

A very rare George III Pocket Snuff Box modelled as a travelling trunk.
Made in London in 1802 by Thomas Phipps & Edward Robinson.

Sold



Description

The Snuff Box has a slightly rounded broad rectangular form. This rare piece is most unusually modelled as a travelling trunk and each end is finely engraved with drop carrying handles, as seen on a trunk. This is only the second time we have seen this design of box. The cover is beautifully engraved with a central oval panel containing a winged cherub, holding a vacant oval shield and banner below. The two outside panels display Classical dancers holding laurel garlands. The base is engraved with three oval panels, the two outside ones containing flowering sprigs, the right one with detailed thistles. The central oval depicts two doves of peace drinking from a Neo Classical urn. The ovals are all on a prick dot ground. The doves may have significance as on 27th March 1802, The Peace Treaty of Amiens was signed. This was an agreement signed at Amiens in France by Britain, France, Spain and the Batavian Republic (the Netherlands) achieving a peace in Europe for 14 months during the Napoleonic Wars. The interior of the box is gilded and well marked in the base and the underside of the cover. As you will appreciate, this is a particularly rare design of box which is why it was contained in the World famous Lion Collection of Boxes and is illustrated on Page 193 of the catalogue of the collection. Phipps and Robinson were one of the finest box makers during this period in London, their work showing quality in both design and production. Length: 3.15 inches. Width: 1.75 inches. Depth: 0.65 inches.