The closest parallel of the relief at Susuz Han is, however, the relief of the Talisman Gate at Baghdad from 1221 (Fig. 32) depicting a personage seated cross-legged, holding two dragons by their tongues. Although it has been interpreted in various ways by many scholars, its affinity to the miniature depicting a person in a similar manner holding a crescent in the medallion formed by two dragons and framed by four angels in the frontispiece miniature of the Kitāb al-Tiryaḵ in the National Library in Paris (Fig. 34) indicates that the personage between the dragons can represent the moon. In this case, both the frontispiece miniature and the relief of the Talisman Gate indicate the wish of fertility, a sort of blessing which appears in the form of inscription in Samarkand pottery. The peculiar point is that at the portal of Susuz Han, the motif of the moon is depicted as a human face and the two angels above take the place of the four angels in the miniature of Kitāb al-Tiryaḵ. Thus the whole composition with confronted dragons with the moon and the angels above indicates the idea of fertility brought by the angels from heaven. This explanation fits with the name «Susuz Han» which means «the waterless Han» It is very possible that at that time there was a relationship between the name of the han and its relief.

The ball of the Far East, the crescent of Samarkand, the roset of the relief of the Oba Madrasah, the knot of Karatay Han’s portal, the figure holding a crescent in the miniature of the Kitāb al-Tiryaḵ, the cross-legged figure at the Talisman Gate and the head in the relief of Susuz Han, they all convey the same conception of fertility in various ways.

Although this motif appears in the crypta of a fifth century church, Deir as Zafarani in Mardin, there is no continuity up to the twelfth century, and the Seljuk examples show quite different shapes. It is apparent that this motif has found its way into Anatolia with the Turks after Manzikard. It is no longer the dreadful animal described in the Arab sources. It is the benign dragon of the Far East and the Central Asia which brings fertility and good omen to people. The content and the motif explain it. Thus, the Turks have brought the Great Asian Culture, which is a mixture of Central Asian, Chinese, Indian and Japanese cultures, and which they had adopted and made contributions to, to Anatolia, fulfilling the function of the carriers of a culture. The point which draws attention is how they rendered this motif and how they created its variations. They have changed it, and until it became unrecognizable, they have played with it. Thus, the image of fertility of Asia has become a completely different motif in appearance, and has been included in the repertoire of the Anatolian Seljuk art.

OTTOMAN ART AT THE FREER GALLERY

Esin ATIL

The Freer Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. is one of the most unique museums in the United States. It houses the finest specimens of Far and Near Eastern art together with the largest compilation of the works of the renowned American painter James McNeill Whistler. Both the collection and the building were given by Charles L. Freer as a gift to the Smithsonian Institution. Under the terms of the deed some 9,500 items were transferred to Washington upon the death of Mr. Freer in 1920.

Since the opening of the Gallery in 1923, numerous works of art were added to the collection, bringing the total number of the objects close to 12,000, the bulk of which is made up of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Near Eastern, and Indian objects. The Gallery also contains study material as thousands of sherds of pottery and porcelain, a reference library with books, slides, and photographs, the Herzfeld Archive, a technical laboratory, an Oriental picture mounting department, a photographic laboratory, and a cabinet shop.

Near Eastern objects which were moved to Washington when the museum was established consisted of over 500 pieces plus a large group of ancient Egyptian glass. Within the last fifty years many invaluable Pre-Islamic and Islamic objects were added to this section. In the Islamic group Arabic, Persian, and Ottoman manuscripts, pottery, and metalwork constitute an exceedingly comprehensive collection, incorporating objects with the highest aesthetic and historical values. Although the Islamic section at the Freer Gallery is not the largest in existence, it is the one with the most celebrated and unique pieces.

Due to the extensiveness of the collection in all phases of Islamic art, we will concern ourselves only with the objects pertaining to the Ottoman world in this paper. Ottoman art forms a relatively small portion of the mu-
seum but its manuscript, painting, and ceramic traditions are well documented. Although limited in numbers, the various stages of the development of Ottoman art can be determined through the representative pieces in the collection. In this respect it is an invaluable grouping of objects, reflecting not only the characteristic features of Ottoman art but also its problematic and transitional stages.

Art of the Book

At the present the Freer Gallery owns four bound religious texts, two sheets of calligraphy, a book binding, a rare literary text with two miniatures, and eight single images.

