

Finch & C^o



A FINE FRENCH CARVED EBONY PLAQUE DEPICTING NEPTUNE AND SEA NYMPHS

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MD 17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 30.5CMX26CM, 1CM DEEP

LITERATURE

FURNITURE IN WHICH THE ENTIRE SURFACE IS OF EBONY, ESPECIALLY CABINETS, BECAME FASHIONABLE AT THE FRENCH COURT IN THE 1640'S. THIS PLAQUE IS A PANEL FROM A CABINET SUCH AS THE ONE IN THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM WHICH IS ATTRIBUTED TO GIRARD MAROT. THERE ARE ALSO EXAMPLES OF THIS WORK IN CARVED EBONY BACKED ONTO AN OAK OR PINE CARCASS IN THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, AND AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

THIS WORK IS NOW RECOGNISED AS FRENCH DUE TO ITS MANY SOURCES IN ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE, AND TO THE WORK OF T.H. LUNSINGH SCHEURLEER IN 'NOVELS IN EBONY' 1956.