Finch & Co



NORTH ITALIAN BAROQUE CARVED BOXWOOD PLAQUE ATTRIBUTED TO ANDREA BRUSTOLON

A NORTH ITALIAN BAROQUE CARVED BOXWOOD PLAQUE ATTRIBUTED TO ANDREA BRUSTOLON (1662 – 1732)
DEPICTING CUPID RIDING A LION HIS BOW AND ARROWS BENEATH THE LION'S PAWS
AN OLD INSCRIPTION IN INK TO THE REVERSE 'Â€¦ BRUSTOLONÂ€¦ IL ZANAENO VENEZIA 1679'
17TH CENTURY / CIRCA 1679
SIZE: 16.5CM HIGH, 13.5CM WIDE – 6½ INS HIGH, 5¼ INS WIDE
SEE: FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 3, ITEM NO. 72, FOR A 17TH CENTURY FRENCH CARVED EBONY PLAQUE DEPICTING NEPTUNE AND SEA NYMPHS

LITERATURE

ANDREA BRUSTOLON IS KNOWN FOR HIS BAROQUE CARVINGS IN WALNUT, BOXWOOD AND EBONY, ESPECIALLY FOR HIS EXTRAVAGANT AND ELABORATELY CONSTRUCTED FIGURATIVE FURNITURE. A SET OF TWELVE CHAIRS PROFUSELY DECORATED WITH FLOWERS, FRUIT AND FOLIAGE SYMBOLISING THE TWELVE MONTHS OF THE YEAR CAN BE FOUND IN THE PALAZZO QUIRINALE IN VENICE.

ALWAYS IDENTIFIED BY HIS FAMILIAR BOW AND ARROWS, CUPID IN ANTIQUITY WAS THOUGHT OF AS A BEAUTIFUL, BUT WANTON BOY WITH A QUIVER FULL OF 'ARROWED DESIRES'. DEPICTED CONFIDENTLY RIDING UPON A LION THAT HE IS LEADING WITH A LOOSE REIN, THE SCENE IS AN ALLEGORY FOR 'LOVE TAMES ALL'.