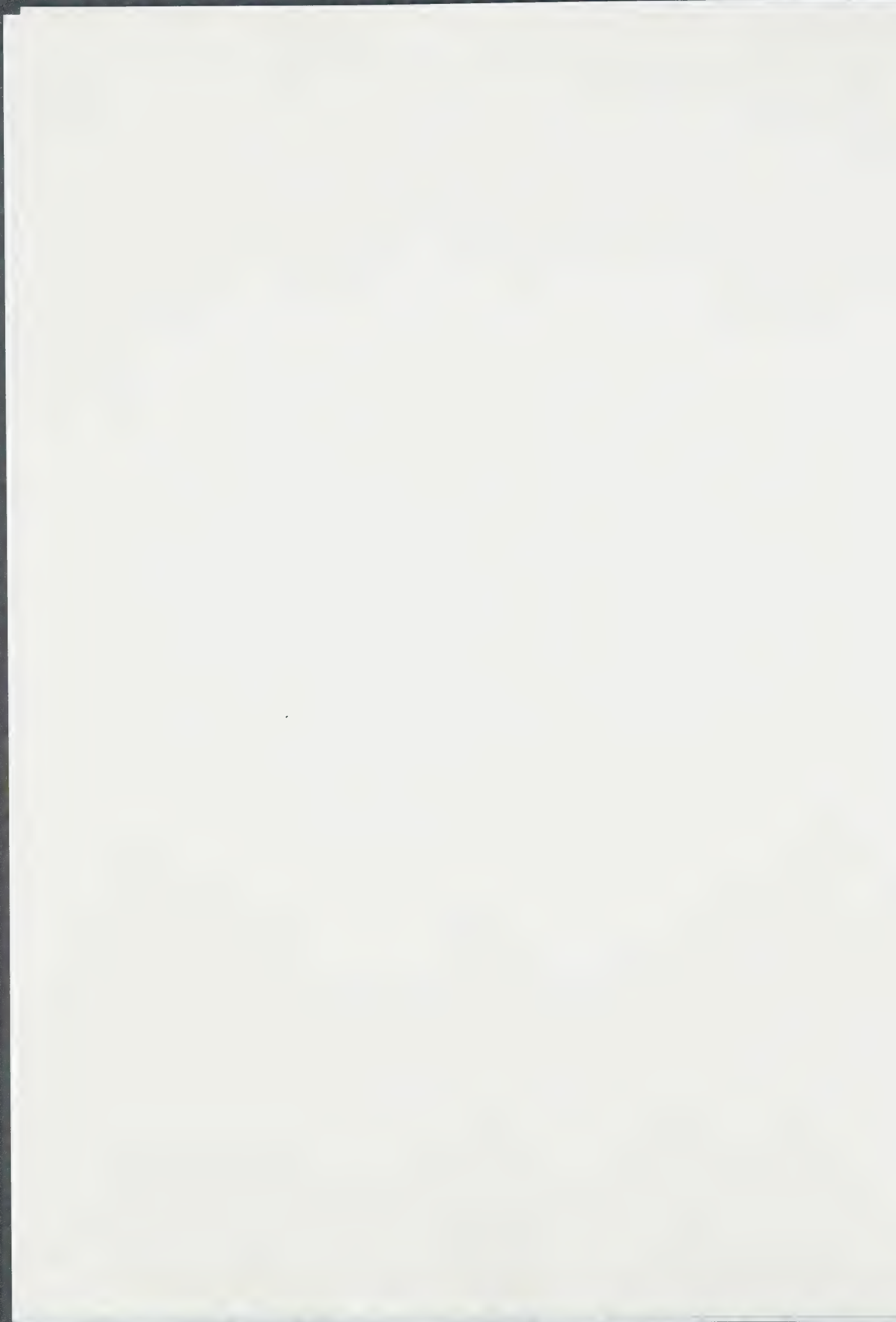


Room Capacity

Hall	Reception	Theatre	Round Tables	Long Tables	U shape
Courtyard	1 000	750	250	250	250
Knight's Hall	100	110	40 - 60	40	50
Arcade Hall	100	100	60 - 70	50 - 70	-
East wing - rooms A-D	80 - 100	-	64 - 96	-	-
Room A - Habsburg	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room B - Family	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room C - Landscape	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room D - Ernestine of Nassau	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room E - Anteroom	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
North wing - rooms F-I	80 - 100	-	64 - 96	-	-
Room F - Family portrait	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room G - Castle	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room H - Tapestry	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-
Room I - Animal Portrait	-	-	2 x 8 - 12	-	-

Plan of commercial spaces on the 1st floor





represented a symbolic rather than an artistic culmination. As a song recitalist, a humanitarian and a symbol of an entire race's aspirations, Anderson had been justly celebrated for two decades prior to her Met debut. It is a matter of speculation whether she had ever intended to undertake an operatic career, but by 1955, at age fifty-eight, her triumphant arrival at the Met found Anderson already at a point of vocal decline.

As Peter G. Davis observed in his valuable book *The American Opera Singer*, "It is difficult now to separate the voice and the woman from the almost marbled monument that Anderson became long before she died in 1993." Anderson was justly honored as an interpreter of Handel airs, German lieder and Scandinavian songs, but she was acclaimed perhaps even more for having created an international audience for the Negro spirituals that demonstrated the very essence of her art, each song a subtle yet eloquent expression of faith and unwavering hope ennobled by her powerful modesty and dignity.

There are thirty spirituals here, arranged for some reason in reverse chronological order. The last three in the sequence come from 1936, with the artist at the peak of her vocal powers. The sixteen selections from the period 1941-47 still find her with a remarkably wide-ranging voice of distinctively rich timbre. Eleven selections date from 1952, by which time her emotional involvement and expressive faculties were unimpaired but her intonation frequently faltered. Still, the powerful message of "Go Down, Moses" is unmistakable, and "Crucifixion" will keep you spellbound. Her upper register at this late stage was rather chancy, but she still commanded an impressive control of dynamics in a comfortable range, and her contralto tones registered with a special richness.

That amber richness is especially admirable in "Hear de Lam's A-Cryin'," as are her tonal grandeur and subtly graded dynamics in "Nobody Knows the Trouble I See," both recorded in 1947. Contrasting with these contemplative or elegiac

songs are the spirited numbers that were essential to the artist's programs to balance a pervading somberness. Such are "De Gospel Train" and "Honor, Honor," while in "Dere's no Hidin' Place Down Dere" (1941) severity is banished as the artist unbends into an uncharacteristic but very charming earthiness. Special attention should be paid to "City Called Heaven" (1936), which represents Anderson in her full vocal glory.

Anderson's collaborator in the three 1936 selections is Kosti Vehanen, her frequent partner in her European tours; for the rest of the program here she enjoys the support of the redoubtable Franz Rupp. Anderson's arrangements — most of them by Edward Thacker Burleigh, Edward Boatner, Lawrence Brown or Hall Johnson — usually call for simple chordal statements. Roland Hayes and Paul Robeson sang their spiritual programs in similar fashion, at variance with the pop/gospel-type treatments favored by some singers of succeeding generations.

GEORGE JELLINEK

LOBKOWICZ TRAVEL SERVICES

Your business and travel connection to Prague and Central Europe



Lobkowitz Travel Services (LTS) specializes in group and incentive tourism, as well as congress and business meeting organization services. Exclusive agent for the Roudnice Lobkowitz family castle of Nelahozeves, near Prague in the Czech Republic.

For information, contact Lobkowitz Travel Services
c/o Nelahozeves Castle
277 51 Nelahozeves, Czech Republic



Tel.: +420 (205) 709 111, Fax: +420 (205) 709 112. E-mail: lts@lobkowitz.cz, www.lobkowitz.org

BY MARY JANE PHILLIPS-MATZ



The whole of the Old Town Square could be a theatrical set, with its houses painted red or green, cream-colored or white, yellow or gray. Bohemian crystal gleams on the glass shelves of mom-and-pop stores. In the middle of this riot of color shines the bright-blue face of the famous fifteenth-century Astronomical Clock.

Prague, comfortable with contrasts, mingles the serious, the ridiculous and the sublime. The city honors Franz Kafka; it welcomes contemporary painters and sculptors; it remembers John Lennon with annual celebrations at a wall dedicated to him. Narrow bookstores tempt passersby with centuries-old collectors' items, while just around the corner the mayor is awarding prizes to winners of a classic automobile race.

Prague's history as a theater city stretches far back. Today, it has several important homes for music, ballet and drama, including the National Theatre, the Laterna Magika, the Estates, the Black, the Labyrinth (Václav Havel's artistic home) and the former Smetana, now called the State Theatre. The first Italian opera produced in Prague reached the stage in 1627, and opera still flourishes here. Its most historic home is the Estates Theatre, built in 1781. The world premieres of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (1787) and *La Clemenza di Tito* (1791) took place in Prague. Equally important to the composer, perhaps, was the hugely popular production of *Le Nozze di*

Figaro that he conducted during a visit to the city in 1787. *Figaro*-mania infected Prague, which honored Mozart as a guest. Now the city's Mozart Museum is housed in a villa where the composer once lived. In the summer, concerts are given on its beautiful terrace.

The other major venue for opera in Prague is the monumental National Theatre, which stands on the bank of the Vltava. Built in 1880 and rebuilt in 1883 after a fire, it is rich with gilt and statuary. Here the National Opera offers standard and Czech national repertory. It has given more than fifty performances of its nearly definitive 1992 production of *La Bohème*, in which craft and ingenuity make the most of an on-the-cheap production and simple sets.

After the performance, make a beeline for the Café Viola, an all-purpose oasis of culture and good food just across the street from the National Theatre. It is a true find, but because it is hidden at the end of an art-nouveau passageway, you have to look for its modest sign on the sidewalk at 7 Národní Avenue. From noon until midnight, the Viola offers a menu of regional choices — roast pork with dumplings, poppyseed cake — while *Nabucco*, *Aida*, *Porgy and Bess* and other familiar works play over the sound system. In the evening, poetry readings, short plays and literary roundtables are scheduled. On Saturday nights, the Viola also becomes a jazz café. In the manner of

the Czech Republic's revered playwright-poet-hero president, this former refuge for dissidents combines the best qualities of Prague — the hedonist capital of Europe, and an art capital as well. □

MARY JANE PHILLIPS-MATZ is the author of *Verdi: A Biography* (Oxford) and *Rosa Ponselle, American Diva* (Northeastern University Press).

PRAGUE'S NATIONAL THEATRE, ON THE BANK OF THE VLTAVA RIVER, LEFT; THE CITY'S CHARLES BRIDGE, FAR LEFT



PHOTOS: DANIEL BELKNAP

MAY 1999

43

Charm City

Prague — the most comfortable
of Europe's great capitals



Some cities blind you with their beauty and grandeur; Prague disarms you with its modesty. At one time it might have become a "second Vienna," and there are still a few reminders of its regal past — notably the vast hilltop Prague Castle and the Cathedral of St. Vitus.

But below them lies the vital people's city — actually a bundle of ancient towns, clustered along two broad curves of the Vltava River. From medieval churches to baroque towers to art-nouveau sculpture, everything in Prague is on a human scale.

Life in the city proceeds at its own steady tempo. Go to the corner grocery, and you will soon be exchanging life stories with the clerks in pidgin English, French, Italian and broken Ger-

man. Life rolls on, more in the vein of commedia dell'arte than of drama. In radiant June, young lovers walk along the quays or linger on the bridges. Prague's crooked streets, paved with cobblestones, lead to byways where fortune-tellers and conjurers practice their dark arts. Clowns, puppets and marionettes play in several theaters and even on the street during the summer; one marionette company offers *Don Giovanni* as standard fare.

Nothing in my background qualified me to manage a diversified portfolio of national treasures — with no cash.

lected by my ancestors — may be played again in the castle. Already, a popular music tradition has been started: the Dvořák Music Festival at Nelahozeves. In the last six years, more than 120 concerts have taken place, featuring the likes of violinist Josef Suk (great-grandson of Antonin Dvořák), sopranos Eva Urbanová (who last season made her Metropolitan Opera debut as Ortrud in *Lohengrin*) and Barbara Hendricks (who, in 1997, performed the Verdi Requiem to a sold-out audience in Prague). But perhaps the most exciting event of 1999 will be an appearance by Renée Fleming — herself of Czech descent — in July for a song recital.

Nothing in my background in banking and real estate qualified me to manage a diversified portfolio of national treasures — with no cash. The first constructive step I took was to get married, in 1992. I met Alexandra Florescu in Boston. We had quite a bit in common — most notably a number of relatives who spoke with funny Central and East European accents. Sandra was the product of a French mother and Romanian father who had also been expelled by the Communists. Having lived in Romania, Switzerland and other parts of Europe growing up, Sandra was enthusiastic about being part of the work in Czechoslovakia. She now manages all the non-profit activities, including a foundation, and oversees the staff who care for all the family art collections. With an English curator, John Somerville, she created the exhibition *Six Centuries of European Art Patronage*, which was opened by President and Mrs. Havel to critical acclaim in April of 1997.

From the very beginning, I got a lot of help from my family, who took stock of what needed to be done immediately. My father redoubled his investment business activities, devoting more than half his time to Czech affairs. Without his vision and willingness to fund the unknown future in Czechoslovakia, none of our work would have been possible. My mother, Brooks, an interior decorator in Boston, created and now runs the American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, a foundation that accepts tax-deductible donations in the U.S.

Another triumphant venture was re-energizing the family brewery at Vysoky Chlumez Castle, which dates from 1466; we are now selling our Lobkowicz, Lobkov and Lobko beer internationally. We did the same for the Castle Roudnice



PETER BRUEGHEL THE ELDER'S SIXTEENTH-CENTURY CANVAS HAYMAKING, ONE OF MANY MASTERPIECES IN THE ROUDNICE LOBKOWICZ COLLECTION

Vineyards, founded in 1603, where wine-making had never stopped, even under the Communists. Earlier this year, when Queen Elizabeth II paid the first English royal visit to Bohemia in 400 years, Roudnice wine was served at the state dinner given in her honor.

It soon became clear that our properties were ideal for tourism. With that in mind, we started a travel agency, Lobkowicz Travel Services, which specializes in incoming incentive and group tourism, as well as organizing business meetings and congresses for clients coming to the Czech Republic. The family ducal seat of Roudnice Castle has been occupied by the army since 1950. Special state funds have contributed more than half the costs of restoring the 265-room castle's roof, which, it is hoped, will be fully reconstructed by the end of 1999.

Perhaps our greatest challenge is the creation of an archive building for the library to house music manuscripts and approximately 28,000 boxes of materials, dating back more than 600 years. Construction is imperative not only for the future safety of the materials but to provide the public with access to these rare historic treasures.

What to do with Roudnice Castle and grounds once it is restored to us is a constant worry. It is too vast and has deteri-

orated too much for us to attempt to maintain it ourselves. It is particularly painful to have to consider giving up on Roudnice, since it was the family seat and ducal residence for nearly 400 years. The castle houses some painful memories as well. It was from Roudnice that Max Lobkowicz fled with his children in 1939, after his English-born wife, on her way to London, heard by chance that German troops were expected to cross the border within days. Another sad episode occurred during the Communist takeover in 1948. The caretakers had been given one week to empty the castle. With trucks parked below windows to receive manuscripts, archives and books heaved down by pitchfork, the family's longtime archivist and librarian, Dr. Karel Jerabek, became so distraught that he jumped from a window and died.

I am often asked if I regret having left America behind, uprooted my family and resettled them halfway around the world. I do not. My wife and I have two children who are completely assimilated and speak Czech better than we ever will. We hope and expect that they will live here as their ancestors did for so many generations.

I think about Max Lobkowicz often. If he had lived long enough, he would have gone home again when the Czech people were free once more. Since Max Lobkowicz was not able to reclaim his homeland, my father and my entire family have done it for him. I believe we could have done no less. □

WILLIAM LOBKOWICZ is the owner and chairman of Lobkowicz Travel Services and president of the Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, which promotes Czech culture and educational projects.

For more information, contact

Nelahozeves Castle
277 51 Nelahozeves
Czech Republic
Tel.: +420 (205) 709 111.
Fax: +420 (205) 709 112.
E-mail: lts@lobkowicz.cz
www.lobkowicz.org



1841 VIEW OF NELAHOZEVES FROM THE RIVER VLTAVA BY CARL ROBERT CROLL
 ABOVE: THE AUTHOR'S, JOSEF FRANZ MAXIMILIAN,
 SEVENTH PRINCE LOBKOWICZ, AN IMPOSANT PATRON OF BEETHOVEN,
 AS PAINTED BY AUGUST FRIEDRICH DELENHAINS

a job in the investment business, and lived there until his death, in 1967. He never went home again.

