

SA1196469

Early 20th Century Dummy Board or Silent Companion

Price

GBP 165

| USD \$223 | EUR 193

Item Reference: SA1196469

Date of manufacture: 1900

Description

An early 20th century dummy board or silent companion depicting a dark-skinned young boy carrying a kettle. Dummy boards (or "silent companions") from the Edwardian period (1901–1911) are life-sized, or smaller, hand-painted wooden figures designed to resemble servants, soldiers, children, or animals. While their popularity peaked in the 17th and 18th centuries (after which, the fashion for dummy boards in homes had waned and they were sometimes placed outdoors in gardens, with many succumbing to the elements), they experienced a revival during the late Victorian and Edwardian eras. They were often placed in the corners of rooms and on stairways of houses to surprise (uninvited) visitors. They were also known to reside in front of empty or unused fireplaces during the summer months. Some even suggest that, when just under life-sized, these painted wooden figures were intended to create an optical illusion, making a room appear larger. Crafted from slim 9mm plywood, this decorative piece displays surface marks suggestive of prior exposure to outdoor conditions or extended storage in an unsound loft. Despite these signs of wear, it retains undeniable charm and remains stabl...

Seller Details

Pareglio & Ayres Antiques Interiors

102 Wincheap Canterbury Kent CT1 3RS United Kingdom

Tel: 0755 4708628

International Tel: +44755 4708628

