

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

Pair of Victorian sterling silver salt cellars

Edward Ker Reid

Sold



REF: 9555

Height: 51 mm (2.01")

Diameter: 63 mm (2.48")

Weight: 156 g

Description

Elegant suite of four antique silver salt cellars designed in a rococo style that was popular in the mid-1700s. The compressed circular bowls have applied rams head and laurel leaf garlands applied around the bodies. Each is mounted on a spreading circular base, hand-chased with garlands and swags. Both bases and rims feature delicate bead decorations and the interiors of the bowls are gilded, protecting them from salt corrosion.

Salt cellars have been around since ancient Roman times. Salt was a prized possession, and in the Middle Ages, a large silver dish of salt was considered a status symbol. It was placed prominently in front of the host to indicate his prosperity.

The rococo style is distinguished from the more austere neoclassical and Empire styles by introducing organic forms, often embossed and applied in high-relief with swirling foliage and flowers.