It never occurred to me that I would leave America — until the fall of 1989. In Czechoslovakia, the Velvet Revolution had arrived. One evening, I saw a television news report showing hundreds of East Germans taking refuge in the West German Embassy in Prague — proof that the Communists' grip on the country was weakening. But what riveted my attention was the building the Germans were storming. It was a former Lobkowitz palace. (I had visited it during a family trip to Czechoslovakia in 1976 — our first since the Communist takeover.)

I did not know just how close the Communists were to the end of the road, but I did suddenly know that I wanted to find a way to live in Czechoslovakia — to learn Czech and try to rebuild the family identity that the Nazis and Communists had tried so hard to kill. So, during 1990, I took crash courses in Czech, bought every language tape I could find and took a three-week scouting trip. In January 1991, I moved to Prague.

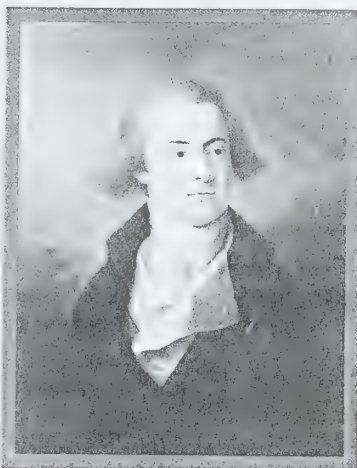
arrived at a pivotal moment. In the summer of 1990, the Czech government passed the first of three laws that provided for the return of buildings, businesses and movable property confiscated by the Communists. To avert endless claims, a short time limit was placed on filing for restitution.

While I was aware that the family could trace its history back at least seven centuries, my only specific knowledge was

that my grandfather had grown up in two castles — Roudnice and Jezeri (Eisenberg), where the family spent its summers. Before long, I learned about seven others. I also discovered that our 60,000-volume library might be recovered.

Among other treasures, this collection included first editions of Beethoven's Third, Fourth and Fifth Symphonies, with the composer's notes; a first edition of Handel's *Messiah*, with annotations by Mozart; Gluck's autograph score of *Ezio*; and an early printed edition of *Don Giovanni*. The family had acquired them thanks to the passion of Joseph Franz Maximilian, the seventh Prince Lobkowitz (1772–1816), who from early youth was a friend and generous patron of Beethoven. Indeed, his patronage led Beethoven to dedicate numerous works to him, including the Third (*Eroica*), Fifth and Sixth Symphonies, the Opus 18 string quartets, the Triple Concerto and the song cycle "An die ferne Geliebte."

Having to some degree "bought" Beethoven's music, Joseph Franz reorganized the family orchestra, which dated back to 1603 and was now brought to play in Roudnice, Jezeri and especially Vienna. The orchestra rehearsed the premiere of the *Eroica* at Jezeri and played it at the Lobkowitz Palace in Vienna. A music publishing house was the next extrava-



gance of Joseph Franz; shortly thereafter, he was in over his head, perilously close to bankruptcy, and his expenditures were placed under the control of family trustees.

Two hundred years later, I found myself sympathizing with Joseph Franz. Deteriorating castles and conservation of priceless music were just two fields in which my family suddenly needed expertise. Paintings were another. A wonderful canvas, *Haymaking*, by Pieter Brueghel the Elder, was among the items returned by the government. Two splendid Canalettos, a Rubens and works by Velázquez, Lucas Cranach the Elder and other European

masters were also recovered — treasures of incalculable worth.

My family felt we owned and cared for these objects as custodians; to make them available to the public was a responsibility. We dedicated ourselves to the goal of keeping the castles opened for visitation, the art work on permanent exhibit and the music (as well as the library and archives) available for

study by scholars.

Meanwhile, all these treasures needed to be stored securely until they could be publicly displayed; some needed prompt restoration. Perhaps the best and most dramatic action to date was taken by a group of New Yorkers who visited the castle and collections in the summer of 1997. They have sponsored the complete restoration of one of the cornerstones of the collection — the famous painting by Peter Paul Rubens known as *Hygeia Nourishing the Sacred Serpent* — which has become a symbol for the permanent exhibit *Six Centuries of European Art Patronage* at Nelahozeves Castle (restored to the Lobkowitz family in 1993). Dr. Hubert von Sonnenburg, Sherman Fairchild Chairman of Paintings Conservation at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has agreed to take on the project.

My family nurtures a dream that the musical-instrument collections may some day be revived, and that previously unplayed or unknown works of great composers — among the several thousand col-

Home

An aerial black and white photograph of Mezőhegyes Castle, a large, multi-story stone building with a complex roofline, situated on a hillside. The castle features several gables, a central tower, and numerous windows. In the background, a town is visible on a valley floor, surrounded by fields and trees. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down at the castle and the town.

MEZOHEGYES CASTLE,
SINCE 1623 PART
OF THE LORROWITZ DEMESNE

BY WILLIAM LOBKOWICZ

The Long Voyage

The scion of a distinguished Bohemian family returns to his roots

33

ome," for me, has meant Bohemia for as long as I can remember. I was born in Boston in 1961, grew up in Massachusetts and was educated there, and my mother is from Kentucky. But my father is Czech, and it is his side of our family that has always held the greatest emotional pull.

My father's family has played a central role in the history and culture of Bohemia for more than 600 years. From the fourteenth century on, the Lobkowicz were at the vortex of European politics; over the years, their number included many Princes of the Holy Roman Empire and High Chancellors of Bohemia. Many of my forebears were awarded the Order of the Golden Fleece, the highest honor of the Holy Roman Empire.

The Lobkowicz clan had a place in music history as well:

Gluck began his career as a member of the family orchestra, and Wagner was inspired to compose *Tannhäuser* following his stay at the Lobkowicz castle at Strekov.

My father was born in the castle at the family seat, Roudnice, the son of Max Lobkowicz, who served as Czech ambassador to London during and just after World War II. Born a prince with almost feudal privileges, my grandfather renounced his titles and much of the world he knew to stand with Thomas Masaryk when a republic was proclaimed

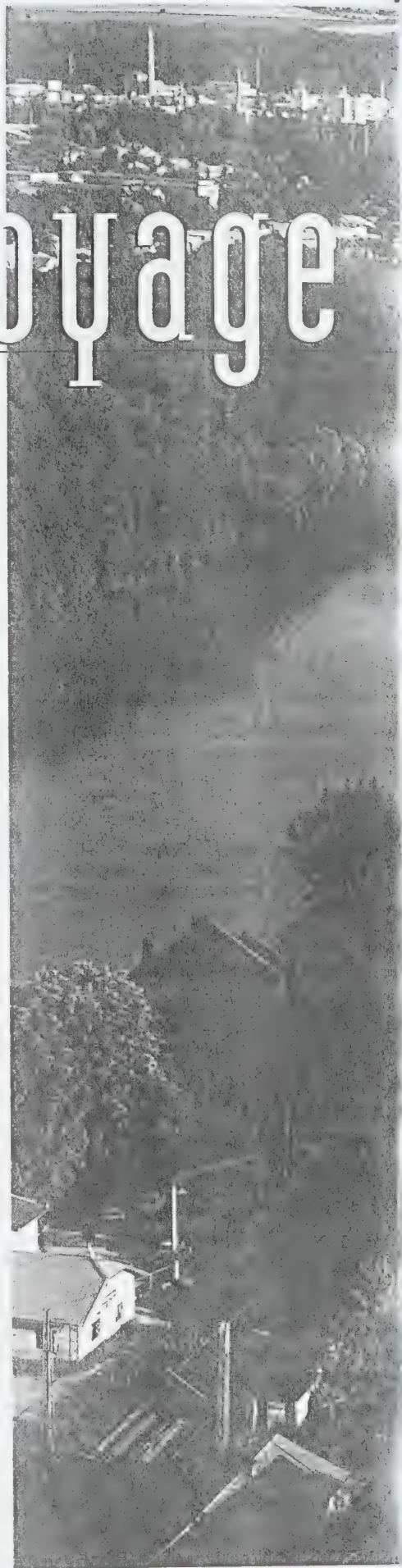


DIPLOMAT MAX LOBKOWICZ
THE AUTHOR'S
GRANDFATHER

in 1918. For two decades, he served as adviser to that government, concluding his career as ambassador to the Court of St. James in England during World War II. When Hitler annexed Czechoslovakia, my grandfather and all his sons fled, escaping the night before the German occupation began. His wartime exile was devastating. Among other losses, Hitler looted the best of the Lobkowicz pictures to hang on the walls of his villa in his native city of Linz.

In 1945, with the Nazis defeated, Max went home to start over, returning to Bohemia with his wife, Gillian. (None of the children went back, as the political and social circumstances were uncertain.) He was decorated for his service to the country.

In 1948, the Communist takeover of Czechoslovakia led to a second exile for my grandfather. Facing certain arrest, he fled the Communists and suffered a second landslide of losses. He relocated to Massachusetts, where my father had taken



EAST IS EAST

Some readers may be surprised by the focus of this issue of OPERA NEWS: little about the Met, no profiles of artists whose principal field of activity is the U.S. We've gone for a look at the opera scene in Central and Eastern Europe, a part of the world where the art form has a rich heritage and where, today, it is thriving.

Budapest, Warsaw, Prague, Krakow and Riga are not commonly thought of as opera capitals, but there are good reasons for visiting each of these cities, where one can hear great music while enjoying a travel experience different from what one might find in London, Paris or Vienna. Warsaw, for example, offers an unusual mix of repertory; works by Moniuszko and Szymanowski alternate with more familiar pieces by composers such as Wagner, Berg and Korngold. At Budapest's plush and gilt State Opera (see page 10), you may hear an Italian standard sung in Hungarian. Prague offers its own surprises; travelers report some casualness about putting on the promised opera. You might buy a ticket for, say, *Tosca*, and find yourself listening to *Jakobin* without surtitles — not necessarily a bad thing, since hearing Dvořák performed by artists who have his music in their blood can make for a highly satisfying evening.

When not at the opera house in one of the cities we visit in this issue, you will have a chance to engage in authentic tourism that has been cast aside in the pre-packaged competition for tourist dollars in many Western European cities. As Welsh writer Jan Morris shows in her article on the Latvian capital, Riga is off the beaten track — and you don't have to pay extra for the experience.

To be sure, when one travels in these cities, one runs some risks that have been largely outgrown in places where larceny is practiced on a grand scale by investment bankers and cabinet ministers. Last January, my wife and I got off a train from Vienna at Prague's main station. We stacked our luggage in the trunk of a vehicle plainly identified as a taxi. As he rocked through the city streets, the driver handed me a placard embossed with numerous official-looking stamps and a scale of rates to various destinations that was at once detailed and highly confusing.

Several minutes into our journey to a mid-town hotel, I deduced that the fare would be considerably more than it had cost me to go from Manhattan to JFK Airport. When I protested, the driver flung a thick pad of coupons at me and indicated that I should sign the top one. There were several sheets of carbon paper stuffed between the leaves. Like a docile Central European bureaucrat, I organized these and signed as instructed, which seemed to please the driver. On arrival at the hotel, I was charged exactly the extortionate rate I had seen on the chart. Later, the desk clerk explained that the proper procedure would have been for me to stay in the cab and send my wife to fetch a bellhop, who would have negotiated a reasonable fare.

One story in this issue is clearly atypical of OPERA NEWS: the astonishing account, beginning on p. 36, of the return to Bohemia of the family of William Lobkowitz. An integral part of Czech history for almost as long as the Hapsburgs ruled Austria-Hungary, the Lobkowitz clan patronized Beethoven, owned much of northern Bohemia and served both the emperor and, later, the republican government of Czechoslovakia with loyalty and distinction. Twice expropriated (by Hitler in 1938 and by the Communists a decade later), the family reclaimed many of its possessions in 1991. Where, you may ask, is the heroism in asserting title to a collection of paintings that includes works by Brueghel, Canaletto and Rubens, and a musical library that embraces early editions of three Beethoven symphonies and Mozart's handwritten notes on a score of Handel's *Messiah*, not to mention nine sprawling castles? Who wouldn't want such treasures? Well, I might think twice if I had to preserve them all without selling any of them, and if the money required for their preservation had to be raised by me and my family, day in and day out, with any slacking off likely to result in a caved-in roof or irreparable damage to a masterpiece. We're publishing this story because the determination of William Lobkowitz and his family sums up the spirit of indomitable struggle against adversity that our writers found in all the cities they describe in this issue.

RUDOLPH S. RAUCH

OPERA NEWS

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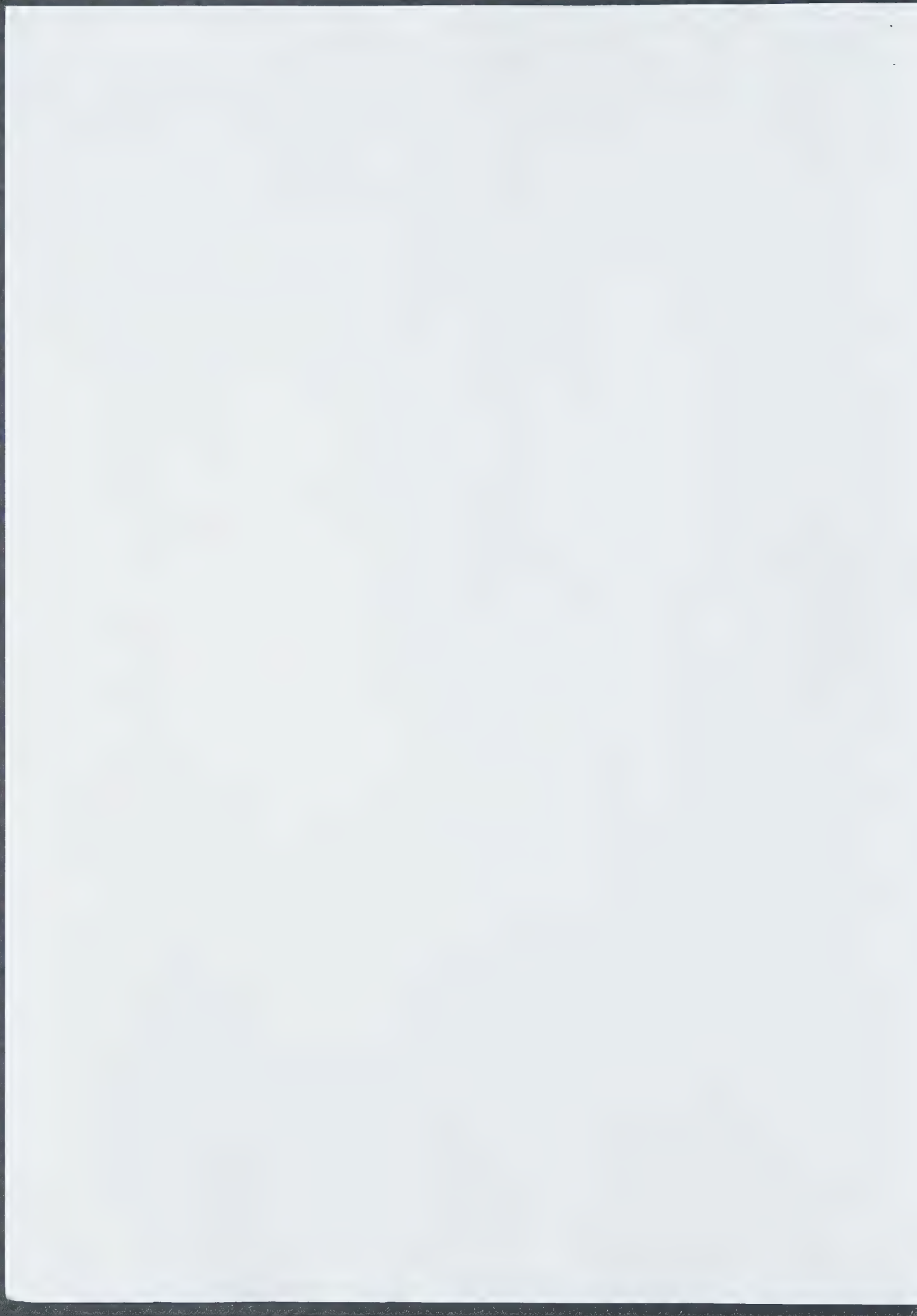
INSIDE
SKIBO CASTLE

AT HOME
IN THE SEYCHELLES

PERFECT
WINE

*Roman
Holiday*

Going In Style



AESTHETIC ALUE

The Art of the Manor

WHEN WILLIAM LOBKOWICZ RECLAIMED HIS FAMILY'S CZECH ESTATES, HE ALSO INHERITED AN EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION OF OLD MASTERS.

