

Table medal commemorating the life and talent of Ivan Krylov, a classical Russian poet and fabulist, issued in 1977.

In bronze, measures 59.2 mm wide, weighs 128 g. The artwork in high 3D relief is typical of table medals of the Soviet era. The obverse features a portrait of the fabulist in high 3D relief.

The reverse is as tastefully decorative as it is deeply symbolic. The candle holder has two side cups resembling scales of justice, and the candle symbolizes the poet's talent bringing to light human nature to be weighed.

The model of the table medal, struck at the Leningrad Mint in 1977, is the work of their highly esteemed die-cutter N.A. Sokolov. Unlike most table medals of this period, the sculptor's name and date of issue are not struck anywhere on the medal. Total circulation of this medal is only 850 pieces which is very low by Soviet standards.

In superb condition. The raised details are extremely crisp. The entire surface of the medal is completely free of any blemish or wear.

Ivan Andreevich Krylov is famous as a publicist, poet, publisher of satirical journals. But most of all he is famous as the author of 236 fables, gathered into 9 collections which were published in vivo. Along with his original fables, many of them were creatively re-worked fables written by Jean De La Fontaine. Many lines from Krylov's fables became catch phrases, widely in use by Russian speakers.

/See Commemorative [Table] Medal of the Soviet Period, 1919 - 1991, fig. 1075/.

Please note, the coin in our photo is for size reference.

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