



# Stucco decoration across Europe

## The Stucco working of Baldassarre Fontana

Mendrisio 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
ALBERTO FELICI – GIOVANNI NICOLI



# Baldassarre Fontana (1661-1733)



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Kroměříž Castle, Czech Republic



Uherčice Castle, Czech Republic



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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels



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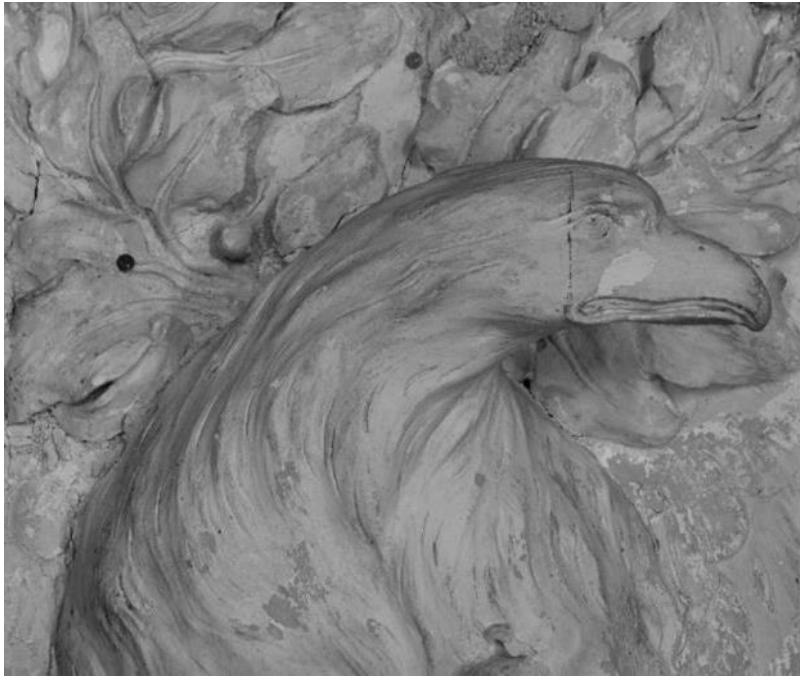


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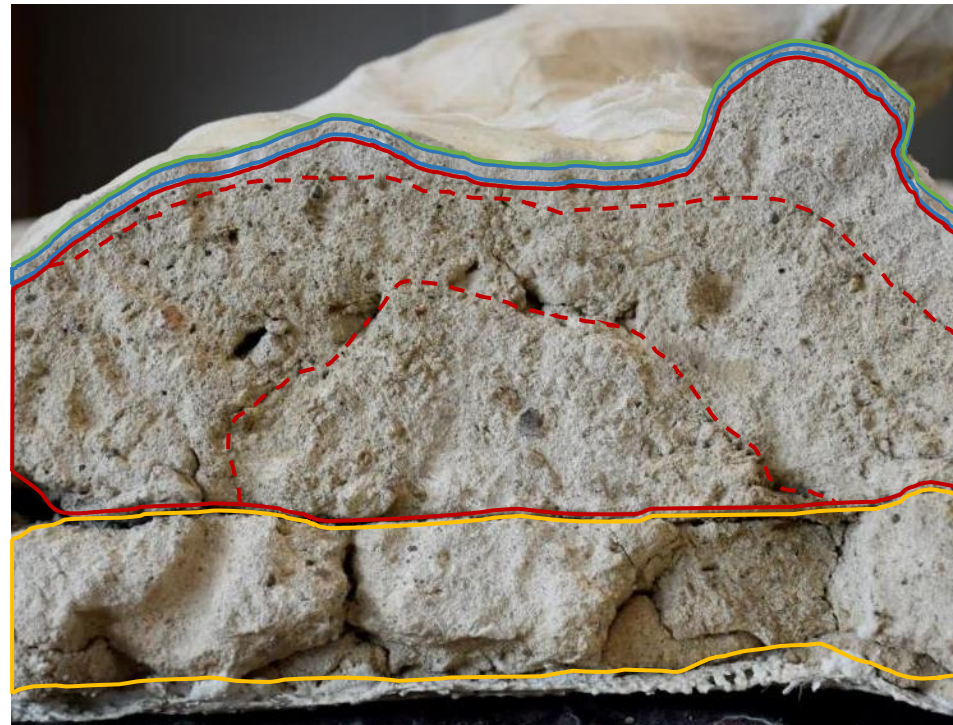
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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels

