

*European Galleries (Jun-Dec C&T Rotation)*, June 29, 2015-December 7, 2015

## CHECKLIST OF THE EXHIBITION

Italian, Possibly Florence

*Textile Fragment*, 1450-1500

Silk velvet (cut wrap pile) voided and brocaded with silver gilt filé with bouclé details

Museum Appropriation Fund 30.002

In 16th-century Italy, patterned velvets reigned supreme, as seen in this elaborate example with pomegranate motifs and intertwining ogive designs in rich red silk and gold-wrapped yarn. Bold patterns, eye-catching materials, and details such as the dazzling gilt loops amid the velvet halos surrounding the pomegranates well suited the pomp required of European courts and vestments of the high clergy. Incredibly laborious to craft, velvets and patterned silks represent the height of technical and artistic refinement for the Renaissance period.



Jean-Démosthène Dugourc, designer

French, 1749-1825

Camille Pernon et Cie, manufacturer

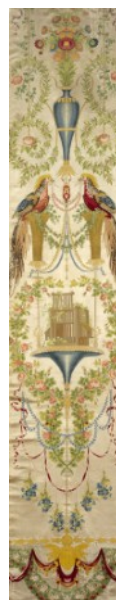
French, late 18th century

*The Pheasants*, ca. 1785

Brocaded silk satin weave with silk embroidery

Mary B. Jackson Fund 47.194

This lavish silk brocade was designed as part of a series of wall panels for the Royal Palace of Madrid. An elaborately embroidered bird cage—the only part not woven on the loom—is surrounded by brocaded garlands of roses, with ribbons and strands of beads below. Pheasants, a double strand of pearls in their beaks, perch on cone-shaped baskets. Above all is a vase of asters flanked by scrolling foliage.



Jean-Démosthène Dugourc was an outstanding designer of his time, creating textiles and interiors, designing costumes and sets for the Paris Opera, and for a time serving as chief architect to the king of Spain. Camille Pernon manufactured luxurious silks for courts across Europe.

# RISD MUSEUM

English

*Medallions Representing Personifications of Four of the Seven the Liberal Arts: Astronomy, 1625-1675*

Silk satin weave embroidered with silk, metallic-wrapped yarn, and metal coils (satin stitch, laid-andcouché work)

Museum Works of Art Fund 51.139

These medallions, lavishly embroidered in vibrant silk and metallic-wrapped yarns, show female personifications of four of the seven Liberal Arts that served as the basis of university secular education in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. From left to right: Rhetoric, surrounded by books, holds the caduceus of Mercury, god of eloquence; winged Astronomy has a halo of stars and a celestial globe; Geometry measures a terrestrial globe with a compass; and Arithmetic writes on a slate tablet.

The images were translated from a print source and likely worked by a professional embroiderer. The medallions may have once adorned the sides of a mirror, a book cover, or box for holding personal items.



English

*Medallions Representing Personifications of Four of the Seven the Liberal Arts: Geometry, 1625-1675*

Silk satin weave embroidered with silk, metallic-wrapped yarn, and metal coils (satin stitch, laid-andcouché work)

Museum Works of Art Fund 51.140

These medallions, lavishly embroidered in vibrant silk and metallic-wrapped yarns, show female personifications of four of the seven Liberal Arts that served as the basis of university secular education in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. From left to right: Rhetoric, surrounded by books, holds the caduceus of Mercury, god of eloquence; winged Astronomy has a halo of stars and a celestial globe; Geometry measures a terrestrial globe with a compass; and Arithmetic writes on a slate tablet.

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# RISD MUSEUM

English

*Medallions Representing Personifications of Four of the Seven the Liberal Arts: Arithmetic, 1625-1675*

Silk satin weave embroidered with silk, metallic-wrapped yarn, and metal coils (satin stitch, laid-and-couched work)

Museum Works of Art Fund 51.141

These medallions, lavishly embroidered in vibrant silk and metallic-wrapped yarns, show female personifications of four of the seven Liberal Arts that served as the basis of university secular education in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. From left to right: Rhetoric, surrounded by books, holds the caduceus of Mercury, god of eloquence; winged Astronomy has a halo of stars and a celestial globe; Geometry measures a terrestrial globe with a compass; and Arithmetic writes on a slate tablet.

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English

*Medallions Representing Personifications of Four of the Seven the Liberal Arts: Rhetoric, 1625-1675*

Silk satin weave embroidered with silk, metallic-wrapped yarn, and metal coils (satin stitch, laid-and-couched work)

Museum Works of Art Fund 51.142

These medallions, lavishly embroidered in vibrant silk and metallic-wrapped yarns, show female personifications of four of the seven Liberal Arts that served as the basis of university secular education in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. From left to right: Rhetoric, surrounded by books, holds the caduceus of Mercury, god of eloquence; winged Astronomy has a halo of stars and a celestial globe; Geometry measures a terrestrial globe with a compass; and Arithmetic writes on a slate tablet.

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