

THE SUBTLE CHARM OF RESTORATION OF ITEMS AT THE RĪGA BOURSE

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CONDITION OF THE ITEM PRIOR TO RESTORATION

There are two large areas of damage on the upper edge of the vessel. One of the fragments has been previously restored, broken fragments have been inaccurately glued in, and in the second larger area of loss, the fragments have not been separately glued. The first fragment does not have a large loss of mass, but some losses around the places where they had been glued. The second fragment also has several losses of mass. Thirty larger and also very small bits of porcelain form the greatest part of the fragment to be restored.



A VESSEL ON A LEG
 AMM K-2937,
 SIZE: H – 40 CM, D – 28.5 CM.
 BISQUE, GILDING



Fig. 1. Before restoration



Fig. 2. Restoration process



Fig. 3. Restoration process



Fig. 4. Restoration process

DESCRIPTION OF THE RESTORATION PROCESS

The previous restoration was unglued during the working process, the glue was cleaned, and the edges of the pieces of porcelain were bleached, while the main task was to gradually glue all of the fragments to their corresponding places in the original. A work drawing where each fragment had its place marked was created for the place where there was the largest loss of mass. The fragments were initially affixed with small places of adhesive tape in line with the work drawing, then glued in by individual sections, filling the glue into the joints. A form was taken on the vessel in *Zetaplus* mass for the analogous place in the missing sections and the missing fragments were poured in gypsum polymer into the created matrix. The poured forms were worked on and bearing in mind their location were glued together with the original fragments sequentially, starting from the bottom edge of the missing part. The glued areas were processed during the work, as were the minor losses next to them. Some fragments were poured by affixing the *Zetaplus* matrix immediately to the places of loss on the vessel. This was done to more accurately connect the missing fragments and the original. Several fragments were glued in separate groups according to the work drawing, then worked on and only after this were they glued to the large vessel. The joints of the glued fragments and the new fragments which had been poured in the gypsum polymer were worked on repeatedly with putty and sandpaper. When everything was glued and formed a unified whole, the new fragments were then covered with a thin layer of putty and worked on with fine sandpaper. They were then toned according to the original with white matt cold ceramic paint with the toning done in several stages with further processing with putty in places. The created fragments and the treated joints were covered with a matt lacquer where required. Photo fixation was done of all processes.



Fig. 5. Restoration process



Fig. 6. Restoration process



Fig. 7. After restoration



Fig. 8. After restoration