



Limoges enamel calendar plate for January

Date

late 16th or early 17th century

Medium

Copper with enameled and gilded decoration

Description

Small round plate decorated using grisaille painting--monochrome palette of black, white, and gold. The plate depicts a scene of two men and two women gathered around table with a lattice window behind them. The

figures each gesture boldly, one drinking from a goblet and wearing a crown while another with his back to the viewer gestures with his hand. Beside the table, a small dog is seen in the floor with its head inside what appears to be a pot--possibly a chamber pot. To the left in the background is a view of town in the distance and figures engaged in activities. The plate is surrounded with a border of grotesques made of foliage, putti, and animal heads. The reverse features a central medallion of strap work interlaced with vegetation and foliage, surrounded by grotesques made of stylized foliage and animal heads.

Dimensions

Diameter: 7 1/16 inches (17.9 cm)