

Desktop plaque with sculptured profile of Yuri Gagarin, world's first man in space, 1970s - 80s.

Manufactured of heavy material with a bronze coating and an anodized aluminum frame. Diameter 4". Shows the name of the artist of the original artwork on the shoulder: "N. Sokolov".

Made in the Leningrad Mint and so marked on the reverse. Has a swivel base and a sturdy wire stand. Unlike some similar pieces that we have seen, this has a keyhole shaped mount on the reverse that can also serve as provision for hanging on the wall.

In excellent, near mint condition. There are none of the usual dings and scratches visible; the finish is beautifully even, free of scuffs, blemishes or oxidation spots. There are only a few minor marks on the reverse, not detractive.

The original mold for this portrait was created by the acclaimed Soviet artist Nikloay Sokolov, who won as many as five Stalin Prize awards in the course of his career. He was actually best known for his graphics, especially propaganda cartoon drawings he made during WW2 as a member of famous Kukryniksy team, but most collectors associate him with this iconic likeness of Lenin and with a similarly iconic likeness of Stalin. Similar mint-made plaques with the portrait of Lenin created by Sokolov were manufactured by the Leningrad Mint during the same era. The plaques with Gagarin's portrait however were apparently produced in far lesser numbers and as the result, they are much less common.

Please note, penny in our photo is for size reference.

Item# 33038

\$80.00

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