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## Chinese Qing Dynasty Canton Enamel Gaiwan Set, C. 1850-1860



700 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Ceramic

### Description

An attractive Chinese Canton enamel gaiwan set dating to the Qing dynasty, c. 1850-1860.

Comprising a saucer, tea cup and matching lid, the set embodies one of the most recognisable forms of traditional Chinese tea culture.

The surface is richly decorated in painted enamels on copper with a vibrant green ground, scrolling black foliage, pink and blue flowers, and finely painted landscape cartouches. Traditional Chinese motifs including Taihu scholar rocks, bamboo and pavilions create a distinctive decorative scheme associated with high-quality Canton enamels of the period.

The gaiwan carries symbolic significance within Chinese philosophy, where the saucer represents the Earth, the lid Heaven and the cup Man. This harmony of form and meaning has ensured the

### Dealer

#### Gillers Antiques

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popularity of the gaiwan for centuries.

The set remains in excellent antique condition, particularly when compared with many surviving examples of mid-19th-century Canton enamels.

The enamel retains the slight orange-peel texture, kiln speckling and natural copper patina characteristic of the period. A rare survival of traditional Chinese tea culture, preserved in remarkably good condition for its age.

#### Measurements

Overall weight: 154 g

Saucer: 11.4 cm diameter × 2.2 cm high (4.5'' × 0.9'')

Cup with lid: 7 cm high (2.8'')

Cup only: 8.2 cm diameter × 5.3 cm high (3.2'' × 2.1'')

#### Condition

Excellent antique condition. There are a few minor surface scratches to the white enamel inside the cup, on the interior of the lid and on the underside of the saucer. These marks are barely noticeable and do not detract from the overall appearance.

#### Shipping & Packaging

Fully tracked and insured delivery.

Shipping cost includes professional packaging, careful handling and secure postage.

Carefully packed using recycled materials where possible.

Please study all photographs as they form part of the description.

Questions are welcome.