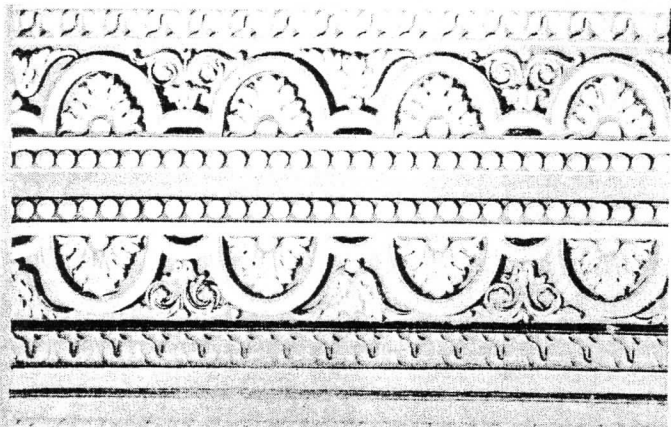


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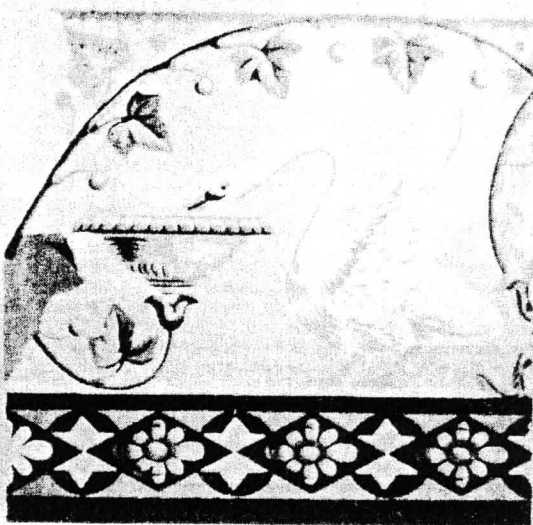
April 15, 1994



A border with a light gray brushed ground and six-color woodcut print, 1789, by Jean-Baptiste Reveillon.



A border with a yellow brushed ground and 16-color woodcut print, 1805-1814, by Jacquemart & Benard.



A wallpaper border, 1805-1814, with imperial blue brushed ground and nine-color woodcut print by Jacquemart & Benard.

French Wallpaper Designs by Reveillon at Bard

NEW YORK CITY — An exhibition from the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris is on view at The Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts through May 8. "The Borders of Eclecticism: French Wallpapers, 1789-1830" reveal the wealth of artistic invention in the French decorative arts from the late Eighteenth Century through the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century. The Bard Graduate Center will be the only United States venue for the exhibit, which was organized by the Musée des Arts Décoratifs and shown there in 1993.

"The Borders of Eclecticism" examines a period in the history of wallpaper. The exhibition presents 60 wallpaper borders, panels and friezes produced by Jean-Baptiste Reveillon, the dominant figure in wallpaper design in the second half of the Nineteenth Century, and by his successors, Jacquemart and Benard. Original tools used in the production of Nineteenth Century wallpaper are also included.

In contrast to the small workshops that created wallpaper earlier in the Eighteenth Century, Reveillon devised an ambitious

production system that allowed him to improve aesthetic standards, increase his output and sell large quantities of wallpaper in France and abroad, including the new American republic. In recognition of these achievements, Louis XVI granted him the title "Royal Warrant Holder." During the Revolution, Reveillon's factory was destroyed, and in 1791 he sold his business to Jacquemart and Benard.

Various decorative motifs were used to embellish these wallpapers, from Neoclassical patterns to Gothic Revival images, to scenes of lush naturalism. Engraving and the use of trompe l'oeil imitates the appearance of architectural ornaments seen in perspective.

An illustrated exhibition catalogue published by the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, with English translations, is for sale at The Bard Graduate Center. An evening lecture series will accompany the exhibit.

The gallery at The Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, at 18 West 86th Street, is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm; and Thursday, 11 am to 8:30 pm.