Among the religious works there is a 16th-17th century manuscript containing 28 folios of ten suras from the Koran (suras LXVII-LXXVII, no. 37.40). The text is written in alternating naskhi and thuluth with the titles given in gold, green or blue thuluth. The second work is a 17th century book of prayers from the Koran entitled Minhaj-i Koran-i Sherif and consists of 53 folios written in naskhi (no. 37.37). The headings are once again in thuluth and illuminated in gold and silver. Another religious text, dated 1198/1783, is a Turkish commentary on sura XXXVI with "Hazrat Sherif-i Yasini" appearing on the title page which has an illuminated head-piece (no. 06.301). Naskhi script appears on its 70 folios with the verses from the sura given above the commentaries. The last of the group is a late Yevminame, a day-book, dated 1222/1807 and signed by the calligrapher Suleyman (no. 06.307). It is a small volume with only ten folios.

The two calligraphic pages are from the 16th century, written in nasta’liq, each with an illuminated band in the center (nos. 29.66-67). They obviously once belonged to an anthology of Turkish poems.

The bookbinding at the Gallery is a superb example of Ottoman work from the late 16th or early 17th century. It is in red leather on pasteboard, stamped and tooled in gold. The interior is plain with single gold medallions while the exterior shows a more intricate and refined decoration (plate 1). On each cover an ogival medallion, flanked by two pendants, is framed by corner spandrels and enclosed by a wide border. The border shows a floral scroll while the other areas are decorated with blossoms and long curving cloud bands, a popular motif in this period.

The miniature collection is quite extraordinary since each object reflects a different aspect of Ottoman painting, which when assembled, gives a most concise survey of the various themes, styles, and influences involved in the study of this tradition.

The most fascinating and exceptional painting is a portrait of an Ottoman painter which has caused many controversies and various attributions in the past (plate 2). The inscription on the lower left portion, giving the name of Behzad, has confused many scholars who were not familiar with Ottoman painting, and lead them to believe that this was a copy by the celebrated Persian artist, based on the work of Gentile Bellini, or even that it was executed by the Venetian painter himself. It is obvious that this portrait is not by a Persian and the attribution, or the misattribution, was placed at a later date. Through the works of some late 15th century Ottoman artists we know that Bellini was influential in the Ottoman court school of painting when he visited Istanbul between 1479 and 1480. Although his impact was very shortlived, there exist several portraits the most famous of which is by the Ottoman painter Sinan which combines the western style with that of Islamic.1

The Freer portrait is far more unique than Sinan's work as it is closer to its prototype, or to the style of Venetian Renaissance. The single figure portrait is a genre characteristic of the Ottoman school, with an accentuation of the head and facial features as seen here. The treatment of the folds of the voluminous kavuk, shading of the face, and certain other details, as multiple sashes at the waist, is very European. Other aspects, as the patterns on the garment, strange placement of the neck within the collar of the kafan, jutting of the back of the garment, stylization of the folds on the sleeves and the playful ripples at the hem seem distinctly Islamic. The handkerchief tucked into the waist is a typical element found in Ottoman portraits. The placement of the figure in tight quarters is also another aspect common to Ottoman portraiture.

The combination of western and eastern elements within one image fits precisely into the style seen in early Ottoman painting. The fact that this portrait was painted in Istanbul is quite obvious, but the identification of the author of the image is still problematic. The imperial studio of painting incorporated artists of diverse origins who frequently worked together on single scenes. We would like to suggest that either the combined efforts

1 Sinan's portrait of Sultan Mehmet II is at the Topkapi Palace Museum (II 2153), fol. 10a). There is also another portrait at the Gardner Museum in Boston, attributed to Gentile Bellini, which belongs to this group.
of two artists trained in different traditions is represented here or that a
Turkish artist executed the portrait (possibly a self-portrait) working in
the manner of Venetian Renaissance to which he was exposed by Bellini
or through models by other contemporary European artists.

The historiographical manuscript tradition of the 16th century is
provided by one image which depicts the encampment of the Ottoman
forces on a desert region (plate 3). The commander-in-chief appears seated
on the upper left, in front of his tent, receiving two foreign dignitaries
placed on a carpet before him. High ranking officials form an enclosure
around these figures with Janissary officers and heads of other military
units placed in rows on the right. The setting of this meeting is given by
the palm trees lining the hills on the horizon and a stream which flows
into a body of water in the foreground.

The book from which this image is taken is unknown at the present
but the stylistic and iconographic features of the miniature, related to the
great shahnamas written under Murat III, indicate that it was executed
around 1580's. Parallels to the particular elements seen here, their arrange-
ment within the image, and the color scheme can be found in the Shahname-i
Selim Khan (Topkapi Palace Museum, A 5595, dated 1581) and the
Shahname-i Selim Khan (Istanbul University Library, F 1404, also dated 1581).
The size of this painting is also comparable to the dimensions of these two
Istanbul manuscripts as well as the text above the scene, written in Persian
verse, a feature observed in the works of Lokman, the chief historiogra-
pher of the classical period.

