



Pair of Chinese Imari plates, Qianlong (1736-95) POA

Pair of Chinese Imari plates, Qianlong (1736-95), decorated in underglaze cobalt blue, overglaze enamels and gilt to the central roundels with flowers including chrysanthemum, peony and lotus in a jardinière with foliate ornamentation, the wide rims with three alternating pomegranate-shaped cartouches in reserve containing a mythical beast amongst branches of peony, a pair of birds perching on boughs of prunus and a butterfly on lotus blooms; against a dark blue ground richly decorated with peony heads and golden foliate scroll; the reverse with three floral sprays.

Condition: One with a piece out which has been riveted, the other with riveted cracks to body and a chip

Notes:

An identical single plate can be found in the collection of the National Trust at Tyntesfield, North Somerset (NT 22633). Chinese Imari dishes were initially based on Japanese models as Chinese potters and merchants responded to European demand for a type of richly decorated export ware made in Arita and shipped to the Dutch trading post at Nagasaki from the port of Imari. For an interesting comparison between this pair of Chinese dishes and Japanese models, see a pair of Japanese Imari octagonal dishes also available for purchase (see U325 on our catalogue) and an example in the collection of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam (AK-NM-11860-95).

Material and Technique	Porcelain with underglaze blue, overglaze enamel and gilt decoration in the Imari palette
Origin	Chinese
Period	18th Century
Condition	Consistent with age
Diameter	23.5cm. (9 1/4in.)