

**Haaber, Johann Friedrich**

Rüdesheim? 1706 – 1773 Mainz

**Der Fromme, gerechte und standhaftige Fürst: vorgestellt In einer Lob- und Trauer-Rede über den Höchst-betrübten Todes-Fall Des hochwürdigsten Fürsten und herrn, Herrn Joannis Friderici Caroli Des Heiligen Stuhls zu Mayntz Erz-Bischoffen... Da Höchst-Deroselben Leich-Besingnuß mit drey-tägigen Grosen Ehren-Gepräg In der allhiesigen Erz-Hohen Dhom-Kirchen Den 18. 19. und 20sten Julii 1763. gehalten worden.****Mainz, Johann Benjamin Waylandt, 1763**

FOLIO (340 × 220 mm), (28)ff. signed A–O<sup>2</sup>, unpaginated, with a woodcut head-piece, and woodcut page borders; plus three anonymously engraved plates: folding frontispiece ‘Lectus Funeralis’ of the *castrum doloris* (platemark 340 × 430 mm, trimmed by binder along bottom, deleting the printmaker’s signature ‘Rucker delin et sculp: Mog:’), and two full-page plates (platemarks 275 × 180 mm), depicting respectively armorial insignia (inserted after folio A1) and a heart-shaped reliquary (after folio M2).

PROVENANCE Freiherren von Fechenbach, Schloß Laudenbach — Hartung & Hartung, Auktion 113 (‘Dabei Teil II der Bibliothek des fränkischen Adelsgeschlechts von Fechenbach’), Munich, 10 May 2006, lot 1828

Spine abraded, otherwise in fine state of preservation.

BOUND in black silk, silvered page-edges.

**T**HE **Leichenpredigt** delivered in Mainz Cathedral on 18 July 1763, for Johann Friedrich Karl von Ostein, Archbishop of Mainz and of Worms (died 4 June 1763). Johann Haaber, ‘Universitätskanzler and Dompfarrer’,<sup>1</sup> took as his text 1 Kings 2:26, ‘Puer autem Samuel proficiebat atque crescebat, et placebat tam Domino quam hominibus’ (Vulgata Clementina).

<sup>1</sup> Theodor Niederquell, ‘Zur sozialen und territorialen Herkunft Mainzer Domvikare im 18. Jahrhundert’ in *Mainzer Zeitschrift* 70 (1975), p.169.

Documents in the Staatsarchiv Mainz newly published by Luzie Bratner supply many details of the planning and conduct of the obsequies. Among these is a letter – dated 7 June, before the wake had been concluded, and the body embalmed – from the ‘Dom-Capitulischer Kupfer-Stecher’, Wilhelm Christian Rucker, to the Cathedral Chapter, asking for permission to engrave the *castrum doloris* on which the remains would lie in repose, for public viewing and mourning, before interment in the Cathedral.<sup>2</sup> Permission was granted, and Rucker’s impressive print, depicting the corpse on a draped platform in the candle-lit Schloßkapelle St. Gangolph, guarded by soldiers, became the frontispiece to our volume.

The two unsigned, full-page prints in the book most probably are also Rucker’s work. He is otherwise known for the portrait series *Bildnisse der Mainzer Erzbischöfe und Kurfürsten von Willigis bis zu Johann Friedrich Karl von Ostein* (Mainz 1757), and for *Wappenkalenders* produced from 1762 for the Mainz Domkapitals.<sup>3</sup>

These copies are known

- Fulda, Hochschul- und Landesbibliothek, 4°.Gesch.G32/54
- London, British Library, 10703.h.31
- Mainz, Stadtbibliothek, Mog m:2°/118 (copy 1), Mog: 4°/143, Nr.2 (copy 2)
- Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Res/2 Or.fun.229
- Munich, Universitätsbibliothek, 0014/W 2 H. eccl. 935
- Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, M-2640(15)
- Regensburg, Staatliche Bibliothek
- Trier, Bibliothek des Priesterseminars, M5 an K 2382
- Worms, Stadtbibliothek, Mag W Ki 4° 31

An impression of the frontispiece in the Stadtarchiv Mainz (BPS V070m) is cited by Bratner.<sup>4</sup>

REFERENCE *Katalog der Leichenpredigten und sonstiger Trauerschriften in Fuldaer Bibliotheken*, edited by Rudolf Lenz *et al.* (Stuttgart 2004), pp.48–49 no. 85

<sup>2</sup> Luzie Bratner, *Die erzbischöflichen Grabdenkmäler des 17. und 18. Jahrhunderts im Mainzer Dom* (Mainz 2005), p.415, Nr. 76.

<sup>3</sup> Bratner, *op. cit.*, p.319.

<sup>4</sup> Bratner, *op. cit.*, pp.123–124.