

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Calendar Plate for May

Martial Courteys (French)

Date ca. 1565–75

Medium Limoges; enamel on copper, parcel-gilt

Dimensions Diam.: 7 5/16 in. (18.6 cm); d.: 1/2 in. (1.3 cm)

Credit Line Gift of Alexis Gregory, 2021

Accession Number 2021.4.09

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 14, Enamels Room

Commentary The composition is centered on two women looking at a book. They are accompanied by two children, a man looking at a book with a score, and a second man who holds a lute and pats one of the children on the head. In the background are a castle-like structure, gardens and hills, and a mill with a waterwheel. The rim is decorated with strapwork, as well as musical instruments and scores. Cartouches at the top and bottom include the Roman numeral II and MAYVS (May). The composition derives from an engraving by Etienne Delaune (ca. 1518–1583) published in 1561 as part of his first series of Labors of the Months.

Collection History Sale, Christie's, New York, September 26, 2001 (lot 257); Bernard Descheemaeker Gallery, Antwerp, purchased by Alexis Gregory, 2002; Gift to The Frick Collection, 2021