Roundel - Saint Peter Preaching in Samaria and Denouncing Simon the Sorcerer

Object: Roundel

Place of origin: Flanders (region) (made)

Date: ca. 1520 (made)

Artist/Maker: Unknown

Materials and Techniques: Stained glass with painted details

Credit Line: Soulages Collection

Museum number: 5639-1855

Gallery location: Sacred Silver & Stained Glass, Room 83, The Whiteley Galleries, case S2

Public access description


Simon is described in Acts as a sorcerer. Many people at this time practised magic, which was denounced by the civil authorities as well as by the followers of Jesus. Earlier, the Apostle Philip had been preaching in Samaria (in Jordan) and had converted Simon to the new faith, with many others. The Apostles Peter and John heard of this success and travelled to Samaria to continue the work that Philip started.

The roundel depicts Peter preaching to a crowd in the city of Samaria. In spite of his conversion to Christianity, Simon was still interested in magic. Here we see him offering money to Peter to learn the secret of the miracles he had been performing.

Descriptive line

Sainted and painted glass roundel depicting St Peter Preaching in Samaria and Denouncing Simon the Sorcerer. Made in Flanders about 1520.

Physical description

St. Peter, wearing a white gown with gold trim, is leaning out from a pulpit on the left side of the roundel. He gestures towards a man who stands in the midst of a crowd sitting on the ground listening to St. Peter. The man holds something in his right hand. There is a crenellated townscape in the background. The scene is encased in a border composed of a green man head, foliage and fruit and peacocks with scrolls.

The whole executed in brown/black pigment and yellow stain.

Dimensions

Diameter: 35.7 cm sight, Height: 38.7 cm framed, Width: 38.5 cm framed, Depth: 3.2 cm framed, Weight: 3.0 kg framed

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Object history note

Formerly in the Soulages Collection.

URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O11230/saint-peter-preaching-in-samaria-roundel-unknown/