A clue to the episode represented is given by the text which mentions
the reception of an Abd-Ali, a descendant of Ali, by the Paşa. Abd-Ali,
given full honors and the customary gifts, leaves for Istanbul where he is
received by the Grand Vizier and the Sultan, and is claimed as the rightful
successor of his father.

In the image Abd-Ali is recognizable through his placement in the
scene and his non-Ottoman headdress which has a scarf tied to it. Ap-
parently during his reception he was accompanied by one of his officials
who sat behind him. The problem of identifying the Paşa and Abd-Ali
historically, and establishing the location of this meeting has not yet been
resolved. Historiographic works from the reign of Murat III not only cover
the personal campaigns of the Sultans but also of the viziers and military
leaders. Documentation of the southern campaigns in the Near East and

North Africa during the reigns of Selim II and Murat III were taken up
by the court historians and painters. This image obviously refers to one of
these, perhaps more specifically to the campaign of Sinan Paşa who con-
quered Yemen and Tunisia in 1570-74.

The only complete volume of an illustrated Ottoman work at the
Freer Gallery is the Gulistan by Sadi which contains two miniatures. It is
in 153 folios and written in Persian by Rajab bin Khair al-Din. The
manuscript is intact with its contemporary binding. The first digit in the
colophon has been tampered with but the last two read 72. If these figures
are correct, then the date 972-1564 seems to be given. This fits into the
stylistic identification of the miniatures which belong to the second half
of the 16th century and may have been painted at a slightly later date than
the completion of the text. Literary manuscripts are quite rare during the
classical period and this manuscript provides us with an example of one of
the less common themes illustrated at that time.

An exterior scene on folio 105a shows a youth standing in an archway,
offering a drink to the facing figure (plate 4A). It illustrates an episode
from the Gulistan in which a youth appears from the ante-chamber of a
house to offer a goblet of ice water to the poet who is very thirsty and
hot. The shading in the archway, folds in the garments, treatment of trees,
and type of headgear belong to the school of Murat III. The peculiarity of
tiny clusters of grass covering the ground appearing here is frequently seen
in the 17th century, and provides a prototype for this feature which is a
characteristic of the following century.

The other scene, on folio 110a, depicts an interior scene, representing
the visit of the king to the kadi whose amorous activities had been spreading
(plate 4B). According to the text, the king, accompanied by his chief officers,
finds the kadi in a drunken stupor with the lights still burning. In the image
the kadi appears on the upper left with his two sword-bearers, obviously
quite surprised at the scene he witnesses. The kadi is asleep, reclined on a
cushion. His books and great ulema kavah placed on a stand are seen in
the niche above. In the foreground three musicians play with wine bottles
and a burning candlestick sprinkled on the carpet. The youthful favorite of
the kadi sits on the right, holding his wine cup. The architectural features,
postures of the musicians, and the placement of the elements in horizontal

groupings are to be found in the painting style of the late 16th century.

Album painting, which becomes the major artistic concern from the beginning of the 17th century on, is represented in the remaining images in the collection. An exquisite little painting, dated about 1600, shows two figures in landscape (plate 5). The Persian poetry appearing on the page is unrelated to the image as is frequently seen in albums. A striking perspective is achieved by the brook which cools into the background with a small bridge over it, and by the relative sizes of the trees. In the foreground a courtly figure reclines against a cushion having unburdened himself of his kavuk and outer garments. An attendant kneeling before him seems to be removing his shoes to which he objects with a raised hand. A wine bottle and a bowl of fruit complete the scene, giving an atmosphere of pleasure and serenity. It is significant that the setting receives as equal an importance as the figures, reflecting the trend of independent single images.

Another album painting is more problematic, combining certain archaisic features within a new form. Representing a religious episode, it shows Abraham thrown into the fire (plate 6). Abraham appears on the right, conversing with an angel, both surrounded by flames. The interior of the fire pit has become a verdant meadow. The miracle is observed by King Nimrud and his wife from a window with a div and three other spectators below. The peculiarities of the image indicate that it is derived from various sources. The garments and headgear of the figures are related to early 15th century images as well as the architectural features. The placement of figures on the lower left corner is rather peculiar with most of them appearing suspended. The mechanical contraption, resembling a catapult, is not connected with the story. The episode from the Koran (XXI: 59-69) states that after Abraham destroyed the idols he was thrown into the fire which became coolness and peace for him, often interpreted as a foliated green area in the images. This painting includes extra elements which are not iconographically related to the story, expanding the subject into a more elaborate narrative. With inclusion of King Nimrud, spectators, and the angel, it follows a more extensive historical text with a variety of models. Religious themes generally illustrate historical texts and their appearance as single images is quite unusual. In the early 17th century there exists a number of Folanname album paintings some of which depict religious sub-

jects. They are oversized miniatures and constitute a unique group with a specific style. It is possible that this image may have been inspired by such a genre.

