



**Chinese blanc de chine 'Marco Polo' censer and cover, Kangxi (1662-1722)
POA**

Chinese blanc de chine 'Marco Polo' censer and cover, Kangxi (1662-1722), the moulded octagonal body decorated with panels of relief decoration containing flower scrolls and geometric motifs, on eight cabriole legs, with four loop handles projecting from the rim, the slightly domed cover similarly decorated with scrolling prunus blossoms in relief with intricate open work and surmounted by eight raised florets to the corners.

Dimensions:

Diameter: 11cm. (4 3/8in.)

Condition:

Two florets neatly restored

Notes:

Censers of this type are associated with Marco Polo, as it was a popular belief in the 19th century that they were brought to the Treasury of San Marco in Venice by the explorer, before passing via the Davillier and Grandidier Collections to the Musée Guimet in Paris. A similar Kangxi censer is illustrated in Donnelly, P.J. (1969). *Blanc de Chine*. Faber, pl. 16.. Another example complete with a stand is illustrated in Howard, D.S. & Ayers, D. (1978) *China for the West: Chinese Porcelain & other Decorative Arts for Export* illustrated from the Mottadeh Collection. Sotheby Parke Bernet, p. 93, pl. 53. See also Pierson, S. (2002). *Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art: A Guide to the Collection*. SOAS, p.80, pl.78; and Ayers, J. (2016) *Japanese Works of Art in the Collection of Her Majesty the Queen* (vol.1). Royal Collection Trust, p.63.

Material and Technique	Blanc de chine porcelain
Origin	Chinese
Period	18th Century
Condition	Other
Diameter	11cm. (4 3/8in.)

Antique ref: U771