



Antique snooker table or billiard table inlaid arts and crafts

£18,500



REF: 1006

Height: 83.82 cm (33")

Width: 386 cm (152")

Depth: 205 cm (80.7")

Description

This exceptional full-size billiard, snooker, or pool table, crafted from solid English oak, is circa 1910. Designed in the distinctive style of the renowned George Montague Ellwood and meticulously manufactured by Burroughes & Watts of London, it exemplifies the finest English oak craftsmanship. The table stands on eight robust oak legs, each featuring handcrafted copper feet and beautifully inlaid plaques of ebony and lacewood, all beneath an elegant, arched ebonized oak frame. The cushion edges are adorned with stylish circular inlaid motifs, showcasing the skillful artistry of English oak. For optimal playability, the table is equipped with Steel vacuum cushions and retains its original slate bed. The cushions have been re-rubbered with premium English NR rubbers, and the bed is fitted with Strachan 100% wool cloth for a superior playing experience.

About George Montague Ellwood (1875–1955): Ellwood was a celebrated artist, designer, and interior decorator, born in 1875. He studied at Holloway Art School, and later, in Paris, Berlin, Dresden, Vienna, and Camden School of Art from 1916 to 1924. In 1897, he won a gold medal for his furniture designs at the National Competition in South Kensington. Ellwood was a founding member of the Guild of Art Craftsmen, and his work for J. S. Henry was featured at the 1900 Paris Exhibition, where he won a silver medal, one of two awarded to the firm. He exhibited at numerous prestigious venues between 1899 and 1915, including four occasions at the Royal Academy.

English oak refers to a species of oak native to the British Isles, scientifically known as *Quercus robur*. It's highly valued for its durability, strength, and beautiful grain patterns. The wood has a light to medium brown color, often with a slightly reddish or golden hue, and it darkens over time, developing a rich patina. In furniture making, English oak is prized for its ability to age gracefully and its resistance to wear and tear, making it ideal for creating long-lasting, sturdy pieces like antique billiard tables. It was a popular choice in the 19th century for high-quality craftsmanship, especially for stately homes, grand furniture, and fine joinery.