

SA1123530

Victorian Carved Whitby Jet Shell Cameo Earrings

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1123530****Date of manufacture: Victorian**

Dimensions

Height = 5.2 cm (2.0")

Width = 1.9 cm (0.7")

Description

Elegant Victorian jet earrings with handcarved shell cameo plaques at their centre. The earrings have beautiful rope-twist carving around the teardrops and two interlinked hoops above, suspended on metal ear wires. Jet is a type of coal, made from driftwood which sinks to the floor of the sea and becomes slowly buried in mud, hardening over millions of years. Victorian jet, now extremely collectible, largely comes from the English seaside town of Whitby - not to be confused with "French jet", which is actually black glass. Jet was popularised by Queen Victoria, who wore only black mourning jewellery following the death of her beloved husband Prince Albert in 1861. Jet was expensive - both limited in supply and requiring skilled craftsmanship to carve without breaking. SIZE: Approximately 5.2cm total drop from the top of the ear wire x 1.9cm. WEIGHT: 6.5g. MATERIALS: Jet, shell, metal. HALLMARKS/STAMPS: None. CONDITION: The earrings are in very good antique condition; we see no cracking or chips to the jet or shell, just a little minor surface wear/natural imperfections. ERA: Estimated Victorian (c.1837-1901).

Seller Details

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