A very rare & important set of set of four George II Cast Rococo Four Seasons Candlesticks. Made in London in 1738 by George Wickes.

£32,000



REF: 375536

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Description

The Candlesticks are cast and stand on a shaped square base. Each is finely chased in each corner with a different mask detailing one of the four seasons. The sunken circular base well rises to faceted shouldered stems chased with Rococo shells, scale work and lobing. The spool shaped candle sockets are decorated with lobing and a horizontal girdle. The Candlesticks are in excellent condition, are of a fine colour, and are fully marked in the base. These are modelled in a most unusual design, executed in the quality expected from the workshops of George Wickes.THE ROYAL SILVERSMITH GEORGE WICKESGeorge Wickes was apprenticed to Samuel Wastell and had workshops in Panton Street, Haymarket, London when this exceptional Dish was made. Wickes was appointed to Frederick, Prince of Wales and the first ledger details a list of distinguished clients amongst others, The Duke of Devonshire and Chandos, Dowager Duchess of Norfolk, Marquess of Caernarvon, Earl Inchiquin and many "Lords". In the next volume he adds the Dukes of Kingston, Roxburgh, Montrose and Bridgewater, the Earl's of Scarborough, Kildare and others, Admiral Vernon and Arthur Onslow, the Speaker of the House of Commons. The account book of Frederick Price of Wales commences on 24th March 1735. Frederick had been living at quite some extravagant rate and in September 1737 he had been banished to Kew Palace. The most important piece in the Royal Collection by George Wickes is a beautiful Epergne designed by William Kent. There is little doubt that from 1735 onwards Wickes' clientele was as large and important (if not more so) than the great Paul De Lamerie.The Candlesticks are inscribed N1, N2, N3 and N4 and with scratch weights 25=6, 25=2, 23=2 and 24=13Height: 8½ inches, 21.25 cm.Base Diameter: 6.1 inches, 15.25 cmWeight: 87oz, the set.

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