

GODSON & COLES

FINE ART & ANTIQUE FURNITURE

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A GEORGE II GILTWOOD CONSOLE TABLE

REF1058

This exceptional table epitomises the height of the rococo style in the middle the eighteenth century in Britain. Combining elaborate carving with a lightness of handling which was a new departure from the heavier baroque side tables seen earlier in the century.

Elaborately carved pier or console tables, described by Thomas Chippendale as 'frames for marble slabs', were developed in the second quarter of the 18th century and were suitable vehicles for exhibiting the fashionable rococo style in drawing rooms, entrance halls or in some cases dining rooms, the likely setting of this table with its vine and grape festoons and Bacchic mask. The composition of the frieze relates closely to a design for a pair of giltwood consoles in the manner of Thomas Johnson formerly in the Viscounts Hambledon collection, sold Christie's London 4 July 2013, Lot 38.

Height: 33 ½ in (85cm) Width: 56 in (142 cm) Depth: 28 ½ in (72.5 cm)

PROVENANCE

Mallett & Son, London

Edward I. Farmer (1872 -1942), New York

The Farmer Collection, Parke-Bernet Galleries, New York 16-19 April 1947, Lot 835

LITERATURE

Further tables with comparable Bacchus mask and vine friezes include a giltwood pair with winged lion supports designed by John Vardy for the Great Dining Room of Spencer House, London in 1758 (one in situ), and a carved mahogany games table supplied by William Linnell in 1740 to Richard Hoare of Nine Elms, London, now at Stourhead House, Wiltshire (illustrated in Helena Hayward and Pat Kirkham, William and John Linnell, London 1980, Vol. III p. 136 figs. 269, 270).

Edward I. Farmer was a British dealer in Chinese art established in New York by 1913, with a gallery at 16 East 56th Street retailing porcelain lamps and jade and ivory objects mounted in silver and silver gilt. He also traded in and collected antique English furniture.