

ROMAN SILVER BOWL WITH RICHLY ORNAMENTED HANDLES

Roman, 1st century B.C. - 1st century A.D.

Silver

H: 5 cm (2 in) W: 27.5 cm (10.8 in)

Reference: 15860



This beautifully crafted silver bowl is a tribute to Roman republican craftsmanship in the sensitivity and precision of the ornaments' details. The shallow bowl was lathe-turned on a disk-foot, while the underside is centered by a dotted ring; the rim slightly splayed and finished with a beaded edge and a band of kymation decoration. The bowl has two separately cast and slightly up-turned crescent handles with some openwork. It is further decorated by acanthus-scroll and foliate ornament in relief, and a duck head at each end. The underside is crafted with wishbone supports, each with a leaf-shaped terminal.

CONDITION

This bowl is intact and in an exceptional state of conservation with a pristine surface, partially due to the thickness and quality of the silver used.

PROVENANCE

Ex-Dutch private collection, ca. 1950s

PUBLISHED

Phoenix Ancient Art Crystal 8

Phoenix Ancient Art Catalog no.1 2006

EXHIBITED

Crystal 8 Display 2018

Palm Beach 2006

BIBLIOGRAPHY

HILL D.K., *Greek and Roman Metalware*, Baltimore, 1976, n. 74.

WARD-PERKINS J.-CLARIDGE A., *Pompeii AD 79*, Boston 1978, n. 313-314.

On Roman silver vessels:

PIRZIO BIROLI STEFANELLI L., *L'argento des Romani, Vasellame da tavola e d'apparato*, Roma, 1991.