## Materials and techniques - stratigraphic sequence

Stratigraphic sequence of the layers composing the stucco decorations

Stratigraphy of the section of the eagle from the Gallery of the Angels



- Whitewash
- Finishing mortar
- Ground mortars – applied in several layers
- Arriccio

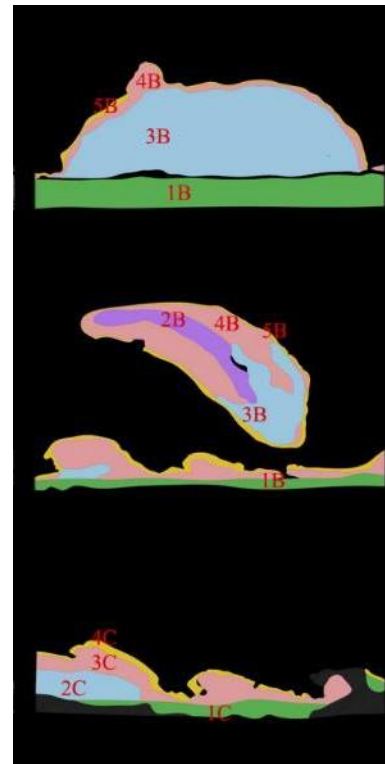
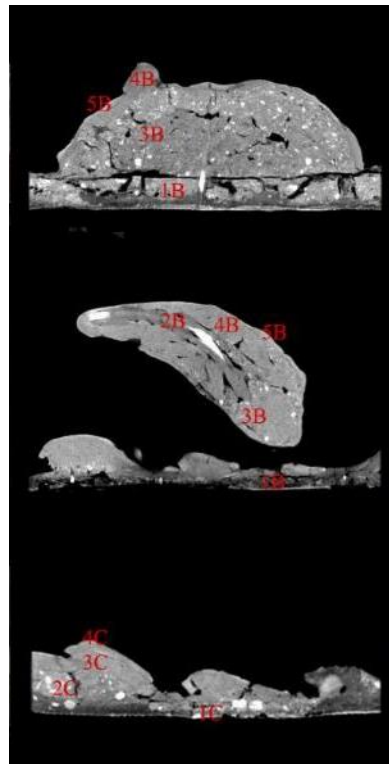
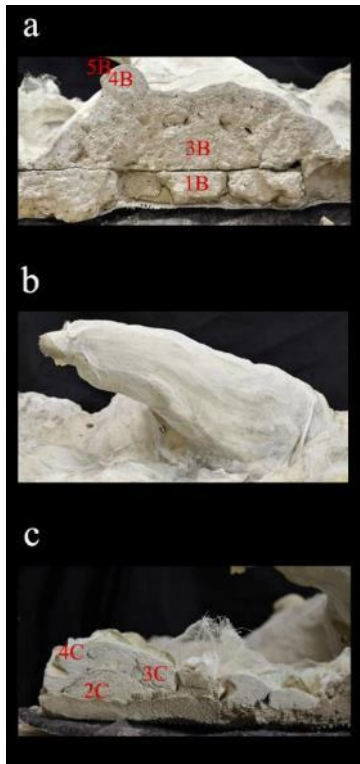


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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels

## Materials and techniques - stratigraphic sequence



Stratigraphic sequence of the layers composing the stucco decorations

- 1B-1C Arriccio
- 3B-2C Ground mortar first layer
- 4B-3C Ground mortar second layer
- 5B-5C finishing mortar layer



# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels

## Materials and techniques - Support structures and preparatory drawing



Brick support structures of architectural stuccoes, first layer of arriccio



Charcoal preparatory drawing, behind a putto



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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels

