

The Prideaux Place Casters. A very rare set of three early george ii
heraldic casters made in London in 1733 by samuel wood

Sold



Description

The Casters are modelled in sizes. Each has an urn shaped body and stands on a cast and applied circular spreading foot decorated with reeding. The covers are unusually cast and display various panels, divided by vertical girdles. The panels are pierced and engraved with crosses, as well as geometric scroll designs surrounding a contemporary Crest and mirror cipher. The covers each terminate in a cast bell finial. This is the first time we have seen heraldic devices pierced on the covers of casters. The front of each main body is engraved with a contemporary Armorial, with Crest above, all surrounded by a beautiful cartouche of scroll work and unusual female masks, typical of the early George II period. The Casters are in excellent condition and are fully marked in the foot and with the maker's mark twice on the sleeve of the cover. Samuel Wood was a specialist caster maker who was apprentice to Thomas Bamford, who was himself apprentice to Charles Adam, all caster makers, highlighting the continuous line of these specialists. Wood in turn trained Jabez Daniel and Robert Piercy, both clearly established in the same line of production. He had a very long career as he was born in 1704 and was free from his Master in 1730. He died in 1794 and it was noted that "for the last two years of his life he used to ride to town every week to transact business at Goldsmiths Hall, being the father and oldest member of that Company". The Armorial and Crest is that as used by the Brune family and are the Dorset branch of the family, found by Charles Brune in 1703. On the death of Charles Brune, the male line became extinct and the estates of Plumber County, Dorset, passed to his heiress who married the heir to the Prideaux Place estates in Cornwall, on condition that they adopted the name Prideaux-Brune. They are still Lords of the Manor at Padstow. Prideaux Place is shown, as well as the drawing room and dining room. Large Caster: Height: 7.25 inches, 18.13 cm. Diameter at the widest point: 2.9 inches, 7.25 cm. Smaller Caster: Height: 6 inches, 15cm. Diameter at the widest point: 2.45 inches, 6.13 cm. Total Weight: 26oz.