Botanical print - Papaya

Object: Botanical print

Place of origin: London (printed)

Date: 1750 (printed)

Artist/Maker: Ehret, Georg Dionysus, born 1708 - died 1770 (artist)
Haid, Johann Jakob, born 1704 - died 1767 (engraver)

Materials and Techniques: Hand-coloured engraving

Credit Line: Given by H. Stuart Thompson

Museum number: E.915-1924

Gallery location: Prints & Drawings Study Room, level E, case DP, shelf 112

Public access description

This papaya is given a scientific presentation with detailed dissections of flower and plant parts.

Christoph Jacob Trew's book Plantae selectae reflects a new trend in lavish, privately funded publications on exotic plants in the eighteenth century. It includes about one hundred of Georg Ehret's finest studies. They range in style from the naturalistic and pictorial to the abstract and diagrammatic.

Georg Dionysius Ehret was an outstandingly successful botanical artist. He had family and professional links with the Chelsea Physic Garden so was well placed to study many exotics and new arrivals.

Descriptive line

Papaya (Carica papaya L.); hand-coloured engraving after a drawing by Georg Dionysius Ehret, engraved by Johann Hakob Haid (1704-67); London; 1750; for Christoph Jakob Trew's 'Plantae Selectae' (Nuremberg, 1750-1773); proof of plate vii, part 1

Physical description

Botanical print of a papaya fruit shown whole and halved; behind this a drawing showing the stem of the plant with leaves and yellow flowers, and top right dissections of the flower parts.

Dimensions

Height: 51.2 cm, Width: 35.5 cm

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URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O766616/papaya-botanical-print-ehret-georg-dionysus/