

## Milena Bartlová

Masaryk University, Brno

## Gothic? Renaissance? Mannerism? Interpretation Models for Central European Sculpture After 1500

Some two years ago, like many of you I was walking through the important exhibition of Slovak Gothic art in Bratislava, and I was showing around a large group of Czech historians and archivists1. They didn't ask the questions which we, art historians usually ask before the objects of our research – and which we, in turn, teach our students to ask, and to which we are used to giving our own answers. The situation forced me to see some well known historical topics of art with fresh eyes and I would like to invite you to share the experience for a moment. The sculptures forming a group attributed to a fictive Master of the Royal Figures from Matejovce (Mateóc / Matzdorf) in Spiš (Szépes / Zips) look definitely queer and deformed, but they cannot be sidetracked as low quality production (Fig. 2, 3)<sup>2</sup>. I was reminded of similar reactions to the name-giving relief of the Master of Lamentation from Žebrák, who was probably active in České Budějovice (Budweis) in Southern Bohemia around 1520 and must have learned from Hans Leinberger's style in the neighboring Upper Bavaria (Fig. 1)3.

We are used to dismissing similar disturbing phenomena by calling them "expressive". They were analyzed in a classical way in the twenties and thirties of the 20th century by Wilhelm Pinder et al. In the framework of mentality and cultural styles of that period they were understood as means of making the complicated nature of the transitional period visible in forms of visual arts, being tacitly compared to contemporary expressionist art. With the help of the tertium comparationis of "expression", another group of features typical for some of the Central European wooden sculpture of the first quarter of the 16th century, namely the new quality of extremely developed spatial values, was assigned under the same label. Here we can mention, for example, such carvings as the Zwettler Altarpiece and its related group, including the Altarpieces from Mauer bei Melk and from Breisach, the Habsburg hold in Switzerland; or the Abtenauer Altarpiece by Andreas Lackner<sup>4</sup>. Again, Hans Leinberger must be counted here, and also paintings, e.g. the Holy Blood Altarpiece from Pulkau in Upper Austria, or the sculptures and panels from Banská Štiavnica (Selmecbánya / Schemnitz) in Slovakia (Upper Hungary)<sup>5</sup>.

The form of the conference lecture has been retained in the present text. It was written in the framework of the Research Centre for History of Central Europe at the Masaryk University Brno (MSM0021622426). For the exhibition in Bratislava see: Gotika, [Exh. Cat. Slovenská národná galéria], Bratislava 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Gotika. Dejiny slovenského výtvarného umenia, ed. D. Buran, Bratislava 2003, pp. 757-758 (Gábor Endrődy).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> P. Kováč, *Sv. Trojice z Českých Budějovic Mistra žebráckého Oplakávání, "*Ars" 1996, p. 142-151.

Geschichte der biledenden Kunst in Österreich. Spätmittelalter und Renaissance, ed. A. Rosenauer, München 2003, pp. 345-348,



The *expressive* quality of these features, developed often in sensuously rounded forms, modeled in deep relief with audaciously undercut draperies and details, was interpreted as a "Late Gothic Baroque" art. The existence of such a label does not, however, satisfy our need for understanding any more. It was based on the assumption, that there exists a special kind of art historical "law of return". According to it, each artistic style inherently and inevitably develops in a series of periods following each other: the primitive, the classical and the baroque<sup>6</sup>. The exaggerated and expressive forms of the first quarter of the 16th century thus not only made visible the pains accompanying the birth of the Reformation, but, at the same time, marked the final phase of the Gothic style. We are, however, unable to believe any longer in clearly defined laws which would rule the coming and passing of visual styles. We should also take into account the fact, that formally similar formal features in 17th and 18th century art, from where the category of "baroque" was taken, are no longer explained as expressions of passionate nature of either artists or the period as such, but as thoughtfully devised rhetorical and theatrical devices introduced into visual art as specific means of indicating differing operational modes.

