Finch & Co



ITALIAN ROMAN MICRO MOSAIC OF THE 'IL PONTE NOMENTANO'

A FINE ITALIAN ROMAN MICRO MOSAIC OF THE 'IL PONTE NOMENTANO'
SET IN A TORTOISESHELL AND GOLD BOX, INVENTORY LABELS TO THE UNDERSIDE OF THE LID
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 2.5CM HIGH, 8CM DIA. – 1 INS HIGH, 3¼ INS DIA.

LITERATURE

IN THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE GRAND TOUR SMALL BOXES DECORATED WITH TINY MOSAICS MADE FROM ANCIENT COLOURED MARBLES WERE THE PERFECT SOUVENIRS. TRAVELLERS RETURNING TO THE LONDON FOG WITH A MINIATURE IMAGE OF THE GREAT RUIN OF THE COLISEUM FOR INSTANCE, NOT ONLY POSSESSED A MEMORY OF THE SIGHTS OF ANCIENT ROME, BUT ALSO A SCRAP OF THE MATERIAL USED TO MAKE THE ORIGINAL IMPERIAL CITY.