

A PAIR OF IRISH GEORGE II WALNUT SIDE CHAIRS - REF 2242



A fine pair of Irish George II walnut side chairs of compact proportions and excellent colour and patina. The curved, moulded side rails joined by a scrolled top rail with central carved shell following down to a vase shaped central splat, with carved and moulded sides with scrolled ears to the top. The shaped seat in the form of an axe head, with a veneered frieze and drop in seats covered in an 18th century pattern tapestry fabric, woven today on a traditional 18th century loom. The front legs of tapering cabriole form, with carved shells and bell flower decoration to the knees, terminating in a typically Irish trefid foot. The side profile, like the front profile of the chair is charming; of a beautiful meandering shape, with the curve of the rear legs, fully integrating into this delightful outline.

What makes these chairs Irish? Generally Irish furniture closely follows designs of English furniture. Sometimes, though the designs can be quirky, or the proportions slightly different to English pieces. In the case of this pair of chairs the design and proportions are excellent, but there are a couple of details that give away the origin of these chairs. The shell motif whilst also used in English works is a favourite with Irish cabinet makers. Also the neat three pointed "trefid" foot is normally always associated with pieces from Ireland. With both of these elements incorporated in these chairs we can be fairly certain as to their origin.

PRICE: £13,900

Provenance: Private collection, New York, USA.

Origin & Age: Irish, George II, circa 1740

Dimensions: 21" wide, 41" high; 21" deep 53cm wide, 104cm high, 53cm deep.

Restorations: Possible minor old restorations, waxing. Recently recovered in an English woven period style tapestry fabric.

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