What I will try to do in my contribution will be to search for such qualifying categories that would help us to understand better the admittedly incoherent group of artworks introduced above. The more matter-of-fact oriented art historians might feel that this is a vain undertaking, since the artworks will certainly remain the same before as after. I am convinced, however, that giving names is not an innocent activity at all. Just recall Adam in the Paradise in the second chapter of Genesis<sup>7</sup> to realize that giving names means nothing less than knowledge in the sense of yielding power. More recently, critical philosophy of language barred us from a naïve assumption, that the words we use to talk about images are merely accidental and therefore irrelevant. A case in point: The ubiquitous metaphor coined by Johann Huizinga in 1906 has labeled "Late Gothic" as the "Autumn of the Middle Ages". The context of this metaphor was at the same time both biologic and sentimental, in other words, typically fin-de-siècle. Its rich connotations of opulence, ripeness, ending, decay and general decline have informed the understanding of art which we have gathered here to study. Take for one, for example, the habitual interpretation of the branches in place of vaulting ribs and decorative traceries as dry twigs. Paul Crossley has suggested, in my opinion correctly, that these can be just as well interpreted as fresh branches of living shrubbery, which were twisted and bound by villagers of Northern Europe to build simple huts. Thus they could stand for signifiers of a mythic "native architecture of the German peoples", as described by Vitruvius<sup>8</sup>. Recently, Ethan Matt Kavaler has explained the "organic architecture" as means of presenting the dichotomy of order and disorder and, consequently, showing the images of "the nature in need of order, in need of authority and salvation"9.

It does not make much sense to talk about the wooden sculpture in the first quarter of the 16th century as being "Gothic". If we compare it to a 13th, 14th and even a 15th century sculpture, almost everything is different: the concept of bodily form, relationship between draperies and the core of the figure, ontological (ontic) status of the image as related to the sacred themes and, last but not least, requirements of the audience for its narrative and psychological abilities. What remains is the common artistic task of creating a wooden figure or an altarpiece situated in a church environment in connection with the altar as the centre of the cult, and used in specific liturgical and social situations. We can recognize decorative elements of decisively Italian *all' antiqua* origin in many northern altarpieces around and after 1500, e.g., in the Altarpiece from Spišská Sobota (Szépesszombat / Georgenburg) by Paul of Levoča, or in the Kefermarkt Altarpiece by the Kriechbaum workshop in Pas-



2. Master of the Royal Figures of Matejov (detail), ca 1500, Slovenská národná galle

sau<sup>10</sup>. (Throughout my contribution, I remain relegated to the margins of the also their audiences and patrons, muidiom and called it "Welsch". "It make even if an obligatory one, over an oppostyle over as a complete stylistic idio decided to call his book *Limewood S* denote the cultural era, not the style of This was a prudent solution: if there wit would certainly have to pertain to the Hans Leinberger.

After dismissing the adjectives of to the group of carvings introduced in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Among recent critical analyses of style, cf. C. Ginzburg, *Style: Inclusion and Exclusion*, [in:] *Wooden Eyes. Nine Reflections on Distance*, New York 2001 (Italian original 1998), pp. 109-138.

<sup>8</sup> P. Crossley, The Return to the Forest: Natural Architecture and the German Past in the Age of Dürer, [in:] Künstlerischer Austausch: Artistic Exchange. Akten des XXVIII. Internationalen Kongresses für Kunstgeschichte, ed. T. Gaethgens, Berlin 1993, vol. 2, pp. 71-80

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> E. M. Kavaler, *Nature and the Chapel Vaults at Ingolstadt: Structuralist and Other Perspectives*, "The Art Bulletin" 87, 2005, pp. 230-248, cited from p. 244.

Gotika..., pp. 753-754 (J. Fajt); Geschichte putti on the base of the St. Wolfgang figure s
 Kavaler, Nature..., p. 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> F. Zeri, *Renaissance and Pseudo-Renaissa* pp. 326-372.



rounded forms, modeled in deep relief e Gothic Baroque" art. The existence fore. It was based on the assumption, o it, each artistic style inherently and e, the classical and the baroque. The us not only made visible the pains actinal phase of the Gothic style. We are, rule the coming and passing of visual al features in 17th and 18th century art, as expressions of passionate nature of and theatrical devices introduced into

ifying categories that would help us to bove. The more matter-of-fact oriented will certainly remain the same before activity at all. Just recall Adam in the ans nothing less than knowledge in the ed us from a naïve assumption, that the elevant. A case in point: The ubiquitous s the "Autumn of the Middle Ages". The al, in other words, typically fin-de-siècle. line have informed the understanding of nabitual interpretation of the branches in s suggested, in my opinion correctly, that hich were twisted and bound by villagers rs of a mythic "native architecture of the has explained the "organic architecture" ntly, showing the images of "the nature in

