

*A collection of
fine looking-glasses*



A Collection of Fine Looking-glasses

George III overmantel mirror

For centuries, mirrors have played an important role in interior decoration. This collection has been inspired by the elaborate gilded mirrors typical of the 18th Century. Brights can trace its roots back to the antique dealership, Biggs of Maidenhead, and many of the mirrors in the collection are based on mirrors which can be found in our family archives. The elaborate gilded frames are indicative of the immense value which used to be placed on mirror glass. The basic frame was crafted to the highest standards and gilded with gold, a valuable metal which did not tarnish. Because mirror glass was so expensive the glass would be resilvered and reshaped and the frames changed to ensure the mirror stayed in fashion without having to buy another expensive piece of mirror plate.

There is much legend and superstition surrounding mirrors. The mirror was thought to be a reflection of the soul. Accordingly breaking a mirror was thought to break part of the soul and cause bad luck. The bad luck was said to last for 7 years because the soul regenerates every 7 years. Grinding the broken mirror to dust, however, was thought to prevent the mirror reflecting and thus prevent the bad luck. In some places it was customary to cover mirrors during a wake or period of illness because it was feared that the soul could become trapped in an uncovered mirror. It was also thought to be bad luck to have two mirrors facing each other.

These mirrors are true replicas (in some cases the size has been rescaled to proportion), painstakingly hand carved in solid mahogany and Dutch gilded with an unsurpassed attention to detail. Bespoke sizes and commissions are also undertaken.



ORIGINAL

Above - Wall bracket with demi lune plateau bordered by egg and dart, supported above floral baskets and foliate scrolls.

W33 x H42 cm Ref. MR015 £460

Original - Victorian from Christies European Works of Art, South Kensington, 25th June 1997. Auctioned as a pair.



ORIGINAL



Overmantel mirror with arched foliate-scrolled cresting above a flame carved surround divided by leaf and flower entwined columns whilst the sides have stylised dolphins.

W154 x H108 cm

Ref. MR009

£1,200

Original - George III, circa 1760 from Sotheby's Important English Furniture, London, Friday 15th November 1996 est. £20,000-£30,000

George II style burr oak mirror

Regency style pier mirror

ORIGINAL



With gilded swan neck cresting centred by a cartouche and eared foliate moulded surround surmounted by an applied bell flower with shaped apron below. Burr oak veneers service polished to a walnut finish. W66 x H135 cm (resized)
Ref. MR006
£925

Original - George II, circa 1735 from Sotheby's Important English Furniture, London, Friday 15th November 1996 est. £4,000-£6,000



Regency style pier mirror with ball-beaded cornices above diaper trellis frieze panels. The glass plate is flanked by cluster column pilasters headed by lion mask capitals. W108 x H168 cm
Ref. MR008
£775



ORIGINAL

Original - Regency, circa 1810 from Sotheby's Important English Furniture, London, Friday 15th November 1996. Auctioned as a pair, est £8,000-£12,000



George III style mirror



ORIGINAL

An oval glass plate in a gadrooned frame flanked by scrolls and leaves, with a scroll cresting and apron.
W66 x H130 cm (resized)
Ref. MR007
£1,020

Original - Carton Pierre Looking-glass, George III, circa 1765 from Sotheby's Important English Furniture, London, Friday 15th November 1996
est. £7,000-£9,000



George III style pier mirror



ORIGINAL

Elaborate urn cresting with a pair of ram's-heads and scrollwork, with bevelled and beaded borders on the glass.
W73.5 x H170 cm (resized)
Ref. MR004
£1,020

Original - George III, circa 1775 from Sotheby's Fine English Furniture, London, Friday 9th February 1996.
est. £5,000-£7,000



Overmantel trellis mirror



ORIGINAL



Pierced foliate cresting above a rectangular plate within a pierced trellis surround carved with C-scrolls, branches and flame motifs. The conformingly pierced apron is flanked by rockwork.
W148 x H89 cm
Ref. MR005
£1,385

Original - George III, circa 1760 from Sotheby's Fine English Furniture, London, Friday 9th February 1996.
est. £5,000-£7,000

Overmantel mirror



ORIGINAL



Overmantel mirror with branch and leaf detail with leaf-scroll cresting and apron.
W137 x H94 cm
Ref. MR002
£1,020

Original - George II, circa 1755 from Sotheby's Fine English Furniture, London, Friday 25th February and Friday 4th March 1994.
est. £3,000-£4,000

George III pierced mirror



ORIGINAL

Pierced cresting with wheat and flower filled shells hung with leafy festoons interspersed with flower heads. Inner beaded moulds applied to the glass above a ribbon-tied fan and wheat apron.

W65 x H140 cm (resized)

Ref. MR003

£1,020

Original - George III, circa 1780 from Sotheby's Fine English Furniture, London, Friday 9th February 1996.

