

19th century Viennese Silver and enamel table decor, Karl Rössler

Era: 19th century.

Materials: silver, agate, enamel.

Dim: W 3.93 in (10cm)/ D 1.96 in (5 cm)/ H 5.11 in (13 cm).

Austrian silver marks.

Greyhound head.

Silversmith: K.R for Karl Rössler

Table decor in silver and enamel of Vienna. This decorative element represents a swing hanging from a twisted mat finished with a floral pattern. On either side of the arm are suspended two monkeys astride a barrel, one of which is finely engraved "Vin de bourgogne". Each part of this table element is finely chiseled and enhanced with black, white enamel. The monkey costumes are embellished with translucent green and red enamel. This set is based on a rectangular gray agate base resting on four legs. Vienna circa 1880-1890.

This table item is characteristic of the historical style that developed in Vienna during the second half of the 19th century. An interest in objects from the 16th and 17th centuries was growing, and as a result, numerous enamel pieces set in lapis lazuli, quartz, or silver made their appearance. These pieces were heavily influenced by the Renaissance and the tastes of curiosity shops that were in vogue during the 16th and 16th centuries. These pieces were displayed at international expositions where Viennese artists competed with artists from the more distant past.