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Título:

Arte e Diplomacia: D. João V as suas relações artísticas com Roma

Resumo:

From 1706, and the first days of his reign, the Bragança monarch Dom João V, used the fabulous wealth coming from colonial Brazil to transform his court in Lisbon. His one abiding ambition was to raise his royal chapel to the dignity and splendour of a Patriarchate, and with the religious ceremony and liturgy modelled in every detail on that at St Peter's in Rome.

This lecture will describe the magnificence of the embassy of the dashing aristocrat, the Marquês de Fontes, who was sent to Rome to gain this concession. It was a mission that effectively combined art, politics and diplomacy. The embassy also marked the beginning of the state policy which came to dominate the reign. The highly successful relationship of Dom João V with the Holy See would endure for nearly half a century, until his death in 1750.