

An extremely unusual pair of George III Neo Gothic Salt Cellars made in London in 1774 by Thomas Nash.

Sold



Description

The Salt Cellars are oval in form and stand on four bi-furcated claw and ball feet. The rim is decorated with gadrooning and the sides are pierced and engraved with extremely unusual Neo Gothic entwined archwork. The front of each cellar displays an oval cartouche engraved with a set of contemporary script initials. Both are in excellent condition and have blue glass liners. Thomas Nash made very fine Salt Cellars, usually of innovative design. He was a specialist pierced worker with workshops at 2, Water Lane, Fleet Street, when these fine pieces were made.

These very unusual pieces were formally in the collection of the celebrated Raine, Countess Spencer, 1929-2016, stepmother of the late Diana, Princess of Wales. Born in 1929, Lady Spencer was the daughter of Alexander McCorquodale and the prolific romantic novelist, Dame Barbara Cartland. In 1947 she was presented as a debutante and was named Deb of the Year. In 1948 she married Gerald Legge and they would later succeed to the titles of the Earl and Countess of Dartmouth. In 1976 she, secondly, married John, the 8th Earl Spencer and, as his Countess, would be Chatelaine of Althorp House, in Northamptonshire until his death in 1992.

Length: 3.25 inches, 8.13cm.

Width: 2.5 inches, 6.25cm.

Height: 2 inches, 5cm.