Alternative metrics or tailored metrics,
Warsaw 9-10 November
THREE GREAT HISTORICAL ASSETS OF THE XVIII CENTURY
POLISH-LITHUANIAN COMMONWEALTH

Zaluski Library
1747-1795

Commission of National Education
1773-1794

Constitution of May 3, 1791
Library
Founders
ONE OF THE THREE BIGGEST...
Main driving ideas:
• myth of the Polish Golden Age as a source for National rebirth,
• cultural heritage as a
  – vehicle of cultural identity
  – symbol of sovereignty
  – compensation of political weakness,
• overcoming cultural gap between Poland and the rest of Europe.
Zaluski Library as
• "rotary wheel" that (together with some other associated centres, such as Joseph Aleksander Jablonowski and Józef Stanislaw Sapieha courts as well as Piarist and Jesuit Colleges) — set in motion cultural life;
• "scaffolding" for mutual understanding, collaboration, continuity and cumulation.
COLLECTIONS

Ca. 400 thousands prints, ca. 12-16 thousands manuscripts (including big collection of Bach`s compositions and Leibniz correspondence)

Cabinet of drawings, mainly copperplates – over 40 thousand, mainly leading representatives of the European graphics 16th - 17th

Cartographical collection - atlases and maps (manuscripts, copperplates, matrices), globes.

- Sculptures and paintings (used as library decoration)
- Collection of numismatics – coins and medals
- Natural history cabinet – e.g. minerals.
- Cabinet of the scientific instruments - mathematical instruments (geometry, physics, astronomy)
- Astronomical observatory – tower and instruments (June 6 1761, observation of the transit of Venus over the sun)
## The Greatest Libraries of the World (1827)


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Wittelsbach</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Wien</td>
<td>Imperial Court</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Kopenhagen</td>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Paris</td>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Petersburg</td>
<td>Imperial</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Göttingen</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Dresden</td>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Madrid</td>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Stuttgart</td>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The library was ... a piece of theological art representing the sole officially sanctioned view of the universe.

- **Gesamtkunstwerk**, integration of multiple art forms (painting, sculpture, furnishing, books and architecture, *viris illustris*) in which they work together to form a decorative and iconographic unity.

- **„Museum-panopticum”**: immediately perceptible overview of the main room bookcases arrayed along the walls and its furnishings seen as an interrupted whole: single look of the eyes provides a general overview of knowledge.

- **Unity of order of books (classification), order of the world, symbolic art, information on books, catalogue.**

Melk Monastery Library, Austria
Second floor; two level Reading Room

Observatory

Sculpture Gallery

Manuscripts

J.A. Zaluski appartments

Librarian`s house
FORMS OF ACTIVITY

- Cataloguing
- Opening for readers and visitors (library as a museum)
- Internal and external loan
- Information service
- Publishing (Inspiration; Advising; Books and materials; Funds; editorial work; all other forms of assistance)
- Publicity (library and its community) - panegirics, eulogies and encomiums
- Informal forms (consulting and advising, critique; other kinds of support for the men of knowledge and scholarly institutions)
READERS AND VISITORS...

Francesco Algarotti
Rudjer Boskovic
Librarian Jan Daniel Janocki
Antoine-René de Paulmy d`Argenson
King Stanislaw August
Jesuit Franciszek Bohomolec
Casanova
Pijar Stanisław Konarski
No. of volumes published by Zaluski Library
(funds, documents, information, inspiration – ca 200)
- Historia literaria, historia sacra, historia civilis (52%)
- Classical and modern drama and poetry (15,5%)
- Religious literature (15,5%)
- Natural philosophy and mechanical art (9,5%)
- Philosophy and social thought (5%)
- Linguistics and rhetorics (2,5%).
CONSTELLATION OF INSTITUTIONS SURROUNDING OR ACCOMPANYING ZALUSKI LIBRARY

Book auctions

Learned societies

Reading societies

Scholar meetings

Printing office

Journals

Contests

Editing companies

Zaluski Library
Republic of Letters

Poles

Foreigners
ZALUSKI LIBRARY COMMUNITY

J.A. Jablonowski

J.Ch. Gottsched

J.P. Bignon

A.M. Querini

J.S. Sapieha
TOURISTS VISIT LIBRARY
Bookish and scholarly world of the Zaluski Library: Warsaw
royal apartments, merchants` apartments, chapel, cloister, shops, stores, restaurants, hotels, Zaluski collections (1742-1747), the first Warsaw learned society (1742)
Vue de la Place de Marieville et de la façade du Palais de la Municipalité.
Bookish and scholarly world of the Zaluski Library: Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth
Bookish and scholarly world of the Zaluski Library: Europe
Viris illustris

Zaluski

30 seat table

Mirror

Viris illustris

Lower level librarians sleeping on the floor
Tadeusz Kuntze-Konicz, *Fortune*