

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Vase à Oreilles (one of a pair)

Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory (French, est. 1756)

Date 1760

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

Dimensions H.: 12 1/2 in. (31.8 cm), diam.: 6 5/8 in. (16.8 cm)

Credit Line Henry Clay Frick Bequest

Accession Number 1916.9.09

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 9, Fragonard Room

Commentary Probably designed by the silversmith Jean-Claude Duplessis, vases of this type are called à oreilles (with ears) because the foliar scrolls at the neck loop back to the shoulder to form ear-like handles. One of the most successful vase forms produced by Sèvres's celebrated porcelain manufactory, vases à oreilles were made in five sizes, ranging from about four and a half to fifteen inches. Decorated with birds by Louis-Denis Armand l'aîné, this vase and another in the collection form a pair and were made en suite with the related pot-pourri à vaisseau. A set of pieces, or garniture, was intended to be displayed on a chest of drawers, pier table, or mantelpiece, often in front of a mirror.

Collection History J. Auriol. Hon. G. Byng, M. P., Wrotham Park. Alexander Barker. Earl Dudley. Frick, 1916. 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.