

RAFFETY

FINE ANTIQUE CLOCKS



18th Century Antique George II Ebony Bracket Clock by Nicholas Lambert of London

Circa: 1730

good

48.25 x 28.25 cm

1' 7" x 0' 11¹/₄"

1730

48.25 x 28.25 x 17.5 cm (19 x 11¹/₄ x 6⁷/₈ inches)

Ebony Brass

An exceptional George II period quarter-striking ebony bracket clock by this superb maker, Nicholas Lambert. The ebony moulded and veneered case has an inverted bell top, brass carrying handle and magnificent pierced and engraved frets to the sides and door spandrels. The side frets are engraved with baskets of flowers and foliage and are almost identical in style to those found on a musical bracket clock by Quare and Horseman.

The arched dial has a silvered chapter ring and the matted brass centre is embellished with a mock pendulum and a date aperture above the VI. The clock is signed 'Nicholas Lambert, London' on an oval silver plaque above the mock pendulum. There is an additional strike/silent dial in the arch, its centre

with foliate engraving and there are elaborate brass spandrels in the rococo style on the dial, displaying grotesque masks within scrollwork.

The clock has an eight day movement and strikes the quarter hours on six bells and the hour on a separate larger bell. The back-plate is lavishly engraved with scrollwork, birds and figures playing various instruments within a wheatear boarder.

Nicholas Lambert was one of many Huguenot clockmakers working in London in the first half of the 18th century. Clocks by him are relatively rare, and this is probably an elaborate example of his work. His signature also occasionally appears upon movements retailed by other Huguenot makers, including Simon de charmes and De Baufre.

It is noted in Britten's 'Old Clocks and Watches and their Makers', 7th Edition, on page 419, the following synopsis regarding Mr Lambert:

"Longcase clock; chiming clock by him on the mantelpiece of the vestry of Lady Huntingdon's chapel, Bath, with the inscription, 'This clock is the property of the Church at the Vineyards, Bath, given by the Countess of Huntingdon for the use of the minister for the time being.' "