Finch & Co



EROTIC FRENCH PRESSED BURR MAPLE SNUFF BOX

A SUPERB EROTIC FRENCH PRESSED BURR MAPLE SNUFF BOX
THE LID WITH A TITLED VIEW OF THE 'COLONNE DE LA PLACE VENDOME'. THE INTERIOR OF THE BASE WITH A TURNED AND THREADED TORTOISESHELL LINER REVEALING A CONCEALED MINIATURE PAINTING ON IVORY OF AN AMOUROUS COUPLE
FINE ORIGINAL CONDITION
CIRCA 1810 – 1820
SIZE: 9CM DIA., 2CM HIGH – 3½ INS DIA., ¾ INS HIGH

LITERATURE

THESE BOXES MADE FROM BURR MAPLE OR SOMETIMES BIRCH WERE FIRST TURNED TO A SOLID BLOCK OF THE REQUIRED SIZE AND THICKNESS AND THEN STEAMED AND IMPRESSED WITH A DESIGN FROM MEDAL DIES. AFTER HARDENING, A HORIZONTAL SAW CUT WAS MADE THROUGH THE BLOCK, THE TWO LAYERS RECESSED TO FORM A BOX AND LID, AND THEN LINED WITH TORTOISESHELL. A VERY RARE FEW OF THESE BOXES HAVE SECRET COMPARTMENTS CONCEALED IN THE BASE, SOME CONTAIN A PROFILE OF NAPOLEON AND SOME LIKE THIS ONE AN EROTIC SCENE.