



attributed to:

**AUGUSTE, Robert-Joseph**

[Mons, Belgique 1723 ? - Paris 1805](#)

*Enfants avec des coquillages et des légumes (un d'une paire)*

*Children with Shellfish and Vegetables (one of a pair)*

c. 1756

terracotta

group

H. 6  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.

Acc. No.: 1993.334.2

Credit Line: Purchase, Gift of The Hearst Foundation, by exchange; Gift in memory of Frederick P. Victoria; The Metropolitan Museum of Art Volunteer Anniversary Gift; Ralph and Frances DeJur Foundation Gift, 1993

Photo credit: [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org), May 13, 2011

© Artist : public domain

[New York, New York, The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)

[www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org)

---

### Provenance

- Until 1983, London, Paul Wallraf
- New York, Ruth Blumka
- 1993, Purchase, Gift of the Hearst Foundation, by exchange; Gift in memory of Frederick P. Victoria; The Metropolitan Museum of Art Volunteer Anniversary Gift; Ralph and Frances DeJur Foundation Gift

## **Bibliography**

- 1996 Le Corbeiller  
Clare Le Corbeiller, "Robert-Joseph Auguste, Silversmith - and Sculptor?", *Metropolitan Museum Journal*, vol. 31, 1996, p. 211-218, fig. 1,2

## **Related works**

- Pendant is Children with Dead Game, 1993.334.1.  
Models for the covers of silver tureens made by Auguste in 1756-1757, acquired in 1769 by Christian VI of Denmark and remaining today in the Danish Royal Collection.

## **Comment**

Metropolitan Museum's archives:

Auguste, who received his mastership as a Parisian silversmith in 1757 and became one of the principal silversmiths to the French court, is seen here in the roles of sculptor as well as silversmith. These detailed, deftly modeled terracottas offer rare insights into the working process of eighteenth-century silversmiths; although drawings often survive, their preliminary sketch-models tend not to.

---