There is an unfinished single image belonging to the Ottoman school of painting which is pasted vertically on an unrelated page of text (plate 7). The left portion has been trimmed and was probably rounded off as the remaining end. The unique dimensions of this thin and long strip is not to be found in album images and suggests another purpose, perhaps a sketch for penbox decoration. The style of the image is also most unusual, showing a battle scene with an interesting use of perspective. The foreshortening of the figures (especially evident in the horses), soldiers, cannons, and other elements diminishing in size as they recede into the picture, and the massing of figures in the background indicate a western influence. The great activity and movement representing the fervor of the battle is also rather unique. It seems to depict two forces, Ottoman and European, and yet no distinction of sides are made between some of the combatant couples.

Dating a painting so problematic is difficult. We are either dealing with a 15th century image, relative to the mixed styles seen in the portrait of the Ottoman painter, or a late 17th or 18th century object. The late dating seems more probable as there were European influences coming into the Ottoman world at that time with singular paintings showing a strong western impact. Until more comparable and datable miniatures come to light, we will have to be content with the tentative dating of the second half of the 17th century, which is the most problematic period in Ottoman painting with very few images in existence.

Among the drawings pertaining to the Ottoman school there is a scene which shows a lion attacking a chil-iin and a dragon attacking a bird (plate 8). This image fits into a group of drawings reflecting Chinese influences, most of which are collected in various albums in Istanbul. A great number of these drawings depict dragons and other mythical animals in combat. The Freer image with the distorted movements of the animals and foliage, the calligraphic use of thick and thin lines, and pale tints is a characteristic example of this series which date from the 16th century. Parallels to the

5) As the Folanname of Kalender Pasa at the Topkapsu Palace Museum (I 1702, between 1604-17) and three separate images owned by the Metropolietn Museum of Art in New York (nos. 50.23. 1-2 and 35.64.3).
be discussed below. In this drawing the dragon grasps foliage with his paws while devouring a small bird perched on a branch and the lion twists its tail around, biting into the hind quarters of the chilin, this portion engulfed by a curving vine with large lotus blossoms. The entire scene is conceived with great energy reflected in the violent and contorted movements of the elements.

The influence of another tradition appears in a contemporary drawing of a flying peri who holds a wine flask and goblet (plate 9). This image bears an attribution to Shah Kuli whose authenticity is highly questionable. From the archives at the Topkapi Palace Museum we know that Shah Kuli came from Tabriz to Amasya, and was then brought to Istanbul. He was working in the imperial painting studio in 1520. Although mentioned in 1545 Ehl-i Hıreft entries, his name does not appear in the ensuing register of 1558, which indicates that he died sometime between these two dates. As there is no clear indication of his style, this drawing cannot be attributed to him with certainty.

The theme of peris was a popular one in the mid 16th century with numerous examples appearing in albums at Istanbul. Some of these may have been executed by Persian artists who worked in the palace studios, as Shah Kuli and Vasilian, others by the Turkish painters who were influenced by this theme. The overall patterns on the figure, stylization of the wings and flowing ribbons, stiffness in drapery and brushwork, and a schematic formal arrangement leads us to believe that the flying peri was painted by a Turkish artist working in the imperial studio when the Persians were employed.

Aside from this drawing the Freer owns another peri who is seated and holds a flask and cup (no. 33.6). It combines certain features seen in the flying peri images with the flowing movement of line observed in the drawing depicting animals in combat.

The images described above clearly indicate the many modes involved in the development of Ottoman painting. Strong western influences seen in the late 15th century (plate 2) and once again in the later period (plate 7) point to one of these trends. Influences from the east, as Chinese (plate 8) and Persian (plate 9), are the other significant features. We are fortunate in having not only the images which show these trends at their purest possible form but also images which are characteristically Ottoman. From the classical period the most significant and monumental Ottoman genre, historiography, is represented (plate 3) as well as the rare literary tradition (plates 4 A-B). The popularity of album painting is presented in the single paintings and drawings (plates 5-9). Portraiture, which will exist in all periods, is observed at its most interesting and early stage (plate 2).

