



Maurice Denis, Pacis Alumna Ceres, Bois Gravé Sur Vélín Arches Filigrané



450 EUR

Signature : Maurice DENIS (Granville 1870 - 1943 Paris)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Paper

Length : 36 cm ; 33 cm (encadré)

Height : 37 cm ; 48 cm (encadré)

Description

Maurice-DENIS

(Granville 1870 - 1943 Paris)

Cérès, former student of Pacis

for the Golden Book of Peace

1932

wood engraved on watermarked Arches vellum

37x36cm; 48 x 33 cm (framed)

signed 'MAURICE DENIS' at the bottom of the
circle, in the plate

limited edition of 450 copies

Notable museums:

Orsay Museum, Paris

Maurice-Denis Museum, Saint-Germain-en-Laye

Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg

Alte Nationalgalerie, Berlin

Dealer

Galerie Alix Basier

19th and 20th centuries arts

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Selected bibliography:

Pax Mundi, Golden Book of Peace, Paxunis,
Geneva, 1932
Ovid, The Fasti, Book I (v. 657-704)

Learn more:

Maurice Denis is a multi-faceted artist known as "the nabi of beautiful icons". A painter, engraver, decorator and art historian, he also stands out as a theoretician.

From 1890, Maurice Denis was inspired by the ideas of Gauguin to develop his own artistic language within the movement initiated by Paul Sérusier, in collaboration with artists like Édouard Vuillard or Pierre Bonnard. This movement, first designated under the name "neo-traditionism", is based on the concepts born in Pont-Aven: the works, freed from conventional realism, attempt to arouse a spiritual resonance, subtly marrying esotericism and Japonism. In this quest, Maurice Denis quickly rejects classic academic techniques: the compositions are deployed on a flat surface, breaking with the conventions of perspective, while color, applied in flat areas and delimited by marked contours, takes on a singular importance.

Our engraved wood takes up an episode from Book I of Ovid's Fastes: "The moveable feast of the Sementivae", introducing the theme of peace. On the festival of Sementivae (the sowing), Ceres, the goddess of agriculture, and Earth preside together. Ovid sings that one needs the other because "if one receives the germs in her womb, the other fertilizes them". Or, in times of war, man does not take the time to work the land. The Roman poet concludes: Pax Cererem nutrit, Pacis alumna Ceres ("Peace nourishes Ceres, Ceres is daughter of Peace"). Based on this ancient text, Maurice Denis pays homage to peace.