

SA1046049

Antique Victorian Solid Silver
Salt/Butter Dish, Cast Shell
Giant Clam Design - Stephen
Smith 1876

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1046049

Date of manufacture: Victorian

Description

We are delighted to offer this magnificent and rare Victorian solid silver shell salt/butter dish with marks for Stephen Smith, London 1876. Apparent upon first glance, this marvellous silver shell is a sculptural work of art in its own right. The entire design, proportion and aesthetics are delightful and capture the essence of Rococo (revival) with asymmetric, fluid and naturalistic decorations. Formed in the shape of a giant clam, this salt cellar/butter dish takes on a nautical theme and would also make for the perfect caviar/seafood hors d'oeuvre dish today. As with many Rococo designs, these sculptural objects are embellished in all dimensions as if to invite the onlooker to handle the object and view it from different angles. No matter the viewpoint, there is an interesting, artistic and intricate detail for the viewer's delight. This shell sits on three cast feet that are wonderfully designed as corals - such a minute yet ornate detail truly conveys the sense of intricacy and the 'no costs cut' attitude in the making of this piece. The interior is fully gilt which presents a nice contrast to the silver exterior whilst also adding a layer of protection from...

Seller Details

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