



Archibald Knox. Liberty & Co., a Rare & Original Pair of Terracotta Olaf Planters

Ref: PV003717

SOLD

MAKER	Liberty & Co.
DESIGNER	Archibald Knox
PERIOD	Arts & Crafts Movement , 1900-1909
YEAR	1900
STYLE	Arts and Crafts
ORIGIN	United Kingdom
MATERIALS	Terracotta
DIMENSIONS	H: 16.93 in (43 cm) W: 24.8 in (63 cm) D: 24.8 in (63 cm)
CONDITION	Good

About this piece

Archibald Knox, made by Carter & Co.

At the East Quay Works in Poole in Dorset for **Liberty & Co.**, a rare and completely original pair of Arts and Crafts terracotta 'Olaf' planters with impressed Liberty makers marks. These are the best examples of an original pair of Olaf pots I have come across.

Archibald Knox, a leading designer at **Liberty & Co.**, designed the best of the Cymric silver, gold, and Tudric Pewter wares, with his Celtic interlacing also finding its way in the form of carving onto Liberty furniture of the period. Knox took simple Celtic knot designs and turned them into complicated, accomplished designs that have spanned the test of time, directly influenced by M. H. Baillie Scott and inspired by ancient Celtic crosses where he grew up on the Isle of Man and the illuminated manuscripts of *The Book of Kells* where he drew further inspiration from.

Knox was so prolific, he designed over 5000 items between 1898 to 1906 and also registered fourteen garden ornament designs for **Liberty & Co.**. Knox garden designs feature in the **Liberty & Co.**, 'Yule Tide Gifts' catalogue in 1903-4. For reference, see 'Archibald Knox & Mary Seaton Watts, *Modern Celtic Art Garden Pottery*. By Veronica Franklin Gould', and an article in *Style Magazine* by Dr. Stephen Martin:

https://www.drstephenmartin.com/pdf/Cymric_Ceramics_Garden_Pottery.pdf

Condition

This pair of Olaf planters are in exceptional condition, with no cracks at all and they still resonate like bells. There are a few little nicks which I have shown clearly in the images here. You can see every side in the pirouette of images assembled here for you.

Measurements

- Inside diameter: 42 cm
- Outside diameter with handles: 63 cm

Priced and sold as a pair.