

RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



Blue John Cassolette

21 cm

8.26771653543307

18th Century Epoche George III

Gilded Bronze Blue John

21 x 0 cm (8¹/₄ x 0 inches)

Blue John, gilt bronze

The leaf-stretched, urn-shaped body features a Greek key frieze, a reversible leaf-shaped finial, and a candle socket, flanked by scrolled handles, a fluted base, and a square pedestal with Greek key feet.

Until the early 19th century, vessels (vases, bowls, etc.) were made in England from a yellow-blue to white-blue banded massive fluorite mined in Derbyshire, which earned the nickname "Blue John" – from the French "bleu-jaune" for blue-yellow.

Literature:

The design of this urn can be found in Matthew Boulton's and James Fothergill's Pattern Book I, p. 170.
N. Goodison, Ormolu, The Work of Matthew Boulton, London, 1974, p. 163