BY DAN HOFSTADTER



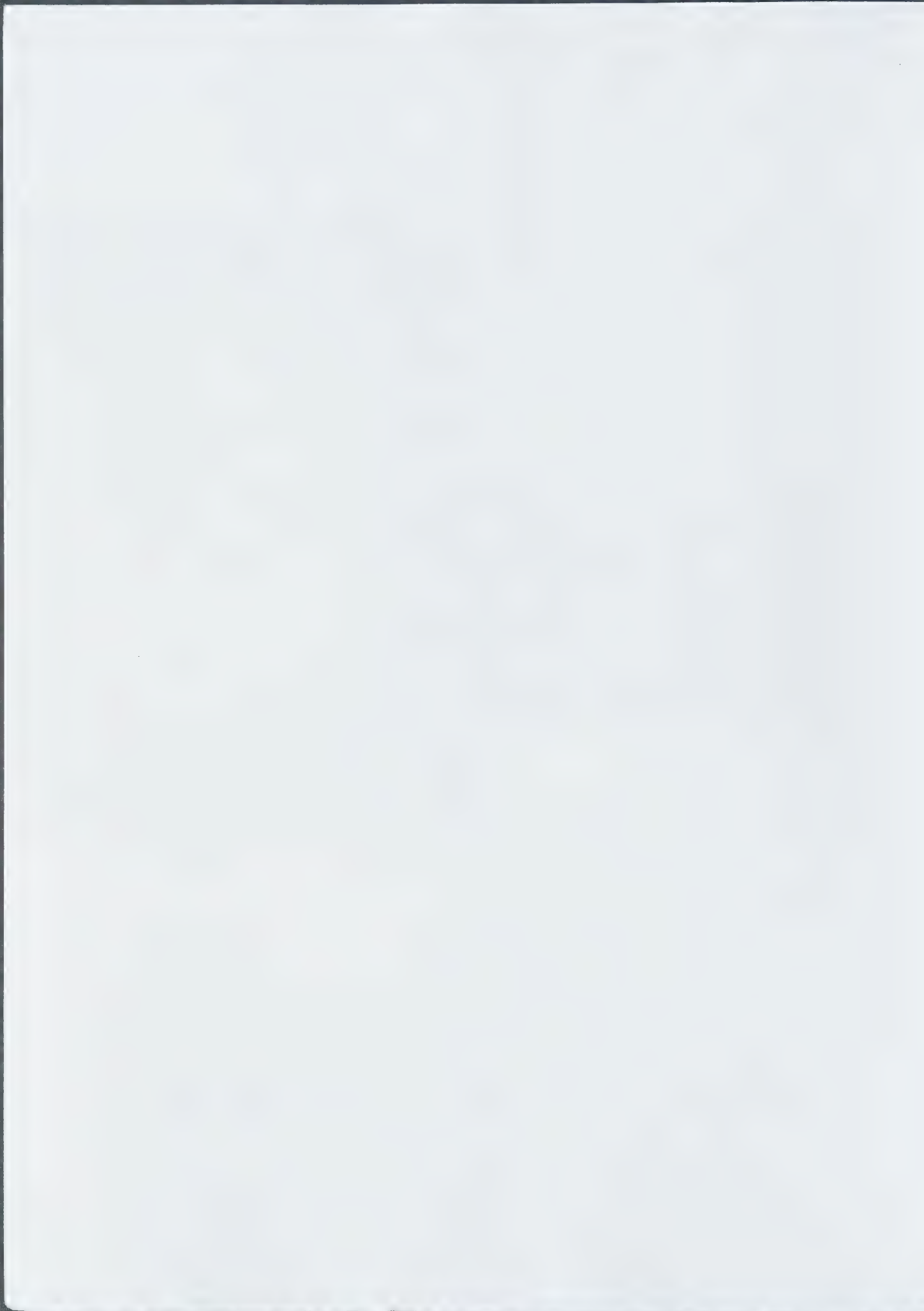
uring a recent visit to the Czech Republic, I took a rundown train from Masaryk Station, in Prague, to a tiny Bohemian hamlet called Nelahozeves. This uncomfortable early-morning trip lasted an hour and a quarter (you can drive the distance in 40 minutes), but I was glad to have made it by rail because of the lively scenes I glimpsed. Not far outside Prague the clock seemed to have stopped 50 years earlier—ill-dressed workers clustered in ramshackle railway cafés, sipping their breakfast lagers—and when the train arrived at my destination, I had to jump off onto the track bed. I helped two fellow passengers, old ladies wearing kerchiefs, climb over the tracks and heave themselves onto the station platform.

Looming over the village was a great stone manor, guarded by a moat and a stand of full-crowned trees, its gray stuccoed walls teeming with sgraffito figures. Across from the manor and directly in my path was a substantial burgher's cottage, which turned out to be the childhood home of Antonín Dvořák. I walked briefly through this house, which, though bereft of any of the composer's possessions except for a viola, a pen, and a hymnal, was curiously moving (and reminded me that he had spent the summer of 1893 in, of all places, Spillville, Iowa). Then I made my way up to the manor.



NELAHOZEVES CASTLE (left) towers over its Bohemian hamlet. Among the hundreds of paintings in the Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection is *Portrait of the Infanta Margarita Teresa of Spain* (above, ca. 1656), attributed to Velázquez.

Reached by means of an arched stone bridge spanning the dry, grassy moat, Castle Nelahozeves rises five stories from a gentle slope overlooking the village and the Vltava River. Almost on the scale of the monumental Palazzo Strozzi, in Florence, it was built mostly in the late 16th century by architect Bonifat Wohl-muth. Once I had recovered from the castle's sheer height and bulk, I began to notice its virtues: the massive rustication of the ground floor, the Mannerist sgraffito decorations, the graceful architectural order of the courtyard facades, and a general appearance of good repair, especially in the vast, terra-cotta-tiled roof. A wedding celebration was in progress: Obviously the castle, so close to Prague, was a favorite setting for parties and functions. Though I knew the building had suffered grievously



AESTHETIC VALUE



includes Bruegel's *Haymaking* (top, 1565). The castle's dining room awaits guests (bottom).

under the Communist regime, it seemed to have regained its Renaissance splendor.

Like Dvořák himself, Castle Nelahozeves forms a notable link in the Czech-American connection, and behind it lies a story as astonishing as that of the Bohemian composer's sojourn in the semi-barbarous Midwest of the 1890s. This story's protagonist is a young businessman—enterprising, optimistic, and altogether American—named

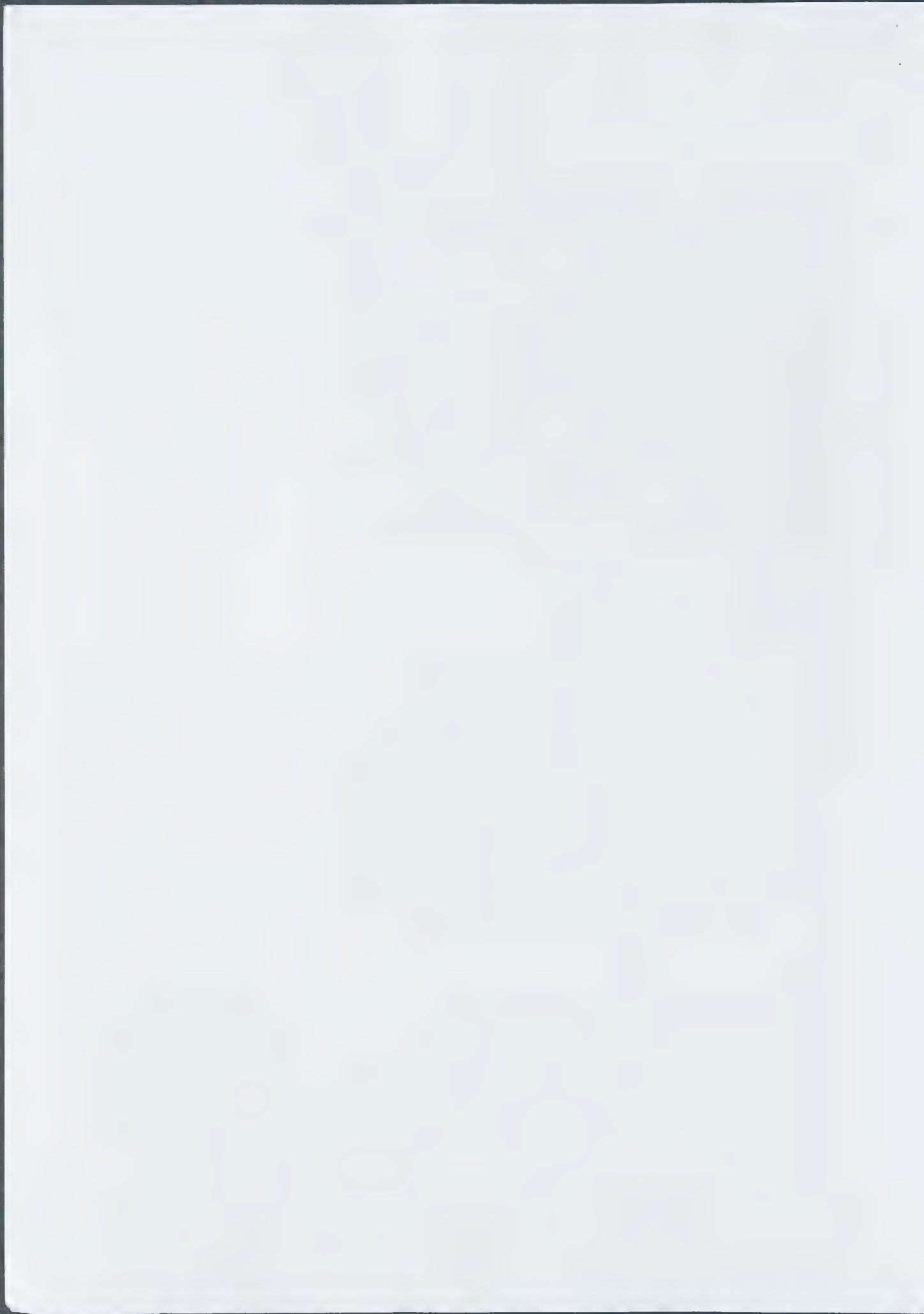
William Lobkowitz, who a few years ago was living quite contentedly in Boston, not far from the town of Dover, where he had grown up. The tale itself has to do with how William came to be lord of Nelahozeves—to take possession of the manor, with its moat and park and view of Dvořák's birthplace; and it also has to do with what William and his family made of its ancient furniture, porcelain, manuscripts, and paintings

—which include a Velázquez, a Brueghel, and two deliriously beautiful Canalettos.

William's father, Martin Lobkowitz, is a stockbroker of Czech origin who lives in Dover and formerly commuted to his office in Boston. While watching the TV news one day late in 1989, he and members of his family saw East German refugees massed at the West German Embassy in Prague, seeking asylum; that building, the family quickly realized, was a former Lobkowitz palace. Less than a year later, the fledgling democratic government of Czechoslovakia, under Václav Havel, passed the first of several laws aimed at reversing certain property confiscations enacted decades earlier by the Communists. Obscure as it must have been to most other Westerners, the legislation bore directly on Martin and his family.

Martin Lobkowitz and his father, Maximilian, had twice been hounded out of their homeland, first by the Nazis and then by the Communists. Their family, one of the most distinguished in central Europe, belongs to a tier of the old Bohemian and Moravian aristocracy situated directly beneath the Hapsburgs. The clan, emerging from obscurity in the 15th century, when it was befriended by King Wenceslas IV of Bohemia, had gradually acquired extensive rural holdings and numerous castles. Although active in agriculture, military affairs, and later, in diplomacy, the Lobkowitzes achieved their greatest distinction as patrons of the arts. Philip Hyacinth Lobkowitz (1680–1734) played the lute and was the patron of Arcangelo Corelli. His son, Ferdinand Josef Philip (1724–84), was a friend of Gluck's and, as a very young man, had the discernment to buy, on a visit to England, two huge, panoramic pictures from Canaletto, who was living and working in London. His successor, Josef Franz Maximilian (1772–1816), converted the great hall of his country seat into a theater, maintained a 12-musician orchestra, and assiduously championed Haydn and, later, Beethoven, who dedicated the *Eroica*, the Fifth and the Sixth Symphonies, and the six quartets of Opus 18, among other compositions, to his Bohemian patron.

Before 1918, all the eldest Lobkowitz sons had received the title of Prince. After the birth of the Republic of Czechoslovakia, in 1918, the family lost the right to use such



AESTHETIC ALUE



Canaletto's atmospheric *View of the Thames and Westminster Bridge* (1746–47) is one of the more spectacular works of art in the castle.

appellations, but apparently without regret: Martin Lobkowicz's father, Maximilian, was an ardent republican and a friend and supporter of the great Czech patriot Tomáš Masaryk, and, later, of his son, Jan Masaryk. An outspoken opponent of the Nazis, Maximilian served during World War II as ambassador of the London-based Czechoslovak government-in-exile to the Court of St. James's, supporting himself largely on the proceeds from the sale of two Stradivarius violins which, in the late thirties, he had sent to London for repair. After the war he lived in Czechoslovakia for only three years before the Communist coup of 1948 drove the family to seek refuge in the United States. He died in 1967 at the age of 79.

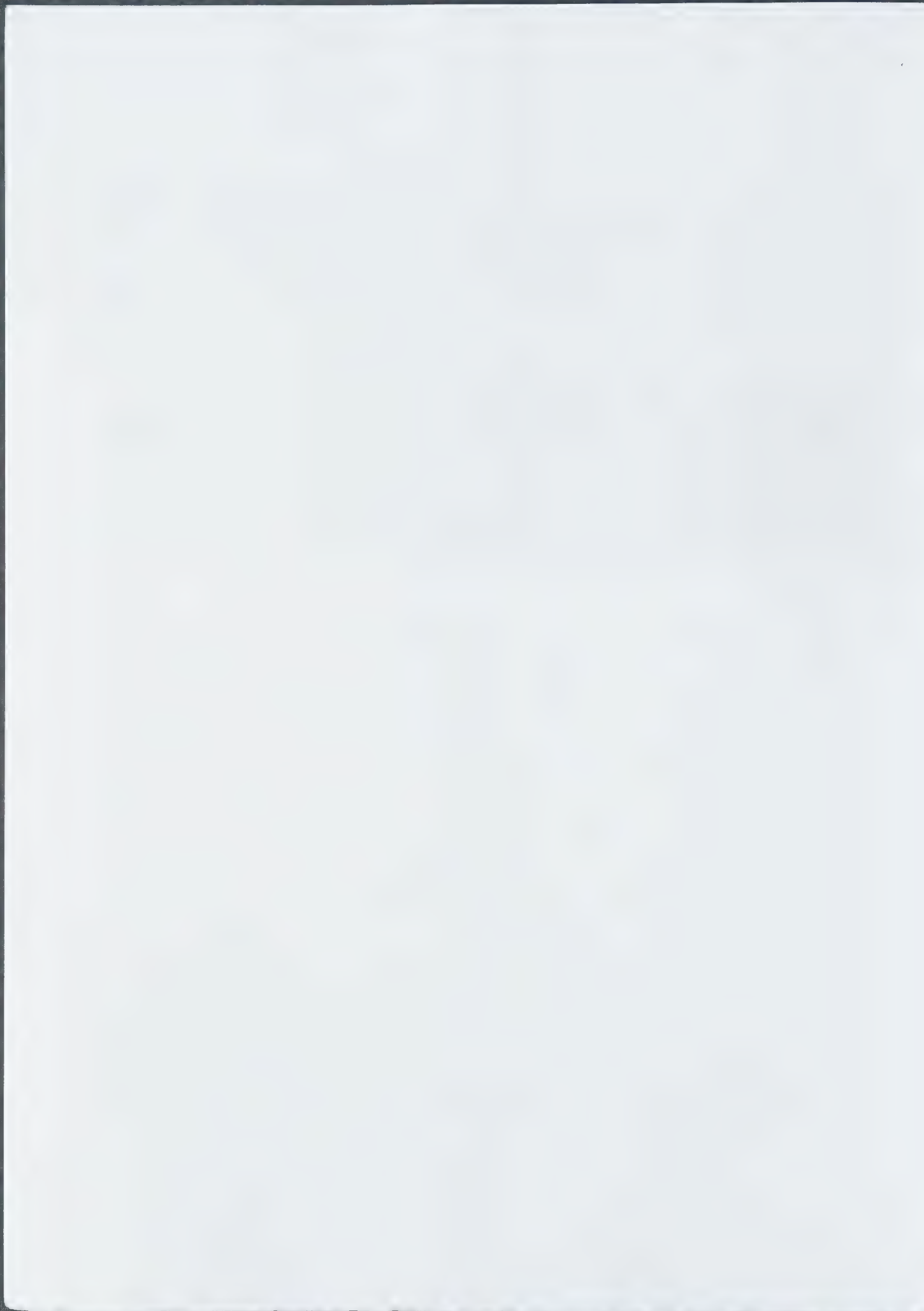
Before the Communists' uncompensated seizure of private property, the Lobkowicz had owned ten major estates in Bohemia, and their country houses had been correspondingly huge: As a child, Martin had sometimes bicycled through the long enfilades of chambers in the family residence of Castle Roudnice. So the restitution laws passed in 1990 seemed likely to have a dramatic effect on Martin's life, and, by extension, on that of William and the rest of the Lobkowicz. It meant, simply, that legal ownership of all of their former domains—great houses, vineyards, breweries, land—might shortly be restored to them.

