

Basic Detail Report

Title Canvaswork Picture

Date 1637-1643

Medium Embroidery; silk and silver-wrapped silk thread; plain-woven linen; wood, glass and metal hardware; ink and paper

Description Canvaswork panel, framed as a picture, worked in silver and multi-colored wool threads in very fine tent stitch, depicting flowers, fruits, and birds.

The flowers include a carnation (also called a "gilly flower" in the period) at center bottom, and a stylized iris at center top, flanked by birds. On the outer edges of the design are grapes and what appear to be pea pods, along with more stylized flowers and another bird in the lower left corner. The stems of the flowers are worked in lacy stitches with the silver thread, while the background is covered with silver threads in a herringbone pattern. The once-vibrant colors of the wool are now faded to shades of beige, olive, and bluish-green. The picture is encased within a double frame: the original black wood frame, which has a gold inner edge, and a plain outer frame of black wood. The outer frame is glazed on both sides, so that the paper backing of the early backboard is visible, with its inscription. The top of the outer frame is screwed with two gold-tone metal loops for hanging, while the bottom of the frame has two small eye screws for fastening to the framed copy of the inscription (2003.8.2a,b).

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (approximate height x width unframed): 4 3/4 5 1/2 in. (14 x 12.1 cm) Primary Dimensions (height x width framed): 7 3/16 x 7 15 /16 in. (18.3 x 20.2cm)