

Round gold and enamel bonbonnière or snuffbox, late 18th century

A round candy box or snuff box with a separate lid, entirely covered in silver-grey enamel on a guilloché background of spiral waves. The centre of the lid is decorated with a pretty three-colour rosette on a gold background encircled by white enamel. The border, also in two-tone enamel on gold, harmoniously enhances the whole. Master goldsmith M.C with 2 remedies and quince, for Mathieu Coiny.

Mathieu III Coiny (1755-1788) was a well-known silversmith and jeweller, part of a dynasty of the same name. The son of Mathieu II Coiny, master goldsmith in Versailles, he received his master's degree in Paris on 17 September 1755. His shop, first set up in 1756 on Pont Notre Dame, was located on Rue de l'arbre sec from 1783 to 1788.

Era: late 18th century.

Materials: gold, enamel.

Dim: Diam 6,7 cm (2,63 in)/ H2,4 cm (0,94 in).

Weight: 103,9 gr.

Master goldsmith: M.C for Mathieu Coiny.

Charge mark: Jean Baptiste Fouache, 1774-1780.

Guaranty hallmark: Letter M crowned for 1775.

Discharge mark: Monkey's head or dog, 1775-1780.

Handshake mark: 1780-1789.