The May Queen



Brief description: Stained glass panel depicting a young girl dressed as the May Queen. Probably painted by Thomas Cowell

A small rectangular stained glass panel depicting a young girl dressed as the May Queen crowned with daisies and carrying an orb. A shepherd boy holds her dress as she walks down some wooden stairs. In the background a sheep and two lambs can be seen in a field behind a fence. Other notable features of the background include a blossoming tree and foliage. The May Queen traditionally walks in front of the May Day parade, wearing a white dress and a tiara. She is crowned with flowers and starts the May Day (1 May) celebrations with a speech. In the top left corner of the panel, a shield with a bull represents Taurus, the sign of the Zodiac during which May Day takes place. Designed by George Parlby (1856-1944), one of the principal glass painters at London studio of Powell & Sons, this panel has been delicately painted by Thomas Cowell (1870-1944) in glass paint and silver stain.

Object type: panel

Number of objects: 1

Production date: circa 1900

Production period: 20th century, early

Designer: George Measures Parlby

Manufacturer: Cowell, Thomas 1870-1949

Dimensions: Height: 240 mm, Width: 180 mm

Original location: Cotterill Road Surbiton Surrey England Thomas Cowell's studio

Acquisition: bequest 5.5.1993

Acquisition source: Estate of Thomas Cowell

Accession number: ELYGM:1992.4.8

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