## Materials and techniques – metal support structure

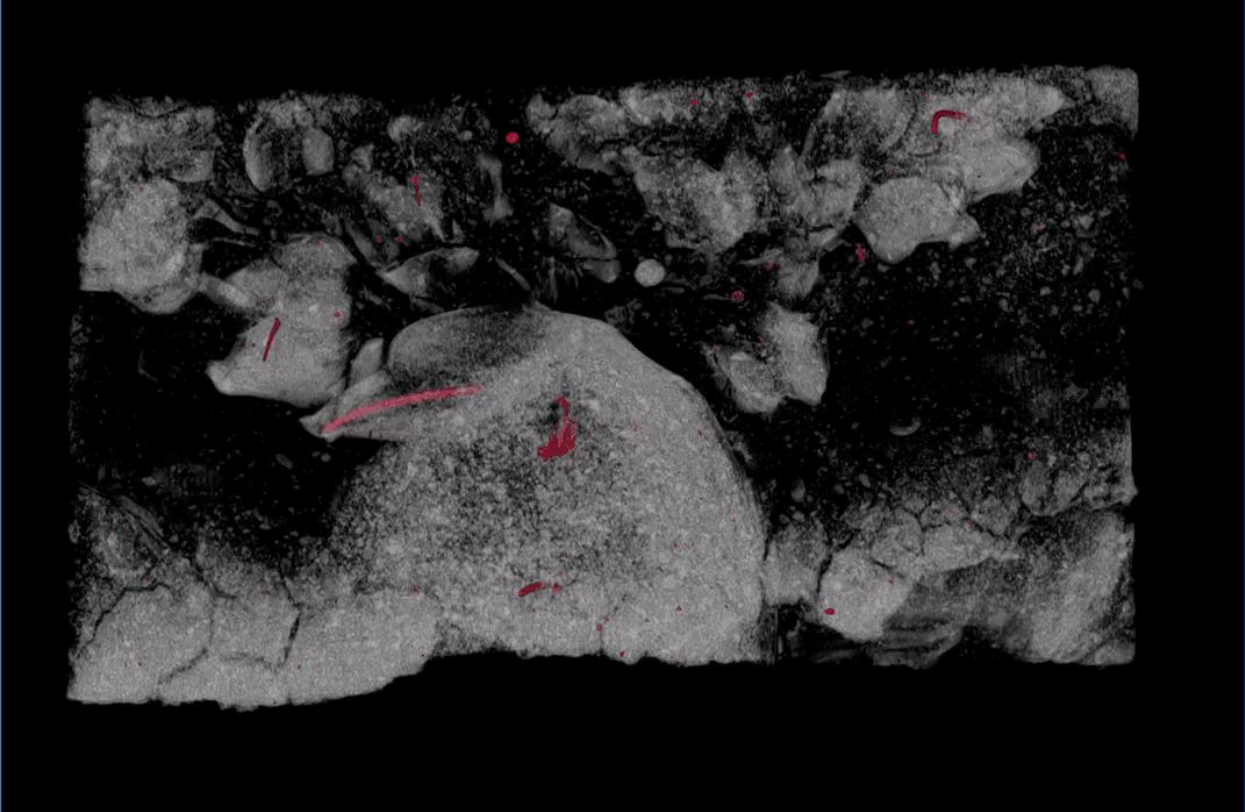


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The CT was carried out at the Ospedale Regionale di Mendrisio - Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale

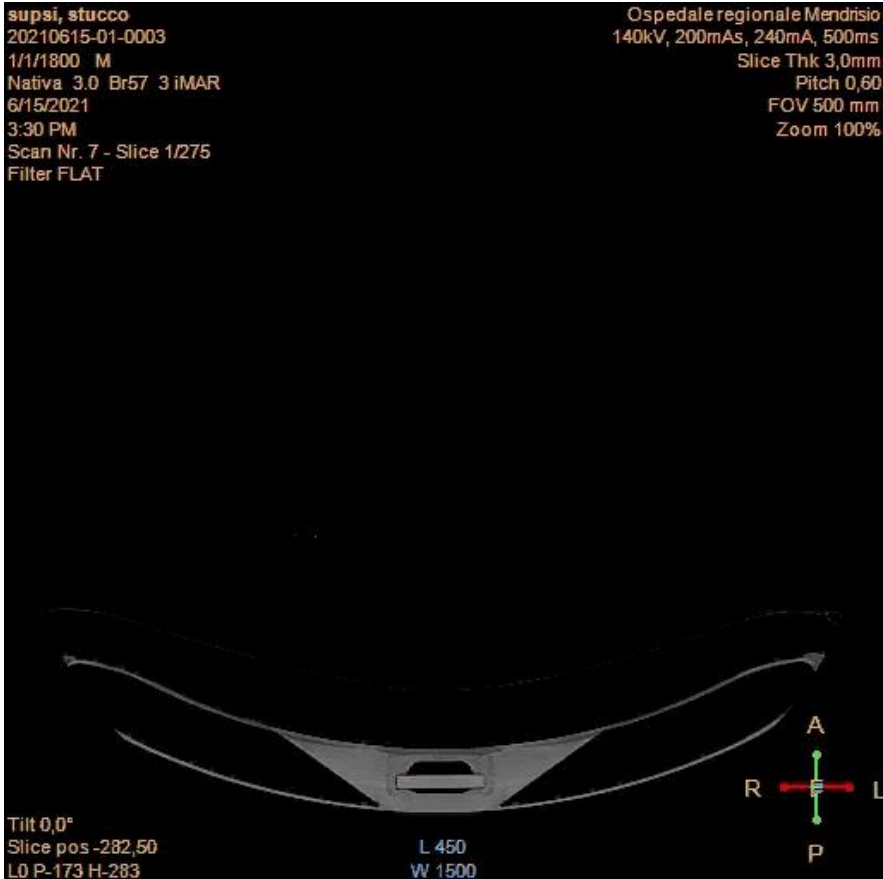
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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels



