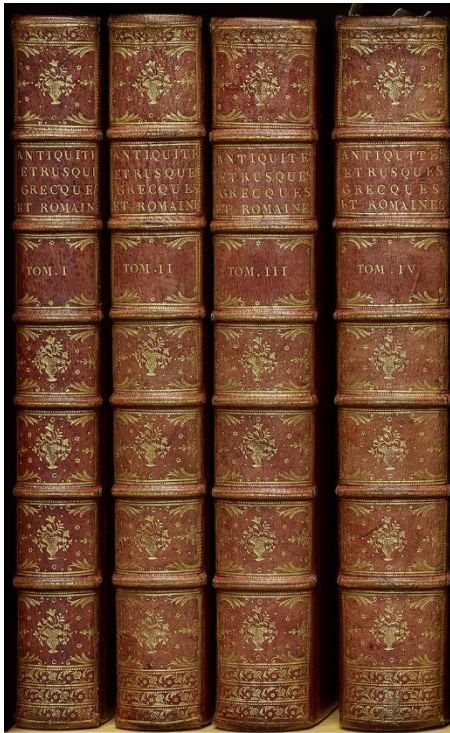


A magnificent copy of one the 18th century's finest books



Collection of Etruscan, Greek and Roman Antiquities from the Cabinet of the Hon. William Hamilton

by Pierre-Francois d'Hancarville.

Volumes I and II: Naples: François Morelli, 1767 and 1770
Volumes III and IV: Florence, 1776

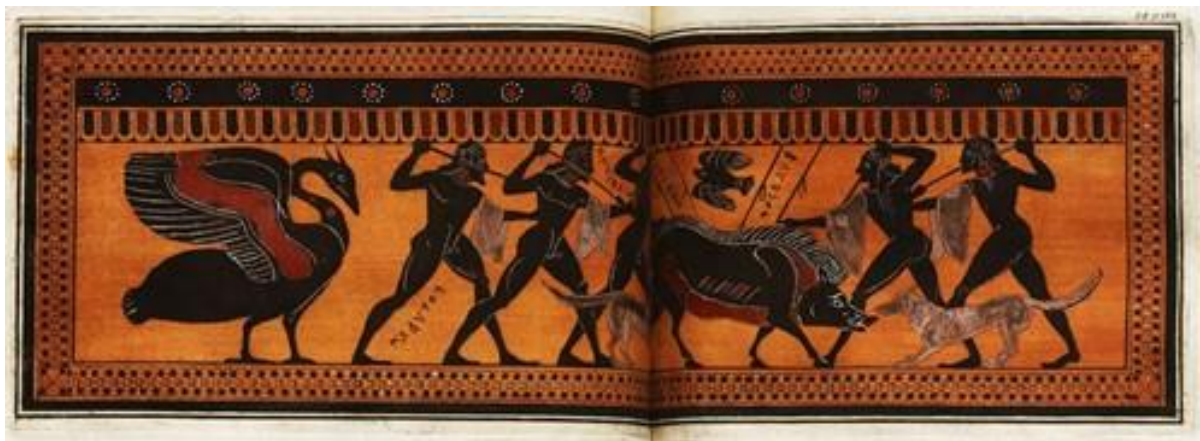
This magnificently bound, copiously illustrated set documents Sir William Hamilton's (1730-1803) renowned collection of ancient vases. Hamilton realised his passion for the superbly painted vessels while acting as Envoy Extraordinary to the court of Naples in 1764. Hamilton's considerable collection played a vital role in fostering Neoclassical taste in Britain. The extraordinary hand-coloured engravings in these four volumes actively inspired contemporary designers including Josiah Wedgwood (1730-1795). By 1769, Wedgwood produced vases after plate 129 in Volume I and the dedication-plate to King George III. At Newtimber Place, Sussex, and Bowood, Wiltshire, entire rooms were decorated based on images from the volumes.

The set was intended to advertise Hamilton's collection and to encourage its eventual purchase by the British Museum in 1772. The publication of the final two volumes was stalled when Pierre-Francois d'Hancarville (1719-1805), the art dealer who had arranged the transfer of the vase collection from the Porcinari family to Hamilton, went bankrupt and fled Naples in 1769. d'Hancarville also wrote the set's accompanying essays. His stylistic chronology of ancient vase painting was informed by the theories of German art historian, Johann Joachim Winckelmann (1717-1768) during his appointment as Superintendent of Roman Antiques.

Production finally resumed when Hamilton bought the engraved plates back from d'Hancarville's creditors. In 1773, Vincenzo Mazzeranghi took editorial control and volumes III and IV were published in Florence in 1776.

