

SA792737

MUSICAL AUTOMATA BRACKET CLOCK BY GEORGE PRIOR OF LONDON

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA792737****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 68 cm (26.8")

Description

An outstanding gilt-mounted japanned Musical Automaton Table Clock for the Turkish Market by George Prior, London. George Prior (1735-1814) was the most significant clockmaker exporting to Turkey in the late eighteenth century. Trading through the British merchants established in the Ottoman ports. British diplomats had begun presenting clocks as gifts to Ottoman officials in the late seventeenth century in order to break in to a market for timepieces which was dominated by the French and Swiss. The eventual success of their efforts prompted a high demand for British clocks which led to the formation of lucrative export businesses like that of George Prior. Indeed, he was so well renowned that the Turkish word 'pyrol', a derivative of 'Prior', was coined to describe a British made timepiece. The clock movement has a verge escapement, three train chain fusee with eight day movement and six knopped pillars has a trip repeat for the hours and music, playing one of four tunes on the hour or at will with thirteen hammers on a nest of nine bells, the backplate engraved with foliate scrolls and signed 'Geo. Prior, London'. The seven inch waisted dial with a brightly painted f...

Seller Details

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