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Marino Marini: Picture "Arlecchino (Harlequin)" (1974)

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Horses were among Marino Marini's favourite subjects. The artist once explained his choice of the motif by saying that his studio in Monza, where he lived in the 1930s, was located next to a horse stable. Thus, the subject would have seemed to force itself on him. The interplay and symbolism of horse and rider preoccupied Marini in his sculptures and his graphic art, whereby he formally moved in the field of tension between abstraction and figuration.

On a rich green ground, Marini shows us a dancing harlequin. The artist combines pink, violet, yellow and blue areas to create an ornamental, colourful garment. In "Arlecchino", the viewer thinks he can recognise a horse's head with a tail in the outlines of the figure.

Original etching and aquatint, 1974. 75 copies on handmade paper, numbered and signed by hand. Motif size 63 x 48.5 cm. Sheet size 83 x 69.5 cm. Size in frame 95 x 80 cm as shown.

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