



Chinese grisaille plate, Qianlong (1736-95) POA

Chinese grisaille plate, Qianlong (1736-95), decorated to the central roundel with a mythological scene of a bathing goddess with two attendant putti and townscape in the distance, the cavetto with a lambrequin border, the wide rim with scrolls, floral garlands, birds, musical instruments and other attributes

Diameter: 22.9cm. (9in.)

Condition: One minute frit and some rubbing to grisaille

The central image is taken from a print by Claude Duflos, c.1710. Described as 'Venus Bathing', this image has been traced in turn to a work painted by Nicholas Fouché and engraved by Benoît Audran the Elder c.1700, both based in Paris. Quite a number of these designs, in the form of prints, snuff boxes and silver, made their way to China, being easily transportable, and were copied onto teawares and plates such as this for sale as export porcelain. An identical plate can be found in the collection of the Rijksmuseum (AK-NM-13519). See also Mezin 2002, p92, No 73, a plate with this scene, but a different border; Hervouët & Bruneau 1986, No 13.16, a plate with the same border as this one. See 'Chine de Commande from the Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels: Chinese Export Porcelain' p.218

Material and Technique	Porcelain with 'en grisaille' and gilt decoration
Origin	Chinese
Period	18th Century
Diameter	22.9cm. (9in.)

Antique ref: W50