William, then 29, was already living in Czechoslovakia. He had recently given up his share in a Boston commercial-realty firm and moved with his then fiancée, Alexandra, to Prague in the hope of securing consultancy work with American companies that were opening offices in central Europe. Attached to his Czech roots and deeply engrossed in modern European history (his major at Harvard), William had visited the old, Communist Czechoslovakia several times, and had studied German for a year in Vienna. So when Martin Lobkowicz, who felt no desire to deal singlehandedly with something so complicated, became the claimant to the family domain, it fell to William, despite his slender resources and still-shaky knowledge of the Czech language, to reclaim the abused and mismanaged remnants of the family birthright.

This was a daunting prospect—since 1990, the titles to thousands of Bohemian and Moravian castles of the white-elephant variety had gone unclaimed—but William was fascinated by the challenge, and with the support of his wife and his father he met it head-on. After exhaustive research to prove his family's ownership, and innumerable letters, consultations, and telephone calls, he succeeded in filing his family's claims. The ownership of one property, which was part

of Prague Castle and had for decades been a state-owned museum, proved legally elusive and remains under discussion, but nearly all the others were returned to him by the government of the Czech Republic. By 1994, rather to his astonishment, William Lobkowicz, acting as his father's agent, found himself the suzerain of no fewer than nine Bohemian castles. Of these, four were direct financial liabilities, and the Lobkowicz had to sell or give them away. But they decided to retain the others, and to repair Castle Nelahozeves and then reopen it as a fine-arts museum.

Before my visit to the castle, I chatted with William Lobkowicz several times in his modest offices in central Prague. Athletic-looking and unusually tall, he is also, like so many of his forebears, a lover of music, and told me that he had taken voice lessons for many years. ("Really I'm a frustrated opera singer," he confessed at one point, sotto voce.) With his command of German and passable Czech ("It's a lifelong task," he wistfully conceded), he seemed providentially suited to his job. Thoroughly level-headed—he now presides over more than 200 staffers—yet alive to the aesthetic dimension of his new role, he hopes to revive the family's patronage of music. Alexandra, née Florescu, is herself the daughter of Romanian émigrés and actively shares his vocation: The Lobko-



AESTHETIC VALUE



Hygieia Nourishing the Sacred Serpent (ca. 1614–15), by Peter Paul Rubens.

wicz has already organized or backed numerous concerts. Yet the family, if castle-rich, is cash-poor: Martin even withdrew the funds of his retirement account in order to hire lawyers and staff to deal with the restitution. He then established a nonprofit foundation, The American Friends of the Preservation of Czech Culture. It's clear that the labor of fund-raising, restoration, and economic development will continue for decades to come.

The fine-arts galleries that occupy Castle Nelahozeves' first and second floors are situated in long, L-shaped suites of chambers. There are three family-portrait rooms, a majolica room, another devoted primarily to Beethoven memorabilia, a dining room, and a superb so-called Knights' Hall, with a massive stone fireplace and delightful Mannerist frescoes of rather tipsy-looking warriors. There's no question, however, that the collection of easel paintings by famous artists is the chief reason to visit the castle. There are, among other works, a Velázquez *Infanta* (haunting though not firmly attributed), a Cranach, a Rubens, a Veronese, a Brueghel, and a Bellotto.

The pictures are heterogeneous, representing about six centuries of collecting (and commissioning) by different princes. There are, however, a number of pictorial themes that run through the gallery, of which the most richly illustrated may be the development of naturalistic landscape and cityscape painting. The *Virgin and Child with Saints Barbara and Catherine* (ca. 1520), by Lucas Cranach the Elder, is remarkable for the stunningly painted rocky mountainscape behind the central figures. *Haymaking (the months of June and July)*, ca. 1565, by Pieter Brueghel the Elder, is one of the pinnacles of Flemish art and a virtual encyclopedia of peasant life, allowing the viewer to sense the entire economy of a 16th-century riverside settlement. And Bellotto's fine, brooding study, which is entitled *The Lobkowitz Palace in Vienna* (1759–60), enables one to further trace the unfolding of European landscape painting as it comes under the influences of scenography and architectural-rendering techniques.

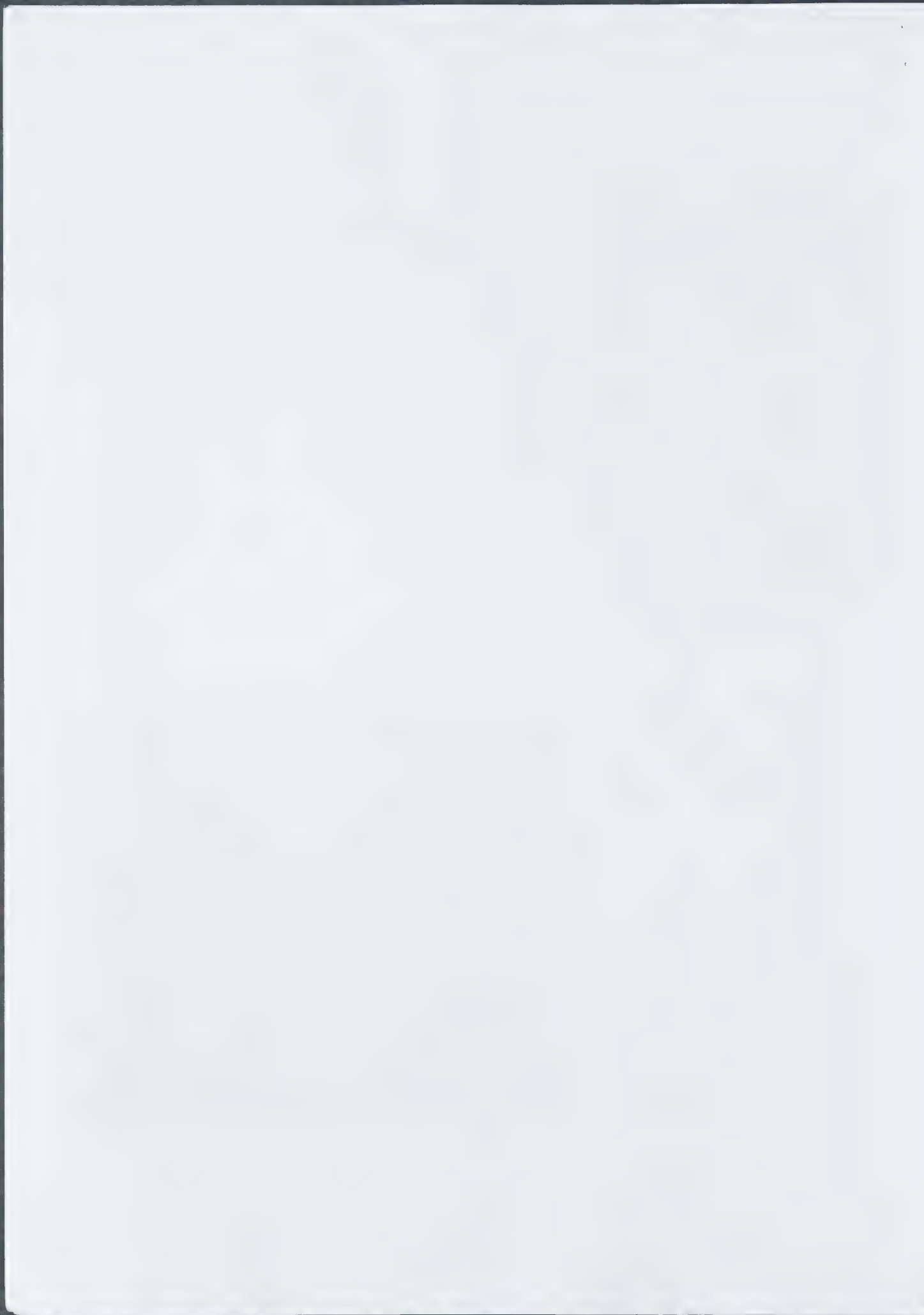
Yet the rarest treat in the castle must be the room with the two huge Canalettos, *View of the Thames and Westminster Bridge* (1746–47) and *Lord Mayor's Day* (1747–48). These views are not of equal quality, but the freer and more atmospheric *Westminster Bridge*

is certainly one of the most superb cityscapes ever painted. Both pictures belong to the Venetian master's first Thames-side period, during which he invented a kind of aerial view affording a positively geographic density of description: *Westminster Bridge* embraces a diorama-like sweep of topography, and its vast depth of field is meticulously plumbed. With eccentric freedom Canaletto stacks his distances on top of his foregrounds, his eye cutting through the city along intimate paths and even marking out tiny loiterers or strollers—perhaps Boswellian pleasure-seekers. Here, softened by a gentle haze, is one of the loveliest visions we possess of pre-Luftwaffe London, its score of Wren steeples probing an opalescent sky.

As one might imagine, creating an enjoyable museum within Nelahozeves required long and concerted efforts. On his arrival, William Lobkowitz found a dusty repository holding many hundreds of paintings, most of which had never been cleaned. Others, formerly on view at the National Museum in Prague and other major institutions in the country, arrived at the castle in crates. To take curatorial charge of this

MAXIMILIAN LOBKOWICZ, William's grandfather, photographed in 1925 by František Drtíkol.





AESTHETIC ALUE

opulent jumble, Lobkowicz hired a young American decorative-arts scholar, William Russell; and to create an enjoyable and cohesive permanent installation he turned to John Somerville, an English expert in old-master paintings, who, among other achievements, had created an important picture gallery in one of Britain's most splendid homes, Burghley House, in Lincolnshire.

When he arrived, Somerville told me, he was mildly appalled: "Nelahozeves, as it had been run by the state, looked like a sanatorium with a few objects dotted around." The pictures especially were ill cared for, with quite a few "boring" pieces on the walls. The castle had not been used as a home since the 17th century, a fact that Somerville had to take into account. "I didn't want to create domestic rooms," he said, "so I took the view that the best thing was to use some pictures and objects to explain the family's history and its principal players.

In this way, visitors would see a progression running through the line of Lobkowicz princes." As it turned out, Somerville discovered portraits of various Lobkowiczes that were well worth interspersing among the collection's unquestioned masterpieces; there was a playfully decorated delft dinner service, hundreds of pieces strong (and the only complete set still in existence); and there was a wildly charming series of large dog portraits, which now adorn the walls of the castle's restaurant. Somerville pounced on other items that may enthrall the visiting art lover—such as a spectacular (but unattributed) portrait of Henri III of France, his head floating craftily in its ruff, and a set of tonal oil paintings of all the Lobkowicz castles by the gifted Biedermeier painter Carl Robert Croll (1800–63). The overall result of the redesign is a quiet, poignant suite of rooms that manages to focus on the Lobkowicz dynasty while also featuring world-class pictures.

As Lobkowicz familiarized himself with his family's many treasures, he was particularly amazed by the archives. The li-

brary held 65,000 volumes, and bundles of letters signed by the likes of 12th-century Holy Roman Emperor Frederick Barbarossa; but thrilling beyond all else were the 4,500 musical manuscripts, including priceless autograph scores by Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven. These are now available for scholarly perusal, and some are publicly displayed (along with six spectacular silver and gilded trumpets) in the castle. Today Nelahozeves' interior is permeated with the Lobkowicz family's happily fulfilled wish to make this palace a "home to music."

A major restitution can be, among other things, a psychic act, one that changes the moral order of the world. It was clear to me after talking to William Lobkowicz that, however egalitarian he and his family may be,

YOUNG MARY AND CHILD with Saints Barbara and Catherine (ca. 1520), by Lucas Cranach the Elder.



there is no question in their minds that all of this property was theirs: It had simply been stolen, by bullies and thugs, and now it was being given back. Yet the Lobkowicz family long ago ceased to be "old money"—William smiles broadly at the term—and they didn't want to waltz ostentatiously into Prague. William had no intention of patronizing his Czech countrymen, of forgetting their hardships since 1938, of imposing unfamiliar American business methods on them, or of denying that he had become a de facto "custodian," in his father's words, of a part of the Czech national patrimony. Of all the beautiful objects the family had recovered, nothing would be sold unless absolutely necessary, and the most important pieces would be kept on display whenever possible. Obviously, much remains to be done; but already Nelahozeves, with its wistful conjuring of the Hapsburg era,

has become one of the finest small museums in central Europe. ■

DAN HOFSTADTER WROTE ON THE ORANGERIE COLLECTION IN *DEPARTURES*' JULY/AUGUST 2000 ISSUE.

The museum at Nelahozeves Castle is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Mondays are by appointment only. The castle may be rented out for business conferences, special events, dinners, or concerts. The Lobkowicz Collections and Library, Nelahozeves Castle, 277 51 Nelahozeves, Czech Republic. 420-205-709-111; fax 420-205-709-112.

Travel directions: By train from Prague (40 minutes), take Line 091 from Masaryk Train Station to "Nelahozeves - zámek." By car from Prague (40 minutes), head north on Highway E55 toward Teplice and Dresden. Take exit 9 for Kralupy. At the end of the exit, turn right back over the highway. At the next intersection, turn right. Proceed approximately 6 km, passing through Veltrusy, then turn left just after the bridge that crosses the Vltava River. Stay on this road to the castle (3 km).

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Box 814, Dover, Massachusetts 02030. Fax 508-785-2342







Hostina koček a opic

A cat and Monkey Feast

Ferdinand van Kessel (1648-1696)

Roudnická lobkowiczká sbírka, zámek Nelahozeves

The Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection, Nelahozeves Castle





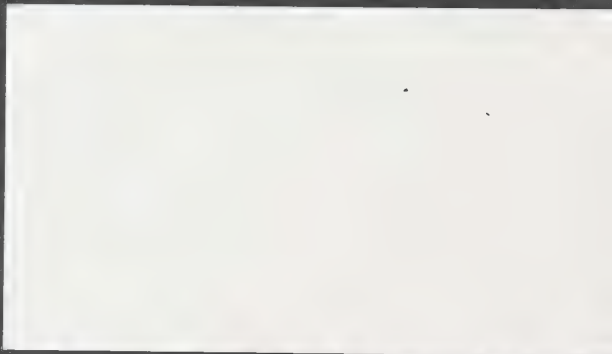


L.E.Holdings, s.r.o.

William E. Lobkowicz

Chief Executive Officer

Nelahozeves Castle, 277 51 Nelahozeves, Czech Republic
tel.: +420 (205) 709 105, fax: +420 (205) 709 103, e-mail: wel@lobkowicz.cz
www.lobkowicz.org



2001

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rafinérská

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Talent

Česká
Královská
Operní
divadlo

LOBKOWICZ
Kovářské nástroje

PAUL

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Nelahozeves 19,30

Nelahozeves 19,30

Nelahozeves 19,30

Dvořákova hudební Nelahozeves 2001



24. 5.

The Godstowe Instrumental Ensemble, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: Don Besig, Strauss, Dvořák, Schubert, Evans

5. 6.

Jiří Scivin, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: „Sám se svým stínem.“

12. 6.

Petra Janů, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: Gershwin

22. 6.

Young-Choon Park, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: klavírní recitál

27. 6.

Swings, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál / zámecké nádvoří, 19.30 hod.
Program: Gershwin, Ellington, Lewis

8. 7.

Virginia Choral, Rudolfinum, Dvořákova síň, 20.00 hod.
Program: Dvořák, Bernstein

27. 7.

Collegiate Chorale, Zlonice, kostel Nanebevzetí P. Marie, 19.00 hod.
Program: Mozart, Beethoven

18. 7.

Collegiate Chorale, Obecní dům, Smetanova síň, 19.30 hod.
Program: Mozart, Beethoven

10. 7.

Indiana Pardue Festival Chorus, Zlonice, kostel Nanebevzetí P. Marie, 19.00 hod.
Program: Bernstein, Barber, Gershwin

1. 8.

Indiana Pardue Festival Chorus, zámek Nelahozeves, zámecké nádvoří, 19.00 hod.
Program: Bernstein, Barber, Gershwin

5. 8.

