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# A PAIR OF ENGLISH PLASTER RELIEF PLAQUES OF OPPOSED SPHINX,

cast from a mid-eighteenth century original by Peter Hone,  
the winged lioness mythical beasts with human heads,

DIMENSIONS: 30cm (11<sup>3/4</sup>" ) High, 20cm (7<sup>3/4</sup>" ) Wide, 3cm (1<sup>1/4</sup>" ) Deep, each plaque

PRICE: £140 the pair

STOCK CODE: 49024



## HISTORY

The Sphinx ("The Strangler") was portrayed in ancient Egypt as a lion with a human head. But it was in Ancient Greece that the beast was portrayed with a woman's head and breasts and sometimes wings – as here. And this was the form of Sphinx that Oedipus confronted.

The Sphinx riddle was: "What goes on four feet, on two and three – but the more feet it goes on the weaker it be?". Those who could not answer correctly , unlike Oedipus, were throttled.