

SA1038215

A Robinson and Leadbeater
ivory parian ware figure of a
musketeer

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1038215

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Description

ROBINSON & LEADBEATER PARIAN MANUFACTURERS The name "parian" is based on the white marble from Mount Elias on the Greek island of Paros. Robinson and Leadbeater produced parian ware of a superb quality. They only produced parian and did so for longer than any other manufacturer. They were very overshadowed by Minton parian which had always been considered to be the best. R&L have been ignored and overlooked, partly because very little is known about them, and partly because their name is not familiar to most people. When Edward Leadbeater and Frederick Robinson bought the Glebe street works in 1865 from Giovanni Meli, they also bought the parian moulds. This gave them a high standard of quality from the beginning. The chief designer was Roland Morris who oversaw a consistency of design. Parian was a semi-transparent highly vitrified form of bisque porcelain and R&L devoted their whole production to work in the parian body. "Few if any firms rivalled the quality of parian produced at the two factories in Stoke" The R&L parian was creamy fine smooth matt and soft to the touch. They sometimes also coloured the body with pastel washes. This was probably introduced due...

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