



József Sisa

Motherland and Progress

Hungarian Architecture and Design 1800–1900

996 pages | 767 Figures (c)

In the 19th century Hungary witnessed unprecedented social, economic and cultural development. The country became an equal partner within the Dual Monarchy when the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867 was concluded. Architecture and all forms of design flourished as never before. A distinctly Central European taste emerged, in which the artistic presence of the German-speaking lands was augmented by the influence of France and England. As this process unfolded, attempts were made to find a uniquely Hungarian form, based on motifs borrowed from peasant art as well as real (or fictitious) historical antecedents.

"Motherland and Progress" – the motto of 19th-century Hungarian reformers – reflected the programme embraced by the country in its drive to define its identity and shape its future.

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