



Item Code	1976 56
Title	<i>The Twins</i>
Year	c. 1976
Material	brass, copper, plastic
Dimensions	120 x 40 cm.
Signed	no
Provenance	Rome, Alberto Grimaldi collection Rome, Finarte, auction no. 544, 6 May 1986, lot no. 34
Auctions	Finarte, Rome, auction no. 544, Contemporary Works of Art from the Grimaldi collection, 6 May 1986, lot no. 34
Literature	Germano Celant, <i>Melotti. Catalogo generale. Tomo II. Sculture 1973-1986 e Bassorilievi</i> , Electa, Milan, 1994, n. 1976 56 p. 455 b/w ill.

FONDAZIONE FAUSTO MELOTTI

Fausto Melotti (1901–86) was a 20th century Italian artist. Born in Rovereto, he made a name for himself thanks to his skill in creating in his work a world rich in poetry and delicate harmony.

Initially training as an engineer and musician, Melotti later devoted his energies exclusively to art, developing a unique style that reflected his profound aesthetic sensitivity and his vast knowledge of art history. His artistic output stretched from metal sculpture and ceramics to works on paper and musical and poetic compositions, displaying astonishing versatility and creativity.

Melotti spent most of his career in Milan, where he was influenced by the artistic and cultural mood of his day. His work is remarkable for its extraordinary attention to detail, its search for formal balance and its profound reflection on the themes of harmony and spirituality.

Celebrated for his brass sculptures, Melotti never tired of exploring new forms and materials, moving beyond the traditional confines of art and experimenting with new techniques and expressive styles. His work has been shown at countless international exhibitions and is to be found in major public and private collections throughout the world.

His artistic legacy continues to influence generations of contemporary artists and his contribution to the visual culture of the 20th century continues to be of crucial importance for our understanding and appreciation of Italian modern and contemporary art.

In *The Twins*, Fausto Melotti worked the brass with mastery, modelling it with peerless precision. The sculpture's surface is rich in detail and texture, adding depth and sophistication to the composition.

The brass and copper plates, the netting of various different sizes and the coloured elements draw flowing lines and sinuous curves that impart a sense of harmony and lightness to the whole.

The Twins theme – Gemini was the zodiac sign of the artist, born on 8 June 1901 – is conjured up in the precisely symmetrical distribution of the metal elements in the composition, suggesting a sense of harmonious duality: each visual element finds its twin in the other elements, in a relationship of mutual need in which each part contributes to the same harmonious tension.

FONDAZIONE FAUSTO MELOTTI

Through its subtle beauty and formal simplicity, Melotti's work explores profound and universal concepts in a delicate and expressive sculptural mode.

Fausto Melotti created this sculpture c. 1976. It belonged to the collection of Alberto Grimaldi, an Italian film producer who produced the films of Pasolini, Bertolucci and Fellini, among others. After an attempt was made to kidnap his three children in the late 1970s, he decided to leave Italy and to sell his art collection via the Finarte auction house. The auction catalogue reveals his sophisticated taste as a collector and contains fully nineteen sculptures by Fausto Melotti.

Rudi Cerri