

William III. A very rare William III Britannia Standard Drinking Cup made in London in 1699 by William Gamble.

Sold



Description

The Cup is of a circular tapering form with a flared rim and reeded spreading foot. The lower section of the main body is decorated with swirling flutes and lobes, below a matted band, with stylised foliate motifs above. The upper section displays a horizontal rope twist girdle, with matted arch work and foliate motifs, either side. The base is engraved with the contemporary inscription: " 17 W*B 01 "This piece is in excellent condition, is very well marked and has a good colour. It is most unusual to find drinking cups and mugs modelled in this design. Porringers are more often seen at this date, displaying near identical decoration.

William Gamble was apprenticed to John Sutton, 18th June, 1680. He had workshops in Foster Lane when this piece was made. He was a respected silversmith as he attained the position of Warden of the Goldsmith's Company in 1730. In 1732, after Benjamin Pyne's death, he applied for the post of Beadle, but being over sixty years was not eligible. William Gamble's son, Ellis, also had premises in London in Leicester Fields and in 1714, at the age of 14, William Hogarth was apprenticed to him as an engraver.

Ellis Gamble was a gold and silversmith who was in Partnership with the great Paul De Lamerie from 1723-28. De Lamerie started working with Hogarth, whom he had met whilst he was working under Ellis Gamble.

The "Hogarthian" style of engraving had a huge impact on the pieces designed by, not just De Lamerie, but most other silversmiths from this period. Exceptional engraving such as Hogarth's, added another dimension of craftsmanship to a silversmith's work helping to create pieces of the highest quality and design. Height: 3.7 inches, 9.25 cm. Diameter at the rim: 3.1 inches, 7.75 cm. Diameter at the base: 2.25 inches, 5.63 cm. Weight: 4oz.