

A Pair of George III Ormolu-mounted White Marble Urns By Matthew Boulton, Beginning 1770's; Each with removable lid of double-gadrooned domed form with foliate finial, the tapering ring-turned neck swagged with laurel and above an entrelac-and-rossette collar on a pounced and pearled ground, the tapering ovoid body with upspringing acanthus cup issuing husk-trailed scrolled arms, on a spreading circular socle with gadrooned moulding and stepped square base.

Height: 9 .2 in. (24 cm)

Matthew Boulton (1728- 1809) and James Fothergill (d.1782) founded their extraordinary factory in Soho, Staffordshire in 1761. They produced an exemplary body of work illustrative of Boulton's innovation as an engineer, entrepreneur and the level of patronage that he received. At the cutting edge of artistic endeavour, he was part of a circle which included luminaries such as Josiah Wedgwood, Robert Adam, Sir William Chambers and James Watt, all of whom who had great bearing on his work. The firm produced silver, Sheffield plate and ormolu ornaments and received commissions from George III and Catherine the Great. Candle vases accounted for the majority of the firm's ormolu production, which also included inkstands, ice pails, tripods, girandoles and obelisks.

Comparative Examples:

A pair of vases of the present model with white marble bodies is illustrated in Nicolas Goodison, *Ormolu: The Work of Matthew Boulton*, 1974 , p.152, n.133. Another pair with blue john bodies is illustrated in the same book, p.152, n.132.