

SA1226921

Pair of 19th Century Italian Grand Tour Gypsum Intaglio Cameo Panels

Price

GBP 3,500

| USD \$4,736 | EUR 4,095

Item Reference: SA1226921

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 35 cm (13.8")

Width = 33 cm (13.0")

Depth = 4 cm (1.6")

Description

A fine and rare matched pair of 19th century Italian Grand Tour souvenir panels, each housing a symmetrical arrangement of approximately twenty-one cast gypsum (plaster) intaglio and cameo medallions depicting classical subjects. Likely produced in Rome or Florence during the height of the Grand Tour trade, these panels were made as collectible keepsakes for European travellers, reproducing celebrated antique and neoclassical gems held in the great museum and private collections of the day. Each panel presents a large central oval medallion — a bearded classical male portrait bust in profile, bound with a fillet, flanked by two further oval busts of similar scale — surrounded by a graduated arrangement of smaller ovals and roundels. The subjects include profile portraits of philosophers, emperors, and mythological figures, jugate (conjoined) double portraits, narrative scenes with paired standing figures, full-length classical nudes, and one medallion bearing an inscribed tablet. The variation in carving style across the medallions is consistent with casts taken from a range of different antique originals, as was typical of period souvenir sets. The medallions are mount...

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Seller Details

Treaders Collectables

Stanford-le-Hope Essex United Kingdom

Tel: 01375 644470

International Tel: +44 1375 644470

