



Marcel Duchamp (Blainville-Crevon 1887 - New York City 1968)

Coffee Mill, 1946

etching

255 x 203 mm

Signed at the bottom left in plate and signed at the bottom right in pencil

numbered 386/435 on the reverse

For the special edition *Du Cubisme* by Albert Gleizes and Jean Metzinger published by the Compagnie Française des Arts Graphiques, Paris, 1947

Literature:

Arturo Schwarz, *The Complete Works of Marcel Duchamp*, London & New York, 1997, no. 398

Artist description:

Marcel Duchamp is an undeniable pioneer of modern art. His influence is deservedly esteemed to be as great as Picasso's. Duchamp's entire body of work- from *The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors*. Even (the *Large Glass*) to *Etant Donnés*, via the ready-mades- are outstanding examples of how the art of this century broke with traditional concepts. "The most intelligent man of the century" (André Breton) wanted- beyond notions of good or bad taste- to make art which would not only delight the eye but, more importantly, would also serve as a springboard for the spirit. He pursued his own path, parallel to and beyond Dada and Surrealism, which was consciously contrary and full of a serious sense of humour. From a variety of perspectives this was a prophetic route. Most artistic renewals of the last decades find echoes in the spirit and economy of Duchamp's creations. His exemplary independence formed and forms his greatest power of attraction. Still today, Duchamp remains the most disturbing star in the artistic firmament. The combination of technical ingenuity and boundless invention makes a confrontation with his art works a rare and strongly aesthetic experience.