Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

17th-Century Italian Red Damask Cushion

£165

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 5575

Height: 35 cm (13.8")

Width: 50 cm (19.7")

Depth: 20 cm (7.9")

Description

A richly decorative cushion made from a rare fragment of Italian red damask, woven circa 1690 and now presented with handsome bullion braid trim. The textile's deep crimson ground and elaborate woven pattern give it an immediate sense of luxury, reflecting the grandeur of late 17th-century Italian interiors.

Italian silk weaving of this period was among the most accomplished in Europe, valued for its sumptuous colour, intricate pattern, and exceptional depth of texture. Damask was favoured for the furnishing of palazzi, churches, and important houses, where its reversible pattern and lustrous surface lent drama to walls, beds, seating, and ceremonial spaces. This fragment retains the visual richness that made such textiles so prized, with the design emerging in relief as the light moves across the weave.

The cushion has been sensitively adapted for modern display, allowing this remarkable textile to be appreciated as both an historic fragment and an elegant decorative object. The bullion braid provides a refined frame to the fabric, its warm metallic tone complementing the red damask and enhancing the cushion's baroque character.

A beautiful and evocative furnishing accessory for an interior with an appreciation for antique textiles, Italian design, and layered decoration. It would sit particularly well in a drawing room, library, bedroom, or on an upholstered chair, adding depth, colour, and a tangible connection to the opulence of 17th-century craftsmanship.

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