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CARVED IVORY OVAL PORTRAIT MEDALLION OF THE YOUNG QUEEN VICTORIA (REIGNED 1837-1901)

A FINE CARVED IVORY OVAL PORTRAIT MEDALLION OF THE YOUNG QUEEN VICTORIA (REIGNED 1837-1901)

SIGNED ' N SCHRÖDL.F '

A LABEL TO THE REVERSE INSCRIBED IN INK READING: 'VICTORIA DE KENT. REINE D'ANGLETERRE 1819-1901 COURONNEÉ EN 1837 Í WESTMINSTER IMPÉRATRICE DES INDES EN 1876 *· PORTRAIT Í 25 ANS PAR NORBERT-MICHAËL SCHRODL NÉ EN 1816 ET MORT EN 1890 À DRESDE'

THE IVORY PLAQUE BOUND IN A BRASS FRAME

CIRCA 1841

SIZE: 14.5CM HIGH, 10CM WIDE, 2.5CM DEEP - 5¾ INS HIGH, 4 INS WIDE, 1 INS DEEP

BELGIUM CITES: 2025/BE01022/CE

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LITERATURE

THE AUSTRIAN IVORY CARVER AND SCULPTOR NORBERT-MICHAEL SCHRODL WAS BORN AT SCHWECHAT NEAR VIENNA IN APRIL 1816 AND DIED IN DRESDEN ON 1ST DECEMBER 1890. HIS TWO SONS, NORBERT AND LEOPOLD, WERE ALSO ARTISTS AND THE FAMILY TRAVELLED THROUGH EUROPE FROM COURT TO COURT TO GAIN COMMISSIONS. THE IVORIES TURNED AND CARVED IN AUSTRIA AND GERMANY FROM THE 16TH TO THE 18TH CENTURIES ARE AMONGST THE FINEST EVER MADE AND IT IS FROM THIS TRADITION THAT NORBERT SCHRODL CAME. HIS WORK NATURALLY FOLLOWS ON FROM THE PORTRAIT MEDALLIONS OF THE 18TH CENTURY CREATED BY CARL AUGUST LUCKE 'THE ELDER', AND HIS SON OR NEPHEW, 'THE YOUNGER'.

ON FEBRUARY 10TH 1840 QUEEN VICTORIA MARRIED HER FIRST COUSIN PRINCE ALBERT OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA. SHE HAD FIRST MET HIM IN MAY 1836 WHEN HER MOTHER, THE DUCHESS OF KENT, TOGETHER WITH HER BROTHER KING LEOPOLD OF BELGIUM ARRANGED A MEETING. WILLIAM IV STRONGLY DISAPPROVED OF ANY MATCH WITH THE SAXE-COBURGS, FAVOURING INSTEAD THE SUIT OF PRINCE ALEXANDER, THE SECOND SON OF THE PRINCE OF ORANGE. HOWEVER, VICTORIA WAS KEENLY AWARE OF ALL THESE MATRIMONIAL PLANS AND CRITICALLY APPRAISED A PARADE OF ELIGIBLE PRINCES. SHE DISLIKED ALEXANDER, DESCRIBING HIM AS 'VERY PLAIN', BUT OF ALBERT SHE WROTE 'EXTREMELY HANDSOME... HE HAS A BEAUTIFUL NOSE AND A VERY SWEET MOUTH WITH FINE TEETH; BUT THE CHARM OF HIS COUNTENANCE IS HIS EXPRESSION, WHICH IS MOST DELIGHTFUL'.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION

EX FINCH AND CO CATALOGUE NUMBER 26, ITEM NUMBER 81, SUMMER 2016

EX BELGIAN PRIVATE COLLECTION

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION

SEE: FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 16, ITEM NO. 40 FOR A PAIR OF LARGE IVORY PORTRAIT MEDALLIONS OF THE 11TH DUKE OF HAMILTON AND HIS WIFE, MARIE AMELIE ELIZABETH CAROLINE OF BADEN, ATTRIBUTED TO NORBERT SCHRÖDL

CF: AN IVORY PORTRAIT MEDALLION OF A LADY SIGNED BY NORBERT SCHRÖDL IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN MUSEUM ACC.NO.1976.422.6

BELGIUM CITES: 2025/BE01022/CE