

SA629669

Early Nineteenth Century Battery of Four Leyden Jars in Original Pine Case

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA629669****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Dimensions

Height = 26 cm (10.2")

Width = 20 cm (7.9")

Depth = 20 cm (7.9")

Description

For sale, a battery of four early nineteenth century English Leyden jars. The four glass jars each have a foil covered outer base and red painted shoulder and neck. Small degradations in the foil coverings also reveal that the inside of the jars are filled with loose foil sheets and brass rods placed into each bottle are joined by connecting rods which culminate in a central brass ring. The jars are each contained in section of a pine case which itself is lined with foil and each jar fits snugly in its section in order to maintain contact with the inner foil surface. A handle is sited on two sides of the pine case whose fixings provide further connection to the inner foil lining and the outer edge of the box. Leyden jars are essentially the first example of a capacitor, used in coincidence with an electrostatic machine, the electricity produced by such machines was transmitted to the jars to create a storing and subsequent build-up of static electricity. When the Leyden jar reached its capacity, a spark would be released and it was found that by connecting numerous Leyden jars, larger sparks could be achieved. This piece is an example of this type of early electrical...

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