



**Rare English Chelsea octagonal teabowl, raised anchor period (1749-52)
POA**

Rare English Chelsea octagonal teabowl, Raised Anchor period (1749-52), Chelsea porcelain manufactory, decorated after a Japanese kakiemon design with the 'Lady in the Pavilion' pattern, with raised anchor factory mark to the base.

Dimensions:

Diameter: 6.2cm. (2 7/16in.)

Condition:

Good

Notes:

A similar teabowl can be found in the collection of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge (C.67B-1933). For an illustrated example of an original Japanese teabowl and saucer with the 'Lady in the Pavilion' pattern see Ayers, Impey & Mallet, 'Porcelain for Palaces' (1990), p.280, pl.328. The motif initially referred to a chapter of the Genji Monogatari, an epic 11th century classic work of literature written by a Japanese noblewoman, Murasaki Shikibu, which narrates the life, trials and exploits of Prince Genji, son of the emperor, while depicting in great detail the culture of Heian Period court life. The scene in question is from the fifth chapter, titled 'young Murasaki', in which Genji meets a girl named Murasaki who reminds him greatly of Princess Fujitsubo. The scene, in which Murasaki laments the escape of her pet bird, became a popular motif along with other famous sections of the tale, and has been illustrated and depicted on a wide range of Japanese art objects, including scroll paintings, lacquerware, folding screens and fabric design as well as ceramics. These Japanese wares inspired European interpretations of the design, with examples by Bow and Chelsea proving extremely popular during the porcelain boom of the eighteenth century.

Material and Technique	Porcelain with enamel decoration in the kakiemon style
Origin	British
Period	18th Century
Condition	Excellent
Diameter	6.2cm. (2 7/16in.)

Antique ref: R655