

Summary

JAKUB ZARZYCKI (University of Wrocław) / Not only visual consequences of a certain tear. A few words about *Death of Barbara Radziwiłł* by Józef Simmler

The article is an attempt to answer the question, what were the consequences of the show of Józef Simmler's *Death of Barbara Radziwiłł* in 1860. Starting here the author presents the nine most important consequences, which appeared in Polish visual culture in the second part of the nineteenth century following the appearance of Simmler's image.

In the first part the three announced consequences have been pointed out: an interest of the audience, establishing the form of Barbara Radziwiłł perception in Polish culture, which resulted in a public fund-raiser to purchase the work. The second part summarises history of Barbara Radziwiłł, her legend, and its influence on literature and art. In the third part Simmler's painting is introduced, and the state of research related to it is also discussed. The fourth part indicates a tiny detail not perceived yet by the researchers – namely a tear in the royal eye. It is the most important detail of the image as it focuses all the emotions of the painting. In the fifth section the importance of Simmler's composition for exhibition practices in his time has been discussed. In the sixth section the influence of Simmler's painting on other artists has been indicated. The seventh section highlights particular examples of Simmler's image's reception: two versions of Wojciech Gerson's painting – *King's Lutenists*. The eighth part is a comparison of Simmler's ideas with Polish art of that time. The ninth and the last part is an attempt to indicate the value of Józef Simmler's image.