

CHINESE EXPORT PORCELAIN AND ORIENTAL ART



Chinese export porcelain punchbowl with English ships

Qianlong period circa 1760

English Market

Diameter: 16 inches; 40.5cm

from the Golden Gate Collection, GG887

Priced in US dollars

\$15.000

This item is located in the USA in the state of California. Shipping from there is at the buyer's expense. Please enquire if you would like to know more.

A Chinese export porcelain punchbowl decorated in famille rose with a continuous scene to the exterior, of six ships all flying the flags of the British merchant navy.

This fine bowl is elegantly painted with finely detailed ships on blue waves with dark rocks in the foreground. The flag flown on all the ships is the Red Ensign, used in this version from 1707-1801, as instituted by Queen Anne, who commanded that it be used by ships owned by "our loving subjects".

This flag was flown by the thirteen colonies of America until 1775.

This was probably a private order by a ship's captain who was himself in Canton. No other identical example is recorded though there exists an interesting range of different marine subject bowls and other porcelains. Similar bowls with wrap-around decoration like this mostly show specific battles with the print sources identified or the ships named.

References: Hervouët & Bruneau 1986, Chapter 2, Sujets Marins.