

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN SUPPLIERS OF 18th CENTURY PORCELAINS



A rare Derby figure of Grimaldi the Clown

A rare Derby figure of Grimaldi the Clown, standing, his arms outstretched, holding a letter, and brightly decorated in coloured enamels and gilt, on gilt bordered rectangular base, 5" high, circa 1820, unmarked, printed collection label and inventory number 551

Provenance:

The William James Collection, West Dean Park, Sussex, and by descent to Edward James

Literature:

See Peter Bradshaw, Derby Porcelain Figures, plate 338, for another version of this figure in the collection of Derby Museum and Art Gallery

Joseph Grimaldi (1778-1837) was an English actor, comedian and dancer, whose performance as a clown in early 19th century pantomimes made his the central role, rather than the traditional lead of harlequin