

Grisaille Painted Kast

Medium

Red gum, American tulip, and hard pine (identified by microanalysis at Winterthur in 1977)

Description

An unusually small-sized kas in two parts. The upper section includes a molded cornice above a cupboard section of board construction with dovetailed corners and plain stiles. The center stile is not architectural but is attached to the right door. All three stiles are ornamented with top, medial, and bottom horizontal glyphs. Two side hung doors include applied moldings to create the appearance of rectangular panels. The doors open to reveal two fixed board shelves. The medial shelf retains a pair of cleats mounted to the underside for a small storage drawer, now missing. The kas's base, also of board construction with dovetailed corners, includes a single full-width side hung drawer with applied molding creating the illusion of two smaller drawers and fitted with



a pair of turned wooden pulls. Applied molding along the front and sides of the lower portion disguise the seam between the cupboard and base. An applied base molding runs above two turned front ball feet and two bracket board rear feet. The entire kas is decoratively painted in grisaille (gray and white). Portions of the cornice, moldings, glyphs, and front ball feet are painted black. A band of foliate scrollwork runs along the top portion of the cornice above narrow bunches of fruit. On the stiles, bunches of fruit hang from ribbon bows. Both doors are painted with arched niches featuring pomegranates, grapes, and other fruit hanging from ribbon bows. At the top of each door a florid letter "A" is flanked by small fruit and leaf clusters. On both side panels, similar fruit bunches, also with pomegranate centers, hang from ribbon bows. On the kas's lower section, the false drawer fronts are painted with small fruit clusters flanked by leafy sprays, and large single sunflowers are painted in the drawer center and at the left and right corners. Small bunches of fruit and foliage adorn the side panels of the lower section.

Dimensions

69.5 × 62.75 × 24.5 in. (176.5 × 159.4 × 62.2 cm)