Finch & Co



AN UNUSUAL ENGLISH CUT-PAPER MODEL OF A FONT

AN UNUSUAL ENGLISH VICTORIAN CUT-PAPER MODEL OF A FONT

RAISED UPON AN OVAL WOOD FOOT, WITH AN OLD PAPER LABEL READING: 'SKETCH FOR A FONT …. (?)'

WOOD, PAPER, GILT, POLYCHROME

ENGLAND

19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 20CM HIGH, 14CM WIDE, 16CM DEEP - 7⅞ HIGH, 5½ WIDE, 6¼ INS DEEP

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LITERATURE

BAPTISM WAS AND IS THE SACRAMENT THAT BROUGHT THE FRESH INITIATE INTO THE BOSOM OF CHRISTENDOM AND MADE HIM / HER ONE OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY. AS SUCH, BAPTISMAL FONTS WERE, OBVIOUSLY, AS VITAL A PART OF THE CHURCH AS WERE THE SHRINES AND CHAPELS. THE CUT-PAPER MODEL, ALTHOUGH VICTORIAN IN DATE, FOLLOWS THE STYLE AND DESIGN OF MANY NORMAN FONTS WITH THE ADDITION OF AN ELABORATE 'FONT' COVER, OFTEN RAISED AND LOWERED ONTO THE FONT BY A 'PULLEY' SYSTEM WITHIN A CHURCH, THE COVERS WERE CARVED IN WOOD, USUALLY WITH A SIMILAR DESIGN TO THE MAIN STRUCTURE OF THE FONT. ALSO VISIBLE ON THE MODEL IS A 'KNEELING' BENCH RESTING UPON THE FONT STEP.