An extremely rare George III Secret Compartment Snuff Box made in Birmingham in 1817 by John Shaw.

£2,850

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REF: 375389

Description

The box is modelled in a curved form and is engraved all over with diamond lozenge pattern each containing prick dot decoration on a scratch engraved ground. This piece has an attractive shaped thumbpiece and an oval bright cut cartouche on the cover which is engraved with a set of initials. The interior is very well marked and finely gilded. Most interestingly is that the side has a secret hinged compartment with a frame inside to insert a love token, possibly a tiny portrait miniature or a platted panel of hair. This is the first time we have ever seen this design, which leads us to think that it may well have been a special commission, for a betrothed couple or to keep a memento mori. The box is in outstanding condition.Length: 2.5 inches, 6.25 cm.Width: 1.75 inches, 4.38 cm.Height: 0.75 inches, 1.88 cm.

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