In the first quarter of the 16<sup>th</sup> century as y sculpture, almost everything is differnee core of the figure, ontological (ontic) ast, requirements of the audience for its listic task of creating a wooden figure or later as the centre of the cult, and used in elements of decisively Italian all antiqual laterpiece from Spišská Sobota (Szépessece by the Kriechbaum workshop in Pas-

clusion, [in:] Wooden Eyes. Nine Reflections on

in the Age of Dürer, [in:] Künstlerischer Austauschichte, ed. T. Gaethgens, Berlin 1993, vol. 2,

Other Perspectives, "The Art Bulletin" 87, 2005,



2. Master of the Royal Figures of Matejovce, Madonna from Hôrka (detail), ca 1500, Slovenská národná galleria, Bratislava



3. Master of the Royal Figures of Matejovce, St. Sebastian from the Altarpiece of Sts Helen and Egidius, ca 1500, St Paul and St Anthony Church, Sásová,

sau<sup>10</sup>. (Throughout my contribution, I am using the personal names as brand-marks, standing for workshops.) They remain relegated to the margins of the structures but their presence proves that the sculptors, and most probably also their audiences and patrons, must have known the new style well. They realized its difference from the local idiom and called it "Welsch". "It makes sense to regard the Gothic style of this time as a mode, a conscious choice, even if an obligatory one, over an opposing Italianate approach." The interest in taking the Italianate Renaissance style over as a complete stylistic idiom was strongly differentiated. Michael Baxandall realized the distance and decided to call his book *Limewood Sculptors of Renaissance Germany*, but he used the name "Renaissance" to denote the cultural era, not the style of the artworks themselves - in the terms of Federico Zeri's differentiation<sup>12</sup>. This was a prudent solution: if there was any occasion to call Central European wooden sculpture "Renaissance", it would certainly have to pertain to the production of artists such as the Monogrammist I. P., but hardly, e.g., to Hans Leinberger.

After dismissing the adjectives of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque, what stylistic name remains to be given to the group of carvings introduced in the beginning? We have, in fact, one more stylistic category to consider:

<sup>©</sup> Gotika..., pp. 753-754 (J. Fajt); Geschichte der biledenden Kunst in Österreich..., pp. 342-343 (L. Schultes). For detailed photo of putti on the base of the St. Wolfgang figure see U. Krone-Balcke, Der Kefermarkter Altar, Berlin 1999, p. 86, Fig. 39. 
© Kavaler, Nature..., p. 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> F. Zeri, Renaissance and Pseudo-Renaissance, [in:] History of Italian Art, Cambridge-Oxford 1994 (Italian original 1979), vol. 2, so. 326-372.



namely, Mannerism. I have to stress immediately, that I use this term neither in its original, pejorative meaning, nor in the generalized sense denoting another phase of style conforming to the laws of development – the one in some instances found between the "classic" and the "baroque" periods. What comes to my mind when I watch both the exaggeratedly voluminous forms and the distorted figures, is the Italian Mannerism of late Michelangelo and his followers. To the psychological explanation of the phenomenon set into the framework of the "history of the spirit", as coined by Max Dvořák in his writings, I prefer to understand the Mannerist extravagancies as a reaction of younger generation of artists who are to enter the stage at the moment, when everybody is deeply convinced that nothing better and more forceful than the great art of their immediate predecessors can ever be created. Italian Mannerists - together with their patrons and public - choose to intentionally exceed the harmony and perfection of the previous, "classical" phase, both in form and meaning. In the Transalpine situation – mutatis mutandis – we could conceive similarly about the generation of younger contemporaries and followers of the great master carvers Stoss, Kriechbaum, Riemenschneider or Michel Erhart. Following Baxandall's ideas, we might see behind these moves also the need to establish a clearly recognizable visual style of individual artists and their workshops, which would serve as a kind of a trademark. (Interestingly, similar train of thought offers itself as a plausible explanation of the more or less contemporaneous appearance of Hieronymus Bosch in the northern Netherlands.)

Please note the chronological parallelism of both phenomena: we are talking about art created on both sides of the Alps predominantly in the second and third decades of the 16th century. Have we arrived at a common "spirit of the times"? I would not like to reintroduce this specter in the art historical discourse, but would not it be coming back at us through the chimney if we would agree to use the term Mannerist to characterize Hans Leinberger, so-called Master H.L. or the anonymous carvers from South Bohemia and Spiš? I am convinced this needs not to be the case. It might be important, at this moment, to stress the functional and constructivist nature of the stylistic categories as I am using them. I do not want to say more than the following: the understanding of such sculptures is served much better if we take into account that they were contemporaries to, say, Baccio Bandinelli, than if we think of them as some kind of a late and distorted progeny of the 13th century sculpture, as the term "Gothic" would imply. Any further use of the term is subject to a fresh scrutiny of its relevance.

