



Inv. no.

THE FRENCH CONNECTION, C. 1840

From the middle of the 18th century the new, elegant rococo-style spread from France over most of Europe. It also reached Istanbul from where – a little delayed – it came to Damascus.

In the Aqqad-house a fine example of the “Turkish rococo” from c. 1840 with gilt wooden carvings and murals depicting steamboats, gardens with bridges and palaces is preserved. Some of these paintings are so imaginative that they are only to be met in dreams – or in the depictions of Paradise in the Byzantine mosaics of the Umayyad Mosque.