



Antique Victorian Solid Silver Shell Basin Dish / Bowl (40cm+) - Hunt & Roskell, London 1846



15 000 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Description

We are delighted to have acquired and offer this magnificent and substantial Victorian solid sterling silver shell basin, made by John Samuel Hunt (Hunt and Roskell), London, 1846. Stunning in size, spectacularly designed and sensational in silver artistry, this piece presents a tremendous and lasting impression. Crafted by the pre-eminent silversmiths of the 19th century, John Samuel Hunt (Hunt and Roskell - Royal Gold/Silversmiths, founded by Paul Storr), it comes as no surprise that it displays some of the most impressive and fine silversmithing of the Victorian period. Whilst typically silver shell dishes, be it butter or salt dishes are around 8-10cm, this silver shell measures over 40cm+ and weighs over 1.2kg of pure sterling silver, which is a feat in itself, but also is

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thought-provoking regarding the status and character of the owner who would have possessed this piece. Needless to say, it is most certainly not your average shell dish (nor for butter!), as in fact, this piece was probably a bespoke commission in the Victorian period based on an earlier silver shell basin and ewer of the 17th century, which can be seen in the V&A Museum: <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O7763/the-mermaid-ewer-and-basin-ewer-and-basin-unknown/> Owing to its size & breathtaking presence, this dish lends itself to be a fabulous piece of antique silverware, whether for interior decor or versatile usage. Placing this dish as a centrepiece on a dining table or perhaps on top of a sideboard or mounted on a wall would most certainly elevate the splendour of a setting. Furthermore, the dish's fluid shell design would complement any nautical themes and serve as the perfect seafood platter. Its depth allows for ample ice to be held within or perhaps even be used as a unique flower display. Better yet, upon closer examination, one can truly appreciate its intricacy and craftsmanship. In spite of its bold size, the decoration and embellishments are very fine and detailed whilst retaining and paying homage to the 17th-century style and charm. The top portion features a hand-chased and embossed effect of waves and two mythological figures. The basin features a two-texture motif where each groove features a plain finish, followed by a finely engraved and matted texture that creates a beautiful contrast and highlights its scalloped features. The central cartouche is hand-engraved with a beautiful coat of arms for the Maule family with a Baron's coronet on top. Overall, an absolutely incredible example of fine Victorian silverware with a plethora of practical uses even in the modern day. Whether it be in a classical antique setting or as a juxtaposing centrepiece in a contemporary interior, this piece would most certainly make for a lasting impression and a conversation starter. A full set of English hallmarks is present on the top of the dish just

above the figure.*Please note: all images with other items are for display purposes only, this listing is for the item mentioned in the title.Size Size (cm) W:42.5cm H:8.5Size (inches) W:16.7 H:3.34Weight: 1291 grams (41.5 Troy oz) total. Condition Excellent Condition - The shell basin is in excellent antique condition with no major issues or damage. Minimal surface wear commensurate with age and one slight area of depression in the cartouche. It is not very apparent and is mentioned for accuracy as can be seen in certain angles as shown in the images.We aim to overemphasize and state these issues to avoid disappointment and thus please rest assured they are not significant nor affect the usage of the items.Please refer to the photographs to examine the condition in further detail.Free Shipping Artisan Antiques offers free global shipping with professional, secure and discreet packaging.We will always ensure your items are packaged with the utmost care and see the delivery through to the end. In the very rare and unfortunate case of non-delivery/courier loss, you are fully covered with us and we will fully refund you. *All parcels are insured - please rest assured all shipping liabilities other than import/customs duty are covered by Artisan Antiques. *Colours of the product may slightly differ from the photos due to different computer screens & lighting conditions*- Price negotiations may be possible under certain criteria, please contact us via telephone (07578761640)or email (info@artisanantiques.net) -