

SA986775

A large mahogany framed
Armchair, in the style of
Christopher Dresser
(1834-1904) c.1870s

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA986775

Date of manufacture: Victorian

Dimensions

Height = 99 cm (39.0")

Width = 70 cm (27.6")

Depth = 78 cm (30.7")

Description

An interesting chair reflecting many elements promoted in Dresser's 'Principles of Decorative Design' published in 1873. The shape of the arm terminal and the incised detail are similar to the Greek daybed illustrated in 'Principles', and also the design of the front cover delivering his mantra- Truth, Beauty, Power. The multiple rails at the top of the chair and on the arms serve both as a decorative feature and importantly add strength to the frame, consistent with the robust construction Dresser advocated. The top rails and arms feature repeating gothic/medieval motifs that resemble those in a drawing of a Bruce Talbert-esque sideboard he published while editor of The Furniture Gazette, a nod to the gothic revival whose designs he broadly rejected? Or if by his hand, could they be interpreted as repeating mirhab designs anticipating the Anglo Moorish furniture he went on to provide for Thomas Knight? There are elements that don't tie in so neatly to Dresser, but if not by him it has been designed by someone well versed in his theories and his repertoire. Condition: Usable condition, requiring re-covered, the left arm appears to be set slightly higher than the right...

Seller Details

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