

A magnificent pair of George III Sauceboats made in London in 1795 by Daniel Pontifex.

Sold



Description

The Sauceboats are of a magnificent form and are cast standing on a stepped oval collet foot decorated with gadrooning. The "Boat" shaped main body has a slightly bombe form which rises to an everted rim decorated with gadrooning. The cast flying scroll handle is decorated with acanthus foliage, as well as scrolls and blue bell drops. Each piece is in exceptional condition and is very well marked on the foot. The influence for this design comes from a pair of Royal Sauceboats made by the Royal silversmith, Thomas Heming, for King George III. These are shown at the end of the image stream and are French in style, influenced by the designs of the Parisian goldsmith, Thomas Germain, published in his *Elements d'orfeverie*, Paris, 1748. Considering the maker, Daniel Pontifex, this was the second year in which he was working alone. He had workshops at 13, Hosier Lane, West Smithfield, when these were made. A.G. Grimwade in his work, "London Goldsmith's 1697-1837" states that his work, particularly fine silver gilt dessert dishes and baskets shows a high standard of execution and delicacy of design. The sauceboats are in excellent condition and are a tour de force of design which seldom appears on the market. Length: 8.45 inches, 21.13 cm. Width: 4.3 inches, 10.75 cm. Height, to the top of the handle: 6.6 inches, 16.5 cm. Weight: 41oz, the pair.