



**William Bennett**

## **A Gadroon and Grapevine Ornamented Tray**

Silver

George III, London, 1808

Maker's Mark of William Bennett

Length: 71.5 cm, 28 in.

Weight: 5909 g, 208.11 oz

With gadroon rim with grapevine-flanked shells at intervals, grapevine handles. Centre engraved with arms, motto Erectus non Elatus, and crest, on four panel feet applied with palms.

The arms are those of Beaumont impaling Wilkes for Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th bart., D.C.L., F.S.A., MP for Beeralston 1790-96, b. 1753, and his wife Margaret, daughter of John Willes of Astrop, co. Northampton, and granddaughter of Lord Chief Justice Willes. Sir George died without issue in 1827.

### **Artist description:**

William Bennett was first apprenticed to John Arnell of Little Britain London Goldsmith, Citizen and Goldsmith 7th July 1784 but was then turned over by consent to John Perry and then to Solomon Hougham. He entered his first mark as a plateworker in 1787. Bennett's mark primarily appears on trays and salvers, in which he seemed to have specialised.