

SA798300

Döbereiner's Lamp Lighter Regency Chinoiserie Gothic Bronze Brass

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA798300****Date of manufacture: Georgian**

Dimensions

Height = 21 cm (8.3")

Width = 9.2 cm (3.6")

Depth = 9.2 cm (3.6")

Description

English made Döbereiner Lamp, circa 1825 Regency, Gothic Chinoiserie style, makers mark FOSTER & WEST/BROAD ST CITY/PATENT. Also referred to as the philosopher's lamp, which neatly underlines the link between natural sciences and philosophy. This ingenious self-igniting catalytic lamp invented by Johann Wolfgang Döbereiner in 1823, came to market more as a luxury scientific magical novelty than serious commercial competition to tinder, flint and steel. A stream of hydrogen, generated in the Kipps type apparatus issues from the mouth of the little Chinese Pagoda figure when his extinguisher is raised. The gas is directed to the small mass of spongy platinum hanging from the thin platinum wire. The platinum catalyses with the hydrogen generating such heat that the fine platinum is raised to a red heat and ignites the stream of gas. Dark, patinated bronzed brass, architectural column with Gothic arches and stiff leaf edged cover mounted with a Chinese figure with movable arms. Replaced glass vessel, missing internal glass cone, zinc and acid. Height 8,1/4" or 21cm, weight 929 grams. All in excellent condition with good original finish throughout, noting one flower on ...

Seller Details

Andrew Nethercott Antiques

Cardiff Wales United Kingdom

Tel: 07855 851121

International Tel: +44 7855 851121