A cross section of techniques, themes, and influences from the 13th to the 17th century is well illustrated and provides ample material for the thorough study of Ottoman painting. This even distribution in time and style is the most significant feature of the Freer Gallery as Ottoman miniatures were traditionally executed for the imperial libraries with relatively few complete cycles available in foreign collections.

Ceramics

Similar distribution of techniques, types, and shapes is observed in the collection of Ottoman pottery at the Freer Gallery. There exist some thirteen pieces which cover all phases of the development of the art of Iznik potters as well as about five later objects which give an indication of the post-Iznik tradition.

Belonging to the early blue-and-white wares is a rare and well preserved plate with a white body and underglaze blue painting (plate 10). It is dated around 1500 when this style becomes established. The breakdown into contour panels with decoration reserved on dark ground in the rim and center, alternating with a pure white cavetto is a characteristic of this group which has comparatively few examples in existence. Greatly inspired by the blue-and-white Chinese tradition of the 14th century, it employs Far Eastern motifs as a lotus blossom scroll on the rim and interlacing floral elements mixed with cloud bands in the central medallion. The impact of Chinese porcelains on Iznik ware was considerable and will be seen throughout the 16th and early 17th century with varying intensities. The great value placed upon Chinese ceramics is evident from the imperial collection at the Topkapi Palace whose origin dates back to the last quarter of the 15th century.

Another plate which shows a different aspect of the early Iznik group has a central medallion decorated with three vases holding flowers, set within a polylobed arch (plate 11). The central vase is placed on a tabouret.
resembling an architectural structure. The cavetto is adorned with eight flower sprays, reflecting Chinese themes, while the flat rim has a band of tulips. The existence of typically Turkish flowers link this plate with the second Iznik group although it lacks the manganese purple commonly associated with the later type. This plate shows features which are found in the early blue-and-white wares, especially noticeably in the floral branches which adorn the arch in the center, floral sprays of the cavetto, and the formal arrangement of contour panels. The appearance of turquoise color as well as the carnations, roses, and tulips seen in the later period makes it a valuable object which determines the transformation of one type into another. Here we have not only an object which reveals the intermediary stage between two types of Iznik wares but also a combination of Chinese and indigenously Turkish decorative elements.

The Freer Gallery owns two other plates which also possess transitional qualities, although they themselves fall into a unique group with their themes directly derived from the Chinese porcelain of the early 15th century. The first plate, painted in cobalt blue under a transparent glaze, has three bunches of grapes amid leaves, tendrils, and a scrolling vine in the center while the cavetto is decorated with fifteen flower sprays (plate 12). The foliate rim shows a stylized wave pattern. The outside is adorned with twelve flower sprays, repeating the cavetto design, a common feature on Chinese porcelain and those which imitate them in Persia and Turkey. The color scheme and motifs used in decoration are directly taken over from Ming porcelain as can be seen from one such example, also at the Freer (plate 13). Although the Ming plate employs a different pattern on the rim, a floral scroll, Chinese porcelain at the Topkapi Palace and in other collections frequently show the wave pattern in conjunction with the grape motif.

The other plate with a größe design possesses touches of turquoise in addition to the blue, a much more common color combination for this type which links it with the second größe of Iznik wares (no. 70.25). This object has a more stylized representation of the fruit and floral motifs, but the scroll with blossoms in the cavetto and on the outside adheres to the Chinese repertoire. It has a plain rim which becomes more popular toward the end of the 16th century, replacing the foliate ones seen earlier. Following the style seen in the second quarter of the 16th century, it reveals the continuation of this theme for another fifty years.

The fully established second type of Iznik pottery which appears between 1525 and 1555 and itself forms a link between the early blue-and-white and later polychrome ware, is represented by one plate (plate 14). It is painted in the characteristic hues of light blue, purple, and white on a dark blue ground. Sprouting from a central root, another Far Eastern convention, there are oversized roses, pomegranates, and sprays of hyacinths. The motifs used here are purely Turkish and Chinese elements so prevalent in the earlier pieces have been considerably subdued.

The introduction of brilliant red into the color scheme appears in a unique plate painted in turquoise and blue showing an ogival floral medallion in the center, flanked by pendants and large palmettes against a scale-pattern ground (plate 15). This type of background appears in the mid-16th century Iznik ware and continues up to the end of the century, perhaps also into the 17th. The trefoils on the rim is another feature of the period.

