



The Spirit of Polonia

John Sobieski III

\$ 3500

King of Poland & Saviour of Christian Europe in 1683

signed and dated: *Tracy H Sugg / 2009*

stoneware clay

28 x 20.5 in.



PROVENANCE

DeLamar Mansion/Polish Embassy in New York City, NY Unveiled during a formal ceremony 2009

The Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City, NY Solo Exhibit 2009-2012

Private Collection of Sculptor Tracy H Sugg 2009 to present



NOTES

The Spirit of Polonia—A Legacy to Mankind was an exhibit created that covered the history of Poland through the heroes and heroines that are reflected in her faith, military, arts, science and statecraft. Each portrait bust is over life-size.

The purchase of any sculpture from *The Spirit of Polonia* includes a certificate of authenticity and an exhibit catalogue.

Except from the Introduction:

But all of the Poles in the selection have influenced American life in some way in the various individual and collective legacies. Tracy H. Sugg, in her personal journey of discovery to breathe life into her sculpture of these champions of Polish, American and world liberty has done all of us a great service - she has captured in their spirit the love of liberty and nation that burns in the heart of every freedom loving soul. May her work serve as an inspiration to all freedom loving people everywhere to keep the flame of liberty so nobly kept burning by these Polish Patriots a bright beacon of hope that will never be extinguished.

Thomas R. Rozman (Rozmyslowicz)

September 29, 2009

Except from pg 16, John Sobieski III

Hailed as the savior of Western Europe from Ottoman armies that ravaged and destroyed lands throughout Europe, Sobieski is credited for halting the westward expansion of the Ottoman armies led by "Black Mustafa." In a losing battle against the horde that had devastated Eastern Europe, Sobieski led allied Austrian and Polish cavalry in a brilliant and decisive flanking counterattack so comprehensive in victory that the Ottoman army withdrew to Hungary, never to threaten Western Europe again.

As I write, the Duke of Lorraine's ensign has hurried in with letters They request assistance urgently, for the enemy occupies the same ravelin with them, and is digging tunnels beneath the bulwark.... Our own sappers can feel it as they dig their countermines. He adds that the Vizir has pushed almost his entire army into the siege trenches in preparation for some major action.... Tomorrow, God willing, we will expect to hear Vienna's guns, and the day after that to drink the Danube's waters.....

Our Lord and God, Blessed of all the Ages, has brought unheard of victory and glory to our nation. All the guns, the whole camp, has fallen into our hands... Having covered the trenches, the fields, and the camp with corpses, the enemy now flees in confusion.... The Vizir took such hurried flight that he only had time to escape with one horse, and in the clothes he wore.... They left behind them a mass of innocent local Austrian people, particularly women...bodies of dead women lie in great numbers....

Today I was in the city, which could have held out five more days, no more. Eyes have never seen such as the mines have done there.... The Emperor's palace is completely ruined by shot.

-- John III Sobieski

Sculptor's notes –

This composition of Sobieski was influenced by two portraits of him painted by Jerzy Siemiginowski-Eleuter in 1686 and in 1693. I wanted to portray Sobieski as a military leader and as a king. I followed the Baroque artistic style of Sobieski's time, which is characterized by the dramatic and ornate evident in the details of the armor and helmet. Yet it is the penetrating gaze of this great king of Poland that commands the viewer's attention.