A very rare set of four early George III Wirework Silver based Magnum Wine Coasters made in London in 1764 by John Henry Vere & William Lutwyche.

£14,750



REF: 375803

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Description

The Wine Coasters are modelled in a circular form with everted wirework sides decorated with reeding, to simulate a wicker basket. The coasters have silver bases, which was a sign of quality and aimed at the top end of the market. The bases are each engraved with a contemporary Armorial surrounded by a floral spray, shell detail and scroll cartouche, typical of the designs of the period. The Arms are those of the Gail family of Ireland. The Coasters are of a large size and could accommodate a magnum sized bottle or decanter. As well as being used as coasters, these could be used for fruit or biscuits etc on the table, as well as being very decorative items. This is a most unusual design, especially with the silver bases and being of the magnum size. They are all in quite excellent condition and are very well marked on the bases. Coasters were first introduced into England, from France, in the early 1760, so these represent an early example. The Armorial is that as used by the Gailie family.The work of Vere & Lutwyche is scarce, but is often seen on baskets and coasters of wirework design. Their partnership was short lived and they had workshops in Lombard Street when these items were made. John Henry Vere was in partnership was the great pierced worker Edward Aldridge, which would account for the quality of design and production seen in his work. Their markers mark is illustrated in “London Goldsmiths 1697-1837”, Mark 3908.Diameter: 7.25 inches, 18.13 cm.Height: 2.3 inches, 5.75 cm.

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