PROANTIC
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Pair Of Miniature Vietnamese Solid Silver Boxes, Circa 1900 Dolls House?



345 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Diameter : 18mm

Description

Pair of tiny Vietnamese antique miniature solid silver boxes, worked in high relief with floral and geometric decoration, dating to around 1900.
The larger box is circular with a domed lid and almost spherical body, about 18 mm in diameter. The lid is finely chased with scrolling branches and flowerheads on a stippled ground, framed by a band of engraved geometric motifs which continues around the side of the box. The lower half is similarly decorated with small floral reserves on a punched background.
The second box is a tiny oval example, slightly smaller than the circular one. It has a flat lid with central knop finial above a stylised flower, the field filled with fine scrolling and linear tooling. The side of the box is encircled by a band of engraved lozenges and lines. Both interiors show

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the original untouched patina and traces of age-related residue, typical for old village silver.
These are too small for practical use and were made as miniature presentation or novelty boxes, showing off the silversmith's skill on a miniature scale.
Unmarked, as is usual for Vietnamese silver of this period, but tested as solid silver.
Dimensions (approx.):
Round box: 1.8 cm diameter.
Oval box: slightly smaller (see photos in the hand for scale).
Condition: Good antique condition. Wear, tarnish and surface marks consistent with age and use; interiors encrusted and patinated, lids open and close well, no significant dents, losses or repairs observed.
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I am an Englishman living down in the beautiful rural South of France and spend my days searching the little brocantes, flea markets, and shops for treasures.
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items that arrive safely worldwide.
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