Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

17th-Century Florentine Baroque Crimson Silk Cushion

£395

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

REF: 5578

Height: 50 cm (19.7")

Width: 50 cm (19.7")

Depth: 20 cm (7.9")

Description

A magnificent large Florentine Baroque cushion, made from an exceptionally rich crimson silk panel dating to circa 1680 and later backed in a striking black-and-white striped fabric. Sumptuously coloured and full of texture, it is a dramatic and highly decorative example of the bold luxury associated with late 17th-century Italian furnishing textiles.

The antique silk has a deep, blood-red tone, its warm, saturated colour bringing extraordinary depth and presence to the cushion. Its age, weave, and soft patina give the textile a character that cannot be replicated by modern fabric, while the generous scale allows the design to make a powerful statement within an interior. The later striped backing provides a confident, graphic contrast, beautifully framing the historic silk and giving the piece a sophisticated, theatrical finish.

Florence was a major centre for luxury silk production during the Baroque period, celebrated for textiles created for palazzi, churches, and the grand houses of Europe. The dramatic colour and opulent visual effect of this panel are entirely in keeping with that tradition, evoking the richness of Italian interiors at their most expressive.

Formerly sold through French & Co., the influential New York dealers and decorators renowned for their important European furniture, works of art, and decorative objects, this cushion carries an added layer of distinguished decorative-arts provenance.

A rare and glamorous furnishing piece, ideal for a drawing room, library, bedroom, or layered collector's interior. It would be particularly effective displayed alone on an antique chair or chaise, or combined with other antique textiles to create a richly atmospheric scheme.

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