

# *Fantastically French!*

## Design and Architecture in 16th- to 18th-Century Prints

### **Stop 8: Pierre Moreau**

The last work in this group is a design for an imaginary funerary monument by Pierre Moreau. Although we usually associate pyramids with ancient Egypt, if you look at the first grouping of prints on this wall, you can see Etienne Duperac's view of a pyramidal tomb from ancient Rome. Moreau adds other ancient Roman elements, such as the triumphal columns with statues on top, and ornamental friezes, which are panels of carved decoration. However, the insertion of large doorways on each side of the pyramid and the pyramid's elevation on a huge platform, accessible by a staircase, are highly unusual additions. Overall, this mausoleum is a mixture of various architectural styles, combined in ways never seen in the ancient world. On paper, artists and designers are free to invent structures that break the rules and showcase the products of their imaginations.