Indiana Pardue Festival Chorus, Rudolfinum, Dvořákova síň, 19.30 hod.
Program: Bernstein, Barber, Gershwin

5. 8.

Jana Koubková a Guru Band, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál / zámecké nádvoří, 19.30 hod.
Program: Wilson, Ahbez, Santamaria

17. 8.

Zdena Hojková, Petr Dolejší, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: Čajkovskij, Dvořák, Mozart, Verdi, Donizetti

25. 8.

Emil Viklický Trio a Eddie Severn, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: Aldcvoft, Wheeler, Severn, Viklický, Hubbard

8. 9.

Nadia Zakhourová, Roman Janál, Alfréd Strejček, Zlonice, kostel Nanebevzetí P. Marie, 14.00 hod.
Program: Záhradnik, Teml, Vierne, Werner

8. 9.

Josef Suk, Josef Hála, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hodin
Program: Dvořák

16. 9.

Jana Štefáčková, Ondřej Štefáček, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: Smetana, Dvořák, Martinů, Eben, Janáček

23. 9.

Piano Trio Fénix, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: Beethoven, Smetana, Martinů, Dvořák, Twardowski

10. 9.

Eva Děpoltová, Jan Králík, zámek Nelahozeves, Rytířský sál, 19.30 hod.
Program: „Salon Emy Destinnové.“



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10% deduction on all Museum Gift Shop purchases,
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American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture

Volume IV, No. 1 • New Exhibition Opens to Acclaim • Fall 1997

Nelahozeves Castle Celebrates Opening of New Exhibition

"The Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection: Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"

A simple, dignified reception on April 1, 1997, marked the opening of Nelahozeves' new exhibition. "The Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection: Six Centuries of European Art Patronage." The new show represents the culmination of seven years of effort to reunite the collection and make it accessible to the public.

President and Mrs. Havel attended the ceremony. After a tour of the collection, the Havels joined the Lobkowicz family for a dedication of the castle's *salonek* to the President. Later, in the Knight's Hall, Martin Lobkowicz welcomed the Havels, and spoke to assembled friends, family, dignitaries and representatives of the press. Josef Suk, great grandson of Antonin Dvorak, provided the evening's music.



President and Mrs. Havel (center) join Martin, Alexandra and Brooks Lobkowicz at the opening of "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"



Haymaking

Pieter Bruegel the Elder (1520/25-1569)

Roudnice Lobkowicz Collection, Nelahozeves Castle

Fine arts consultant John Somerville describes the new exhibition: "The Roudnice Lobkowicz collection of pictures is not only the most important family collection in the Czech Republic but one of the most significant in all of Europe." He continues: "Amounting to well in excess of a thousand paintings, it includes not only a series of family portraits from the 16th century to the 20th, but one of the largest group of Spanish portraits outside Spain. Among its treasures are works by such great masters as Rubens, Velasquez, Cranach, Bruegel, Bellotto and Canaletto—the works by the latter being the only ones in the country. These paintings are the largest pair from Canaletto's English period, and possibly the greatest."

"But the jewel of the collection is without a doubt a masterpiece by Pieter Bruegel the Elder," Somerville continues. "This painting, the only one by him outside of a museum, represents most likely the months of June and July. The most beautiful of the original series of six, it is one of the pinnacles of European landscape painting. Added to this illustrious list are Veronese, Sanchez Coello, Bartholomaeus Spranger, Hans von Aachen, Pantoja de la Cruz and Carl Croll. A magical group of some fifty works by Carl Croll painted in the middle of the last century depicts the family's castles, as well as their interiors."

"It was Fascinating and Exhausting":
**An Interview with Sandra Lobkowicz
on The Making of an Exhibition**

You have had lead responsibility for organizing this exhibition for well over a year. Now that it has opened, what do you see as the most important aspect of reuniting the collection in this show?

Putting the collection back in its historical context. The collection of portraits is now more cohesive—one sees the connections between the people and the objects they loved. When possible, we use archival material such as the letters between family members to bring the collection to life.

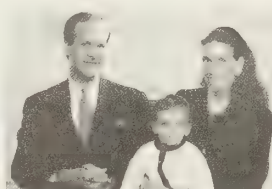
What was it like, overseeing such a big project? It was both fascinating and exhausting. Our research found new connections between family members and the paintings—very exciting detective work! We clarified some attributions, and we are now able to provide more and better information to the public than ever before.

It was wonderful to witness the progress—inexpensive things like newly painted walls, regrouping furniture—made such a difference to the rooms. The biggest challenge was keeping to the really ambitious deadlines we set. Scheduling an opening party hosted by the President kept the pressure on, as did working at times under below freezing temperatures—you can work surprisingly fast under some conditions!

What were your sources for the new exhibition?

Many of the objects we needed to really make the collection's history come alive were still on loan to various institutions. Six very important pictures—including the Bruegel—came from the National Gallery. In order to tell the story of the family's musical patronage, we brought back musical manuscripts and instruments from the Music Museum in Prague, lute "tabulatures" from the National Library and correspondence and receipts from a huge archival depository in northern Bohemia.

Now, having seen this vast collection assembled, do you have a favorite piece, a favorite room? I think we were all very moved to see the two enormous Canaletto's paired together for the first time in 40 years. Bringing the Bruegel back makes a terrific impact. I think, though, that perhaps the most special thing for me is the transition from one room to another—one moves through spaces now filled with color and atmosphere. The lovely chapel room is now



Sandra and William
Lobkowicz with son William

arranged as a gallery containing the oldest paintings in the collection, and is then followed by the 19th century dining room filled with decorative arts. The nice thing is that there is something appealing for everyone.

The collection was assembled on an extremely modest budget. What sort of economies did you practice to accomplish so much? I did a great deal of research before hiring people to do the work. I interviewed five different painting contractors, then went around Prague to see their work. Many of the people hired were independent consultants living outside Prague, where prices are more reasonable. I think too that the people who helped us understood the importance of this work. Our mission is very clearly to make this collection available for the enjoyment of the public, not to decorate a family house, and I think people responded to that.

What sort of response have you had from visitors? Attendance has surpassed our wildest expectations—we've had 16,000 visitors since the exhibition opened in April! A comment I've often heard and particularly like is that the new exhibition is of interest to a whole spectrum of visitors, from tourists seeking to learn more about Czech history to scholars seeking a glimpse of previously inaccessible materials from the collection. I've also heard many people say that the exhibition is so compelling and diverse that they are unable to absorb everything in one visit and intend to return for a second tour.

"Restitution of six of the National Gallery's most famous paintings to the Lobkowicz family now makes Nelahozeves castle a must-see on any tour of Prague."

--Connaissance des Arts

The international art press has been most interested in this exhibition. What sort of coverage have you had?

We held a press conference at the Lobkowicz Palace in Prague just before the opening.

Over 50 Czech and foreign journalists were there, and their coverage in turn stirred the interest of many international art magazines and foreign journals—Xantypa in the Czech Republic, Connaissance des Arts, Elle, Vogue and Paris Match in France, Carnet and Bella Europa in Italy, and Bunde in Germany. We were also shown on cultural television programs in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. The response was very positive. They were surprised, it seems, by the breadth and the significance of the collection and were particularly interested in the story of the family and restitution of property in the Czech Republic.

What is the next big priority? Clearly and most urgently, we must focus on the Roudnice Library. We have recently received terrible reports about the need for immediate conservation of the books and archives. We must act now if this irreplaceable resource is to survive for the enrichment of future generations.

New Study Reveals Serious Threat to Books and Archives

Recent analysis by fine arts conservator **Allyson McDermott** reveals that severe deficiencies in current storage endanger what has historically been acknowledged to be one of the finest private libraries in Central Europe. She describes conditions at the book depository: "There would seem to be considerable amounts of atmospheric pollution being generated by local industrial activity. Soot, gases and particulate dirt have penetrated the boxes..." She notes with concern that lack of temperature controls in the storage area is "causing dangerous fluctuations in ambient conditions." She further notes damage caused by insects, mold, and acid embrittlement.

Conditions at the government-controlled archive depository are also of grave concern. Ms. McDermott notes "There seemed little attempt at environmental control, many rooms seem damp, the shutters are kept closed, and there is little effective air circulation. The archives are kept on open shelves, all are covered in a thick layer of dust and particulate dirt and one should note that they are stored in unsealed boxes. In one room, the plaster of the ceiling had come down and the upper shelves were protected with polythene sheeting. In two rooms, what appeared rodent poison was observed placed in small trays on the floor.



"The archives are kept on open shelves, all are covered in a thick layer of dust and particulate dirt...in one room, the plaster of the ceiling had come down and the upper shelves were protected with polythene sheeting..."
Conservation expert **Allyson McDermott** on the condition of government-owned storage of the **Lobkowicz Archives**

Ms. McDermott's report concludes: "The entire archive requires removal, cleaning, and more detailed inspection. The books should be removed to safe storage as soon as possible. Here they can be carefully removed from the boxes, cleaned and checked individually by a team of conservators and volunteers, in a designated and isolated area."

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Inc.



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The Friends are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the cultural wealth of the Czech nation. It is our purpose to make these national treasures more accessible to the general public, to develop opportunities for study of the Czech cultural heritage, and to garner new support for cultural life in the Czech Republic. We are recognized by the IRS as exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3), and as a public charity according to section 509(a)(1) of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to the Friends are fully tax-deductible as provided by law. Our taxpayer identification number is 04-3201394.

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The Prague Page

• Notes from Laura Bergman, Director, Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, Czech Republic •

With gratitude and sincere appreciation, we in Prague note that the *Friends* provided major support for "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage." This magnificent and highly successful exhibition would not have been possible without the help of the AFPCC, and represents a huge step toward accomplishing our goal of making the Lobkowicz collections accessible for the enjoyment of the Czech people and, indeed, the world.

The Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, in cooperation with the *Friends*, now must focus on its next goal: to preserve and restore the Roudnice Lobkowicz Archival Library. As Allyson McDermott's chilling report suggests, this vast and historic library is incurring irreparable damage daily from insects, pollution, moisture, acidification and improper storage. Six hundred years of archives and 60,000 books and are in grave danger.

We estimate that \$75,000 is necessary to move the books to Nelahozeves and house them in a dry, safe, temporary location until the Roudnice Lobkowicz Archival Library is built.

Projected capital costs of the Library are just under \$1 million. The design is a "bare bones" endeavor, according to architect *Otto Dvorak*, intended to be "functional and inexpensive." We have completed grant applications to major charitable and corporate foundations, and will seek to match AFPCC funds with foundation grants wherever possible.

Tour improvements: Our staff is working hard to improve the guided tours at Nelahozeves, fine-tuning the information provided to visitors to make it consistent, interesting, and well presented. Tours are offered in Czech, English, German, French, Italian and Spanish.

Support by *Friends* Helped Create "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage"

Library Capital Campaign



Laura Bergman, Director, Roudnice Lobkowicz Foundation, chats with Milan Svoboda of Lobkowicz Travel Service

Ongoing Activities

Loans: In May, the RLF loaned 11 works to the magnificent Rudolf II exhibition in Prague, which depicts the imperial court and residential city of Rudolf II as the cultural and spiritual heart of Central Europe.

Requests from the Public: The Foundation continues to receive and process requests from the public for reproductions of Lobkowicz paintings and objets d'art. Requests come from scholars, professors, students, and history enthusiasts worldwide. The Foundation has been able to cover this administrative cost by charging small fees, which in turn go directly to conserving and preserving the collection.

Internships: After the recent *Parade* magazine article on the Lobkowicz family, nearly 500 inquiries were received by the AFPCC and the RLF. As a result, the RLF has received valuable assistance from interns, including Tiffany Keebaugh, on leave from the Eisenhower Fellowship Program. The Foundation is now pursuing internships with the International School of Prague.

Record Attendance at Lobkowicz Castles

The Second Annual 1998 Lobkowicz Summer Festival was held at Vysoky Chlumec on July 26, 1997. Over 5,000 people turned out to enjoy a day of fun that included

medieval sword fighters, renaissance troupes, contests, and delicious food. After an afternoon of activities oriented to families, popular rock and roll bands took to the stage as a hot air balloon began its quiet ascent into the warm summer evening. This summer, the *Dvorak Summer Music Festival at Nelahozeves* brought 16 concerts to hundreds of classical music enthusiasts. Now in its fourth year, the festival features internationally known artists at modest ticket prices in order to make these offerings more accessible to the general public. The imposing and scenic ruin of *Strekov* near the German border continues to grow in popularity. Almost 18,000 visitors have toured the Lobkowicz-owned castle since April, almost doubling last year's attendance.

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture

Volume V, No. 1 • A Focus on Conservation • Fall 1998

Meeting the Challenge: The Roudnice Lobkowitz Library Moves to Nelahozeves

Ten castle rooms, twelve people, three weeks of work, 572 trolleys, 583 pages of inventory, 1,342 boxes, 2,228 meters of shelves, and 60,000 books. The arithmetic only partially conveys the scale of this year's major accomplishment at Nelahozeves: the Roudnice Lobkowitz Library was moved, reorganized and opened for use to scholars and the public.

For centuries, the Lobkowitz Library was prized as one of the finest private libraries in Central Europe. It is not a haphazard collection of books, but rather an organic whole which developed gradually and parallel to the history of the Lobkowitz family. The library grew over the centuries as the family systematically selected and conserved its most valuable books, and carefully added new works from contemporary publications.

During W.W.II, and later, under the Communist regime, the Lobkowitz Collections were seized and dispersed. The Library was fragmented--some books were placed in the National Library in Prague, but most were hastily relegated to state depositories. When the remains of the library, approximately 60,000 books, were returned to the Lobkowitz family during restitution they were moved and temporarily stored in 1,342 cardboard boxes in Břlína Castle, also owned by the Lobkowitz family.

In January of this year, the books were cleaned, put in their original order, and shelved in a renovated space at Nelahozeves castle. After more than 40 years, the Library once again has a curator and is open to the public for research and publication

Curator Dr. Laura De Barbieri brought extensive experience to the project (see end note), and coordinated this vast undertaking with considerable skill and tenacity. In a letter to the Roudnice Lobkowitz Foundation, Countess Marita Almeida, a major private

sponsor of the Library project, writes, "My congratulations that all has gone so well and that such a capable curator could be found!"

"I was really surprised by the good condition of the library—it is so well organized and cared for at Nelahozeves," comments S. Kalkus, Librarian, Information Studies and Librarianship, Charles University, Prague. Dr. De Barbieri responds: "When the Lobkowitz family asked me to move their books and to store them properly, I knew exactly how it had to be but nobody could say how to do it. The goal was to move, clean, inventory and classify in a short time a huge amount of old books which were put together in boxes in no particular order."



Curator Laura De Barbieri unpacks books in their new home-- clean, dry and shelved in the order which they originally occupied at Roudnice Castle, the historic home of the Lobkowitz Library

Ms. De Barbieri devised an ingenious system for reorganizing the books at the time of the move. "I applaud the admirable idea of replacing the books in the original order," notes A. R. A. Hobson, President of the International Association of Bibliophiles.

An important and much-needed grant from the **Mary D.B.T. Semans Foundation** allowed De Barbieri to begin the preservation and conservation of the Library. She notes, "With the help of this grant, three students from the Czech Republic's **Litomysl Conservation School** and I spent a week training with skilled conservator **Don Etherington, President of the Etherington Conservation Center** in North Carolina. This valuable training will provide the basis for ongoing conservation work."

Ms. De Barbieri takes particular pride in envisioning the next step for the Library: "We opened the boxes; now it is time to open the books. For me, the opening of our new study room is profoundly satisfying. After more than 50 years the Library is again available for research to a public of scholars and qualified students."

Many other projects and goals lie ahead, according to De Barbieri. These include the reorganization of five kilometers of the **Roudnice Lobkowitz Archives** which are now stored in a dilapidated and damp state castle without proper security or housing, the restoration of music manuscripts and scores, publication, and preparation of a new exhibition of books.

"All this needs a tremendous amount of work and energy but when I walk through the 10 rooms of the Library and see the books, I forget some of the difficulties. The enigmatic fascination of these wonderful old volumes gives me back enthusiasm, energy and imagination."

*Dr. Laura De Barbieri, Curator of the Library and Archives, studied History and Library Science, and holds her Doctorate with a thesis based on unpublished archival documents. Prior to her work with the Lobkowitz Library, she conducted research with the financial support of the German Government at the Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich. She speaks French, Italian, German, English, has studied Latin and is now learning Czech. She recently completed an essay for the Handbuch der historischen Buchbestände, a forthcoming reference for scholarly libraries. David Paisy, writing in *The Library*, termed her publication "one of the most important bibliographical projects of our time."*

Conservation Efforts Stepped up in 1998

*An update by William Russell
Curator, The Lobkowitz Collection*

The portrait of **Emperor Josef II of Austria** is perhaps the most dramatic example of conservation work completed for the exhibition "Six Centuries of European Art Patronage: The Roudnice Lobkowitz Collection." Restored by **Dr. Stretti**, a renowned conservator and professor at the Academy of Arts and

School of Restoration, the portrait has been missing from the exhibition for over a year. It has finally been installed in the Beethoven Room, as the Emperor was a contemporary of **Josef Franz Maximilian, 7th Prince Lobkowitz**, one of Beethoven's primary patrons in Vienna.



