



Double-sided Enamel & Gold Pendant: The Virgin & Christ. French, 17th Century.



4 950 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Gold

Description

Double-sided Painted Enamel and Gold Pendant:
The Virgin and Christ. French, first half of the
17th century. Measurements Enamel pendant: 2.8
× 2.2 cm. Total weight: 6.6 g. Chain: English
hallmarked 18 ct gold, length 44 cm.

Description An oval, double-faced painted enamel
pendant, each side bearing a bust--one of the
Virgin and the other of Christ--executed in
polychrome enamel with subtle modelling of
flesh tones and finely drawn hair and drapery.
The Virgin is shown in three-quarter view, head
inclined and wearing a blue headband and mantle;
Christ likewise is rendered with long, curled hair
and a red cloak over a blue garment. The
handling--careful stippling and thin, layerable
enamel colours to render warm cheeks and soft
shadows--is characteristic of early

Dealer

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seventeenth-century French devotional miniatures. The enamel is set within a simple gold bezel and was almost certainly intended for intimate devotional use: its scale and iconography suggest it may originally have been suspended from a rosary or worn as a personal reliquary pendant. The piece has been later mounted on a fine, hallmarked English 18 ct gold chain, making it immediately wearable while preserving the enamel as the primary focus. Condition: unrestored and untouched; the painted surfaces retain their original enamelling in a fine state of preservation. Comparisons See a closely related double-sided enamel medallion with the Virgin and Christ in the collection of the British Museum (Museum no. 1978,1002.542) for comparison of iconography and technique.

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