

SA1231164

'Apotheosis of Handel'
Engraving by James Heath after
Biaggio Rebecca, 1787

Price

GBP 520

| USD \$709 | EUR 607

Item Reference: SA1231164**Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 45 cm (17.7")

Width = 36 cm (14.2")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

The 'Apotheosis of Handel' is a famous 1787 stipple engraving by the British printmaker James Heath, based on a design by Biagio Rebecca (1735-1808) published on 26th May 1787, to coincide with the anniversary of the massive Handel Commemoration festivals held at Westminster Abbey in London. It shows the composer George Frideric Handel being elevated to divine status (an 'apotheosis') floating on a cloud in a heavenly setting. He is crowned with a laurel wreath by the Genius of Harmony, and attended by an angel holding the eternal flame of posterity. It celebrates the composer as a supreme national and international musical hero, cementing his legacy decades after his death in 1759. Examples of this engraving are in various institutional collections but rarely available on the open market. Held in a 19th century gilt frame Paper size: 40 by 31 cm (16 x 12 in) Frame size: 45 x 36 cm (17 ½ by 14 in)

Seller Details

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