China Trade Secretaire Antique Campaign Chest

Chinese Export Furniture

Sold



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Height: 91 cm (35.8")

Width: 98 cm (38.6")

Depth: 50.5 cm (19.9")

Description

This Secretaire two part chest epitomises the best of Chinese Export campaign furniture.

The drawer fronts are amboyna and their rich colour and busy grain are accentuated by their ebony surround. The moulding separating the drawers is reeded and the ebony to the sides and edging the top is generous in its width. Even the ebony top front edge of the bottom section, which would not be seen, is 1 3/4 inches in width. A further example of the high quality of this chest is the amboyna veneer used to hide the dovetail joints to the sides of the drawers. Again, this is an area that would not often be seen but the attention to detail is a mark of the standard of cabinet making. As can be seen, the top drawer is a full length secretaire with three drawers, pigeon holes and a cupboard. The chest stands on ebony hairy paw feet and the timber to the top and sides of the chest is huali.

The flush brass handles are typical of those found on the better quality campaign furniture of the China Trade although they can perhaps be considered larger than most. An exceptional campaign chest. Early 19th century.

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