

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Pot-pourri Feuilles de Mirte or à Feuillages

Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory (French, est. 1756)

Date ca. 1762

Medium Soft-paste porcelain, with later addition of gilt-bronze mount

Dimensions 11 × 6 3/4 × 5 1/4 in. (27.9 × 17.1 × 13.3 cm)

Credit Line Henry Clay Frick Bequest

Accession Number 1918.9.12

Currently On View

Second Floor, Room 28, Boucher Room

Commentary Jean-Claude Duplessis adapted the shape of this vase from silverworks made some ten years earlier. It is one of three pieces in a set, or garniture, made for display on a chest of drawers, pier table, or mantelpiece. Produced at the factory from 1761 to 1768, vases of this type were called either pots-pourris feuilles de mirte or à feuillages, a reference to the entwined myrtle leaves on the sides and neck of the vases, as well as to their eventual content (myrtle leaves were the essential ingredient in potpourri mixtures of dried flowers, herbs, and spices). The vase is decorated on the front with a Flemish peasant scene in rich polychrome and on the back with a landscape bathed in soft light. The decorative scenes derive in part from engravings made after paintings by David Teniers the Younger and François Boucher.

Collection History Possibly Thynne sale, Christie's, May 18, 1911, Lot 58. Duveen. Frick, 1918. Sources: Porcelains in The Frick Collection: Oriental and French. Volume VII. New York: The Frick Collection, 1974. Vignon, Charlotte. The Frick Collection Decorative Arts Handbook. New York: The Frick Collection/Scala, 2015.