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"Diana und Gefolge"

design: Ena Rothenberg, 1925

The Paris world exhibition 1925 shaped a new style – the Art Deco. Rothenberg's Diana is part of a series of precious Lobmeyr engravings from the period and a masterpiece of copper wheel engraving. In Roman mythology, Diana was the goddess of hunting, the moon and childbirth. As a virgin goddess, she symbolized the independence and strength of women.

Ena Rothenberg studied in Vienna under Anton Hanak, among others, was a member of the Wiener Werkstätte and worked for Augarten Porzellan and the Wiener Gobelinmanufaktur.

Copper wheel engraving opens up an infinite repertoire of design possibilities, right down to the finest detail. The engraver works with copper wheels of different sizes and thicknesses, which are riveted vertically onto rotating spindles. Copper is soft and does not cut into the hard glass; this is done by the abrasive, the corundum emery, which the engraver has to apply to the rotating wheel again and again – finest details and structures are possible. The present object requires at least 200 hours of work by a master engraver.

LOBMEYR

Masterpieces/ 260/ 1/ Apr 2025