Finch & Co



ENGLISH ENAMEL HAT BADGE FINELY PAINTED WITH A MINIATURE SCENE IN OF ADAM AND EVE IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN

AN ENGLISH ENAMEL HAT BADGE FINELY PAINTED WITH A MINIATURE SCENE IN OF ADAM AND EVE IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN THE TREE WITH AN ENTWINED SNAKE THE PIERCED SILVER SURROUND SET WITH FACETED CUT STEEL THE REVERSE UNADORNED AND OPEN

17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 5CM DIA. – 2 INS DIA.

LITERATURE

FLEEING FROM RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION, THE FRENCH CRAFTSMAN JEAN PETITOT ARRIVED IN LONDON IN ABOUT 1636 BRINGING WITH HIM A TECHNIQUE HE HAD LEARNED FROM JEAN TOUTIN FOR ENAMELLING THAT WAS TO REVOLUTIONISE ENGLISH JEWELLERY. THE TECHNIQUE OF PAINTING MINIATURE SCENES AND PORTRAITS IN ENAMEL EVOLVED BY TOUTIN USED GOLD AS A BASE FOR PAINTING IN DELICATE COLOURS ON A WHITE ENAMEL GROUND. PETITOT'S OUTPUT WAS PROLIFIC AND OTHER SKILLED ENAMELLERS QUICKLY FOLLOWED TO PRODUCE BADGES, BROOCHES AND PENDANTS. BY THE END OF THE 17TH CENTURY THE DESIGNS FOR THESE SMALL PRECIOUS LUXURY ARTICLES, WORN BY BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, WERE OFTEN INSPIRED BY AND COPIED FROM FAMOUS PAINTINGS.