Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Regency Gilt-Decorated Chinoiserie Papier-Mâché Dish, Circa 1820

£75

Emmett & White Ltd
Cross House, Waterloo Square, Alfriston, East Sussex BN26 5UD
01323 870 595 • info@emmettandwhite.com • emmettandwhite.com

REF: 7270

Height: 7 cm (2.8")

Diameter: 23 cm (9.1")

Description

A beautifully decorative Regency papier-mâché dish, richly gilt-decorated in the fashionable Chinoiserie taste, dating to circa 1820. The dark ground provides a dramatic foil for the luminous gilt ornament, creating a refined and highly decorative object characteristic of the Regency period's fascination with Asian-inspired design.

The surface is adorned with delicate Chinoiserie motifs in the manner of East Asian lacquerware. Rather than directly copying Asian prototypes, such pieces reflect the imaginative European interpretation of Chinese and Japanese decorative arts that remained immensely popular in early 19th-century interiors.

Papier-mâché was a particularly fashionable material during the period, valued for its lightness, smooth surface, and ability to receive highly detailed painted and gilded decoration. When finished with a deep lacquer-like ground, it could achieve a luxurious effect at once elegant, durable, and visually striking. The combination of glossy black surface and hand-applied gilt decoration gives this dish a wonderful depth and presence.

A fine example of Regency decorative arts, the dish would work beautifully displayed on a stand, within a collection of early English papier-mâché, or as part of an interior with a taste for antique lacquer, Chinoiserie, and period ornament. Its rich palette and intricate decoration make it an especially appealing object for a mantelpiece, cabinet, or console table.

English, gilt-decorated papier-mâché; Regency period, circa 1820. Please refer to the photographs for condition, dimensions, and full decorative detail.

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