

## Large porcelain serving dish "Grapevine", by Dulevo Porcelain Factory, dated 1960.

Size 10 1/2" wide, stands 1 3/4" tall. Rather massive, weighs a little over 2 lbs. The centerpiece is a single grape leaf accompanied by a few grapes left over from their clusters. The centerpiece is surrounded by a grapevine-themed ornament, 6 iterations of which run around the circumference of the dish. The bottom features the maker's mark (fig. # 244 in Volume One of Marks on Soviet Porcelain, Faience, and Majolica, 1917-1991 by Nasonova et al). This version of the logo was in use from 1951 to 1964. The QC-assigned 3rd quality rating and the year of manufacture, 1960, is under the logo.

In very good condition. The dish has been in use but weathered it quite well. Only the green space around the centerpiece shows microscopic scuffs and scratches, probably from contact with utensils. The gilt is virtually intact everywhere, and there are no visible cracks, scratches or scuffs anywhere else. There are a few very small imperfections on the reverse side acquired during glazing - namely, tiny bubbles and spots not covered with glaze. Being on the reverse, these are not detractive.

Overall, this is a fine period piece with a lot of "presence" and beauty.

Dulevo Porcelain Factory is the biggest Russian facility producing a wide assortment of porcelain and faience household, presentational and purely decorative items. It was founded in 1832 by a Russian merchant, Terentiy Kuznetsov. By the end of the 19th century, the Kuznetsovs had created a porcelain manufacturing empire producing 75% of all Russian porcelain and faience, famous for its high quality standards. In 1918, the factory was nationalized and renamed into Dulevo Newspaper Pravda Porcelain Factory. The factory stayed open during WW2 manufacturing items needed for the war effort. In the post-Soviet period, the factory first was in co-ownership by its personnel but in 2012 was bought out by a couple of private Russian entrepreneurs.

Please note that the teaspoon in our photo is for size reference only.

Item# 40289

**\$130.00**

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