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A Pair of George III Period Carved and Gilded Armchairs attributed to John Linnell

REF1103

A Pair of George III Period Carved and Gilded Armchairs

Attributed to John Linnell

London, circa 1770

The serpentine backs carved with trailing husks and surmounted by a ribbon-tied bow, with acanthus and husk-carved down sweeping arms, the fluted and serpentine seat rails raised on turned and fluted tapering legs capped with paterae and hung with swags, terminating in block feet.

Height: 39 ½ in (100cm)

Width: 27 in (69cm)

Depth: 29 in (74cm)

PROVENANCE

Sir William Miles Aykroyd, 3rd Bt (1923 -2007), Buckland Newton Place, Dorset

£ 120000

DESCRIPTION

This outstanding pair of armchairs relate closely to a suite of seat furniture of circa 1770-1775 attributed to cabinet-maker John Linnell (H. Hayward and P. Kirkham, William and John Linnell, London, 1980, p.44, figs.84-85). One of the armchairs from this suite, comprising chairs and settees, is in the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. The attribution is based on a Linnell drawing of circa 1768-1770 which shares similar features.

The chairs' swags to the tops of the legs directly copy fashionable Louis XVI furniture and features as ormolu mounts on documented examples of Linnell furniture, notably games tables supplied to both the Duke of Northumberland for Alnwick Castle and Viscount Scarsdale for Kedleston Hall. The fluting of the seat-rails and bell-flower carving is mirrored in the marquetry designs found on Linnell's case furniture of this period.