The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Plaque: The Litanies of the Blessed Virgin Pierre Reymond (French, 1513-after 1584) Date mid 16th century Medium Limoges; enamel on copper, parcel-gilt Dimensions 4 5/16 × 3 11/16 in. (11 × 9.4 cm) Credit Line Gift of Alexis Gregory, 2021 Accession Number 2021.4.15 Currently On View First Floor, Room 14, Enamels Room

Commentary The design of the composition is based on an engraving by Thielman Kerver (act. 1497–1522), published in a book of hours (Heures de la Vierge à l'usage de Rome) in 1505. Under a dark blue background filled with stars, the Virgin Mary on this plaque painted in grisaille is dressed in white, her hands joined in prayer. She is positioned within a thin gold mandorla and surrounded by the Litanies of the Blessed Virgin, prayers consisting of a series of supplications. God is blessing her from above. Numerous symbols associated with the iconography of the Virgin are represented.

Collection History Private collection, Buenos Aires; sale, Sotheby's, New York, January 26, 2000 (lot 39); Kugel Gallery, Paris; Jan Dirven Gallery, Antwerp; purchased by Alexis Gregory, 2001; Gift to The Frick Collection, 2021