

# Abstract

Through a systematic examination of a comprehensive accounting material compiled in the period 1610 to 1626 as documentation of incoming and outgoing supplies from the Royal Colour Chamber (*Det Kongelige Farvekammer*), the material conditions and working domains of a group of painters occupied with coarser and often ephemeral projects during the reign of King Christian IV (1577-1648) have been studied. On the basis of the accounts, this research has illustrated the availability of painting materials in Denmark in the early 17th century and provided insight into aspects of trade through references to tradesmen and manufacturers of materials related to the Danish court. The materials supplied from the stock were used for a wide range of decorative projects spanning from warships, castles, firework sculptures, tapestry cartoons, paintings and sculpture, to furniture, frames and gilded confectionery. Vast resources of materials were applied for these often ephemeral objects completed in order to accomplish the King's manifestation of courtly power and cultural superiority in a particularly lucrative period of increasing decorative and architectural endeavours. The study has resulted in a unique insight into the trade of painting materials and the resources invested in Danish courtly arts and crafts between 1610 and 1626.