

SA1069220

Antique Georgian tortoiseshell flowerhead brooch, gold cannetille and natural split pearl

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1069220****Date of manufacture: Georgian**

Dimensions

Height = 0.9 cm (0.4")

Width = 4.5 cm (1.8")

Depth = 4.5 cm (1.8")

Description

An early 19th century large Georgian tortoiseshell flowerhead brooch, centred with a natural large lustrous split pearl. Overlaid with fine filigree cannetille rope-work, granulation and beaded ball decoration in high carat yellow gold. Gold fastener on reverse with a tube hinge and "C"-catch. Western Europe, c. 1820's, George IV period. A similar example can be seen in the Victoria & Albert Museum, catalogue number M.25-1996. The colourful and flamboyant jewellery of the 1820s and 1830s could be set with up to a dozen different stones within a rich gold and coloured gold framework. Special manufacturing techniques and decorative effects were used to achieve an expensive finish using smaller amounts of gold. Although lightly made, this opulent jewellery looked heavier than earlier Neo-classical work. The highly ornate filigree work of spirals (cannetille) and granules (grainiti) added an appealing relief texture, but it was more popular on mainland Europe than in England, where clients preferred more substantial areas of plain gold. 5.32 g 4.5 cm diameter 9 mm depth to pearl Very good antique condition. Chip on reverse.

Internal Ref: 3528

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