BENJAMIN SMITH. A very unusual pair of Caryatid Sauceboats made in London in 1838 by Benjamin Smith.

Sold

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REF: 375577

Description

The Sauceboats stand on a naturalistic cast foot, decorated with scrolls, shell details, and foliate motifs on a matted ground. The large deep bodies are decorated with wide swirling lobes and the rim displays foliate scrolls, flower heads and a shell under the spout. The rear hooded section is decorated with beading and scrolls and the flying scroll handle is leaf capped and terminates in a very unusual and finely detailed Caryatid head finial. The front of the main body is engraved with a contemporary shield shaped Armorial, with Crest above and the Motto " Nihil Sine Labore" engraved below on a banner. The Arms, Crest and Motto are those of the Cator family of County Oxfordshire. The Sauceboats are in excellent condition and are fully marked under the end of the pouring spout. Due to their cast nature, they are of a very good weight. The workshops of Benjamin Smith produced important output, enjoying Royal patronage. He was working closely within the Storr circle and their most important item, in the Royal Collection, is the Jamaica Service. Caryatid Sauceboats are a very rare design, seldom seen.Length: 7.3 inches, 18.25 cm.Width: 3.5 inches, 8.75 cm.Height, to the top of the finial: 7 inches, 17.5 cm.Weight: 40oz, the pair.

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