Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Fornasetti 'Orchestra' Coasters, Set of Eight, Circa 1970

£595

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REF: 6570

Diameter: 10.5 cm (4.1")

Description

A rare and complete set of eight Fornasetti 'Orchestra' ceramic coasters, circa 1970, now presented as two framed groups of four. Each coaster is decorated with an imaginative painted arrangement of musical instruments set against a richly rendered faux-bois ground, transforming these originally functional objects into a wonderfully graphic decorative ensemble.

The eight designs celebrate the visual poetry of an orchestra: instruments overlap and interact in carefully composed groupings, their crisp outlines and subtle colour lending the series a distinctive theatrical quality. The warm wood-grain effect of the ground creates a handsome contrast with the animated instrument motifs, while the variety across the set rewards closer viewing.

Produced in Milan by Piero Fornasetti's celebrated workshop, the coasters display the playful inventiveness, refined craftsmanship, and unmistakable visual language for which Fornasetti is admired. Each is marked to the underside with the firm's hand-and-paintbrush trademark, together with the inscriptions "Fornasetti Milano", "Orchestra", and "Made in Italy".

Thoughtfully framed in two sets of four, they have been elevated from decorative tableware to works of art in their own right. Displayed together, the pair makes a striking statement in a dining room, music room, study, or interior with a mid-century or Italian modernist sensibility.

An uncommon complete set, combining Fornasetti's enduring appeal with a particularly charming musical subject.

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