Auctioned as a pair, est. £4,000-£6,000



Napoleon III style mirror

Finely carved portrait mirror featuring pierced grapes and vines. W55 x H183 cm (resized)

Ref. MR001

£830

Original - Napoleon III French mirror; circa 1850, from World Mirrors 1650-1900 by Graham Child.



ORIGINAL



Eagle convex mirror



Hand carved Regency style gilded and ebonised convex eagle wall mirror with bevelled glass.
W55 x H107 cm
Ref. MR010
£1,110

Original - Sourced from Queen Anne & Georgian Looking Glasses (old English and Early American) by F. Lewis Hinckley. Size unknown.

George III style candle mirror



Hand carved and gilded mirror with candle stand.
W54 x D19 x H98 cm
Ref. MR024
£555

Original - George III, circa 1770, one of a pair in giltwood. Sourced from World Mirrors 1650-1900 by Graham Child.



Charles II style mirror



The frame is carved with foliage with clasps, carved with cabochon and coronets, masks and scrolling foliage. Pierced and carved cresting with a mask and supporting festoons.
W66 x H99 cm
(resized)
Ref. MR018
£1,475

Original - Charles II, circa 1680 from Important English Furniture, Sotheby's, London, 7th July 2000.
Original size 122x198.
Est. £25,000 - £35,000

Thomas Johnson style mirror



A George II style giltwood pier mirror after a design by Thomas Johnson.
W140 x H198 cm
(resized)
Ref. MR020
£2,570

Original - Circa 1840 from A Celebration of the English Country House, Sotheby's, New York, April 2008.
Original size - 198x284.5
Est. \$70,000 - \$80,000

Queen Anne style mirror

Hand carved shaped cresting with five feathers emerging from a cherub's head whilst the entire surround has floral and scroll decoration. The candle holders have been removed.

W65 x H117 cm

Ref. MR011

£1,015

Original - Early 18th century Queen Anne girandole from Important English Furniture & Clocks, Sotheby's, 4th June 2009. Est. £10,000 - £15,000



ORIGINAL

Louis XVI style mirror

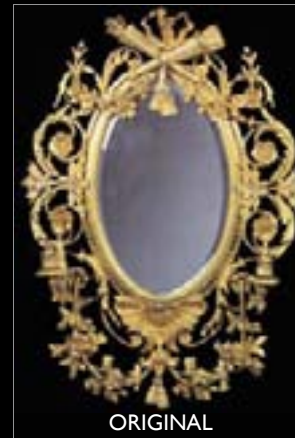
The frame is boldly pierced and cast with foliate scrolling ornament, the crestings modelled as ribbon tied crossed quivers and torches with tassell terminals. The candle holders have been omitted.

W55 x H75 cm

Ref. MR014

£1,290

Original - Louis XVI girandole from Christies European Works of Art, 25th June 1997. Auctioned as a pair.



ORIGINAL

George III style mirror

John Linnell style mirror



Gilt and ebonised overmantel mirror with rope and tassel surround. Stylised dolphins support candle shelves either side. W92 x H105 cm
Ref. MR019
£1,385

Original - George III 19th century mirror from A celebration of the English Country House - Sothebys, New York April 2008. Original size unknown. Est. \$18,000 - \$25,000



George III style
giltwood oval mirror
in the manner of John
Linnell.
W66 x H130 cm
Ref. MR021
£1,145

Original - Circa 1775, from
A celebration of the English
Country House - Sothebys,
New York April 2008.
Auctioned as a pair.
Original size unknown.
Est. \$40,000 - \$60,000



Floral crested mirror



The rectangular bevelled plate sits within a moulded frame with a beaded inner edge surmounted by a floral cresting draped with bellflower and flowerheads with a conforming apron. W68.5 x H150 cm
Ref. MR012
£1,145

Original - Late 18th / early 19th century from Christies, South Kensington, 23rd September 1998. Est. £3,000 - £5,000



Louis XVI style pier mirror



Cream painted and gilt pier mirror with lambrequin decorated pierced canopy hung with floral garlands and bead scrolls. The rectangular bevelled plate within a bead ribbon-twist surround with a ribbon-tied foliate apron below. W67 x H187 cm
Ref. MR016
£1,750

Original - Louis XVI Provincial from Christies, The Manor House, Buckinghamshire, 15th September 1998.



George II style mirror



Rectangular bevelled mirror plate within a hand carved outer frame decorated with flowerhead filled guilloche ground, acanthus leaf and scroll-carved top corners and egg and dart inner frame. The cresting is carved with a mask flanked by scrolls and leaves.
W151 x H168 cm Ref. MR022 £2,215

Original - George II, circa 1735 recently auctioned.
Est. £10,000 - £15,000

Swan neck pediment mirror



Oblong bevelled mirror plate within an egg and dart frame with outer floral carving. Central mask below swan necked pediments whilst the apron has a feather crest flanked by acanthus leaves.
W101 x H192 cm
Ref. MR023
£2,215

Original - George II, circa 1735 recently auctioned as a pair. Est. £60,000 - £80,000





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