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XVIII-XIX CENTURY
FURNITURE & DECORATIVE ARTS



IMPORTANT VIENNESE NEF BY HERMANN BÖHM

Dimensions: H: 31 in / 79 cm W: 15 in / 37.5 cm D: 8.5 in / 21.5 cm

7751

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Constructed in silver, bearing the maker's marks, and exquisitely enamelled; the boat form nef, with a detachable enamelled cover, having enamelled ellipses, polychrome decorated with Classic scenes from antiquity both to the interior and exterior, is supported on a domed foot, having the stem cast with four stylised dolphins interspersed with tritons, and incorporating a pavilion of musicians and spectators, with six oarsmen; a central mast, under sail, and dressed with spirally decorated enamels, and is topped with a flag, rises from the pavilion, itself flanked by ovoid containers.

Vienna, Circa 1880

Literature:

Hermann Böhm was one of the best and most well-known representatives of the Neo-Renaissance goldsmiths art, creating precious objects made in 16th-century style from polychrome enamels, rock crystal, semi-precious stones, pearls and niello. He was inspired by the 16th century Kunstkammer objects in the Kaiser's collections. In 1866, he founded the "Gold and Silverware Factory".

A characteristic feature of Böhm's fine enamel works is the meticulous, detailed painting of the



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reverse sides of objects in delicate colours.