Ex-libris (bookplate) - Gustavi Dirner

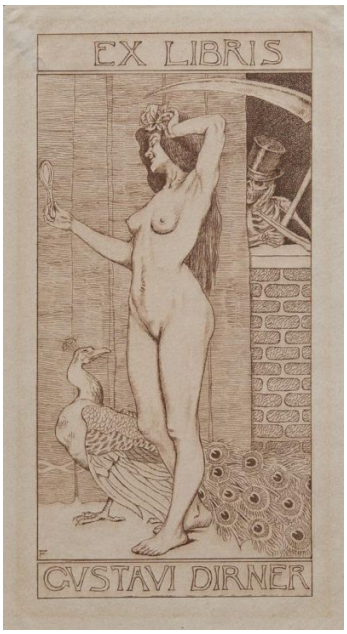
Archive / Ex Libris Collection

Accession Nr.:	MLT 1691.3.24
Artist/Maker:	Faragó, József (1866 - 1906) / graphic designer
Date of production:	after 1903
Place of production:	Budapest; Hungary
Inscription:	F
Materials:	paper
Techniques:	etching
Dimensions:	height: 190 mm width: 110 mm height: 143 mm width: 70 mm

Gusztáv Dimer (1855-1912) was a professor at the University of Medical Sciences, first chairman of the Graphic Department of the St. George Guild, and also a well-known collector or ex libris. For him, József Faragó, a cartoonist and engraver made an ex libris piece typical of the age. The two most important topics are interpreted in the picture the mysterious woman and impenetrable fate. The composition shows the allegorical figure of death lurking behind the naked female figure. The symbolic picture is built upon the contrast of life a death, beautiful and ugly, deriving from the erotic and death-conscious attitude of the fin de siécle. The symbols appearing in the pictures are well-known from the iconography of vanity: a peacock, a mirror, a skeleton with a scythe.

Literature

- Szerk.: Szilágyi András, Horányi Éva: *Szecesszió. A 20. század hajnala. (Az európai iparművészet korszakai.)*. Iparművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, 1996. - Nr. 9.320. (Horváth Hilda)
- Horváth Hilda: Das moderne Exlibris in Ungarn. *DEG (Deutsche Exlibris Gesellschaft) Jahrbuch*, 2000. - 141-



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