



Simon Pantin (1680 - 1728)

An Important George II Salver

Silver

George II, London, 1730

Maker's Mark of Simon Pantin

Diameter: 18 inches (46.2 cm)

Weight: 105 oz 10 dwt (3291 g)

The arms are those of CLEVE, of Walford, county Salop, CLEVE or CLIVE, of Huxley, county Chester; of the CLIVES of Styche; the heiress married Wilbraham. William CLEAVE, Alderman of London, died 1667, CLEVE or CLIVE, London. Arms: Argent, on a fess between three wolves' heads erased sable, as many mullets or. (Reference: Papworth's Ordinary of British Armorial page 826 & Burke's General Armory, page 205.)

Shaped circular, the double ogee border applied with eight masks at intervals, the border with a rim of flowerheads and bead-and-reel, on four openwork scroll legs with shell feet, field finely engraved with a coat-of-arms within an elaborate cartouche with figures of a shepherd and shepherdess, herms, putti, grapevine and flowers. With scratchweight '106..15'.

An identical cartouche, attributed by Charles Oman to Joseph Sympson, appears on a salver of 1733, maker's mark of Thomas Farren, in the Victoria & Albert Museum, illustrated in *English Engraved Silver, 1150-1900*, 1978, p. 90, fig. 103. A small number of objects survive with engraving signed by Sympson, much of it in vastly differing style, suggesting that he ran one of the most successful engraving workshops in London during this period. An "S. Sympson" (probably Joseph's son or nephew) published *A New Book of Cyphers, More Compleat & Regular than ever Publish'd* in 1726 (see Christopher Hartop, "Engraving on English Silver", *Antiques*, February, 1997, p. 343).

Provenance:

Sotheby's, London, January 31, 1963, lot 111

Christie's, London, March 28, 1970, lot 130

Brand Inglis Ltd.

Artist description:

Of a Rouen family of goldsmiths. The first of the name in England seems to be Esaie 'Pontin' who married Elizabeth Maubert 3 October 1658 at the French Church Threadneedle Street, both being described as 'natif(ve)de Rouen'. Esaie remarried in 1666 as widower, Marie Bouquet, widow of Isaac Maubert, perhaps his brother-in-law. By his first marriage, Esaie had a son, also Esaie, baptized 4

March 1660, who would seem to be the Esaie Pantin, goldsmith of St. James's, Westminster, recorded by Heal, 1709, but for whom there is no entry of a mark. His daughter married Peter Courtauld in 1709. It would seem highly likely that Simon Pantin was another son of Esaie I and younger brother of Esaie II.

Unfortunately, the record of his apprenticeship to Peter Harrache has not survived. He was free by apprenticeship to the latter 4 June 1701. This would put his indentures at about 1694, and his likely birth about 1680. He is presumably the Simon Pantin who appears in the Denization List, 16 December 1687, and as witness to the baptism of Suzanne de Joncourt at Threadneedle Street Church, 12 December 1697. First mark entered as largeworker, 23 June 1701. Address: St. Martin's Lane. Second mark, 16 September 1717. Address Castle Street. Third mark (Sterling), 30 June 1720, same address. Livery, October 1712. His name appears in the Naturalization Act 1709 as Simon Pantin, goldsmith, St. Martin in the Fields, witnesses Paul Beauvais and Henry Riboteau, and Pantin in turn as witness to four others. Heal records show him as plateworker, Peacock Street, Martin's Lane, 1699-1701; St. Martin in the Fields, 1709-11; and as removed to Peacock, Castle Street, Leicester Fields 1717 till death in 1728. The Peacock is included in his marks. Listed by Evans as Huguenot.