

Erazm Barącz (1859–1928), Engineer and Collector. On His 155th Birthday

Summary

The personage of Erazm Barącz as well as his collection and its history deserve to be remembered. An exceptional art lover, owner of a valuable collection and, at the same time, professionally active mining engineer, he collected unique textiles, weapons and more than a hundred works by contemporary Polish artists (Axentowicz, Malczewski, Wyczółkowski and others). They decorated superbly his company apartment in Wieliczka, where he often received artists and collectors he was friends with. When he went into retirement, in keeping with the deed of donation, Barącz handed over his entire holdings to the National Museum in Krakow, which set up a separate department for it, the Erazm Barącz Branch located in Karmelicka Street, building no. 51, at the exit of Siemiradzkiego Street. After the donor's death on 21 Jan. 1928, the Branch remained active until 1944. Now the objects from its rare holdings are dispersed across various branches of the National Museum in Krakow.