

MS 292 Sketches, some probably by F.Cleyn the younger, 1640s

A collection of 163 sketches, in pencil and chalk; or in pen and wash, some probably by Francis Cleyn the younger (1625-50), of parts of bodies, draperies, small portraits, fish and animals, along with copies of or drafts for tapestries, all on separate sheets of paper which were pasted into a volume.

There are thirteen tapestry designs - drafts, copies or probably cartoons - with scenes from the Bible and from classical mythology, including the Judgement of Solomon, Jonah and the Whale, Perseus and Andromeda, and a sequence of five of Cupid, starting with the blinding of Cupid by Venus, and possibly continuing with the story of Cupid and Psyche.

Some of the drawings of tapestries are signed F.Cleyn f., probably for *filius* (but possibly for *fecit*), and the drawings were therefore probably executed in the 1640s.

Francis (or Franz) Cleyn the younger was the son of Francis Cleyn (1582-1658), decorative painter, illustrator and tapestry designer, who was chief designer of the Mortlake Tapestry Factory for Charles I and under the Commonwealth.