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STORIES FROM WILANÓW

The royal palace at Wilanów, as indeed is the case with the other historic palaces and castles, is associated with numerous legends that are not generally known and have never been published. They are handed down from generation to generation by the word of mouth and survive in the tradition of the local population. Many of such legends were remembered and willingly told by the old palace stucco decorator, Stanisław Michalak, born in Wilanów in 1881. The subjects of his stories were treasure troves which, when discovered, could be used to reconstruct the palace, the ghosts of the former owners of Wilanów, drowned women who return to Wilanów having done their penance, and witches which he somehow related to the statue of the Madonna erected in 1848 by the brick bridge at the entrance to the palace lane.