

SA700269

Early Victorian Winters Type Friction Electrostatic Machine

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA700269

Date of manufacture: 1850

Dimensions

Height = 47 cm (18.5")

Width = 43 cm (16.9")

Depth = 21 cm (8.3")

Description

For sale, an early Victorian Winters pattern electrostatic machine. The machine is comprised of a single twelve and a half inch glass plate supported by upright struts and a spindle. Below are two removable leather padded shoes which are sprung at the back to create a small amount of tension to the plate when it is put in motion by the handle. A brass conductor on glass rod is situated next to the plate and is serviced by two metal pinned collector pads which sits either side of the glass. An extract from Ferguson's Electricity of 1870 relates that. "'The two rubbers, one of which is shewn on the outside are triangular pieces of wood, covered with a padding of one or two layers of flannel, enclosed in leather, and they present a flat hard surface to the glass, so that friction between it and them takes place in every part. They are placed in a wooden frame on each side of the plate, and the pressure is regulated by metal springs, fixed to the outside, between them and the frame. Before use, they are covered with an amalgam of mercury, zinc, and tin, which is made to adhere with the aid of a little grease, and which increases immensely the production of electricity.'" I...

Seller Details

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