



18th Century Antique

A fine George III carved Statuary marble and Blue John chimney piece, circa 1780. The double inverted breakfront, compound and dentil moulded shelf sits above a rectangular tablet finely carved with Diana and her attendants. This is flanked by Gothic arcades, outlines with inlaid Blue John and filled with stylised anthems above a running band of Blue John. The opening is carved with guilloche moulding and flanked by tapered corbels decorated with graduated discs of Blue John within moulded frames. Jambs are headed by carved blocks, in the form of classical female figures, depicting 'Music' and 'Art', and are raised on moulded base blocks. Blue John is a variety of fluorspar found in Derbyshire and known in France as 'Blu-jaune' hence the English name. Quarried since Roman times, Blue John became highly fashionable during the reign of George III in the 1770's.

Dimensions

Height 78in (198.1cm) width 72½in (184.1cm)

Internal height 45in (114.3cm) width 45in (114.3cm)

Shelf depth 7½in (19.1cm)

Reference

G100