The spectacular series of plates belonging to the third Iznik group is well represented at the Freer Gallery. One such plate has the central medallion painted in coral red, forming a unique background for the floral motifs (plate 16). Around the medallion is a polylobed frame and the flat rim displays the popular wave pattern. Although it employs contour panels of the earlier type, the polychrome palette and the serrated leaves with tulips and roses in the central medallion indicate that it belongs to the third type.

The wave pattern adorning a foliate rim appears on two other Iznik plates. One of them has a central cypress tree flanked by large leaves, fully bloomed roses and rosebuds (plate 17). Painted in blues, greens, red and black against a white ground, the plate exemplifies the fully established third Iznik type.

A similar plate, painted in blue, turquoise and red, shows a far more refined painting technique. The central lotus blossom is attached at a looped stem from which symmetrically drawn leaves, roses and floral sprays shoot up (plate 18). The graceful movement of the leaves and stems reflect the high aesthetic values of the Iznik pottery. Even the wave pattern on the rim has a softness and delicacy rarely seen in this type. The red on this plate is a deep dark red, not like the bright coral tone seen in the others. This may well be one of the earlier examples of the third type, still retaining the strong linear quality so highly esteemed in the second group. The characteristics of the polychrome ware, feathery leaves and flowers, stylized wave pattern borders, and foliate rims, are all preserved in this example.

A variation is seen in another plate (no. 69.26) with alternating sprays of blue tulips and red blossoms adorning the foliate rim. In the center symmetrically arranged roses and tulips spring from a cluster of leaves.
Aside from the plates, there are two polychrome containers, the first of which is a large tankard with an angular handle (plate 19). Its decoration shows boats with the sails in full wind, passing through small islands with castles and cypresses on them. Each piece of land has a large bird in the center, transforming this seascape into a fantastic image. One island appears upside down on the rim, reminiscent of the early 16th century cartographic illustrations with almost a bird’s-eye-view representation of the scene.

The other vessel is in the frequently seen form of a single-handled jug (no. 69.2). There is a highly stylized cloud collar on the rim with horizontal bands of blossoms, overlapping petals, and trefoils decorating the body. Tankards and jugs of this type are generally dated in the third and fourth quarters of the 16th century.

Among the Ottoman tiles in the collection, there is a truly magnificent specimen from the early 17th century showing two confronting parrots perched around a fountain with serrated leaves, sprays of hyacinths and other flowers surrounding them (plate 20). Aside from the cobalt blue and warm red, a brilliant emerald green appears. Although the rich colors and profusion of elements may seem overwhelming at first, the clarity of representation and the white ground setting off the decoration gives it an airy well-balanced overall impression. As there are relatively few tiles which show animals and birds, this piece is quite unusual.

Of the later Ottoman ceramics, the Freer Gallery owns an 18th-19th century Kütahya bottle painted in brown and blue (no. 05.244), an 18th century large polychrome tile panel showing a cypress and vine scroll rising from a bulbous vase (no. 08.193), and several late monochrome tiles (nos. 09.4, 03.198, and 03.199).

A comprehensive survey of Ottoman ceramics from 1500 to the 18th century is represented by the objects at the Freer Gallery. The complete history of the production of Iznik workshops can be obtained through the study of plates, tiles, and other containers. The most exciting pieces are the transitional ones which show elements from two different groups. These are invaluable for the art historian in tracing the themes and techniques, and relating them to the preceding and ensuing styles, thus determining the tradition of this art form.

We can observe the development of Ottoman ceramics from its early blue-and-white stage showing strong Chinese influences to a combination of purely Ottoman themes mixed with the Far Eastern motifs. In the second quarter of the 16th century the imported elements become a part of the indigenous vocabulary of the Iznik potters, employed to create a particular style which will be uniquely Ottoman.

Conclusion

In an attempt to study the Ottoman creative world one is faced with a many-faceted problem as its cultural milieu incorporates a number of features found in the various traditions absorbed by the vast empire or exposed to it through the extensiveness of its contact. Divergent influences from within and without are reflected in the by-products of its culture, in its art. Trends and motifs coming in from the East and the West appear in various stages, seen in their purest form at their initial introduction, eventually to be absorbed by its own tradition, resulting in a style characteristic to the Ottoman world.

It is this importation and assimilation of themes which makes the study of Ottoman art a fascinating one. Objects which reveal various stages of this development are invaluable in understanding the phenomena we call Ottoman art. The Freer Gallery collection is most unique in this respect as each object exposes a particular facet of the development of themes and the final establishment of the indigenous genres. Covering a wide range of time, styles and techniques, a comprehensive view of Ottoman painting and ceramics is provided by the objects themselves. Once the meaning of the objects are determined, the development of Ottoman art takes a new significance, broadening our understanding of its tradition, achievement, and the morphology of its culture which gave birth to it.
1. Bookbinding, late 16th-early 17th cen. 33.9 x 20.5 cm. no. 29.20

2. Portrait of an Ottoman Painter, late 15th cen. 18.8 x 12.7 cm. no. 22.28.
10. Plate: Iznik Type I, ca. 1500. 39.3 cm. no. 54.3.

