



Decorative Arts: Design from 1860 (420)

Wed, 29th Oct 2014, Edinburgh

Lot 343

Estimate: £10000 - £15000 + Fees

CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH (1868-1928) FOR MISS CRANSTON'S WILLOW TEAROOMS PAIR OF EBONISED OAK 'LADDER BACK' CHAIRS, CIRCA 1903

the high back with thirteen gently bowed rectangular horizontal splats, the seat opening out at the front, square section legs joined by five cylindrical stretchers, later oak framed drop-in seat and rushing (2)

104.5cm high, 44.5cm wide, 38.3cm deep

Provenance:

Miss Cranston's Willow Street Tea Rooms, Glasgow, Scotland

Private Collection, London

Literature: Billcliffe, Roger, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: The Complete Furniture Drawings & Interior Designs', Moffatt 2009, pp 150-165, illus. 1908.8 and in situ at 1903 C; D; E; F; J; H & I

Note: Mackintosh had produced versions of the traditional ladderback chair before, first for David Gauld in 1893 and then as a bedroom chair at Windyhill in 1901. This understated and deceptively simple design of 1903, for Miss Cranston's new Willow Tearooms in Sauchiehall Street, is his most successful treatment of this vernacular form. The dark wood against by the pale walls and tablecloths of the tearoom interiors accentuating the striking lines of this one of Mackintosh's most recognisable chairs.