

Snuffbox with an erotic miniature from the 19th century

Era: early 19th century.

Materials: tortoiseshell, ivory, gold.

Dim: W 3,5 in (8,8 cm) D 2,6 in (6,7 cm) H 1 in (2,5 cm).

Weight: 4.9 oz (138 g).

Oval snuff box in brown tortoiseshell, entirely lined with gold. The hinged lid is decorated with a floral medallion in several different gold tones. The gold framework is intricately sculpted, and a small, shell-shaped button serves to open the box. The interior bears the inscription: Mad nev de C to RB. The snuff box features a secret compartment that contains a miniature on ivory representing an erotic scene set indoors. Most likely English work. Some wear to the interior of the snuff box. Circa 1820-1830.