

The collection of the votive pictures - Maria Radna



The stock:

On the ground floor the so called 'Votive Corridor' joins the church. Here the votive pictures are exhibited, which - since the beginning of the pilgrimages in the early 18th century - have been brought to Maria Radna by the faithful in order to fulfil a vow. The oldest votive pictures are from 1858, altogether 16 pictures from the 19th century have been preserved. Unfortunately almost all of the votive pictures from the 18th and 19th centuries were burned in 1870. But the tradition of donating pictures was revived a few years later. From 1996 to 1997 the institute for ethnic studies in Szeged registered more than 1700 pictures.

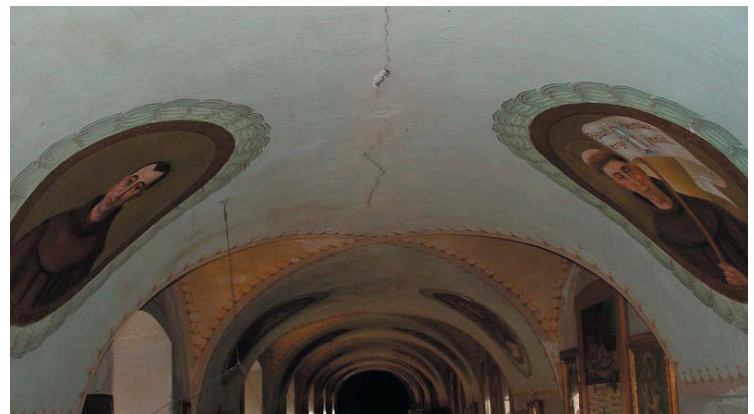
The exhibition:

In the course of restoration the pictures shall be made accessible to visitors on the original three floors to let them experience the history of this place of pilgrimage. First of all the 82 votive pictures of Sanktanna are to find their place on the first floor; for this project the HOG Sanktanna has already guaranteed the financial means. In a second step the other stocked pictures could be hung on the second floor and thus be preserved from further decay. The museum wants to show the popular religiousness of middle European cultural heritage in Maria Radna.



The repair works:

In order to be able to use the votive corridor again as an exhibition room, in a first step the partitions must be removed. Furthermore windows and doors will be reworked and repainted. Finally the historical setting of the cross vaulting, which is fortunately still intact in large parts, shall be restored. The work on these projects is to start still in summer of this year. For the hanging of the pictures a special rail will be used to avoid unnecessary holes in the historical brickwork.



The financing:

In order to be able to open the second floor to visitors **further donations are necessary**. It would be desirable that also other place of birth associations or private persons follow the example of the community of Sanktanna and contribute to the coming into being of a museum of votive pictures in Maria Radna.

<http://www.mariaradna.ro>

