

SA1219273

Chinese Canton enamel on
copper vessel, Qing dynasty,
late 18th century

Price

GBP 350

| USD \$473 | EUR 409

Item Reference: SA1219273

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 11.3 cm (4.4")

Width = 8.2 cm (3.2")

Depth = 8.2 cm (3.2")

Description

A finely decorated Chinese Canton enamel vessel produced during the Qing dynasty and dating to the late 18th century. The vessel is formed from a thin copper body and covered with brightly coloured painted enamels, reflecting the refined Canton enamel tradition of the period. It has a cylindrical form with a gently expanding foot and a scalloped rim. Two large cartouche-shaped reserves show scenes from everyday life in imperial China, with elegantly dressed figures among pavilions and garden architecture. The panels are painted in the famille rose palette and set against a deep sapphire-blue ground enriched with floral and geometric ornament. The two principal figurative panels remain notably well preserved despite the enamel losses and surface wear seen elsewhere on the vessel. Facial features, costume details and other fine painted elements remain clearly visible. Canton painted enamels were produced by applying coloured enamels directly onto a prepared white enamel ground over a copper body. This allowed a high level of pictorial detail, closer to miniature painting than to traditional enamel decoration. From the Kangxi period onward, Canton became the principal cent...

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