An arresting oak boss carved with the head of a man, Devon, circa 1450-1500

£5,950

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REF: 5017

Height: 24.5 cm (9.6")

Width: 22 cm (8.7")

Depth: 16 cm (6.3")

Description

Designed with the full face of a man, with almond-shaped eyes and lips forming a smile, wearing a skull cap and looking directly ahead, within a stylized-leafy angular surround, possibly suggesting a Green Man

This bold image has close parallels to bosses in situ at Devon churches, including St. Lawrence, Clyst St Lawrence, with similar carved surround, St. Andrews, South Tawton, paired female and male heads with similar oval face and again at St. Peter, Ugborough, Devon

This boss is in remarkable condition considering it is far more vulnerable to damage and decay than stone counterparts

Provenance: The Collection of Roderick & Valentine Butler, Honiton, Devon. With Sam Fogg, London, no. 26, 'Medieval Faces', exhibition, item no. 26, 3 - 10 July, 2020