



An exceptionally rare Henry VI / Edward IV oak and polychrome-decorated roof angel, circa 1450-80

Sold



REF: 3077

Height: 38 cm (15")

Width: 18.5 cm (7.3")

Depth: 12 cm (4.7")

Description

Designed from the waist up, issuing from undulating folds of fabric, the pleated robe with deep collar, holding a banner.

Extant English roof angels occur predominantly in East Anglian churches, especially in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. Stylistically however, this angel relates to a group of twenty-two roof angels on a false-hammerbeam roof, the refectory, Cleeve Abbey, Somerset. Records indicate the roof was constructed during a program of improvement under Abbot David Juyner (elected 1435). Of particular note is the similar up and back swept hair, whereas the East Anglian examples tend to range between cone-ringlets and wavy-curls. Some of the Cleeve Abbey examples also hold a banner with one finger or thumb protruding over the front in the same manner.

Almost certainly from the same interior scheme as item number 3133.

Provenance: Jonathan Horne Collection.