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Price on Request



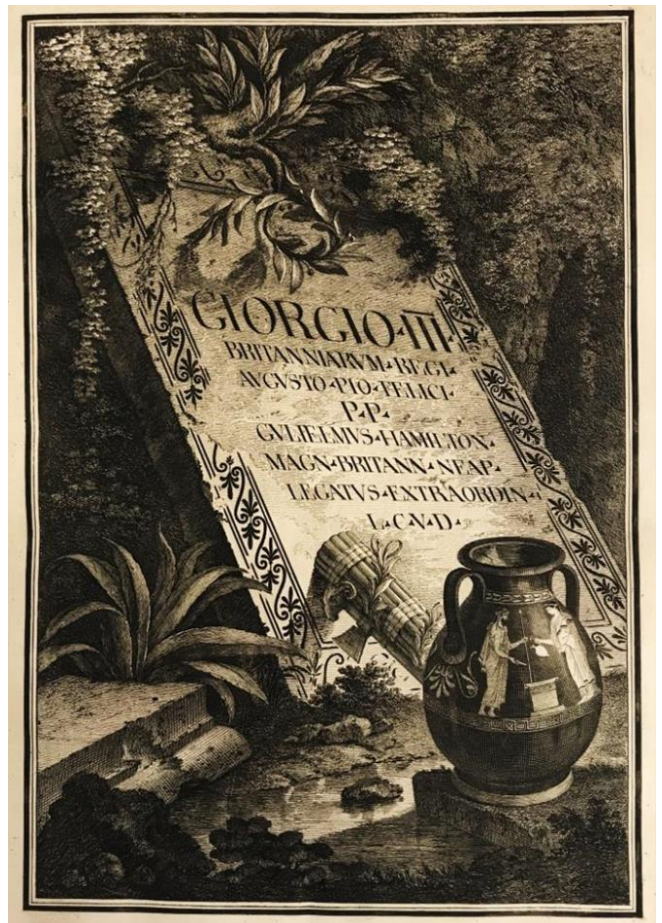


HISTOIRE DE LA SCULPTURE,
Et de la Statuaire des Grecs.
LIVRE II.
*Des temps qui suivirent la guerre de Troie, jusqu'à la mort
d'Alexandre le Grand.*



Ygiéon, Diniás, Charmas, dont l'âge inconnu au Siècle de Plinè, (1) remonte aux premiers temps de la Peinture, furent les plus anciens peintres *Monochromates*; ils peignirent en une seule couleur détachée du fond, des tableaux absolument semblables à beaucoup de ceux que l'on trouve répandus dans cet ouvrage. (2) Eumarus d'Athènes, ayant le premier distingué les sexes, vint après eux, & fut certainement antérieur aux Artistes, qui firent la chasse expliquée dans la

Vol. IV. a der-
(1) *Quod si recipi necesse est, simul apparet multa varietate principia esse, eoque qui Mono-*
chrom-



Description:

Four volumes. Magnificently bound in full red Morocco leather with five raised bands to the spine and exquisite gold-tooled panels. Back and front boards elegantly trimmed with gold frames. All edges gilt. 456 plates printed in black ink over an existing terracotta wash background, with hand-painted highlights of white, scarlet, green, and yellow gouache. 377 single plates, of which 123 are coloured. 79 double plates in colour. 70 vignettes and initials, of which 14 are in double tone (particular to Volume IV). 19.5×15cms. Parallel English and French texts by Pierre-Francois Hugues, baron d'Hancarville (1719-1805).

Contents:

Volume I: Devoted to the origin and history of the Etruscans, the antiquity of the Tuscan order, and the arts of sculpture and painting. With a preface of XXV pages (dated April 30th, 1766) and 177 numbered text pages. 94 single plates (31 in colour and 63 black & white), 15 colour double plates, 20 illustrations in text. Contains explanations for 23 plates.

Volume II: Concerned with the history and making of vases and vase-paintings. 169 numbered text pages. 107 single plates (44 in colour and 63 black & white), 19 double plates (18 in colour and one black & white), 12 illustrations in the text. Includes explanations for plates 32 to 130.

Volume III: Devoted to the history of Greek sculpture, from the Archaic period to the death of Alexander the Great. 211 numbered text pages. 84 single plates (21 in colour and 63 black & white), 22 colour double plates, 22 illustrations in the text.

Volume IV: Concerned with the history of Greek sculpture, from the Archaic period to the death of Alexander the Great. 252 numbered text pages. 92 single plates (27 in colour and 65 black & white), 23 double plates, 16 illustrations in the text (14 in colour).

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