Portrait of Josef II before...

Since the exhibition opened a year and a half ago, much of the staff's time has been spent consolidating the remaining collections at Nelahozeves Castle. Now that most of the physical inventories have been settled, we can turn attention towards conservation, proactively redressing some of the damage of the last few decades through restoration. There are many areas of the collection needing conservation, not least the castle itself (the entire West-side sgraffito decoration was repaired this Fall). It is the paintings, however, that have demanded our attention first—in particular, works on wooden panels.



...and after restoration

As those who have visited the exhibition at Nelahozeves know, the former chapel of the castle houses some of the most celebrated paintings in the collection. The artists represented include both **Pieter Bruegel the Elder and Younger**, **Rubens**, **Veronese**, both **Lucas Cranach the Elder and Younger** and a number of other late 16th and early 17th century Northern and Central European artists. Almost all of them are painted on wood panels. These works are far more fragile than paintings on canvas which adapt to a change in location and fluctuating temperatures and humidity levels easily, with few adverse side-effects. The stability of these wood panels depends entirely on their being in a consistent, controlled environment.

Some of the panel paintings in the Chapel were hanging in the National Gallery's Sternberg Palais from the early 1950's when they were expropriated by the communist regime, until the opening of the exhibition at Nelahozeves in April, 1997. While it seemed to be a natural choice to re-integrate the most important paintings with the rest of the collection, the museum has assumed a huge responsibility for their care. Climate control remains a constant concern for the museum. This fall we installed a Defensor Humidifier which will control the humidity level very precisely during the most dangerous dry months of the winter.

We have closely followed how the paintings, and in particular the panels, have been adapting to their new conditions over the past year. We invited **Simon Bobak**, a private conservator in London who specializes in panel paintings, to give an opinion. His survey helped us to schedule our painting conservation priorities over the next several years. The most important outcome of this survey, however, was to bring attention to **Rubens' "Hygieia Nourishing the Sacred Serpent."**



Detail from Rubens' "Hygieia Nourishing the Sacred Serpent"

This panel (actually made up of three oak boards) was painted about 1614/15, and is blistering and flaking badly. These are long standing problems that need to be addressed within the next six months. Several improper conservation treatments in the past few decades have only exacerbated the issue.

This past spring, a group from New York visited Nelahozeves and observed the desperate condition of the Rubens. **Jordan Saunders, Gail Gilbert and Merrill Stenbeck** undertook to fund the restoration of the portrait. With the support of **Patricia Sullivan** and friends, the goal of \$25,000 was recently accomplished. Our sincere thanks to this generous group.

Future conservation priorities include other paintings on canvas, works on paper, ceramics, porcelain, glass, textiles, guns and other metalwork. We plan on active collaboration between Czech and foreign conservators, local and international students, and seek financial support from the Czech Republic and internationally.

William B. Russell, Jr. received his B.A. from Connecticut College in 1988, and his M.A. from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University's graduate art history program, in 1992. After two years of fellowships at the J. Paul Getty Museum and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, in 1994, he returned to the Institute of Fine Arts to resume his graduate studies, working towards his doctoral degree. At the same time he was the Curator of the Saul P. Steinberg Collection and Foundation in New York. Since March of 1997, he has served as Curator of the Lobkowitz Collection. He has written and published on sculpture and decorative arts as well as acting as the editor of the Saul P. Steinberg Collection: Old Master Paintings and Sculpture.

American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, Inc.

At the annual meeting of The American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture, the board voted in new member **Barbara W. Glauber**. Ms. Glauber has a B.A. in American Government from Harvard University and a M.B.A. and M.A. in Preservation Studies from Boston University. She has served as Trustee of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, and has been involved in the decorative arts field for 17 years. In addition to her consulting work, Ms. Glauber is on the Annual Fund of the Boston Symphony and a Class Parent at the Winsor School. The Board extends an enthusiastic welcome and its thanks to Ms. Glauber.



Brooks Lobkowitz, President
Hugh L. Warren, Treasurer
Miriam V. Sheehan, Clerk
Ingrid Swanson, Member-at-Large
Barbara W. Glauber, Member-at-Large
Katherine A. Day, Director

The Friends are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the cultural wealth of the Czech nation. It is our purpose to make these national treasures more accessible to the general public, to develop opportunities for study of the Czech cultural heritage, and to garner new support for cultural life in the Czech Republic. We are recognized by the IRS as exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3), and as a public charity according to section 509(a)(1) of the 1986 Internal Revenue Code. All contributions to the Friends are fully tax-deductible as provided by law. Our taxpayer identification number is 04-3201394.

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- Patron Member (\$2,500 or more)
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- Please send me additional information

For more information, call (508) 785-0864, or write:
American Friends for the Preservation of Czech Culture
Post Office Box 814
Dover, Massachusetts 02030

The Prague Page

An Update from the

• Roudnice Lobkowitz Foundation •

Visitor Survey at Castle

In an effort to better understand the needs and interests of visitors, a new survey is designed to help focus and improve services at Nelahozeves. Czech tourists still form the majority of visitors to Nelahozeves, and a membership program is being developed to offer ongoing events and benefits to residents of the Prague region. International visitors have grown rapidly, both individually and in group tours; Americans, Germans and Dutch are the largest proportion of visitors, with Italians, French and Russians in substantial numbers.

Arms Exhibition Planned

An exciting new exhibition is planned for Nelahozeves to showcase the Lobkowitz Collection's firearms and other hunting-related material. The collection includes early crossbows and other weapons, as well as the celebrated group of 17th century Italian and German guns acquired by Vaclav Eusebius, second Prince Lobkowitz. Many objects have never been seen by the public, and are currently in depositories. Funding to support the exhibition is now being sought.

Digitizing the Collection Database

The Lobkowitz Collection consists of more than 16,000 objects. With the rapid expansion of digital technology for research and educational purposes, demand for digitized images from the collection continues to grow. Foundation staff are currently exploring the best ways to make the most significant art pieces available as digital images, to be easily accessible for scholarly research and educational purposes worldwide.

A New Home for Foundation Staff

As part of a move to bring the staff into closer contact with the collections and to use time efficiently, a new office has been established at Nelahozeves to serve as the principal office of Laura de Barbieri, Library Curator, and Will Russell, Collection Curator. Previously, both Will and Laura split their time between

the foundation office in Prague and frequent visits to the castle; the new arrangement allows them closer access to the library and collections and will foster closer contact with visiting scholars and activities at the castle.

Staff Profiles

Alice Krausova, Deputy Director, graduated from Charles University with a major in English language and English literature. Before joining RLF, Alice worked in sales and marketing. **Eva Huclova**, Office Assistant, graduated from The University of Economics in 1996. She handles reproduction requests from the public and assists the Library and Collection curators.

Libuse Bilkova, Deputy of Collections, began working as a guide at Nelahozeves after her graduation from University. She oversees castle guides, and takes care of castle movables. **Alessandra Lobkowitz** is the Director of the Roudnice Lobkowitz Foundation. **Will Russell** and **Laura De Barbieri**'s profiles are included on previous pages. The newest staff member, **Lizanne Hart**, plans and manages fundraising for the Prague office. Lizanne received her B.A. in Art History and Music from Gustavus Adolphus College, and prior to joining the RLF she was Director of Development Communications and Operations at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. Welcome, Lizanne!

"On my recent visit to Nelahozeves (October 1998), I was struck by the progress made in three years, especially in managing the books. Well-organized and in good condition, the library stacks and reading room are efficient and inviting to students and scholars. When the archives and all the rare books become equally accessible, this great collection will be an incomparable resource for scholarship."

Eleanor M. Garvey
Philip Hofer Curator of Printing and
Graphic Arts Emeritus
The Houghton Library, Harvard University



Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue
Astor Hotel - Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
e-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

April 7, 2005

TO: Prince William Lobkowicz

Page 1 of _1_

FAX: 011 420 315 709 103

Dear Prince Lobkowicz,

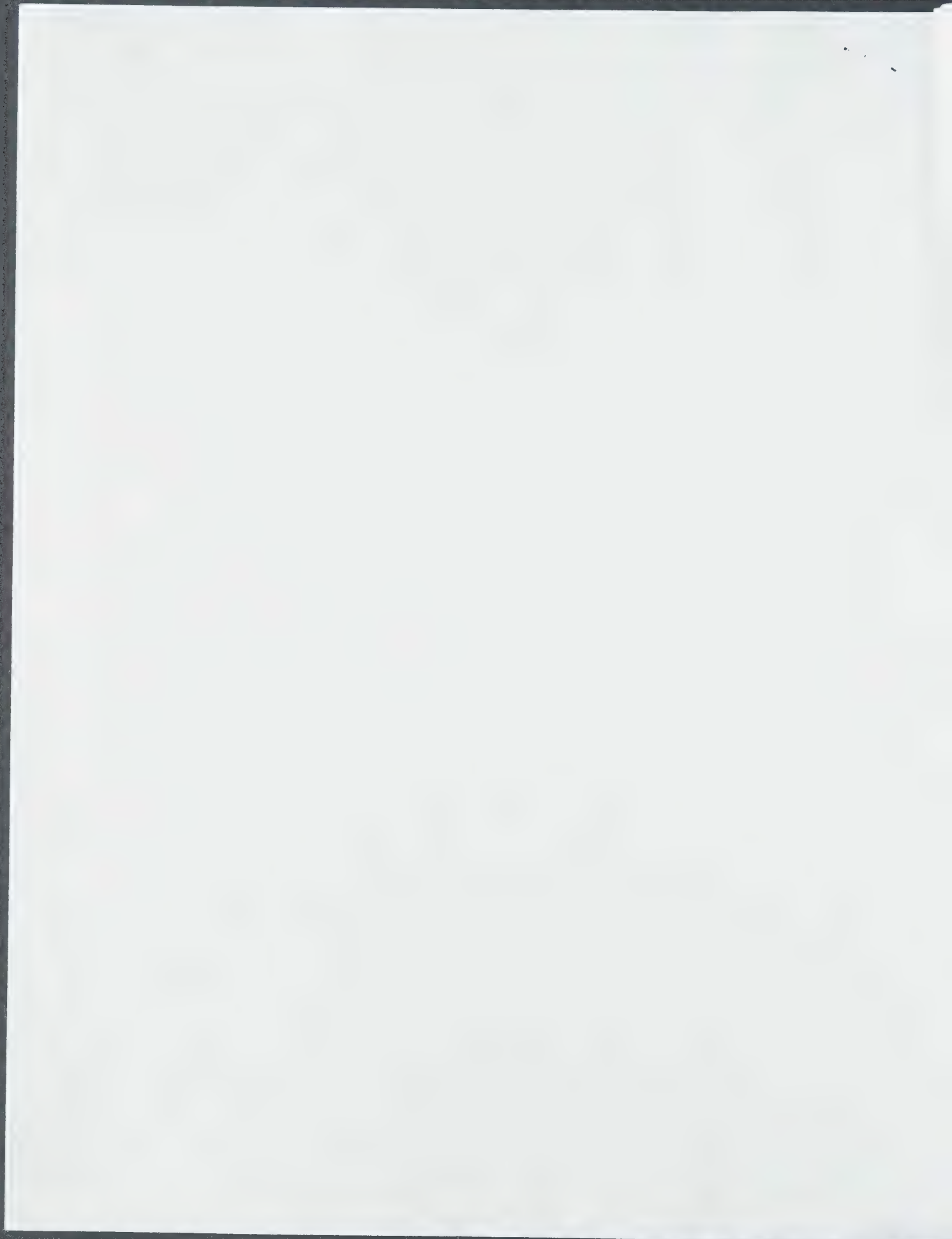
Isabel and I are just planning our trip to the Czech Republic in June and are wondering whether we might meet in Prague, rather than at your castle, either on Saturday afternoon, June 11th, or anytime on Sunday, June 12th.

As you know, I very much hope that you will be able to employ Dr. Vladan Antonovic beginning September 1st and of course I would like to discuss that with you. Also, I would like to repeat my assurance that if you can employ him for a year beginning September 1st, I will give US \$12,500 to your foundation.

With best wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

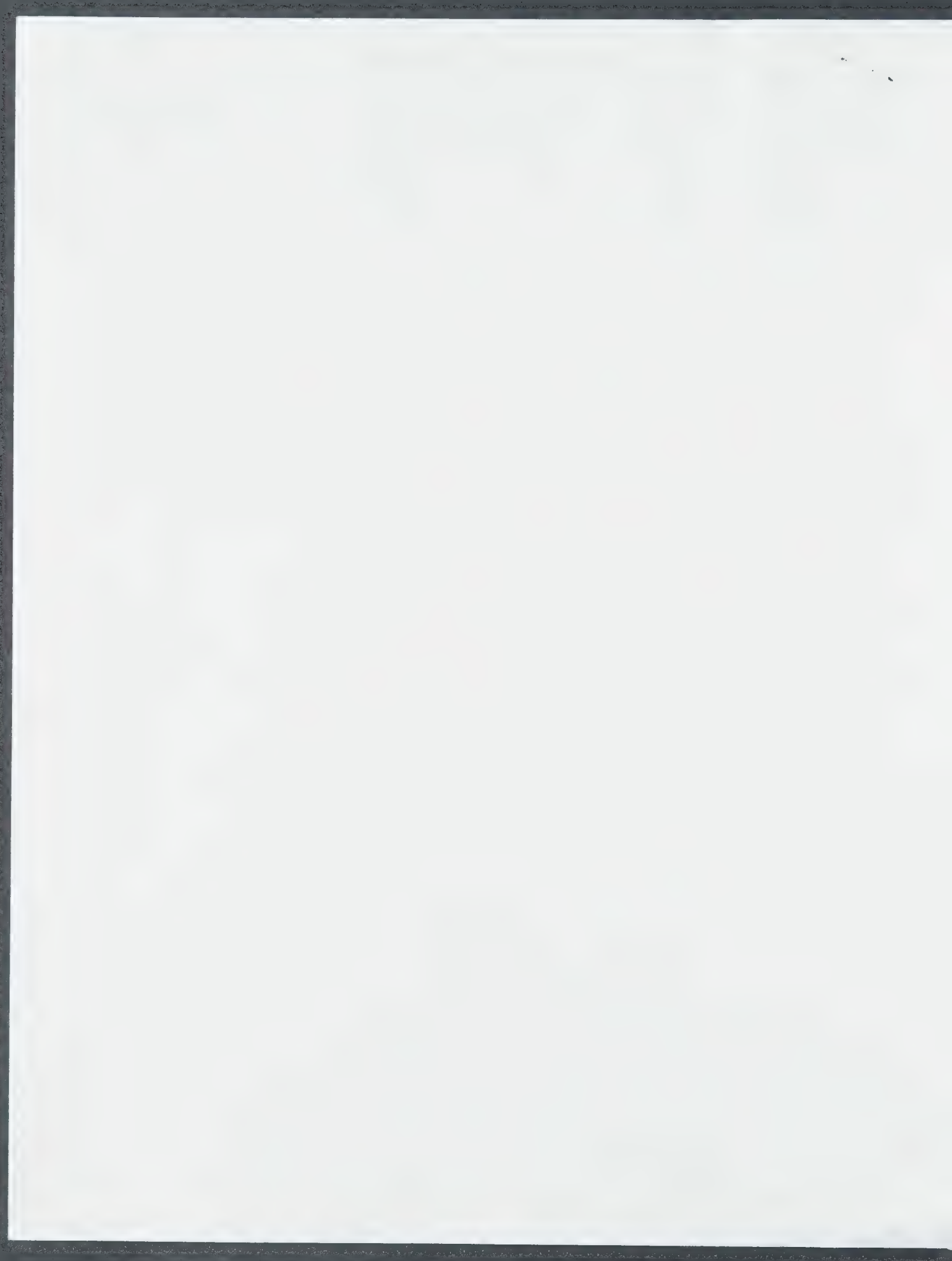
Alfred Bader
AB/az



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Subject: Dr. Antonovic project

Date: Thu, 11 Nov 2004 00:23:28 -0800

From: "William Lobkowitz" <wel@lobkowitz.cz>

To: <baderfa@execpc.com>

CC: "Alexandra Lobkowitz" <afl@lobkowitz.cz>, "Míla Guerra" <mguerra@lobkowitz.cz>

Dear Dr. Bader,

I am writing to you in haste as I know you are planning to meet with Dr. Antonovic in Vienna to discuss the details regarding the proposed prints research project in our collection. As I have mentioned before, we have many projects underway, one of which includes a plan to construct a purpose built building on the grounds of Nelahozeves to house both our archives and library. This project has been kept on the back burner for quite some time as it involves an extensive capital campaign, something that has been quite challenging given the recent political climate.