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## Materials and techniques – Ground mortar second layer



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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels

## Materials and techniques – Kroměříž



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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels

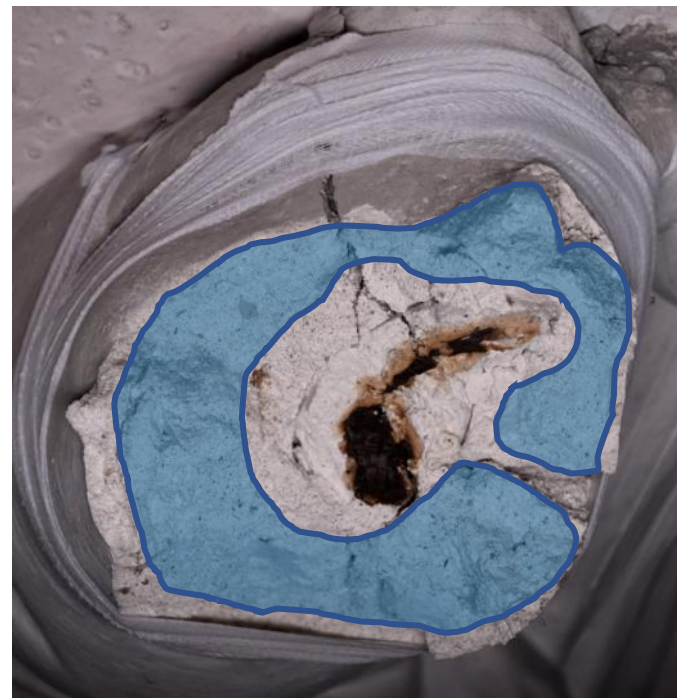
## Materials and techniques – Ground mortar second layer



Uherčice – Studio



Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels



Kroměříž – Salae Terrenae



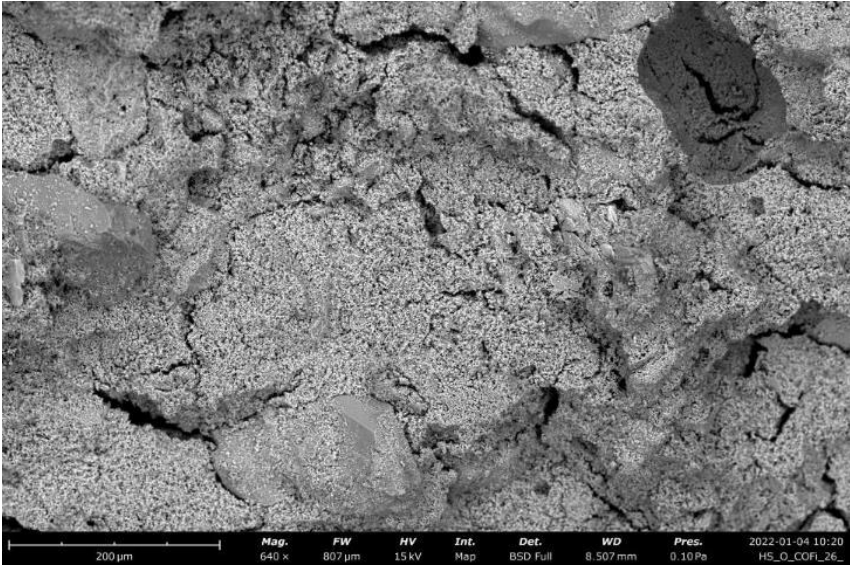
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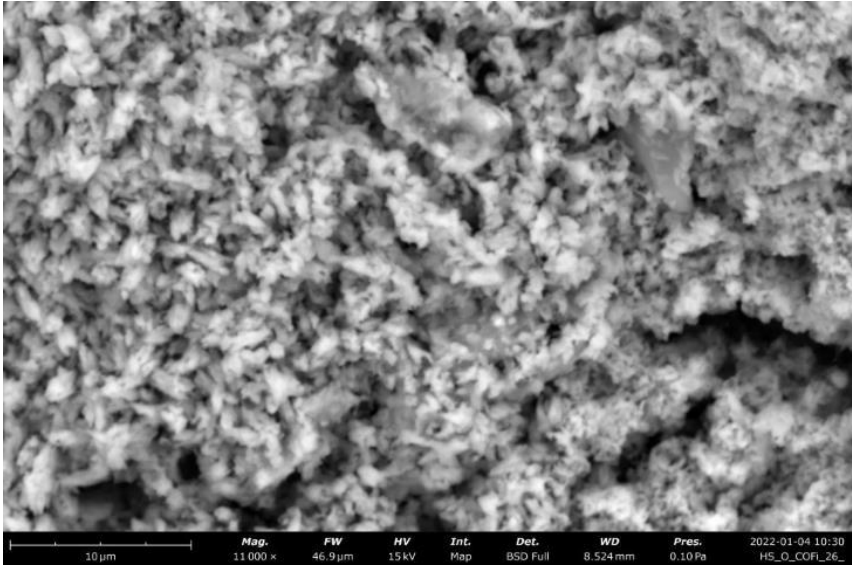


