

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Ewer

Saint-Porchaire Ware (French)

Date mid-16th century

Medium Lead-Glazed earthenware

Dimensions 10 1/4 × 5 1/16 × 5 1/16 in. (26 × 12.9 × 12.9 cm)

Credit Line Gift of Alexis Gregory, 2020

Accession Number 2020.9.01

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 14, Enamels Room

Commentary Part of a very small, luxurious production created during the reign of King Henry II of France (r. 1547–59), this three-handled ewer, or biberon (nursing bottle), has a complex molded, stamped, and inlaid decoration consisting of foliage, leaves, cabochons, and leonine masks. The delicate interlacing forms several intricate patterns, and a strapwork cartouche features a coat of arms made up of three fleurs-de-lis. Saint-Porchaire ware, most of which was destined for the royal family and important patrons, is named after a village in a French region rich in the white clay that is its main component.

Collection History Baron Gustave de Rothschild (1829–1911) France; Baron Robert de Rothschild (1880–1946), France; Piasa sale, Drouot, Paris, June 11, 1997 (lot no. 59); Kugel Gallery, Paris; purchased by Alexis Gregory, 1997; Gift to The Frick Collection, 2020