

SA1178307

Chinese Export “Thousand Lohan” Set of Five Cups & Saucers, late 19th Century

Price

GBP 400

| USD \$545 | EUR 467

Item Reference: SA1178307**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Description

A cohesive set of five Chinese export porcelain tea cups with five matching saucers, late Qing (c. 1880–1900). Each cup and saucer is densely painted in iron-red, gilt and coloured enamels with the celebrated “Thousand Lohan” motif: ranks of tiny arhat (Lohan) heads radiating from a central gilt roundel to form a hypnotic kaleidoscope. The decoration continues inside the cups as well as outside, demonstrating meticulous miniature brushwork typical of the Canton/Hong Kong finishing workshops. Undersides bear an overglaze iron-red shop mark ??? (Guang Yi Ji / Kwong Yick Kee), a known Cantonese/Hong Kong retailer in the export trade; this is a commercial retailer signature, not an imperial reign mark. Dimensions Five cups and five saucers. Saucer: Ø 12.7 cm; H 2.0 cm Cup: rim Ø 8.6 cm; width over handle 10.3 cm; H 4.7 cm Condition No repairs, restorations or cracks. Minor age-consistent rubbing to the gilding; otherwise excellent antique condition. Shipping & Packaging Fully tracked and insured delivery. Professional packaging with careful handling. Recycled materials used where possible. Please study all photographs as they form part of the description. Questions are w...

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