



**PROANTIC**  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

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## 6 Dishes, Model By François-thomas Germain For The King Of Portugal, Silver



3 650 EUR

Signature : Mergulhao Lisbonne

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état, restants de vermeil

Diameter : 22 ,5 cm

Description
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Sumptuous series of six Transition style plates in sterling silver of the first title, engraved with laurel branches and decorated with scrolls, flowers and foliage. They are hallmarked with the Portuguese guarantee mark and the boutique brand of the jeweler Mergulhao in Lisbon. There are traces of vermeil. They probably date from the twentieth century. Interesting detail: they are the exact replica of the plates that the flamboyant Parisian goldsmith Francois-Thomas Germain made in 1759 for the King of Portugal and which are today in the National Museum in Lisbon. The Portuguese rulers were very good clients of the Germain dynasty of goldsmiths. It is thanks to their sumptuous orders and those of Catherine II of Russia , who survived revolutions and other wars, that we can today try to imagine what was

Dealer
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Affligem 1790

th immensetreasure of gold and silver at display  
in the royal château of Versailles before the  
devastating French Revolution . The Hermitage  
museum in Saint-Pétersburg has a preparatory  
drawing of these dishes which also indicates the  
price of the fabrication : seventy-five pounds  
excluding the price of the precious metal. His  
dazzling success with the European reigning  
houses did not prevent our "ordinary goldsmith  
(but megalomaniac and spendthrift all the same)  
of the king" from causing one of the biggest  
bankruptcies of the reign of Louis XV and from  
being ejected from the Louvre by the intendant.  
The plates weigh 3000 grams for the six.