It may serve us a bit more, however. Let us take up the small and exquisite Calvary from Bardějov (Bártfa / Bartfeld), attributed to Paul of Levoča (Fig. 4)<sup>13</sup>. Are we satisfied at the understanding reached by saying that the group steeps up the expressive contents of the scene and that the gesture of St. John was adapted from the famous Dürer's Calvary print? We still lack proper understanding of what, at the time it was created, the difference between the traditional iconography and concept of the scene on the one hand, and this concrete creation of Master Paul on the other could have meant for both the artist and the audience. The Bardějov Calvary has been fittingly characterized by Jiří Fajt and Stefan Roller as an object intended as well for artistic evaluation as for religious contemplation. I would like to suggest that the concept of image as art can be very useful in the search for an explanation that would help us to understand the specific object, the wider group and also the framework of historical mentality where they originally belonged.

The decisive step in the longer process of the move away from the concept of image as a representation of the invisible, above all representation of the holy and of the socially relevant, and towards the concept of image as predominantly art, formed an important aspect of Mannerism in Italy and, as I would like to suggest, also of certain group of contemporary artistic production in Central Europe. Unusually as it may sound, the shift in the status of image connects the late-Renaissance and Mannerist Italy with the pre-Reformation and Reformation situation north of the Alps. From the point of view of later developments, the difference between both areas lay above all in the eventually opposing evaluations of the resulting art status of an image: the Cinquecento concept of *disegno* socially elevated the status of both the image and the artist, because it contained the ability to reach a direct communication of both

13 Gotika..., p. 756 (J. Fajt and S. Roller).

with the Platonic world of ideas. the other hand, declared images r irrelevant, because they are not than mere art.

In the North, an expression Reformation ideas was recog the Holzsichtigkeit (or monochro religious images, namely altarpi the one hand, the use of the mon was aimed, undoubtedly, also at presentation of extremely fine h elaboration of the carvings. On t hand, presentation (or, rather, r tation) of the raw material char sculptures communicated both th ric of inexpensiveness and a d opinion to the character of a sta virtual) reality of depicted holy Both points of view converge in s the artistic, or artificial, characte image (Künstlichkeit). I would like gest that the strange formal fear distorted forms, excessive volun unexpected compositions were en which has left aside, or behind, the may be provided by an early 16th of - this is not an image of Madonna sculpture of Madonna.

So far, I was moving carefully these reflections with a case in poprivate devotional devices, which noisseur artistic object<sup>16</sup>. We could the same concept embodied in mo above its liturgical role is confirmed and it is most probably not by accientments surface and of new figural

In this place a key difference she contents; we should read it as a cha

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Difference between both terms has be Rimeneschneider c. 1460-1531, ed. J. C

National Gallery in Prague, Inv. Nr. P54
 the Prague Charles' University in the earl
 M. A. Kotrbová, Středověké umění ze sb
 B. Decker, Reform within the cult imagissance, eds. P. Humfrey, M. Kemp, Cam

1

n neither in its original, pejorative meaning, ing to the laws of development — the one in ds. What comes to my mind when I watch the Italian Mannerism of late Michelangelo set into the framework of the "history of the Ithe Mannerist extravagancies as a reaction ment, when everybody is deeply convinced ate predecessors can ever be created. Italian intionally exceed the harmony and perfection ransalpine situation — mutatis mutandis — we ries and followers of the great master carvers axandall's ideas, we might see behind these individual artists and their workshops, which nought offers itself as a plausible explanation sch in the northern Netherlands.)

are talking about art created on both sides of century. Have we arrived at a common "spirit storical discourse, but would not it be coming dannerist to characterize Hans Leinberger, sound Spiš? I am convinced this needs not to be ional and constructivist nature of the stylistic dlowing: the understanding of such sculptures approaries to, say, Baccio Bandinelli, than if we century sculpture, as the term "Gothic" would as relevance.

