



Prométhée Sketchbook

Catalogue Number
SKB 55

Artwork Type
Sketchbooks

Date
1949-50

Dimensions
paper: 292 x 235 mm

Paper Support
cream lightweight wove paper

Ownership
disbanded - see individual pages for ownership

More Information

Disbanded sketchbook of cream lightweight wove paper 292 x 235 mm, at one time known as Notebook 7, to which twenty-three pages have been ascribed; only twenty-two pages remained bound in the sketchbook in 1984 when they were signed by the artist shortly before it was disbanded, HMF 2569 having been removed earlier. The pages were unnumbered by the artist, and the numbers subsequently given have not been retained, though the sequence of pages has been followed. Page numbers that do occur in the inscriptions correspond to draft text pages. The sketchbook, sometimes known as Notebook 7, has always been dated 1949-50 and is retained here under those years, although it is now known that the request for Moore to illustrate Goethe's Prometheus in a French translation by André Gide was not made until December 1949. Moore may have begun the sketchbook at the end of that year although it is unlikely that he made any of the larger drawings until 1950, even though some bear the earlier date. A few of the themes relate to ideas already drawn in Sketchbook 1947-49 or about to be carried out in sculpture, see for example upright internal/external forms in HMF 2586 and LH 294-296 which here become 'imprisoned statues'. The drawings based on these sketches were used as studies for a book with fifteen lithographs CGM 18-32 published by Henri Jonquières, PA Nicaise, Paris 1951, in an edition of 183; the first eight copies each contained an original drawing, of which two, HMF 2577a and 2585b, are recorded.