



Barry Moser, Barry Moser

Title

Self-Portrait with Burin (2nd state)

Medium

Wood engraving on Mohawk Superfine Text paper

Date

ca. 1987

Dimensions

10 1/4 × 8 1/4 in. (26 × 21 cm)

Accession number

89.24.2

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Credit Line

Gift of Justin Schiller, 1989

Web Description

Barry Moser fittingly depicts his self-portrait in his signature medium of wood engraving. The small, tightly cropped, high-contrast work reveals little about the artist's facial features which are obscured by a full beard and the brim of a cap. Front and center, however, is the primary tool of this artist's trade: the burin. A burin is a sharp, pointed tool with a grip fitted to the palm of the hand, which is used to incise lines onto a block of wood. The first and second states of his print have only subtle differences—primarily the paper and the artist's monogram in the print.