However, it has come to the forefront of our priority list again after a trip by our foundation givers to Prague late last month. After visiting various family properties and having the opportunity to survey and discuss the library and archive holdings, many of our contributors felt that they wanted to actively contribute to this project and see it come to fruition. Our AFPC board therefore feels that all of our resources should be placed toward this campaign and all other projects should be put on hold for the time being, especially since the archive project would require the full time assistance of our already limited staff.

Although we are extremely appreciative of your proposed contribution and interest in our prints project, we feel that given this new development, we will not be able to pursue the prints project at this time. We hope we may be able to contact you again about pursuing this project at a later date, perhaps in 2006. We appreciate and understand your desire to help Mr. Antonovic now and that your grant was contingent upon his being employed for a full year. If the time frame does not work for you, we of course fully understand.

Thank you again for your kindness and interest in our undertakings, as well as your generous ongoing support.

With best wishes and kind regards to your wife,

Sandra and William Lobkowitz

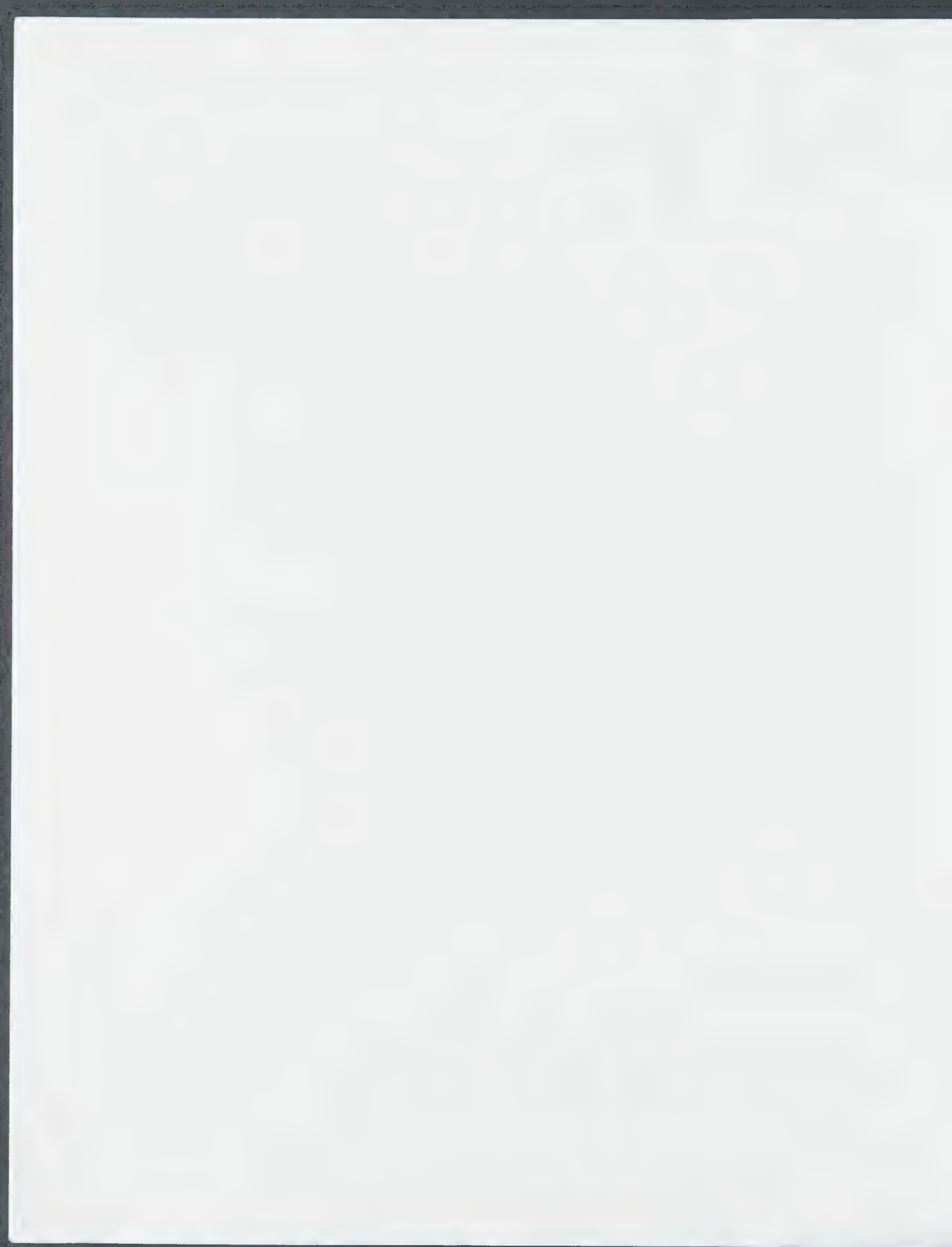
William Lobkowitz
Nelahozeves castle
277 51 Nelahozeves
Czech Republic

Tel.: (+420) 315 709 105, Fax: (+420) 315 709 103
e-mail: wel@lobkowitz.cz
www.lobkowitz.org

Outgoing mail is certified Virus Free.

Checked by AVG anti-virus system (<http://www.grisoft.com>).

Version: 6.0.792 / Virus Database: 536 - Release Date: 11/9/2004





C

Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue
Astor Hotel - Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
e-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

September 22, 2004

Dr. Miloslava Guerra, Director
Lobkowitz Collections
Nelahozeves Castle
277 51 Nelahozeves
CZECH REPUBLIC

Dear Dr. Guerra,

Communicating with you is not easy. In your fax received yesterday you gave your fax number as 42 0 315 709 333 but that did not work. Nor did 42 0315 709 133. However, the fax which I sent you to 42 0315 709 105 did go through and I hope reached you.

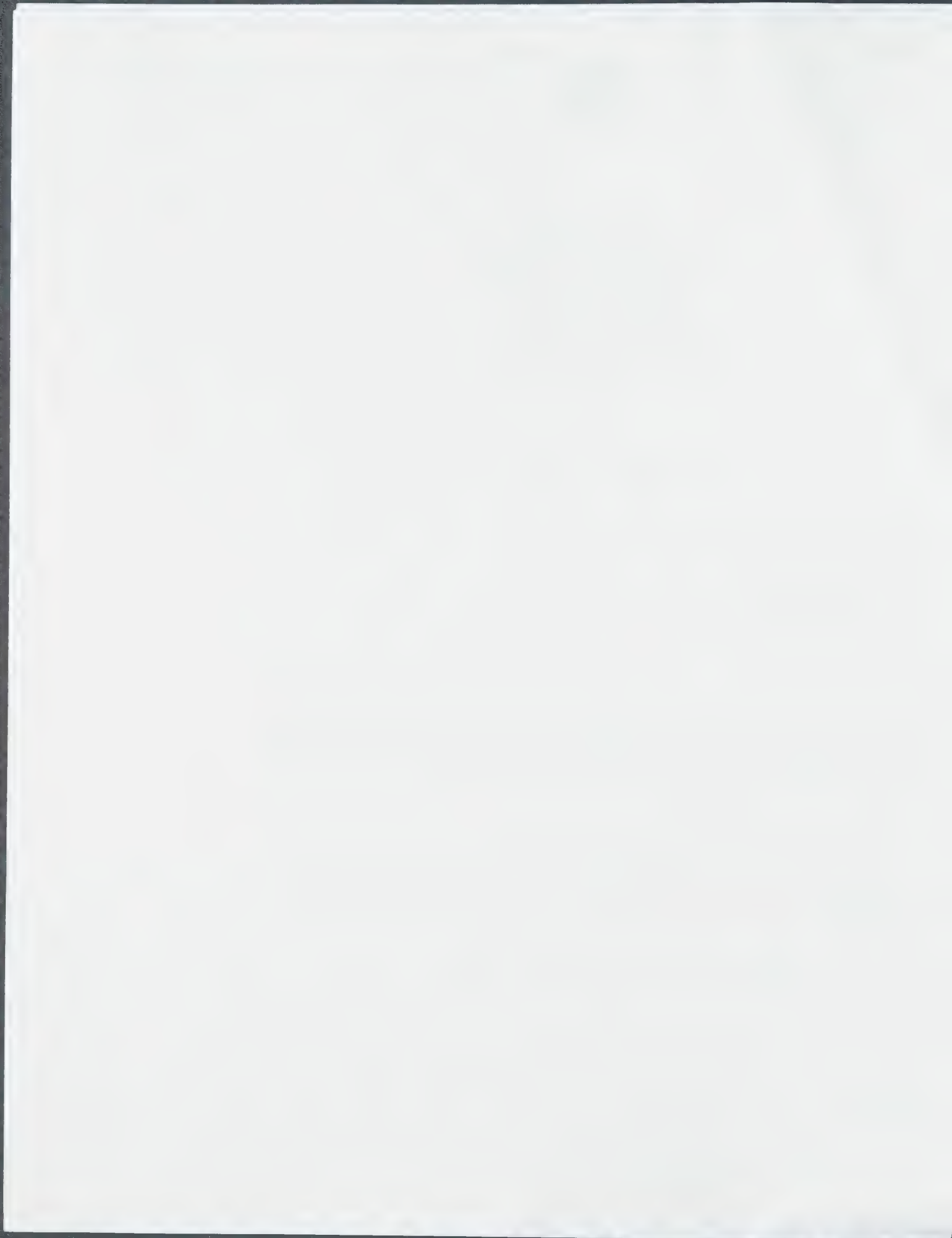
In any case please find enclosed a copy of that fax.

I very much hope that you will be able to sign an employment contract with Dr. Antonovic before October 13th and that I then can send you my check by return mail.

With all good wishes, also to Prince Lobkowitz, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader





Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue
Astor Hotel - Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
e-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

September 21, 2004

TO: Dr. Miloslava Guerra, Director Page 1 of _2_
Lobkowicz Collections

FAX: 011 42 0315 709333

420 315 709 105

Dear Dr. Guerra,

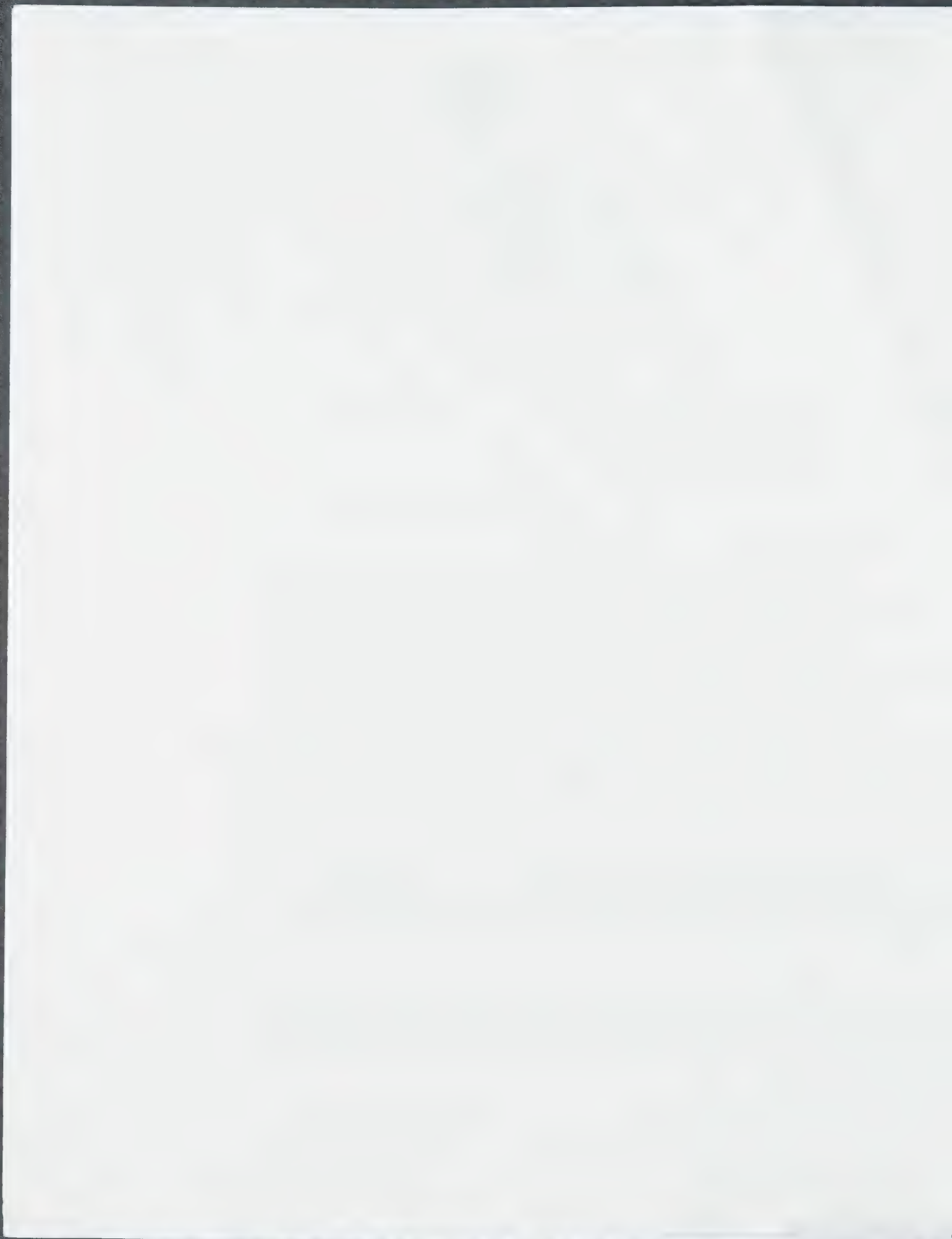
I enjoyed speaking to you and would like to thank you for your fax which arrived here on September 20th. Somehow the e-mail did not get here.

I now understand how you would spend the \$2500 and that these funds would indeed be needed for Dr. Antonovic to be able to do his work.

You thought that he might be able to finish in six to seven months but it seems to me that he could do a far better job if he would have one year. I am presuming that you have a superb collection and this deserves to be accurately described. And we know what a fine job Dr. Antonovic did with that totally unknown collection in Innsbruck.

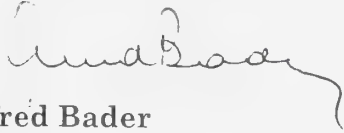
Hence I am suggesting that you employ Dr. Antonovic for one year and pay him a salary of \$10,000 and that immediately on your reaching an employment agreement with Dr. Antonovic I send you my gift for \$12,500 which will be in addition to my \$1,000 gift which I gave to Prince Lobkowicz in June.

If at all possible, please let me know that you have come to complete agreement with Dr. Antonovic before October 13th because I will then be on lecture tours which will keep me away from Milwaukee until the end of December.