11. Plate: Iznik Type II, mid 16th cen. 37.6 cm. no. 55.8.

12. Plate: Iznik Type I, early 16th cen. 39.2 cm. no. 70.2.

13. Plate: Chinese, Ming Dynasty, early 15th cen. 44.7 cm. no. 53.77.
14. Plate: Iznik Type II, mid 16th cen. 31.2 cm. no. 61.7.

15. Plate: Iznik Type III, mid 16th cen. 27.0 cm. no. 69.1.

16. Plate: Iznik Type III, mid 16th cen. 33.3 cm. no. 66.21.

17. Plate: Iznik Type III, mid 16th cen. 29.1 cm. no. 66.25.
18. Plate: Iznik Type III, mid. 16th cen. 24.7 x 14.6 cm. no. 69.25.

19. Tankard: Iznik Type III, late 16th cen. 21.0 x 12.0 cm. no. 68.10.

20. Tile: Iznik Type III, early 17th cen. 26.0 x 24.0 cm. no. 66.12.
FRER GALLERY'DEKİ OSMANLI ESERLERİ

Özet

Edin ATIL


Galerinin 1923'de açılışından beri gelen eserlerle beraber bugünkü müzede toplanan 12,000 kadar objenin çoğunluğunu Çin, Japon, Kore, Yakun Doğu, ve Hint eserleri teşkil eder. Müzede ayrıca etüd için ayrılan parçalar halinde binlerce keramik ve porselein, kitap, fotoğraflar ve diyalogית kitapçısı, Herzfeld Arşivi, teknik laboratuvar, oriental resim monte kümi, fotoğraflar, ve marangozhanı vardır.

Müze açılışından zaman 500 parça kadar Yakun Doğu eserlerinden başka zengin bir Eski Misr cam koleksiyonu vardır. Son iki sene içinde bu kuma katılan Arap, İran, ve Osmanlı yazmaları, seramikleri ve metal işleyi esastı ve geniş bir koleksiyon mezdana getirilmiştir.

İslâm sanatının bütün konularını içine alan bu koleksiyonun büyükliklüğünden dolayı makalede yalnız Osmanlı sanatına ait eserlerden bahsedeceğiz. Koleksiyonun ufak bir bölümü teşkil etmesine rağmen Osmanlı sanatının değişik devirlerini gösteren bu eserler hem bu sanatın tıpkı elemanlarını hem de problematik ve intikal safhalarını belirtirler.

Miniatürli yazmalar ve kitaplar:

Frer Gallery'de Osmanlı sanatına ait dört dini yazma, iki sayfa güzel yazı, bir kitap cildi, içinde iki minyatür bulunan nadir bir edebi eser ve sektiz adet tek minyatür vardır.
Dini kitaplardan biri 16inci asra ait olup Kuran'dan on sureyi (LXVII-LXXVII) içine alan 28 varaklı bir yazmadır (no. 37, 40). İkincisi ise Kuran'dan Muṣūnūr-i Kuran-ı Şerif adlı 17 inci asrda yazılmış varlıkların sayıısı 53 varaklı bir kusurdu (no. 37, 37). Diğerleri ise 1198/1783 tarihli XXXVI inci sure üzere Türkiye yazımını 70 varaklı Şer-i Yasırdır (no. 06, 301). Sonuncusu da 1222/1807'de Sülleyman tarafından kopya edilmiş 10 varaklı ufak bir Yevminan'dır (no. 06, 307). Neksal ile yazılmış iki sâfa ise 16inci asrda yayınlanmış olarak bilinir (no. 29, 66-67).

16inci asrın sonuna veya 17inci asrın başına ait kırmızı derden kılıp kabı Osmanlı cilt sanatının inceliğini belirtir (Resim 1). Dış kısmındaki altın yaldızlı şems ve köşebentleri geniş bir bordürle çevrelenmişdir.


