



**Edward Feline ( - 1753)**

**The Bolingbroke Punch Bowl**

George II

London, 1744

Maker's mark of Edward Feline

The arms are those of St. John.

Diameter: 30 cm, 11  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.

Weight: 2,815 g, 90 oz.

This imposing punch bowl, almost a sphere, provides a canvas for the lively engraved decoration of sea-shells, trelliswork and flowers that adorns the shoulder, and for the extravagant cartouche that encloses the coat-of-arms.

The arms are those of St. John, for Henry St. John (1678-1751), 1st Viscount Bolingbroke. Henry St. John was a writer and a close friend and confidant of Alexander Pope. He was Secretary at War from

1704, resigned and returned to office in 1710 as Secretary of State to the Northern Departments and at this time was created Viscount Bolingbroke. By the end of Queen Anne's reign he had amassed great power and influence but this all ended on her death and as a Jacobite he fled to France. While in exile he wrote philosophical essays which were published posthumously and in 1725 he was pardoned and he returned to England for a period although he never held political office again. He continued to be involved with the Jacobite cause and went into exile again ten years later, returning to England at intervals to stay with Pope. He returned in 1744, the year in which this bowl was made, and settled in Battersea and died there in 1751.

**Artist description:**

Son of Peter 'Fellen' of St. Martin's in the Fields tailor, apprenticed to Augustine Courtauld 31 March 1709. Free, 6 April 1721. An 'Edwards Pheline' married, 21 April 1720, Renee Barbut of the parish of St. Martin's, daughter of John Barbut (q.v.), at West Street Huguenot Church, to which 'Edward Feline' signs as witness. Two marks (Sterling and New Standard) entered as largeworker, 25 September 1720. Address: Rose Street, Covent Garden. Third mark, 15 June 1739. Address: King Street, Covent Garden. Livery, April 1731. His son Edward was apprenticed to him 3 April 1745. Feline was presumably dead by 15 May 1753, when his widow Magdalen entered her first mark, at the same address.