

SA1098023

Antique Collection Grand Tour Classical Intaglios G Liberotti Circa 1820 19th C

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1098023****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Dimensions

Height = 9 cm (3.5")

Width = 20 cm (7.9")

Depth = 32 cm (12.6")

Description

A collection of 60 Grand Tour plaster intaglios in the original three-tier birch box, the upper tier with the key to the intaglios pasted under the cover, signed G. Liberotti, Roma and dating from Circa 1820. A set with the same distinct acid-green lining paper is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. This set of plaster-cast (white gesso) impressions of European masterpieces was created by Giovanni Liberotti, a nineteenth-century Roman gem engraver that specialized in making these souvenirs. Liberotti had been initially commissioned to make these impressions based on gems in the collection of Giovanni Battista Soomariva (1760–1826), a noted art patron and collector extraordinaire. Later Liberotti and other competitors would market the boxed sets in Rome to eager tourists. Each box has the impressions glued to an interior board on one side and a handwritten list in Italian of the "Selected Works," which lists each piece's name, artist, and, on occasion, location on the other side. We have become so accustomed to documenting our trips by taking photos with our phones that it is hard to imagine a time when there were no smartphones, let alone c...

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