

A very rare George III Neo Classical Argyle made in London in 1779
by Andrew Fogelberg.

£4,500



Description

This rare piece is modelled in the "Drum" form and displays an applied beaded base and rim. This example has an outer water jacket which can be filled via the sparrow beak side spout, with hinged cover. The water jacket would then keep the sauce or gravy hot and thin. This piece has a very elegant slender, "swan neck" pouring spout and wicker bound scroll side handle. The slightly domed cover terminates in a stylised artichoke finial and the front of the main body displays an oval Classical Cameo medallion, with reeded frame depicting Cupid holding a butterfly. This was a characteristic of the work of Andrew Fogelberg and was based on the Tassie paste gems which were popular in England at this date. The work of Andrew Fogelberg shows consistently high quality in terms of design and production, which is in no way surprising when he was the Master of Paul Storr, recognised as the greatest of all British silversmiths. The Argyle is in excellent condition, is of a very good weight, and is fully marked on the base and with the maker's mark and sterling mark on the cover. Argyles are generally accepted to have been containers for gravy or sauce, the design incorporating some form of heat preserving element. The credit for inventing these pieces goes to the 3rd Duke of Argyll, as he and his Duchess became tired of their sauces arriving cold at the dining table at Inverary Castle. Their greatest period of popularity was from 1765-1820. This is a particularly rare design, especially with the Cupid medallion. The Duke and his Seat are shown in the image stream. Height: 4.5 inches, 11.25 cm. Base Diameter: 3.45 inches, 8.63 cm. Weight: 14oz.