



**A Staffordshire saltglaze double-lipped sauceboat, c.1760
POA**

A Staffordshire saltglaze double-lipped sauceboat, c.1760, with twin ear-shaped loop handles and a moulded scaly dolphin to either end, upon a spreading stepped foot, the body decorated in low relief with a central roundels containing floral foliate scroll, flanked by two smaller triangular cartouches containing further floral decoration

Dimensions:

Diameter: 18cm. (7 1/16in.)

Condition:

Hairline to rim

Notes:

This shape is based on silver sauceboats also popular at the time. Saltglaze stoneware was produced in Britain from the latter half of the seventeenth century. Experimentation was possibly driven by the wares and techniques introduced by immigrant German potters settling in London at this time. Despite competition from kilns in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and London, by the late eighteenth century Staffordshire had become the largest producer of ceramics in Britain, partly owing to the local abundance of raw materials including clay, coal and salt. Saltglaze wares were produced by throwing salt into the kiln during the firing process. The reaction between the sodium in the salt and the silica within the clay produces a layer of sodium silicate, and gives the finished piece a glossy sheen and pleasing texture comparable to that of orange peel. Initially, decoration largely consisted of applied strips of clay, but later on a technique called 'sprigging' became popular. Complex reliefs and intricate designs could be made in separate molds using slip before being applied to the body of the vessel.

Material and Technique	Saltglaze stoneware
Origin	British
Period	18th Century
Condition	Very good
Diameter	Diameter: 18cm. (7 1/16in.)

Antique ref: W662