

A PAIR OF GEORGE III GILTWOOD ARMCHAIRS ATTRIBUTED TO THOMAS CHIPPENDALE - REF 2226



PRICE: £45,000

A superb pair of George III carved giltwood armchairs attributed to Thomas Chippendale. The shaped backs with serpentine top rail with central carved motif and flower head carving around the circumference. The arms outswept with stuffed elbow rests and elegant scrolling supports. The frieze again of gentle serpentine shape with a carved central acanthus leaf motif, moulded and flowing into the cabriole legs with acanthus carved knees terminating to back and front in a scroll shaped toe. The carving and coherence of design of exceptional quality throughout; a magnificent pair of chairs.

These chairs have stylistic affinities with other examples from the workshop of Thomas Chippendale which include a set of eight chairs supplied for the library at Harewood House, Yorkshire, illustrated in Christopher Gilbert's "The Life and Work of Thomas Chippendale". The carved detail on the back, legs and front-rail can also be compared closely with an armchair supplied by Chippendale for the Long Drawing Room at 19 Arlington Street, London, illustrated in the same book. The front-rails of the chairs also relates to the form of the front rail and legs of a pair of window seats, attributed to Thomas Chippendale which were almost certainly supplied to Sir Robert Burdett, 4th Bt. (1716-1797) of Foremark Hall, Derbyshire. A further comparison is another pair of window seats with close stylistic affinities, almost certainly supplied by Chippendale for Harewood House, Leeds is illustrated in Christopher Claxton Stevens and Stewart Whittington, Eighteenth Century Furniture, The Norman Adams Collection. The chairs also follow drawings for 'French Chairs' published in Chippendale's "The Gentleman and Cabinet-Maker's Director".

Provenance: Private collection London.

Origin & Age: English, George III, circa 1770

Dimensions: 24" wide, 27" deep, 34½" high; 61cm wide, 69cm deep; 88cm high.

Restorations: The chairs have been sympathetically re-gilded and re-upholstered in a fabulous bronze silk damask fabric.

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