

Thomas Heming the Royal Silversmith. A very rare set of four early George III Shell Dishes made in London in 1767 by Thomas Heming.

Sold



Description

The dishes were most probably used to serve butter and are realistically modelled as raying scallop shells. Each stands on two winkle feet and all are very well marked on the reverse, including Thomas Heming's mark with a crown above denoting his status. Each has a good colour and all are in excellent condition.

The set are modelled in an unusual size and design. Thomas Heming was principal Goldsmith to the King in 1760, an appointment which he held until 1782. Some of his earliest surviving pieces in the Royal Collection show a French delicacy of taste, and refinement of execution, which was unquestionably inherited from his Master, Peter Archambo. His masterpiece is most probably the Speaker's Wine Cistern, 1770, at Belton House, Lincolnshire. Length: 3.5 inches, 8.75 cm. Width: 3.6 inches, 9 cm. Weight: 11 oz, the set.