



Torridon: Home of the Earls of Lovelace (453)

Wed, 28th Oct 2015, Edinburgh

Lot 32

Estimate: £2000 - £3000 + Fees

SICILIAN TRAPANI GILT METAL AND RED CORAL DESK SET

PROBABLY 18TH CENTURY

comprising: inkwell, pounce pot, candlestick and cover, bell and seal, on pierced tray engraved with Papal coat of arms (6)

bell: 11cm high

Note:

From the 16th century until the end of the 18th century, Trapani was the home of a very specialized production of gilt-metal works of art profusely decorated with red coral. The Trapani workshops were patronized by the Court of the Viceroy in Sicily, and many pieces of Trapani work may have found their way to European courts as diplomatic gifts. However, the majority of the output seems to have been for the local market or for export to Southern Italy or Spain. Many religious works ended up in churches and secular pieces were acquired by nobles and the court. Trapani work is characterized by the use of small pieces of coral carved into various shapes and set in a ground of gilt-copper to obtain a variety of effects.

For a similar desk set, see Christie's New York, 7th June 2013, lot 416.

Please note this lot lacks the gilt spoon shown in the illustration

Provenance: Torridon House, Home of The Earls of Lovelace. Click here for further information:
<http://bit.ly/1MmigxQ>