17inci asrın sonunda eser cihâmiyet kazanmış albüm resimleri ara-
kaya dalga bordürli bunun Ming porselemlerinden ilhamla yapıldığını ifa
tedir (Resim 12). Freer Gallery'de bulunan 15 inci asır başına alt bir Ming
porsele model olarak kullanılan stili gösterir (Resim 13). Renk anılamı,
motifi, ve satılık aranmarsı sayındır. Topkapı Sarayında bulunan Çin porse
len koleksiyonu da bu eserlerle verilen kıyımlı belirir. Ayrıca motifi gösteren
diğer bir Osmanlı tabaşında firuze renjen bulunması bu temanın 16 inci as-
ır sonuna kadar devam ettiği belirir (no. 70, 25).

İkinci İznik gurubuna ait tek eker koyu mavî zemin üzerine açık mavi,
mor, beyaz gri, nar çiçeği, ve lâle motiflerini tasvir eder (Resim 14).

Parlak mercan kırmızısının İznik keramiklerinde belirimselde başlayan
ucüncül guruba ait tabakaldan ilkiinde balık pulu zemin üzerine rümi, pal-
met madalyon görünür (Resim 15). Bu guruba dahil tabakaldan bir dizi
ortada mekan kırmızısı fon üzerine yapraklar, güller, ve lâleler kenarlarında
kaya dalga bordürli ile süslenmiştir (Resim 16). Ayni bordür yapraklar ve
büllerin çevrelediği bir selvi ile işlenmiş başka bir tabakda da mevcuttur
(Resim 17). Bu bordürle en güzel tabakaldan bire de mercan kırmızılı olup,
diğerlerine nazaran daha hafif ve işık bir tarzda merkezi lotus çiçeği etra-
fnı yapraklar ve çiçek gurupları ile dekorudur (Resim 18). Bir başka eser
ise tek kökten çıkan çiçekleri gösterir, fakat bordür olarak çizik küpleri
kullanmıştır (no. 69, 26).

Tabakaldan başka dahi polikrom keramikler arasında yerken açağı
şemiler ve ufak adaları tasvir eden kulup bir bardak mevcuttur (Resim 19).
Bir de yatay bantlara çiçekler, bulut motifleri, ve yapraklarla süslenmiş bir
tek kuluplu vazoda vardır (no. 69, 2).

Koleksiyonda bulunan çinlerin arasında erken 17 inci asır ait gayet en-
teresan bir eser görüür (Resim 20). Bir feskiyenin içi yanna komşu içi
papağan dallar ve çiçeklerle çevrilenmiştir. Bu çinide mekan kırmızısı ve
kobalt mavisinden başka parıltı zümrt yeşil kullanılmıştır.

Geç Osmanlı keramikleri arasında 18 inci - 19 uncuy asır ait bir Küt-
tahya vazosu (no. 05.244), 18 inci asırndan selvi büyük bir çini pano (no.
08.193) ve birkaç tane monokrom çini görüür (nos. 09.4, 03.198, 03.199).

Osmanlı keramik sanatının 1500 senelerinden 18 inci asır kadar olan
tarhçesi Freer Gallery'deki eserlerde görülebilir. İlk mavi-beyaz gurubdaki
kuvvetli Çin etkisi, ikinci deürdeki tipik Türk motivleriyle Uzak Doğu ele-
manlarının karşıımı, ve nişanet Osmanlı kültürünü tam mânâsyla akse
tiren 16 inci asırın ortasında beliren ve bu motifleri benimleyen İznik stilini

müze ve eserlerden tefkid etmek mümkündür. Üç İznik gurubunun birbirine
bağlı olan tranzisyonel eserler ise bu bölümün en kıyımlı objelerindenidir.

Sonuç:

Osmanlı sanatının yaratıcı kuvvetini etti etme beş yanlarla karşık
bir probleme karşılaşır. Imparatorluğun genişliğinin ve diğer kültürlerle
olan temaslardan etken ve dıştan gelen tercihların akış akışılmıtır. Doğu
ve Batı gelenekleri ve motivleri başlangıçta asıl formlarıyla görüldüğü halde
zamanla kendileri eriterek Osmanlı dünyasının özel ve karakteristik üstü
meydana gelir.

Bu tercihlerin belirmesini ve benimsenmesini tepsit etmek Osmanlı sa-
natının değişik devirlerini açığa vuran eserleri incelerken mümkün olur. Freer
Gallery'deki Osmanlı eserleri minyatür ve seramik sanatının bütün safha-
larının akışını điệnlediğinde bu koleksiyon sanat tarihçisi için daha bir
değerdir. Ancak eserlerin mânâları yazdırılmadan sonra Osmanlı sanatı
nun manhveli ortaya çıkar ve onun niteliği, gelenekleri, ve kültürüünün morfo-
lojisinin anlamamızı yardımı olur.