

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Plaque: Christ Crowned with Thorns

Pierre Reymond (French, 1513–after 1584)

Date mid- to late 16th century

Medium Painted enamel on copper, partly gilded

Dimensions Plaque: 8 x 6 1/4 in. (20.3 x 15.9 cm) Roundels: diam. 2 1/16 in. (5.2 cm)

Credit Line Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Frick, II, 2005

Accession Number 2005.4.02

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 14, Enamels Room

Commentary This enamel may have originally been part of a pair (with 2005.4.01) or part of a larger altarpiece. Although the two plaques were painted by different hands, analysis of the blue enamel in each plaque reveals that they were made in the same workshop and at about the same time. Both depict an episode from the Passion of Christ. In *The Agony in the Garden*, Jesus kneels in prayer while the saints Peter, John, and James sleep in the foreground. The emphasis is on Jesus' impending arrest, with Judas and an army approaching on a grassy path painted in a rich blue-green. In the *Christ Crowned with Thorns* enamel, two tormentors use their weapons to drive the crown of thorns into Christ's head while a third mocks Christ by placing a reed in his hand as if it were a scepter. The plaques' monochromatic palette, dominated by white and gray tones, recalls early enamels in grisaille (a technique using shades of gray) by Pierre Reymond. Source: Vignon, Charlotte. *The Frick Collection Decorative Arts Handbook*. New York: The Frick Collection/Scala, 2015.