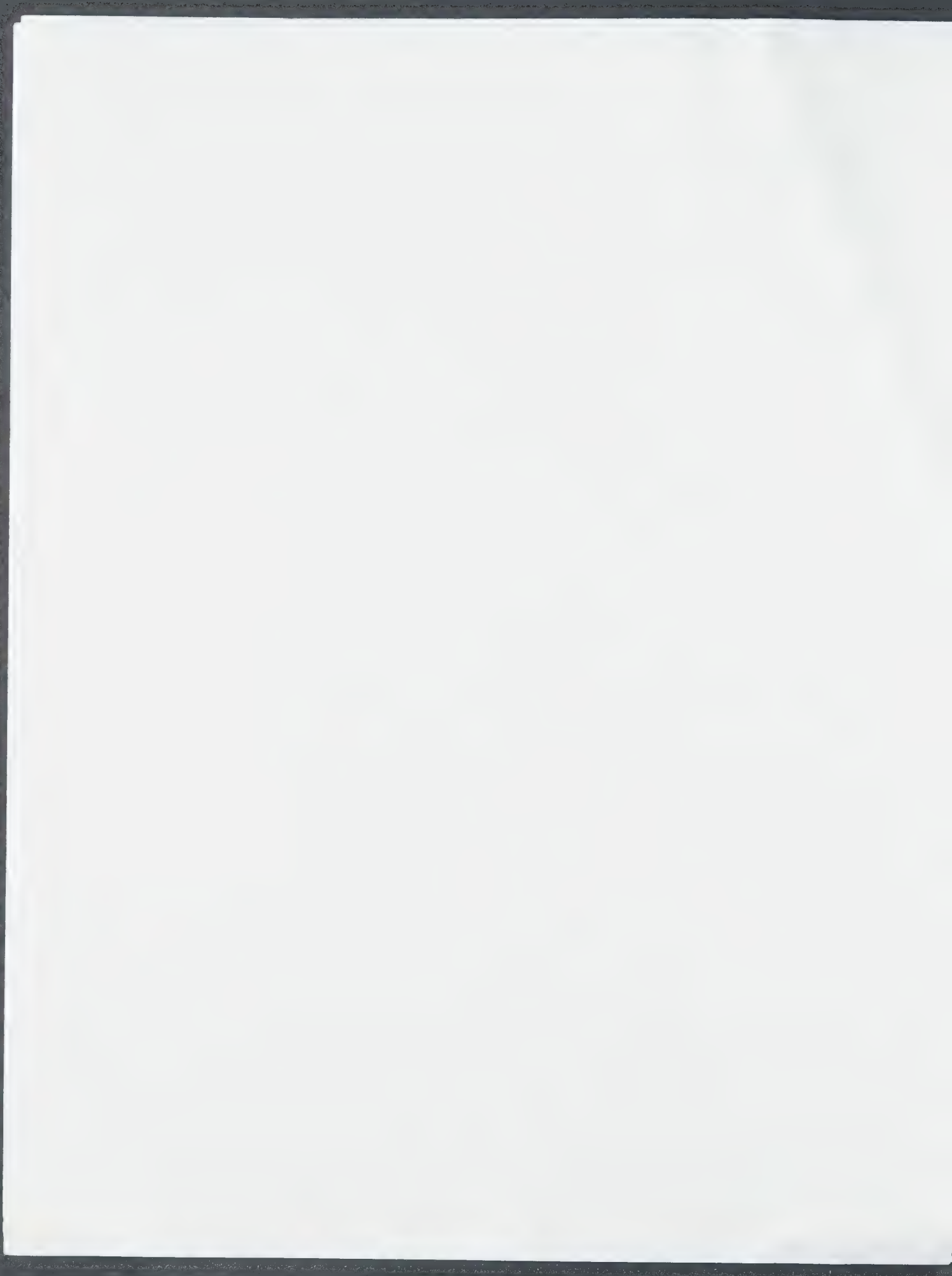


With all good wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

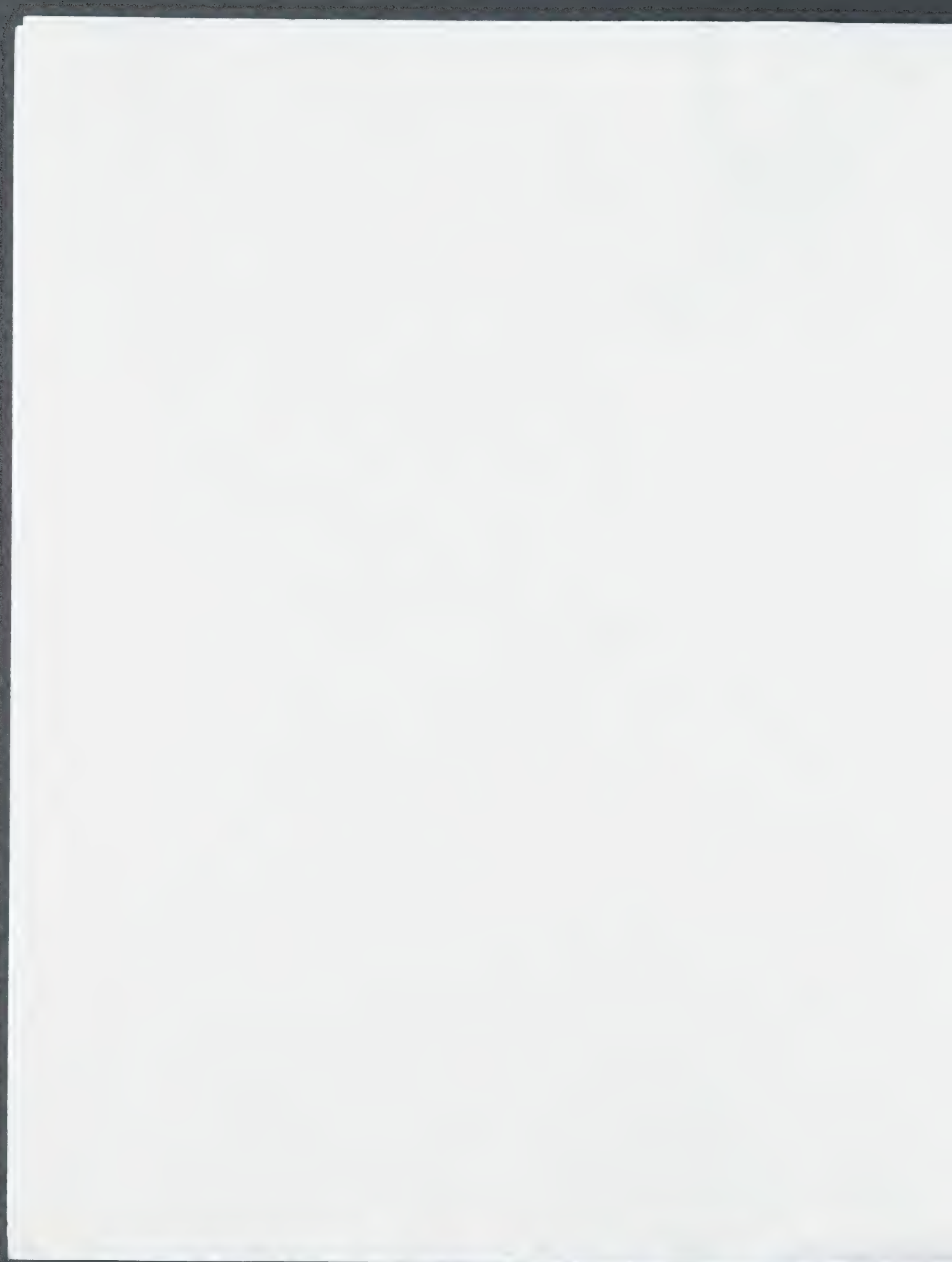
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Alfred Bader', with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Alfred Bader
AB/az



Prince William Lobkowicz, CEO
L. E. Holdings, s.r.o.
Dr. Miloslava Guerra, Director
Nelahozeves Castle
277 51 Nelahozeves
CZECH REPUBLIC
Ph: 420 205 709 105
Fax: 420 205 709 103
E: wel@lobkowicz.cz

office
420 205 709 105
111
Dr. G.
420 315 709 138



Dear Dr. Antonovic,

I am deeply worried about your health.

I tried to telephone you many times but there was never any reply. Then I received an e-mail from a Mrs. Unsinn at the Czech Consulate in Innsbruck saying that you were in hospital but that you would get in touch with me on Monday, May 9, but I never heard from you. I then sent an e-mail to Mrs. Unsinn but received no reply.

Isabel and I plan to be in Vienna staying at the Hotel Austria, as usual, from Thursday, June 2 to Wednesday, June 8, and then driving via Brno to Prague where we will stay until June 15.

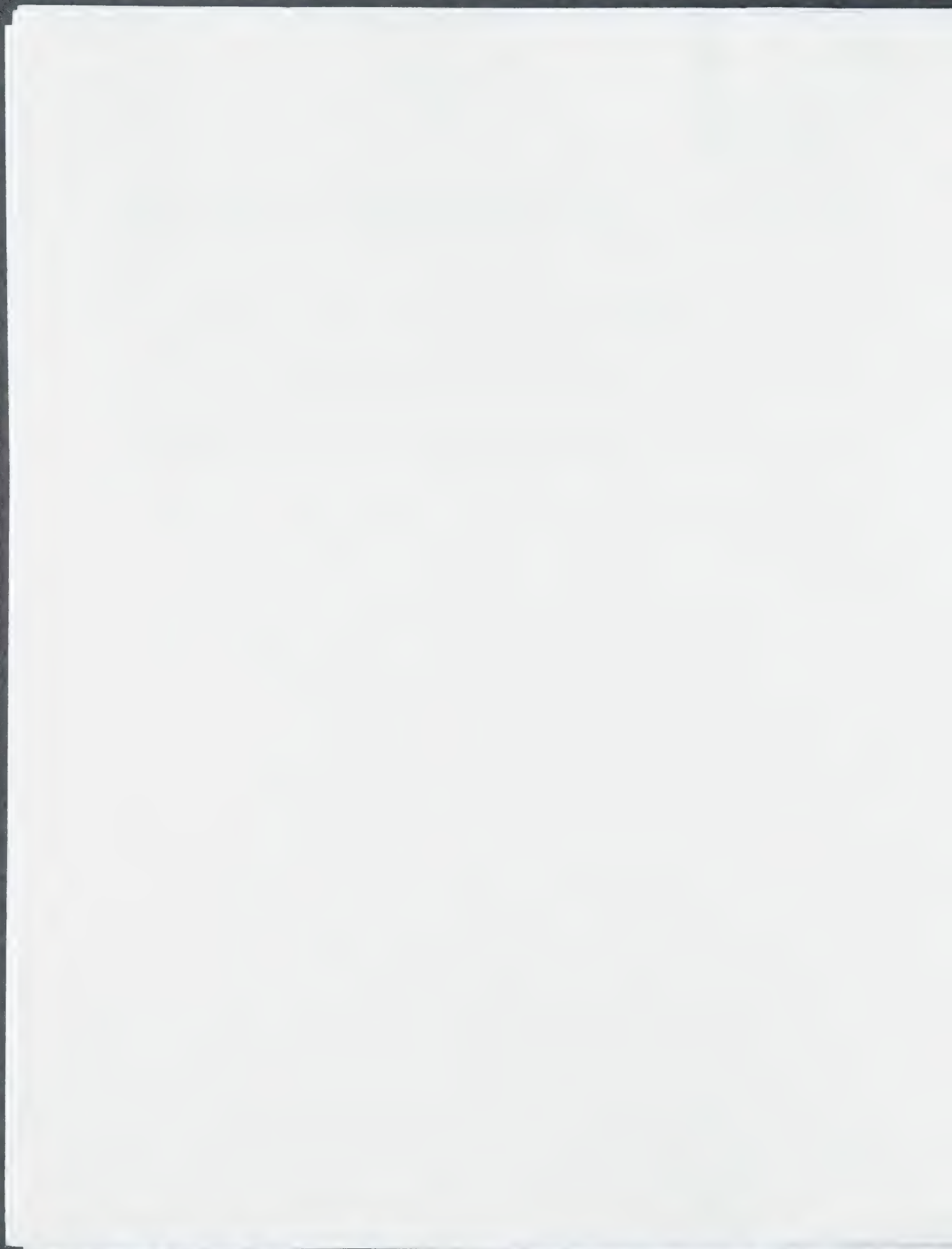
On Tuesday, June 14, we have a meeting with Prince Lobkowitz and Dr. Guerra at Lobkowitz' palace in Prague at 4:30 in the afternoon. Of course what I want to discuss with them is our hope that you will be able to start working there with their collection on September 1.

We are leaving for England this Thursday, May 19. In England I cannot receive e-mail, but if you e-mail me to Milwaukee my secretary will let me know. Also, you could reach me in England at 44 1414 22 22 23.

With best wishes I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alfred Bader



Dr. Alfred Bader
924 East Juneau Avenue
Astor Hotel - Suite 622
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Ph: 414 / 277-0730
Fax: 414 / 277-0709
e-mail: baderfa@execpc.com

April 28, 2005

TO: Dr. Miloslava Guerra, Director
L.E. Holdings, s.r.o.

Page 1 of _2_

FAX: 011 420 315 709 103

Dear Dr. Guerra,

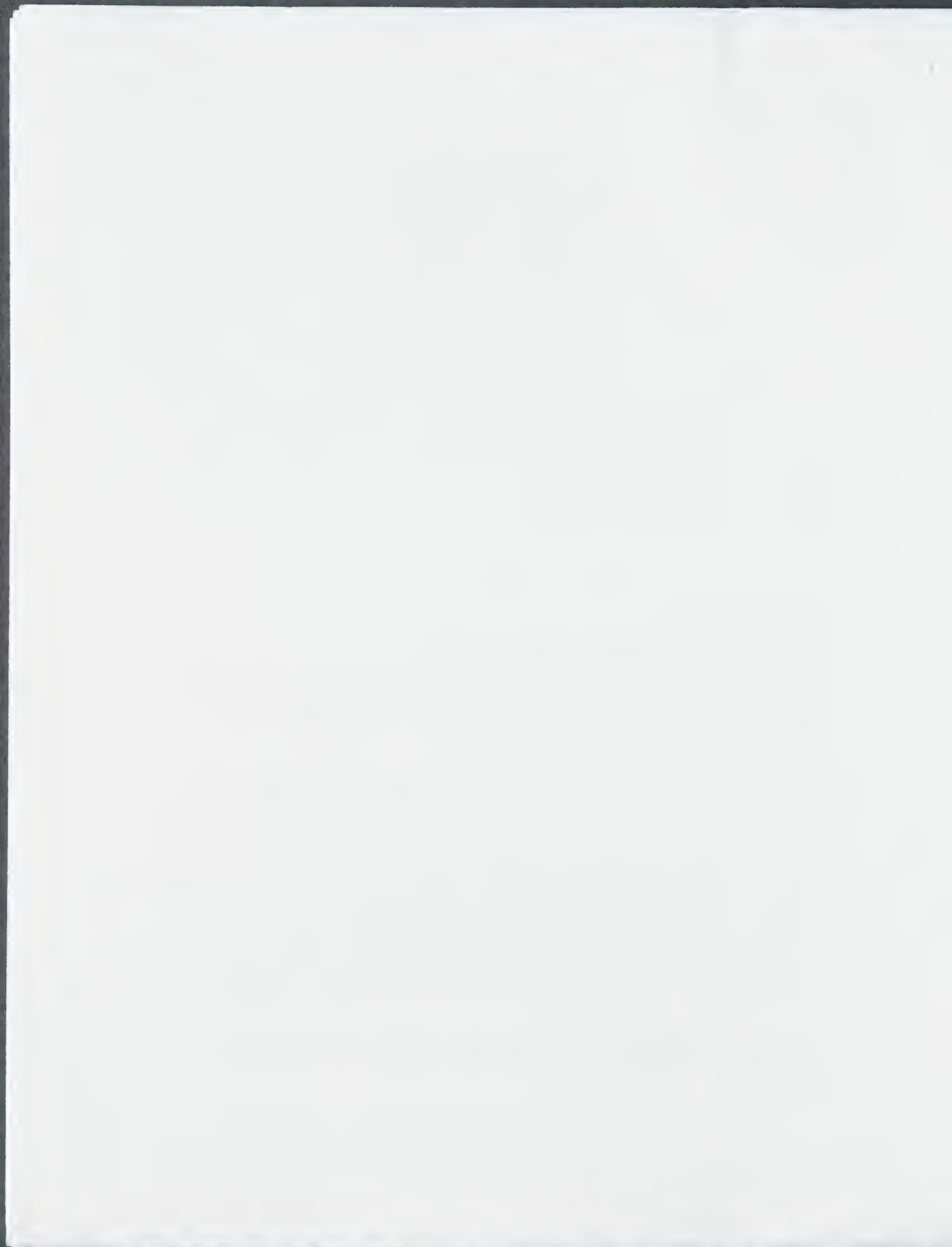
I enjoyed chatting with you earlier this week.

My wife and I plan to arrive in Prague late on Friday afternoon, June 10th, and leave on Wednesday morning, June 15th. We will be staying at the Cloister Inn on Konviksta 14.

If Prince Lobkowicz were free only on the Sunday afternoon, June 12th, I could meet him then, but as you will be in Prague on Tuesday, June 14th, it would be great if I could meet you and Prince Lobkowicz that afternoon.

Of course you know that I very much hope that you will decide that you can employ Dr. Vladan Antonovic beginning on September 1st. I hope that for two reasons. One is that I am convinced that he is a very able art historian who could really do a fine job with your collection of etchings, prints and drawings. And secondly, it would be a great job for him as he has been living on very meager means in Innsbruck hoping for the position with you.

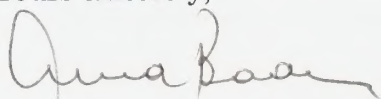
You know of course that as soon as you agree with Dr. Antonovic to begin on September 1st I will send you or give you my check for \$12,500, to your Foundation.



I much look forward to meeting you personally and to seeing Prince
Lobkowitz again.

With best regards I remain

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alfred Bader". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Alfred Bader
AB/az

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

1155 EAST 58TH STREET

[Handwritten signature]

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

60637

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