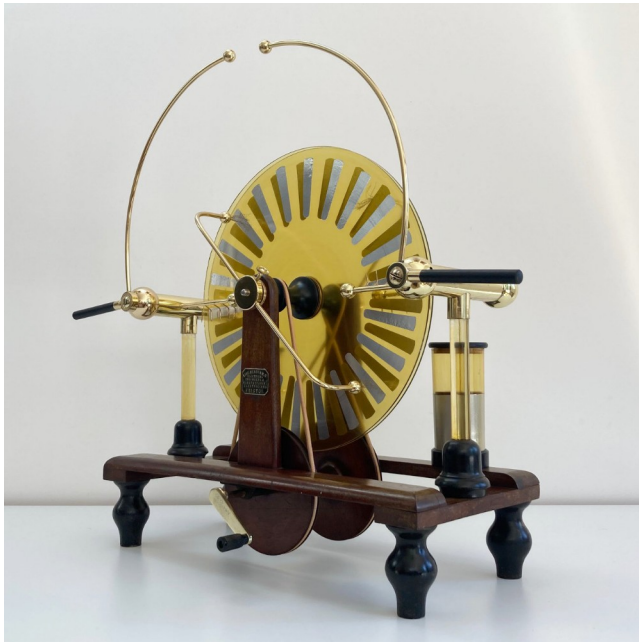


SA907218

Very Large Late Victorian Wimshurst Machine by King Mendham & Co Bristol

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA907218****Date of manufacture: 1890**

Dimensions

Height = 62 cm (24.4")

Width = 51 cm (20.1")

Depth = 24 cm (9.4")

Description

For sale a very large late Victorian wimshurst machine by King Mendham & Co of Bristol. The machine has a mahogany base with turned ebonised feet, and two large contra-rotating 15" shellac covered glass discs to the centre with 22 foil sectors attached to the front of each. The discs are rotated by means of two wheels with leather bands attached to a central spindle on which the discs are attached. By turning the brass and vulcanite handle, electrostatic charge is sent to two glass leyden jars which sit either side of the base. Once enough charge has been stored within the jars a spark is released between the two brass nodes which are positioned above the machine and are pivoted on two vulcanite insulated arms to allow for lengthening or shortening of the spark whilst in demonstration. The Wimshurst influence machine or electrostatic generator was developed by the British inventor James Wimshurst between 1880 & 1883. James Wimshurst was the Chief Shipwright Surveyor for Lloyds of London but dedicated his spare time to scientific experimentation. Widely known for his experiments with electricity, he became a member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1889 and wa...

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