



Lecture Series, Light and Glass Annual Meeting “200 Years Lobmeyr” Vienna June 8th – June 10th, 2023

This year we have the honour of getting to know not just one, but two time-honoured Viennese chandelier producers better. It gives us great pleasure to announce the participation of the Bakalowits Company this year, which has been in existence for 177 years. Their contribution is a much-appreciated addition to our programme in Vienna.

Maximilian Bakalowits, Bakalowits Vienna

"177 years - 18 decades of chandelier manufacture Bakalowits - A family business since 1845".

In addition to the challenge of chandelier making - the focus is on the craftsmanship – girdlers and locksmiths - chasers and metal workers - and the materials brass, bronze, iron, and stainless steel - it has always been important to the Bakalowits family to put the design of the chandelier in the foreground, to promote young artists, to activate the cooperation with designers.

The chandelier design journey goes from Theophil Hansen, August Eisenmenger to Joseph Hoffmann and Koloman Moser, Oswalt Haertel, Ceno Kosak to Prof. Friedl Bakalowits, Don Ashton, Cari Zalloni to the young generation Karin Binder, Anna Zimmermann and again a Bakalowits - Maximilian Bakalowits. We invite you on a 177-year journey through time.



Kristīne Budže, Chief Collection Curator / Head of Collection's Department, Rundāle Palace Museum, Latvia
“Russian chandelier from Fischer’s Workshop”

A short presentation showing a beautiful chandelier, made in Fischer's workshop in St. Petersburg, 1795 - 1805, which was purchased for a manor house in Latvia in the late 18th century.





Dr Jan Mergl Phd, Author, Curator, UPM Prague CZ
"New insights into the glass and history of J. & L. Lobmeyr, Vienna".

Dr. Mergl was one of the main people responsible for researching the upcoming exhibition celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Lobmeyr company which will take place in Prague in November. In his lecture, he will share with us some of the discoveries he made during the preparations for this exhibition, as well as a general look at the history of Lobmeyr's lighting objects.



Käthe Klappenbach Museologist, Author "Tin chandeliers from the Ore Mountains (Erzgebirge)"

Besides the precious metal silver along with many other minerals and ores, the heavy metal tin (Sn) is one of the most important mineral resources of the Saxon Ore Mountains (Erzgebirge). Thanks to its relatively low melting point, it is easy to cast and process. This is how many utensils made of tin came about.

Especially in the 19th century, Saxon tin founders also made chandeliers from this metal, although these were usually reserved for wealthy families.

To date there is no literature on this special design topic.

This lecture hopes draw attention to this group of chandeliers by present some of them along with possible models that inspired the design.

Frank C. Möller, Art Dealer and Researcher, Hamburg DE

"The Chursächsische Spiegelfabrik at Friedrichsthal in the Electorate of Saxony: Rediscovery of a Forgotten Glass Factory and its Products"

Frank will expand on his article published on our website and in *Además de* which aims to rescue from oblivion one of the most important German glass factories of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries: the Chursächsische Spiegelfabrik, or Mirror Factory of the Electorate of Saxony, founded by the Elector at Friedrichsthal, north of Dresden, in 1709. Using new research results, he traces the history of the factory and analyses the factors that led to its heyday from 1787, when, as well as mirrors, it started producing plain and coloured glass objects for the table and interior decoration, such as fruit bowls, candelabra, jugs, and so on, as well as lamps and chandeliers. Its international success culminated with the introduction of semi-opaque white bone glass in 1794, until production ceased in 1815.



Figure 1

Above:
 Egg-shaped chandelier from the Chursächsische
 Spiegelfabrik, Dresden, around 1800.
 Photo: Frank C. Möller Fine Arts/Michael Holz

Left:
 Matching design in *Journal des Luxus und der Moden*,
 March 1800, plate 8.
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Mr. Rath will talk about his work in the Lobmeyr Chandelier workshops, how the 200-year-old tradition of innovation impacts the processes of handmade quality and its variations to satisfy today's market

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Mr. Rath will speak on the important efforts of the newly founded "Working Group Austria, Inventory of Historical Lighting" a group which aims to create a nationwide collection of as many chandeliers in Austria as possible, with the aim to produce an on-line catalogue. To assist the project, owners of chandeliers in public institutions, private owners, chandelier producing companies, those responsible in the Churches, architects, and antique-dealers, are all being invited to participate via a constantly growing list of E-mail addresses.

With a mutually completed datasheet, and with kind assistance from the National Board of Historic Monuments, we will assemble the material to create a professional databank.

We now invite the participants of this year's conference of the Society LIGHT & GLASS, to join us on Friday, June 9th 2023 at 11am, at our 8th meeting in the glorious "Ahnensaal" of the Vienna Imperial Palace, hoping that this project will be followed up in other countries, and act as an example towards raising the profile of the *chandelier* in the interest of European Historical Monument Societies.

TGK-CZ collaborated with Lasvit on the production of a glass ceiling. The dominant element of the continuous light installation is 156 pieces of glass prisms. These pieces were made by melting them in a mould. The final design is cut and polished. The project and its implementation are an example of a very fashionable solution using a classic material - glass. The project was manufactured and installed within 9 months. It can be seen indoors - in the Tiffany Flagship Store on 5th Avenue in New York.



Tereza Svachova, Architect, Prague CZ "A Glass Facade for The Czech Pavilion at EXPO 2025 in Osaka, Japan."

Tereza Svachova together with colleagues from Apropos Architects recently won the competition for the design of the Pavilion which will represent the Czech Republic in the upcoming Expo 2025 in Osaka, Japan. Tereza will introduce us to some of the steps involved in working on the competition pavilion design, which includes a spectacular glass façade of her design. What better showcase could they have for demonstrating the great glass knowledge of the country?



"Chandeliers in Lithuania from the territories of Austria and Czech Republic: mid-18th - mid-20th c." Alante Valtaite-Gagac PhD researcher, Vilnius Academy of Art, Lithuania



Written historical sources in Lithuania are scarce on data about chandelier makers. However, one of the most frequently mentioned countries from which chandeliers were imported from the first quarter of the 19th century is the Czech Republic. Some sources also mention chandeliers from Vienna. The lecture will present surviving chandeliers that may have been produced in these countries starting from the mid-18th century to the Second World War. Attention will also be paid to the chandeliers currently being restored in Lithuania.

Amy Hughes, Assistant Curator, Corning Glass Museum, USA presents the exhibition: *Local Color: Secrets of Steuben Glass* which showcases the early history of the Steuben Glass Works, founded in Corning, NY, in 1903, and the dazzling variety of glass Steuben developed in the early 20th century. Under the artistic leadership of Frederick Carder, a community of European immigrant expert glassworkers, local artisans, and women were recruited to realize his artistic vision—which included developing over 100 new glass colors and hundreds of designs in a variety of forms and styles.

