



Inv. no. MK 73

AXEL SALTO (1889-1961)

VASE, 1945

STONEWARE, ROYAL COPENHAGEN PORCELAIN MANUFACTORY

H: 24 CM

This long-necked vase, its round body modelled with prominent fluting, was made in 1945. It is glazed with a black *Olivin* glaze, one of the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Manufactory's popular stoneware glazes.

To most observers, the black *Olivin* glaze seems a good fit for Salto's stoneware in the 'fluted style', as it is well suited to highlighting an object's modelling of its gradations of colour like in this case, where the raised ridges on the body of the vase are lighter than the surface of the vase's smooth, undecorated neck. Nevertheless, Salto believed that the black *Olivin* glaze was unsuitable for his distinctive idiom and forceful shapes, but he did allow the glaze to be used for certain works – especially when a customer specifically commissioned this.¹ Whether C.L. David ordered this vase to be made with a black *Olivin* glaze is unknown, but he was certainly interested in Salto's ceramic life and work.

The David Collection owns a total of eight works of stoneware by Salto, spanning his entire oeuvre in the medium: from 1929 (MK 10) to 1958 (MK 92). What is more, David was deeply involved in the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Manufactory where he a member of the board of directors from 1935 until his death in 1960.

¹ *Leif Laurrup Larsen: Stentøj – Den kongelige Porcelainsfabrik, Copenhagen 2007, pp. 387–388.*

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