I and exquisite Calvary from Bardějov (Bártfa at the understanding reached by saying that the gesture of St. John was adapted from the of what, at the time it was created, the differe on the one hand, and this concrete creation of the audience. The Bardějov Calvary has been ended as well for artistic evaluation as for relinage as art can be very useful in the search for ct, the wider group and also the framework of

m the concept of image as a representation of relevant, and towards the concept of image as y and, as I would like to suggest, also of certain ly as it may sound, the shift in the status of image formation and Reformation situation north of the etween both areas lay above all in the eventually inquecento concept of disegno socially elevated e ability to reach a direct communication of both

with the Platonic world of ideas. Luther, on the other hand, declared images religiously irrelevant, because they are nothing more than mere art.

In the North, an expression of pre-Reformation ideas was recognized in the Holzsichtigkeit (or monochrome14) of religious images, namely altarpieces. On the one hand, the use of the monochrome was aimed, undoubtedly, also at a better presentation of extremely fine handicraft elaboration of the carvings. On the other hand, presentation (or, rather, representation) of the raw material character of sculptures communicated both the rhetoric of inexpensiveness and a distanced opinion to the character of a staged (or virtual) reality of depicted holy persons. Both points of view converge in stressing the artistic, or artificial, character of the image (Künstlichkeit). I would like to suggest that the strange formal features of distorted forms, excessive volumes and



4. Paul of Levoča, Calvary, 1520-1530, Ŝariŝské museum, Bardejov

unexpected compositions were employed in order to pronounce the image as a work of art, as an artificial object which has left aside, or behind, the aspirations at representing the holy in any strong sense. A curious example may be provided by an early 16<sup>th</sup> century remake of a Beautiful Madonna from Bohemia (Fig. 5)<sup>15</sup>. To put it briefly - this is not an image of Madonna that represents the Virgin; this is an artistic image which represents an earlier sculpture of Madonna.

So far, I was moving carefully around Veit Stoss, but his late Bamberg Altarpiece can serve us to conclude these reflections with a case in point. The new form of frame employed here was derived not from Italy, but from private devotional devices, which have always stood close to the border between the religious image and connoisseur artistic object<sup>16</sup>. We could say, that what occurred was a shift in measures, from small-size sculpture to the same concept embodied in monumental forms. The prevalence of the artistic status of the Bamberg Altarpiece above its liturgical role is confirmed by the demands on future users recorded by sculptor's son Andreas Stoss. And it is most probably not by accident that it is only in this late creation where Veit Stoss made use of both monochrome surface and of new figural forms and drapery motifs.

In this place a key difference should be introduced: the rise of art does not mean a proportional decline of religious contents; we should read it as a change in the religious functioning of the image. The long-held art historical precon-

16 B. Decker, Reform within the cult image: the German winged altarpiece before the Reformation, [in:] The Altarpiece in the Renaissance, eds. P. Humfrey, M. Kemp, Cambridge 1990, pp. 90-105.

3,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Difference between both terms has been recently stressed by E. Oellermann, *Polychrome or Not? That is the Question*, [in:] *Tilman Rimeneschneider c.* 1460-1531, ed. J. Chanuis, Washington 2004, pp. 113-123, at "Studies in the History of Art" 65).

Rimeneschneider c. 1460-1531, ed. J. Chapuis, Washington 2004, pp. 113-123. - ("Studies in the History of Art" 65).

Stational Gallery in Prague, Inv. Nr. P5473. The correct dating was recognized by Jaromír Homolka in an art historical seminar at the Prague Charles' University in the early 1980s. The Madonna has been published fleetingly as an early 15th century sculpture by M. A. Kotrbová, Středověké umění ze sbírek Národní galerie na státním hradě Kosti, Praha 1977 [s.p.].



5. Virgine with Child, ca 1520, National Gallery, Prague

ception, starting with the Romantics at the beginning of the 19th century, considered the two as inevitable opposites<sup>17</sup>. Recent inquiries in early 16th century art on both sides of the Alps begin to prove that the opposition between artistic, or aesthetic, images, and images in Christian cult, as confirmed by Hans Belting's seminal book Bild und Kult, may be too schematic. Raphael's Sixtine Madonna was construed as a thoroughly cultic image, and the "organic vaults" of Central European churches can be read as visualizing "dramas of redemption, of deliverance from the chaotic environment of an unreasoning nature (...), nature departing from God's initial imprint."18 The shift in measures of the forms used for altarpieces may be also understood as a shift in roles from the private to the public: the mental setting of private devotion with its moralization and interiorization of religion fuses with the public character of cult images as the Reformation rises. These suggestions could be verified by future research looking for possible correlation between the employment of these new artistic forms and reformist attitudes of the patrons.

