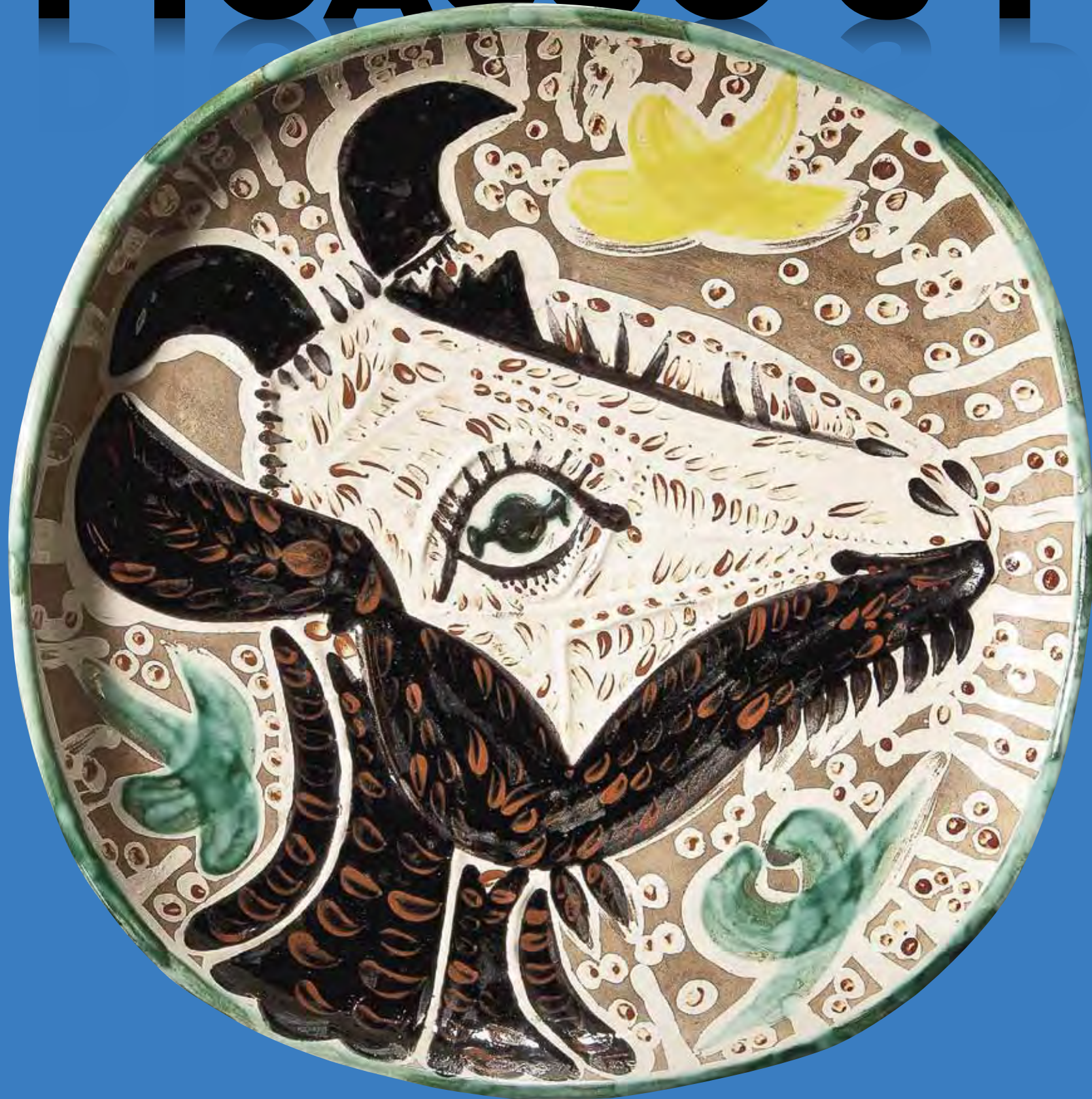


# PICASSO'S P LATE PERIOD



*Tête de Chèvre de Profil (Goat's Head in Profile), 1952*

Picasso channeled the simple life in his ceramics, which have been described as having an "unclouded lightness." Animals—bulls, horses and especially goats—were among his favorite subjects.



*Joueur de Flûte (Flute Player), 1947*

In 1946, Pablo Picasso visited the Madoura pottery studio, in Vallauris, near Antibes, France, where he regularly summered. As the story goes, the prolific artist grabbed a chunk of clay and modeled a few little figurines. And so began his ceramic period. Over the next 25 years, he would create 3,500 pieces (vases, pitchers, bowls, plates), painting the surfaces with faces, animals and female figures in a bold Mediterranean palette. His output not only revived an interest in ceramics as an art form but also returned prosperity to Vallauris, the one-time center of the region's pottery industry. His last works from Madoura

sold for \$12.5 million at Christie's in June, more than four times the estimate. And in October Barcelona's Museu Picasso will unveil "Picasso Ceramics," a 41-piece show donated by his late second wife, Jacqueline, a former salesperson at Madoura. Picasso's years in the South of France are said to have been some of his happiest—and it shows through the whimsical spirit of these plates. —HEATHER HALBERSTADT

*"Picasso Ceramics" at the Museu Picasso (Carrer de Montcada 15) runs from October 26, 2012, to April 1, 2013; museupicasso.bcn.cat.*





*Trois Poissons (Three Fish), 1957*

While most of Picasso's ceramic pieces were, like this plate, one-of-a-kind, he did allow for limited editions ranging from 25 to 500, which the Madoura studio in turn sold to people passing through Vallauris.



*Service Visage Noir (Black Face), 1948*

Picasso's ceramics made his work accessible to people who wouldn't have otherwise been able to afford a piece by the art master. His tableware sets served countless dinner parties throughout the 1950s and '60s.

© 2012 ESTATE OF PABLO PICASSO / ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NEW YORK / CHRISTIE'S IMAGES LTD. 2012