

# RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



## George III Cassolette

Circa: 1770 - 1780

19.5 cm

0' 7<sup>5</sup>/<sub>16</sub>"

1770 - 1780

Technique: Gilt bronze, copper, fluorite, so-called Blue John, Derbyshire.

Description: Vase-shaped body on a square base with floral festoons.

Drapery of cloth along the shoulder. So-called candle vase and the lidded finial with candle holder on the opposite side.

Matthew Boulton (d. 1809) is considered the most important manufacturer of luxury goods in 18th-century England. Together with his business partner John Fothergill, he founded the Soho Manufactory in Birmingham in 1762. At a time when most companies consisted of small workshops operating within complex subcontracting structures, Boulton and Fothergill fundamentally modernized production processes. In 1765, Boulton visited Paris, where he closely studied the work of the leading Parisian

bronze artists. Deeply impressed, he resolved to challenge their dominance in the market for gilded bronzes.

**Literature:**

Goodison, Nicholas: Matthew Boulton - Ormolu, London 2002. Compare similar designs, figs. 248, 249