

DANAE from a painting after Anne-Louis Girodet-Trioson

Circa: 1810

Era: 1900

Materials: ivory, gilt bronze.

Dim: H: 23 cm/ W: 16,5 cm .

Depiction on a thick ivory plate of Danaë from the famous work by French painter Anne-Louis Girodet-Trioson (1767-1824). The young girl, locked in an underground room by her father, King Acrisius of Argos, is surprised as she is being groomed, her head raised to the sky, from which a fine shower of gold is falling, the personification of Jupiter who, infatuated with her, manages to enter the room and seduce her. Standing on a bed adorned with garlands of flowers, before a mirror held by an angel, she reveals the full splendor of her nudity. Gilt bronze frame chased with palmettes and lozenges. This reproduction is reversed from the original, which is in the Museum des Bildenden Künste in Leipzig.

Girodet was undoubtedly one of the greatest painters of the 1800s. Born into a bourgeois family, he benefited from a particularly meticulous education, comparable to that of the Parisian bourgeoisie. In 1783, Girodet entered the Royal Academy of Painting. The following year, aged seventeen, he took

lessons in David's studio alongside Fabre, Gérard, Isabey and Gros. Danaë (1798) was commissioned by Percier to decorate Benoît Gaudîn's private mansion in Paris.