

An unusual Charles II carved oak panel, Yorkshire/East Lancashire,
circa 1670

£895



REF: 5055

Height: 27.8 cm (10.9")

Width: 27.8 cm (10.9")

Description

Centred with a cockerel within an oval and radiating stylised fleur de lys and leafy sprays.

It is exceptionally rare for a 17th century, English carving depicting a cockerel to survive.

Animals depicted in 17th century (and earlier) carved English panels are traditionally mythical or fanciful representations; seen as 'beasts' rather than a true living animal, shown as nature intended. Here, the depiction of a real, yet 'humble' farmyard fowl is a rare survivor.

However, a carved cockerel is not without precedent. See a fine misericord, Wells Cathedral, Somerset, where the crowing bird announces a new day, bringing light after darkness; a possible reference to the Resurrection or a restoration of faith, to believe in someone or something again. The cock can also symbolise St. Peter (John 13:38), in reference to Jesus stating to Peter 'before the rooster crows tomorrow morning you will deny three times that you even know me'