

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Cassoni (One of a Pair)

Italian, Milan (?)

Date third quarter of the 16th century with nineteenth-century alterations, additions and restorations

Medium Walnut

Dimensions 28 1/2 × 70 1/2 × 21 1/4 in. (72.4 × 179.1 × 54 cm)

Credit Line Henry Clay Frick Bequest

Accession Number 1918.5.79

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 13, West Gallery

Commentary This chest, and its pair, (1916.5.78) exemplify the art of wooden sculpture in late sixteenth-century Italy. The complex friezes depict scenes from the life of Julius Caesar, as described by Plutarch, the Greek historian and biographer. On this chest, the scene at left depicts Caesar in armor at the center facing right, directing the opening of the treasury. In the scene to the right of the coats of arms of the Crivelli of Milan, eight figures gather before a statue of a warrior. On the other chest, the scene at right represents Caesar returning victorious to Rome after a long war. Three captives march behind the horses drawing his chariot. The scene at left shows a similar chariot, filled with booty and drawn by four horses. Source: Vignon, Charlotte. *The Frick Collection Decorative Arts Handbook*. New York: The Frick Collection/Scala, 2015.

Collection History Crivelli (?). Otto H. Kahn, New York. Duveen. Frick, 1918. Source: *Furniture in The Frick Collection: Italian and French Renaissance, French 18th and 19th Centuries (Pt. I). Volume V*. New York: The Frick Collection, 1992.