



## Ceremonial Half-Armor with "Repoussé" Decoration

### Date

about 1580-1610

### Primary Maker

Étienne Delaune

### Medium

steel with traces of gilding, leather

### Description

Consists of breastplate with tassets, backplate, and associated arm-harness. The armor is lacking helmet, collar, gauntlets and leg defenses (if these were ever fitted, though the 1862 catalogue entry mentions "genouilleres"). The breast and back match each other, and the arms match the tassets, based on the different border motifs in each group (scrolling in the former, guilloche in the latter). Cuirass unrelated to the other components displayed. Breastplate and backplate were cut down to present, short, slightly dipped form. Both embossed overall with classical figures & Mannerist decorations. Central motif is of Mars and Venus, other decorations include putti, stags, classically armed warriors blowing trumpets. Waist lame embossed with similar motives. Tassets: oblong form, concave to body, and of 7 lames slightly recurved on

inner edges, and overlapping to waist. Tassets have nearly identical decoration of armed warriors, snails and vegetation. Arm defenses unrelated to above except in general design and decorative motives. Borders at cuffs, elbow-openings, couters and pauldron edges have simple etched intertwined guilloche. Pauldrons are symmetrical; rounded, consisting of main-lame with 3 lames above and 4 below, all overlapping away from mainplate. Riveted vambrace "tulip" shape, of 2 hinged halves with bracelet cowters (R restored). Decoration of arms is near-identical to other elements. 14D x 26W as mounted

### Dimensions

mounted: 67.3 cm (26 1/2 in.), 19 lb, 10 oz (weight)