Virgin and Child



Brief description: Stained glass light in three sections depicting the Virgin Mary and the child Jesus. Designed and made by Margaret Traherne in 1956.

Stained glass panel in three sections depicting the Virgin Mary and the child Jesus. The figures are predominantly in shades of blue, while the background is yellow and the edges in purples. The panel of the Virgin and Christ child (1956) is loosely figurative but already shows moves towards abstraction, with strong and expressive painted lines. The Virgin is depicted holding Christ's arms as she teaches him to walk, in a posture reminiscent of his crucifixion. The comparison is exacerbated by Christ's nakedness and his gaze upwards. The remarkable use of a blue colour palette reflects the artistÂ's interest in colour. Margaret Traherne (1919-2006) was influenced by the work of French expressionist painter and stained glass designer Georges Rouault (1871-1958). Margaret Traherne was an important British stained glass artist. This was one of her earliest works in stained glass, made for Michelham Priory of Upper Dicker, Hailsham in Sussex. Much of her later works are more abstract and devoid of figures.

Object type: light

Number of objects: 1

Production date: 1956

Production period: 20th century, mid

Designer: Margaret Traherne

Manufacturer: Traherne, Margaret

Dimensions: Height: 1345 mm, Width: 710 mm

Original location: Michelham Priory Upper Dicker Hailsham Sussex England Michelham Priory

Acquisition: gift 7.12.2005

Acquisition source: Traherne, Margaret

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