Finch & Co



BACCARAT RIBBED AND CUT LEAD CRYSTAL GLASS CASKET WITH SUPERB ORMOLU MOUNTS

A FINE FRENCH BACCARAT RIBBED AND CUT LEAD CRYSTAL GLASS CASKET WITH SUPERB ORMOLU MOUNTS
THE LID SURMOUNTED BY AN ORMOLU HAND HOLDING AN ENTWINED SERPENT ANTHEMION REPEAT DETAIL TO THE RIM MOUNTS, THE ESCUTCHEON WITH SCROLLED ACANTHUS.
THE WHOLE SET UPON FOUR ORMOLU LIONS PAW FEET
CIRCA 1820-30
SIZE: 23CM HIGH, 18CM WIDE, 13.5CM DEEP – 9 INS HIGH, 7 INS WIDE, 5¼ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THE BACCARAT GLASSWORKS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1764 BY THE BISHOP OF METZ WHO OBTAINED PERMISSION FROM LOUIS XV TO START THE GLASSHOUSE OF SAINTE ANNE AT BACCARAT SOUTH EAST OF NANCY. THE FACTORY BEGAN TO MANUFACTURE TABLE AND WINDOW GLASS, BUT AFTER A SERIES OF MISFORTUNES COMMENCING WITH THE DEPRESSION PRIOR TO THE FRENCH REVOLUTION, THE FACTORY WAS PURCHASED FOR 862 HECTOGRAMMES OF FINE GOLD BY MONSIEUR D'ARTIQUES, OWNER OF THE GLASSWORKS AT VONÉCHE IN BELGIUM. BETWEEN 1817 AND 1822 THE FIRM TRADED UNDER THE NAME 'VONÉCHE BACCARAT' AND CONCENTRATED ON THE MANUFACTURE OF LEAD CRYSTAL. IN 1822 THE FACTORY CHANGED HANDS AGAIN AND THE 'COMPAGNIE DES CRISTALLERIES DE BACCARAT' WAS ESTABLISHED.
IT IS FROM THIS PERIOD THAT THESE FINE EXAMPLES OF ORMOLU MOUNTED LEAD CRYSTAL COME FROM. BACCARAT SPECIALISED IN THE LUXURY GLASS MARKET AND WENT ON TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EUROPEAN PRODUCERS OF PRESSED AND DIAMOND CUT LEAD GLASS BOTH FOR THE TABLE AND FOR ORNAMENT.