

Preliminary Testing at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

In Fall 2005, a small group of volunteers participated in informal subject cataloguing trials at the Metropolitan Museum. The volunteers were asked to supply keywords for 30 images from the Museum collection. The terms supplied by the volunteers were then compared to curatorial cataloguing from the Museum's collections management system. Approximately 80% of terms submitted by the community cataloguers did not—for the 30 images tested—match terms in the existing database. These terms were then “validated” for accuracy by a group of Museum staff members.



Cataloguing from The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Collections Management System

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Artist/Maker(s) | Maker: Joachim Friess ca. 1579-1620, m. 1610 |
| Title | Diana and the Stag |
| Object Name | AUTOMATON |
| Date | First quarter 17th century (about 1620) |
| Culture | German (Augsburg) |
| Made in | Country: Germany City: Augsburg |
| Medium | Silver, partly gilt, jewels, enamel |
| Classification | Metalwork-Silver |
| Dimensions | 14 3/4 x 9 1/2 in. (37.5 x 24.1 cm) |
| Credit Line | Gift of J. Pierpont Morgan, 1917 |
| Department | European Sculpture and Decorative Arts |

Markings

[1] A pine cone (Augsburg town mark in use between 1620 and 1625). See Helmut Selig, *Die Kunst der Augsburger Goldschmiede 1529-1868*, Munich, 1980, vol. III, p. 19, no. 44. [2] Roman capitals I F within a rectangle (cameo) (maker's mark of Joachim Friess or Fries, born in Lubeck about 1579 master goldsmith in Augsburg in 1610, died 1620). See Selig, Vol. III, p. 143, no. 1248. [3] A Roman capital B below a crown and within a shield (cameo), unidentified. [4] A Roman capital E below a crown, and within a shaped reserve (cameo) (French guarantee mark for Foreign silver in use between 1809 and 1819). See Tardy, *International Hallmarks on Silver*, Paris, 1981, p. 190. Location of marks: [1] On the neck and inside the neck, and on the base. [2] Twice on the neck, on top of the base. [3] Inside and on the outside of the neck. [4] Inside the neck.

Description

Diana seated on stag, with Cupid on croup, and three hounds below; stag's head removable, body a flask; spring-driven mechanism in base permits automaton to move. Diana wears a crescent set with eight rose diamonds and one pink tourmaline; stag with coronet, pierced collar, lion mask on breast and trappings of scrolling ornament and cherubs; set with three pink imitation tourmalines; on base three lizards, two of them with green enamel, one small lizard, two frogs and four beetles, one of them with green enamel; octagonal casket-like base, decorated with applied ornament in same style as trappings; in center of left side movable key-hole cover on spring.

Accession Number 17.190.746

Sample Terms Collected

A sampling of unique terms (not in the museum's collections management system) collected from volunteer cataloguers:

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| action | hunt/hunter/hunting/huntress |
| animal | intricate |
| antler | jumping |
| archery | leap/leaping |
| arrow | luxury |
| baroque | mechanical |
| bejeweled | movement |
| bow | mythological/mythology |
| bridle | nude |
| chain | ornamental/ornamentation/ornamented |
| clockwork | ornate |
| container | precious |
| deer/reindeer | rearing |
| dog/dogs | rider/riding |
| figurative | saddle |
| gilded | woman |
| gold | |
| horse | |