

THE RED CABINET

In the Red Corner Cabinet, Dorotheenthal faience pieces are exhibited, which, with their white glaze coating and coloured - mostly blue - ornaments, dominate the room's ambience. What can be seen are courtly products such as a large orange bucket, figures and vases, as well as plates of the table service of Princess Elisabeth Albertine.



▲ View into the Audience Room

THE AUDIENCE ROOM AND THE SOUTHERN ANTECHAMBER

The Audience Room and the Southern Antechamber present the radiant luxuriance of excellent cut goblets by German masters from the middle of the 18th century. The rooms house jewels of the old princely collection such as cabinets, an English bracket clock, an Italian weatherglass, and a small gallery of potentates.

THE DOLL'S TOWN "MON PLAISIR"

There is only one such collection worldwide. "Mon plaisir" – "my pleasure" – this is how Princess Auguste Dorothea of Schwarzburg-Arnstadt (1666–1751) named this incredible collection so rich in detail. This miniature world reflects the image of a small residence of the Baroque period. In 82 different scenes, the just under 400 figures and nearly 2,700 objects give an impression of courtly life and the life of commoners, craftsmen and farmers, of life in a monastery, and much else.



▲ "Apes feasting in the woods", Flemish tapestry, 1559

THE FLEMISH TAPESTRIES

The inventory of the Palace Museum embraces eleven Flemish tapestries. In the scenes "Apes hunting with falcons" and "Apes feasting in the woods", two of these show humans in ape form. Both, the so-called ape carpets and parts of a St. Paul series showing biblical scenes were first mentioned in 1559 as belonging to the estate of Count Günther XLI.



*Doll's Town
"Mon plaisir"*

▲ Porcelain Cabinet



▲ Seigneurial maternity room, Ladies at their toilette, Hairdresser



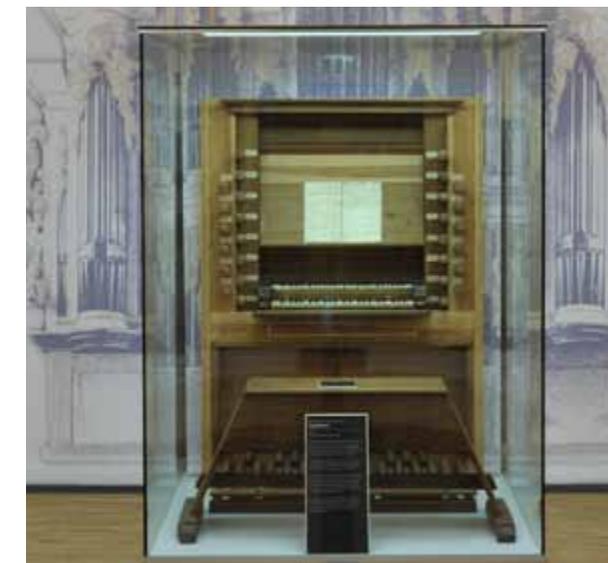
▲ Grand dancing and entertainment evening

THE BALLROOM

The Ballroom is evocative of the splendid feasts the one-time princely residents celebrated. Today's appearance of the ballroom stems from the room setting of 1881. The colours that once dominated the hall, i. e., brown and crimson, gave way to the colours white, silver and gold. Since then, the ballroom is also called "White Hall". The visitors experience a conjunction between the original furnishings such as the portraits of princes and princesses larger than life-sized from the 18th century and the neo-baroque interpretation from the late 19th century. The credenza niche in the ballroom is adorned by East-Asian porcelains from around 1700.



▲ View into the ballroom



▲ Console of the Wender organ, 1703

THE BACH EXHIBITION

The Bach Exhibition presents the work of the young Johann Sebastian Bach in Arnstadt (1703–1707) and addresses the musical, social and municipal history of that era. The original organ console on which Bach played is an outstanding exhibit which every year attracts thousands of music enthusiasts from all over the world.

PALACE MUSEUM ARNSTADT



THE PALACE MUSEUM IN ARNSTADT TREASURE BOX AND MUSEUM



▲ Ballroom with portrait of Princess Elisabeth Albertine



PRINCE GÜNTHER I OF SCHWARZBURG- SONDERSHAUSEN

By the order of Prince Günther I of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, reigning from 1720 to 1740, the Princely Palace in Arnstadt was built between 1729 and 1734 as the later dowager's residence for his spouse Elisabeth Albertine née Princess of Anhalt-Bernburg (1693–1774). The three-winged double palace was the perfect place of residence and representation for the princely couple when residing in Arnstadt. With the new palace, the prince and the princess created a place for their arts collections in keeping with their station.

TODAY'S MUSEUM

In the reconstructed baroque rooms of the southern bel étage, the Palace Museum exhibits princely lifestyles and living environments, while the ground floor of the southern corps de logis invites the visitor to experience the impressive dolls' town "Mon plaisir" with its houses and parlours. The attic accommodates the multimedia Bach exhibition and also special exhibitions.



"Proserpina", Benjamin Thomae, Boettger ▲
stoneware, around 1710/12

THE MIRROR AND PORCELAIN CABINET

The baroque Mirror and Porcelain Cabinet with its hundreds of carved and gilded consoles has been preserved in its original condition. In this luxuriant room, the Chinese and Japanese porcelains belonging to the original furnishings can be admired. Added to this are early pieces of Meissen porcelain, Asian carvings, and faience pieces. Particular treasures are the Boettger stoneware and the Boettger porcelain.

The collection of Meissen porcelains can be admired in the Pilaster Room, e. g., jugs painted by Johann Gregorius Hördt, one of the most noted painters of the Meissen Manufacture.



▲ View into the Porcelain Cabinet, around 1735

THE PAINTINGS CABINET

With its sumptuously painted wooden panellings and doors, its furniture and over fifty paintings, the Paintings Cabinet conveys an impression of its former glory. Apart from

works by outstanding Dutch painters of the 17th century and two paintings by Lucas Cranach the Elder, paintings by the Dresden court painter Johann Alexander Thiele can be seen, who lived in Arnstadt from 1727 to 1739 and was in charge of the paintings collection of the princely couple. His large landscape prospects such as his paintings "Drei Gleichen" and "Castle and town of Sondershausen" illustrate his immense prowess.



▲ View into the reconstructed Paintings Cabinet

THE FORMER PRINCELY SUITE

In the rooms of the southern bel étage, with baroque room settings, furniture and numerous objects of art from the princely estate are presented, such as, among others, a welcome goblet from Schwarzburg – a piece of goldwork by the Nuremberg master Hans Kellner. In 1560, Katharina of Nassau-Dillenburg, the daughter of Wilhelm I of Nassau-Dillenburg and sister of Wilhelm of Orange, married Count Günther XLI of Schwarzburg who reigned from 1552 to 1583 from his residence in Arnstadt. Katharina donated this goblet to the council of Arnstadt in 1592.

PALACE MUSEUM ARNSTADT



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