Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Three Chinese Export Porcelain 'Antiquities' Cabinet Plates, Yongzheng Period

£350

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

REF: 6914

Depth: 3 cm (1.2")

Diameter: 22 cm (8.7")

Description

A refined set of three Chinese export porcelain cabinet plates, decorated with the auspicious "antiquities" motif and dating to the Yongzheng period, 1722-1735. Delicately painted and beautifully balanced, the plates offer an elegant example of the high-quality porcelain produced in China for the export market during one of the most celebrated reigns of the Qing dynasty.

Each plate is decorated with arrangements of treasured scholarly and ceremonial objects, the traditional *bogu* or "hundred antiques" subject. Such compositions typically evoke the cultured world of the Chinese scholar, incorporating references to ancient bronzes, books, vessels, precious objects, and other symbols of learning, refinement, longevity, and prosperity. The subject gives the set an especially rich decorative and cultural resonance, while the careful placement of the motifs creates a pleasing sense of order and symmetry.

Porcelain of the Yongzheng period is admired for its refined potting, restrained elegance, and exceptionally sensitive painted decoration. These cabinet plates reflect that taste beautifully: decorative enough to make an impact when displayed individually, yet designed as a harmonious group of three.

A sophisticated and versatile set for collectors of Chinese export porcelain, Qing dynasty ceramics, or antique tableware. They would display particularly well on a wall, in a cabinet, or as part of a larger collection of 18th-century East Asian ceramics.

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