

MACKINNON

FINE FURNITURE



A REGENCY ROSEWOOD WRITING TABLE

England, *circa* 1810

John McLean

John McLean (1770 – 1825), of Upper Marylebone High Street, was one of the preeminent cabinetmakers at the end of the eighteenth century and into the Regency period. His firm secured commissions from some of the greatest patrons of their day, including the 5th Earl of Jersey for Middleton Park, Oxfordshire and his London residence in Berkeley Square, as well as Edward Lascelles for Harewood House, Yorkshire. Thomas Sheraton featured one of McLean's designs for a table in his *The Cabinet-Maker and Upholsterer's Drawing Book* (1803) and noted, 'The design on the left hand was taken from one executed by Mr. M'Lean in Mary-le-bone street, near Tottenham court road, who finishes these small articles in the neatest manner'. Several pieces of furniture made by McLean retain the firm's original trade labels affixed to the inside of drawers.

McLean's work, in the Regency taste, can be typically characterised by the use of the finest rosewood veneers together with lacquered gilt-brass mounts. The combination of the rich darkness of the rosewood and the gilded mounts provided an attractive and striking contrast. The lions mask handles are also typical of his work.

In the manner of John McLean

A fine Regency rosewood writing table of small scale, the rounded rectangular cross-banded top with a gilt tooled inset writing leather above two true and two false opposing drawers with typical leopard head handles, the rectangular end supports united by a high stretcher and each with outswept legs terminating in brass box caps and castors.

Height: 2' 4³/₈" in (72 cm)

Width: 3' 2⁵/₈" in (98 cm)

Depth: 1' 11⁵/₈" in (60 cm)

Stock Number

S06.24

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