

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Saltcellar

Pierre Reymond (French, 1513–after 1584)

Date ca. 1545

Medium Limoges; enamel on copper, parcel-gilt

Dimensions H.: 2 13/16 (7.1 cm); diam.: 4 3/4 in. (12.1 cm)

Credit Line Gift of Alexis Gregory, 2021

Accession Number 2021.4.02

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 14, Enamels Room

Commentary The body of this saltcellar depicts two scenes: Venus seated on a chariot drawn by four doves and four figures standing near a column. The first image derives from a Marcantonio Raimondi (ca. 1480–1534) engraving made after a design by Raphael that illustrates episodes from the first book of Virgil's *Aeneid*. The second one may illustrate the episode in the same book in which Dido, the Queen of Carthage, receives Aeneas. On the neck is a French inscription painted in gold—1545 PRENE EN GRE (Accept this willingly)—which likely refers to a poem from the *Cent Ballades* (Hundred Ballads) written by Christine de Pisan (1364–ca. 1430). A male portrait in the antique style is in the receptacle.

Collection History Max von Goldschmidt-Rothschild (1843–1940), Frankfurt; by descent to his heirs and estate; Goldschmidt Collection sale, Parke-Bernet, New York, March 10–11, 1950 (lot 64?); Jan Dirven Gallery, Antwerp, purchased by Alexis Gregory, 1999; Gift to The Frick Collection, 2021