

SA1228291

Chinese Cloisonné Enamel Scholar's Brush Washer, Beijing, c.1890



Price

GBP 550

| USD \$743 | EUR 643

Item Reference: SA1228291**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 6.8 cm (2.7")

Width = 20 cm (7.9")

Depth = 20 cm (7.9")

Description

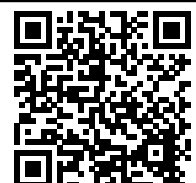
A fine antique Chinese cloisonné enamel scholar's brush washer dating to the late Qing Dynasty, circa 1890. Traditionally used as part of a scholar's writing table, this elegant vessel reflects the high standards of cloisonné craftsmanship for which Beijing became internationally renowned. The decoration was executed by soldering hundreds of fine copper wires onto the copper body to create individual cloisons, which were filled with coloured vitreous enamels before being repeatedly fired and polished. This complex process produced the brilliant colours and refined finish associated with the finest Chinese cloisonné. The substantial copper body is of compressed globular form with an inverted rim and a short ring foot. Both the exterior and interior are decorated with continuous spiral cloud scrolls and stylised lotus blossoms against a rich turquoise-blue ground. The inner walls are additionally enriched with an imbricated fish-scale wire pattern beneath translucent enamel, demonstrating the remarkable precision of the workmanship. The underside is fully counter-enamelled in matching turquoise and retains characteristic historic firing pinholes and kiln pitting. The unm...

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Seller Details

Ritas Bazaar

Hertfordshire United Kingdom



Tel: 07434 626011

International Tel: +44 7434 626011