

## 250 YEARS OF THE MORITZBURG HUNTING LODGE NEAR DRESDEN

*Albert Herzog zu Sachsen*

A relatively unadorned hunting lodge built in the middle of the Friedewald was completely remodelled after Augustus the Strong's own plans in the years 1722—23. This reconstructed Jagdschloss was henceforth to provide the scene for various festivities of the Saxon court. As in the case of the Zwinger in Dresden, prominent architects, sculptors and painters worked on this project, among them Matthäus Daniel Pöppelmann, Zacharias Longelueue, Raymond Leplat, Louis de Silvestre and Johann Christian Kirchner.

Until the mid-19th century, Moritzburg belonged to the reigning house. From then until the end of the First World War, it was the property of the state of Saxony. Under the terms of an indemnification agreement between the Free State of Saxony and the House of Wettin, it was returned to the Royal House in 1925. Prince Ernst Heinrich of Saxony lived there until 1945. Since 1947 it has been a baroque museum, housing, among others, an important porcelain collection.