

Thomas Erat Harrison:

An Inventory of His Art Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Harrison, Thomas Erat, 1853-1917
Title:	Thomas Erat Harrison Art Collection
Dates:	1880
Extent:	15 items (1 oversize box)
Abstract:	The collection consists of cartoons for a set of twelve realized stained glass windows at Betteshanger House, Kent, United Kingdom. The drawings are based on verse from Edmund Spenser's <i>The Faerie Queene</i> , and depict the twelve months of the year and associated zodiac symbols and iconography.
Call Number:	Art Collection AR-00351
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research. Please note that a minimum of 24 hours notice is required to pull art materials to the Ransom Center's Reading and Viewing Room. Some materials may be restricted from viewing. To make an appointment or to reserve art materials, please contact the Center's staff at art@hrc.utexas.edu .

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Gift of Norman Farmer, 2016 (16-12-008-G)
Processed by:	Jill Morena, 2017
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Biographical Sketch

Thomas Erat Harrison, born, 1853, was a British sculptor, painter, and engraver. He exhibited in London from 1875, mainly at the Royal Academy. Harrison died in 1917.

Sources:

"Harrison, Thomas Erat (British sculptor, painter, and engraver, 1853-1917)." *Union List of Artist Names Online*. The J. Paul Getty Trust, accessed February 2, 2017, <http://www.getty.edu/vow/ULANFullDisplay?find=harrison%2C+thomas+erat&role=&nation=&page=1&subjectid=500015263>.

"HARRISON, Thomas Erat." *Benezit Dictionary of Artists*. *Oxford Art Online*. Oxford University Press, accessed March 8, 2017, <http://www.oxfordartonline.com/subscriber/article/benezit/B00084085>.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of twelve cartoons, designed and illustrated by Thomas Erat Harrison, for a set of realized stained glass windows. The windows were commissioned by Walter Henry James (1846-1923), second Baron of Northbourne, for his estate, Betteshanger House, in Kent, England. The set, which depicts each month of the year and associated zodiac iconography, is accompanied by glassine sheets of verse, excerpted from Edmund Spenser's *The Faerie Queene* (1590-1596), written inside a scroll-like cartouche in black ink. There is no accompanying sheet of verse for the month of May. Also present are studies for two decorative cartouches designed to frame the drawings for each month, and a single study designed to frame the excerpted verse.

Related Material

There are two engravings created as frontispieces for *The Poetical Works of Edmund Spenser*, Vol. I (1819) edited by John Aikin, in the James F. Drake, Inc. Art Collection. Several editions of *The Faerie Queene* are present in The Carl H. Pforzheimer Library.

Index Terms

People

Harrison, Thomas Erat, 1853-1917.

Spenser, Edmund, 1552?-1599.

Subjects

Astrology--Pictorial works--1880-1890.

Harvesting time--Pictorial works--1880-1890.

Harrison, Thomas Erat, 1853-1917

Seasons--Pictorial works--1880-1890.

Spenser, Edmund, 1552?-1599. Faerie queene--Pictorial works--1880-1890.

Zodiac--Pictorial works--1880-1890.

Document Types

Cartoons (working drawings).

LocationHarrison,
T.E.,
Box 1

Accession Number: 2016.4.1 January (Aquarius). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47 x 34.3 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.2 February (Pisces). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47 x 34.9 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.3 March (Aries). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47 x 34.9 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.4 April (Taurus). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47.3 x 34.3 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.5 May (Gemini). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47.6 x 34.3 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.6 June (Cancer). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47.6 x 35.6 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.7 July (Leo). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47.6 x 37.5 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.8 August (Virgo). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47 x 34.9 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.9 September (Libra). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47.6 x 35.6 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.10 October (Scorpio). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47.6 x 37.5 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.11 November (Sagittarius). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47 x 35.6 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.12 December (Capricorn). 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper and glassine, 47 x 34.9 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.13 Cartouche study for February, April, June, July, September, and November. 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper, 49.5 x 38.7 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.14 Cartouche study for verse. 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper, 63.5 x 38.1 cm.

Accession Number: 2016.4.15 Cartouche study for January, March, May, August, October, and December. 1880. Watercolor, gouache, graphite, pen and ink on paper, 49.5 x 38.7 cm.