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Rehydrated gypsum → SEM – Ground mortar second layer



In the second layer's ground mortar are visible larger cracks (arrow) and smaller crystals



Morphology of the ground mortar second layer



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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels



Expert modeling hand



Expert modeling hand



Less expert modeling hand



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# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels



Expert modeling hand



Less expert modeling hand



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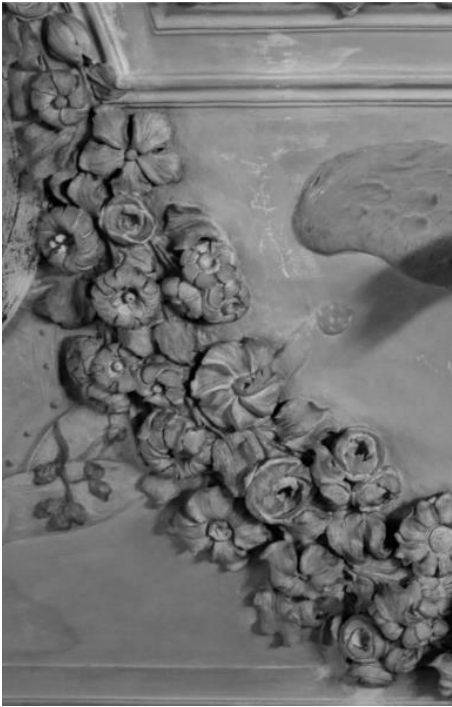
# Uherčice – Gallery of the Angels



Expert modeling hand



Similar expert modeling hand



Less expert modeling hand



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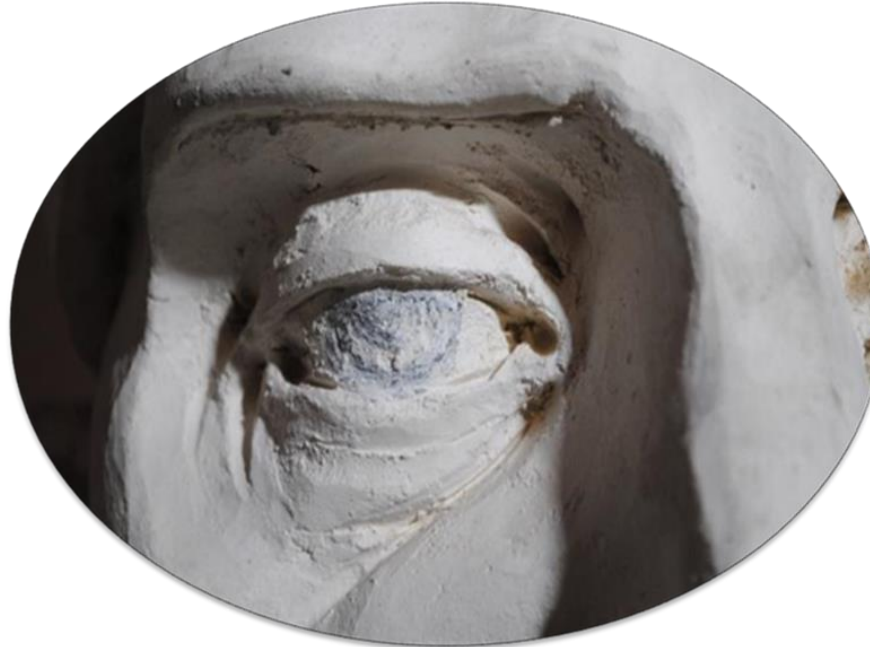
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**Thank you for your attention**



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