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A PAIR OF GEORGE II PERIOD CARVED MAHOGANY ARMCHAIRS AFTER A DESIGN BY THOMAS CHIPPENDALE

REF1158

English, circa 1755

The upholstered open backs ornately carved in the shape of elaborate cartouches with rococo c-scrolls and foliage. The shaped arms carved with leaves and acanthus.

The seat rails boldly carved with further rococo scrolling and pierced acanthus foliage, the cabriole legs terminating in hairy paw feet with castors. Upholstered in antique green linen.

The design for these armchairs is closely based on a drawing for a ‘French Chair’ (ill.) first published by Thomas Chippendale (d.1779), in his Director of 1754.

The design’s popularity endured and it remained in the third edition of 1762, pl.XXI, where Chippendale describes how this chair type is intended ‘to be open below at the Back: which makes them very light, without having a bad Effect’

Height: 42 in (107cm) Width: 28 in (71cm) Depth: 28 in (71cm)

PROVENANCE

Langleybury, Hertsfordshire;

Moss Harris & Sons, London;

Doyle New York, 25 October 1989, lot 483.

LITERATURE

Coleridge, Chippendale Furniture, 1968, fig.179

R. Edwards The Shorter Dictionary of English Furniture, 1964, p.151, fig.136

L. Hinckley, Masterpieces of Queen Anne & Georgian Furniture, 1991, pl.50, fig.95 C. Simon, English Furniture Designers of the Eighteenth Century, 1907, p.64, fig.XII

EXHIBITION

Art Treasures Exhibition, arranged by The British Antique Dealers' Association, Bath. 29 May to 7June 1958, p.3, no.22.