



Etching.

## **A STUDY OF A MUFF**

**[Five angles of a muff]**

### **Author**

HOLLAR, W[enceslaus]

### **Publication date**

1645-46.

### **Publisher**

### **Publication place**

[Antwerp],

### **Physical description**

Etching.

### **Dimensions**

78 by 130mm. (3 by 5 inches).

### **Notes**

During the 1640s, Hollar produced a series of still life etchings with a focus on fashion, perhaps to complement his other contemporary series on women's dress and his female personifications. The present example is a study in still-life, showing a muff from five different angles. Monteyne has hypothesised that this item plays a symbolic role in Hollar's work:

"The fur muff in these etchings is shown to be an enigmatic entity, not only intersecting with issues

related to fetishism, eroticism and urban space in early modern London, but is also poised on a threshold between different economies of the object, between residual classical and medieval systems of representation and newly emergent anxieties about the commodity and exchange value.”

**Bibliography**

Monteyne, J. ‘Enveloping Objects: Allegory and Commodity Fetish in Wenceslaus Hollar’s Personifications of the Seasons and Fashion Still Lifes’, *Art History* 29(3), 2006; NHG Hollar 796 I; Pennington 1952.

**Provenance****Price:**

**Inventory reference:** 18645

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