

SA1172629

Museum-Quality Signed
Minton Pitcher by Wenceslas
Mussill: Jacana Bird and Calla
Lilies, Retailed by Mortlock,
c.1880

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1172629

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Description

Description: This monumental Minton porcelain pitcher (Height 29.5 cm, Diameter 21 cm), c.1880, is an exceptional piece of Victorian decorative art, signed by the acclaimed artist-innovator, Wenceslas (William) Mussill (1826–1906). Mussill, born in Carlsbad (now Czech Republic), trained in Paris and exhibited at the prestigious Salon, establishing himself as a significant international fine artist. He joined Minton in the 1870s and became one of their foremost decorators, renowned for his refined naturalistic manner. Mussill was a true innovator, pioneering the use of underglaze colouring techniques in his decorations, which lent an extraordinary subtlety of colour and texture to his work. His expertise focused on aquatic scenes, exotic plants, and birds. He was influenced by the horticulturalist James Bateman, whose orchids he painted, and later worked for Brown-Westhead, Moore and Co., exhibiting at the 1889 Paris exhibition. This pitcher features a vibrant Jacana bird and luminous Arum lilies. The collaboration between Minton and its exclusive London agent, John Mortlock and Co. (Goldsmiths to the King), secured prestigious commissions for royal and aristocratic interi...

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