

FRENCH SCULPTURE CENSUS / RÉPERTOIRE DE SCULPTURE FRANÇAISE



DUCHAMP, Marcel

Blainville-Crevon, Seine-Maritime 1887 - Neuilly-sur-Seine, Hauts-de-Seine 1968

1964 edition fabricated by Galleria Schwarz, Milano, under supervision of artist.

Fountaine Fountain

1917, 1964 edition fabricated by Galleria Schwarz, Milano, under supervision of artist

ceramic compound; edition 8/8, 5th version

ready-made

14 x 19 ⁵?₁₆ x 24 ⁵?₈ in.

Acc. No.: 71.37.7

Credit Line: Partial gift of Mrs. William H. Conroy

Photo credit: photograph by: Michael Cavanagh and Kevin Montague

© Artist:

Bloomington, Indiana, Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University (formally Indiana University Art Museum)

www.iub.edu/~iuam

Provenance

• 1971, Partial gift of Mrs. William H. Conroy

Bibliography

Museum's website (accessed July 19, 2023)



Comment

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A urinal laid on its back, Fountain is the most controversial of Duchamp's readymades. Seeking to redefine traditional artistic standards and assumptions, Duchamp submitted a factory-made urinal under the pseudonym "R. Mutt," to the Society of Independent Artists, a New York organization he helped found in 1917. When it was rejected, Duchamp wrote an impassioned defense of the artist's right to choose, rather than make, objects and to give them aesthetic meanings through placement and context.