

SA775406

Rare Antique Georgian Solid Silver Vinaigrette Figural Scene with Animals & Harp "Orpheus Enchanting Animals"- Joseph Taylor 1827

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA775406****Date of manufacture: Georgian**

Dimensions

Width = 4.2 cm (1.7")

Depth = 2.5 cm (1.0")

Description

We are delighted to offer this Georgian solid silver Vinaigrette box made by Joseph Taylor in Birmingham, 1827. This unique and rare vinaigrette features a highly embossed lid with a scene of Greek mythology - Orpheus playing the harp and enchanting animals. Orpheus was a musician, poet and prophet in Greek Mythology. Similar examples of the scene may be found by searching for "Orpheus Enchanting the Animals" and such example of a painting can be seen below. The vinaigrette eloquently displays the silversmith's skill and craftsmanship in making such an intricate and fine design on what is effectively a 2cm x 4cm silver panel, requiring superb attention to detail and accomplished craftsmanship. The interior of the vinaigrette is fully gilt with a presentation engraving and the original grille. The presentation engraving reads: "M.Dawson from T.Dawson June 1834. Presented to Miss Smith (in Memorium) Oct: 17. 1874." A vinaigrette box was used to store a small but strong scented sponge which was usually carried by ladies who would use the scent to either mask odours of the city (as sewage systems were not as advance as today) or as a high social distinction whe...

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