

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Henri II, King of France (b. 1519; r. 1547–59)

Germain Pilon (French, ca. 1525–1590)

Date dated 1559; made ca. 1575

Medium Copper alloy, cast

Dimensions Diam.: 6 7/16 in. (16.36 cm)

Credit Line Dr. Stephen K. and Janie Woo Scher Collection

Accession Number SCHER.2014.15.546

Currently On View

Second Floor, Room 32, Medals Room

Commentary Based on drawings and painted portraits by François Clouet (ca. 1510–1572), this medallion belongs to a series depicting the last members of the House of Valois, possibly commissioned by Henri's widow, Catherine de' Medici, about 1575. The 1559 date probably refers to the king's death on June 30 of that year from wounds sustained at a tournament celebrating the Peace of Cateau-Cambrésis and the wedding of his daughter Elisabeth of Valois to Philip II of Spain. Source: Scher, Stephen K., et al. *The Scher Collection of Commemorative Medals*. New York and London, 2019.