To conclude, please allow me a brief summary: the way of creative assimilation in the North of what we recognize as Late Renaissance style was pursued effectively in painting between Albrecht Dürer, Albrecht Altdorfer or Quentyn Massys, and the Romanists. The situation was different in sculpture in Central Europe, because of the strong tradition of great Late Gothic wooden carving. Inclusion of individual, mostly decorative and marginal Italianate motifs was one way of coming to terms with Renaissance art. Another effective way meant to appropriate from the South not forms or motifs, but the shift in the status of image from predominantly representing the holy, to the prevalence of artistic quali-

ties. As far as this shift corresponded with pre-Reformation and Reformation ideas, it provided a basis for what we might want to call a specific "style". We in Central Europe should perhaps think more about the Anglo-Saxon tendency to call the whole period "Renaissance" instead of "Late Gothic". As Jeffrey Chipps Smith has recently noted, "the term Renaissance, however imperfect, still conveys the richness and diversity of these two centuries [1380-1580] better than competing labels, such as Late Gothic or Early Modern. This was a dynamic period of artistic innovation, not an end, as the term Late Gothic implies." Since, however, we have no adequate name to call this style, and since hardly anyone sane would wish to insert another one to the "goose-march of styles", we might as well leave the things as they are.

Skoncentrowałam się na pytanie uropejskich rzeźb z początku s zycja i przesadnie stylizowane i dostarczają pewnych modeli uła terminu "manieryzm", ponieważ manierystów okresu późnego M podejście do pojęcia wizerunku wieczną koncepcję świętego wizerunku

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Cf. the brief but inspiring discussion of the topic in B. Decker, *Das Ende des mittlelaterlichen Kultbildes und die Plastik Hans Leinbergers*, Bamberg 1985, p. 119.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> M. V. Schwarz, Unsichtbares sichtbar, [in:] Visuelle Medien in christlichen Kult, Wien 2002, pp. 173-216; cited from Kavaler, Nature..., pp. 244-245.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> J. Chipps Smith, *The Northern Renaissance*, London 2004, p. 12.



antics at the beginning of the 19th century, e opposites17. Recent inquiries in early 16th ne Alps begin to prove that the opposition images, and images in Christian cult, as minal book Bild und Kult, may be too schenna was construed as a thoroughly cultic of Central European churches can be read mption, of deliverance from the chaotic enature (...), nature departing from God's inisures of the forms used for altarpieces may in roles from the private to the public: the tion with its moralization and interiorization ic character of cult images as the Reformacould be verified by future research looking een the employment of these new artistic of the patrons.

v me a brief summary: the way of creative what we recognize as Late Renaissance in painting between Albrecht Dürer, Albresys, and the Romanists. The situation was al Europe, because of the strong tradition of arving. Inclusion of individual, mostly decoe motifs was one way of coming to terms er effective way meant to appropriate from s, but the shift in the status of image from the holy, to the prevalence of artistic qualirmation ideas, it provided a basis for what perhaps think more about the Anglo-Saxon hic". As Jeffrey Chipps Smith has recently chness and diversity of these two centuries arly Modern. This was a dynamic period of ce, however, we have no adequate name to ther one to the "goose-march of styles", we Gotyk? Renesanse? Manieryzm? Modele interpretacyjne do analizy rzeźby środkowoeuropejskiej po roku 1500

Skoncentrowałam się na pytaniu, jakie określenie pasuje najlepiej do skategoryzowania pewnej grupy środkowoeuropejskich rzeźb z początku szesnastego wieku. Charakteryzuje je wybujała forma, niekonwencjonalna kompozycja i przesadnie stylizowane i zdeformowane draperie i fizjonomie postaci. Terminy "późny gotyk" i "renesans"
dostarczają pewnych modeli ułatwiających interpretację dzieł. Według mnie powinniśmy również rozważyć użycie
terminu "manieryzm", ponieważ mamy tu do czynienia z dziełami powstającymi równolegle z twórczością włoskich
manierystów okresu późnego Michała Anioła. Grupy te mają pewne cechy wspólne. Obydwie łączy szczególne
podejście do pojęcia wizerunku jako dzieła sztuki, które w tychże samych dekadach stopniowo wyparło średniowieczną koncepcję świętego wizerunku.



Vien 2002, pp. 173-216; cited from Kavaler, Nature...,