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Ode to Joy ("Ода к Радости"), Immense Photo Album of Russian and Soviet Porcelain in Yuri Traisman Collection, 2008.

VERY large format, 13" x 9 ½" x 1 ¾". Massive, weighs almost 7 lbs. 10 oz., 527 pp. Hardcover, originally with a dust jacket but this copy is, unfortunately, missing it. Printed on heavy-stock matte coated paper to enjoy the photos without the irritating glare of reflected light. Published by "Pinakotheke" Publishing House, Moscow, in association with Distributed Art Publishers, New York. Russian and English text. The album presents exceptionally high-quality high-resolution large photos of porcelain items tracing the timeline of Russian porcelain from the 18th century to present time. Each is accompanied by detailed info-tags in Russian and English. Each period section of the album is preceded by a large essay on it, also in Russian and English.

In outstanding, excellent, near-mint condition. Despite the missing dust cover and the enormous weight and size of the tome, the cover acquired only minuscule corner bumps but no other damage of any kind. As for the internal pages, they are simply pristine.

Yuri Traisman is a major collector of Russian and Soviet porcelain, known also for his monumental efforts to popularize Russian art. In particular, this album contains items from the "Ode To Joy" exhibition, one of several large-scale exhibition projects organized by him. It was shown in 11 museums around the world, such as the State Tretiakov Gallery, the State Russian Museum, the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, the Hillwood Museum of Russian Art (Washington DC), the McMullen Museum of Art at the Boston College (Chestnut Hill, MA), and the Bruce Museum of Art and Science (Greenwich, CT).

This "Ode" will give many hours of joy not only to a collector but to anyone with appreciation for beaty, history and art.

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