

PATRICK JEFFERSON



Item A HIGHLY IMPORTANT GEORGE II CARVED MAHOGANY SIDE TABLE

Date Attributed to Giles Grendey, England, circa 1745-50.

Dimensions Height 33" (84) Width 70 5/8" (179.5) Depth 34 5/8" (88)

Description *The later brèche marbre slab, supported on a carved mahogany base with egg-and-dart-carved moulding, above a Vitruvian scroll-ornamented frieze, raised on bold acanthus-wrapped cabriole legs on massive lion-paw feet.*

This magnificent mahogany side table forms part of a small group attributed to Giles Grendey (1693-1780) of St. John's Square, Clerkenwell, one of the pre-eminent London cabinet makers in the middle quarters of the 18th century. It can be compared to two examples in the celebrated collections of both Percival D. Griffiths and Eric Moller, each formed with the guidance of R.W. Symonds (1889-1958). The first, acquired by Griffiths from the 7th Marquess of Hertford at Ragley Hall, was illustrated in an article by Percy Macquoid in 1912 and published by Symonds in *English Furniture from Charles II to George III*, later entering the collection of Eric Moller; it was last sold Sotheby's New York, *Important English Furniture*, 12 October 2007, lot 196, (\$301,000). Others include one formerly in the collection of Sir Walter Trevelyan; another in the collection of the late Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother; a pair from Tusmore House, Oxfordshire, now in the National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne² and two of the same leg pattern sold Sotheby's, *Easton Neston*, 17-19 May 2005, lots 28, 29.³ The present table, however, stands apart from all the above, due to the distilled Palladian symmetry of a running Vitruvian frieze unadorned by an apron, as well as the superlative quality of the carved legs.¹ (Extensive research and images available on request.)

69 PIMLICO ROAD, LONDON. SW1W 8NE

TEL: +44 (0) 207 730 6161

PATRICK@PATRICKJEFFERSON.COM

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Fig. 1



Fig.2



Fig.3