

Fabergé Portrait Album, 1908-1916.

High end and very high quality English made leather bound portrait album, typical of types imported by Fabergé firm for sale to the Russian market, undoubtedly in its St. Petersburg showroom (rather than in Moscow) before 1917. 8 ½" X 11" X 1 ¼" [22 X 28 X 6 cm]. Centered on the front cover is a hallmarked Fabergé silver plaque of a heraldic griffin.

Excellent condition.

The front cover displays a large, beautifully conceived and executed silver plaque of a heraldic griffin. It is clearly impressed with two Russian hallmarks: the first is the Kokoshnik head looking to the right (with the tiny Greek letter "alpha" indicating St. Petersburg manufacture) with the silver content "84" and a second showing the initials "Я А" that indicate that Karl Gustav Halmar Armfelt was the workmaster. The style of Kokoshnik mark dates the manufacture of the plaque to the 1908-1917 time period.

The album has a spring loaded gilt brass closure (impressed with the words "TRADE MARK" and the outline of a bee). There are four gilt brass studs mounted on the reverse to prevent scuffing. Seventeen thick, gilt edged pages decorated in several places with nautical scenes (including one battle image of a British warship) show minimal use other than occasional minor tearing on the edges of a few openings caused when the original portraits (now gone) were either inserted or removed. The leather binding is still supple and shows minimal wear with only very minor scuffing and rubbing at the top and bottom of the spine.

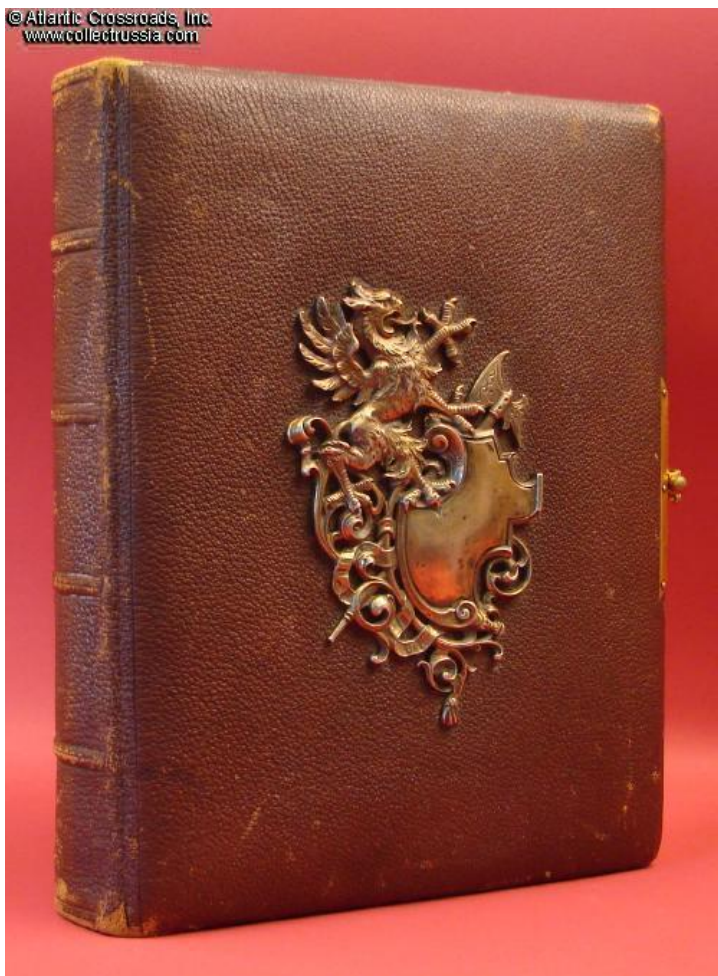
Armfelt arrived in St. Petersburg in 1886 and worked for Faberge from 1895 until 1916. Multi-talented, he successfully worked in both gold and silver as well as with hardstones. He also created miniature picture frames, various objets d'art and was an accomplished enamellist.

A truly remarkable historical artifact in superior condition illustrating the uncommon quality of items typically used and displayed in Russian upper class and aristocratic homes before the Revolution.

Item# 25300

\$2,200.00

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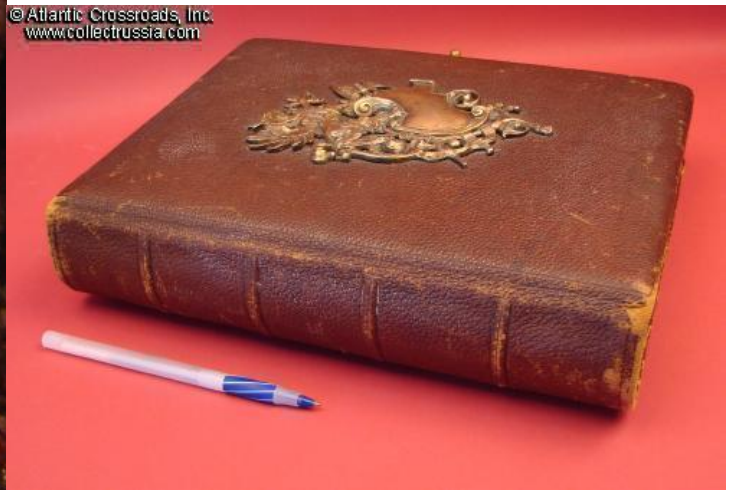




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