

ITAL. QUART. 57

Binding:

Original hard parchment binding from 1697, in good condition. Supralibros of the Emperor Leopold I Library stamped on both covers.

History:

The manuscript was made in 1697 (date on the binding) in Vienna at the court of Leopold I. It was dedicated to Emperor Leopold I on the occasion of his name day. It belonged to Emperor's library, which is indicated by a superexlibris with Leopold's portrait and the Habsburg coat of arms. There is an old catalogue number *I.169* on the spine on a paper label, which is a sign that the manuscript was kept in the library of the Strahremberg family in Riedegg and then in Efferding. The Konigliche Bibliothek bought a part of the Strahremberg family's collection in 1889. (1r<sup>o</sup>) accession number *cat. Acc. 1889.154* (2r<sup>o</sup>, 38v<sup>o</sup>) stamps of the Konigliche Bibliothek. Current catalogue numbers can be seen on the front cover (red label) as well as on f. 1r<sup>o</sup>.

Content:

Intermezzo. A text in prose interwoven with poems. It includes an academic discussion in a literary form concerning what is more important in life and what brings more happiness: Fortune or Achievements. The Intermezzo was written in Vienna in 1697 at the court of Leopold I. It was dedicated to the Emperor on the occasion of his name day. The author of the text, Nicolò Minato (1627-1698), had been a Vienna court poet since 1669. Music: Antonio Draghi (1634-1700): the score conserved in the Bibliotheca Palatina in Vienna, catalogue number: A.N. 49. A. 63, p. 1 e 2. The Intermezzo was performed by Empress' ladies-in-waiting: Contessa di Ringsmaul, Contessa di Traun, wife of *Maresciallo del Paese*; Contessa Tchernin, wife of *vice cancelliere di Bohemia*; Contessa di Mollart, as well as Emperor's daughter Archduchess Elisabeth. One of the pieces is dedicated to Emperor's son Joseph. Unpublished.

With reference to the manuscript: cf. Lemm, p. 82.