

Christo und Jeanne-Claude:

Christo und Jeanne-Claude: Bild "Wrapped Reichstag (Project for Berlin), Platz der Republik - Brandenburger Tor" (1991) (Unikat)

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Since the 1960s, they have pursued their concept of "Wrappings," which involves the artistic wrapping of architectural or landscape elements. The costs for labour and materials have always been borne by the artistic duo. The couple acquired the funds from the sales of collages and editions that documented the creative and planning process of their projects.

In this context, the collage presented here, created with pencil, ink, and enamel paint for the wrapping of the Reichstag in Berlin, was produced. Acquiring this piece secures a valuable piece of art and contemporary history. The idea for wrapping the Reichstag dates back to 1971, but it wasn't until 1995 that it became a reality. The unused parliamentary building was wrapped in approximately 100,000 square meters of silvery, fire-resistant fabric and remained covered for a temporary period of two weeks.

The costs for this project are said to have been around \$13 million. This impressive project not only represented the years of effort by Christo and Jeanne-Claude but also the great commitment of politicians and business people.

The wrapping of the Reichstag can also be seen as a modern interpretation of the Vanitas symbol due to the relatively short duration of the actual happening. Throughout art history, artists have been interested in working with fabrics, textiles, and tapestries, from the "Bayeux Tapestry" (created around 1070) to Renaissance depictions, to Arte Povera, Pop Art, and contemporary art.

Collage with pencil, ink and enamel varnish, 1991. Signed and dated "Christo 1991" on the back. Size in frame 35.5 x 22 cm as shown.

Product link: https://www.kunsthaus-artes.de/en/christo-und-jeanne-claude-christo-und-jeanne-claude-bild-wrapped-reichstag-project-for-berlin-platz-der-republik-brandenburger-tor-1991-unikat-943481-r1/