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**RELIGIOUS SCENE TOWARDS REALISM. THE VOTIVE PORTRAIT AND THE
HIDDEN PORTRAIT IN THE „MOURNING” PICTURE FROM ST. CATHERINE
CHURCH IN BRANIEWO**

SUMMARY

The authoress analyzes the „Mourning” picture from St. Catherine church in Braniewo. In her interpretation she remarks that the whole expressive scene is dedicated to the death of Christ, which on one hand side is focused on the Lord’s Passion, but on the other – does not confine itself only to religious contents. The picture contains some kind of moralizing message due to taking advantage of possibilities delivered by the symbolism of portrait. A spectator is introduced by the artist into the epicenter of the portrayed occurrence. The painter not only spotlights himself pridefully as an author of the work, but also indicates the direction of perception: from oppressed Christ to Cardinal Hozjusz as the founder of the picture, and an exemplary Christian.

KEYWORDS: symbolism of portrait, “Mourning” picture, Cardinal Hozjusz, St. Catherine church, Braniewo (Poland).

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