

Porcelain Sugar Bowl with Lid, by Kuznetsov Factory, 1889-1917.

Stands approx. 4" to the tip of the lid's handle. Uncommonly designed with the foot much wider than the lip, 5" and 3.5", respectively. The artwork is in polychrome paints and gold. The sparse airy design of the artwork creates a wonderful contrast with the bottom-heavy shape of the bowl. Delicate hand-painted floral arrangements are done in the best traditions of Russian artists working with porcelain: not one of them is truly identical to another, even though some of the small ones look the same.

Maker marked on the bottom. The mark is not factory-specific but is one of the "umbrella" trademarks used to identify the entire Kuznetsov Partnership company. This particular graphic was in use from 1889 to 1917.

In near-mint, excellent condition. There is no wear or damage visible to the naked eye except for slight wear to the gilt on the lid's handle and the narrow line running around the lip.

Kuznetsov's porcelain empire goes back to 1832 when Terenty Kuznetsov, son of a peasant, at the time a merchant and co-owner of a faience factory, bought a plot of land in Dulevo. The marshy heavily forested plot was not good for agriculture but had the right "ingredients" for building a ceramics manufacture - lots of firewood and cheap workforce in local peasantry. Excellent business sense and understanding of the profitability of high-quality products helped Kuznetsov to create a porcelain manufacturing empire by the end of the XIX century. He left the business to his son Sidor who, in turn, left it to his son Matvey. The "M.C." (M.S.) on the trademark are the initials of Matvey Sidorovich (patronymic, meaning "Sidor's son") Kuznetsov, grandson of Terenty.

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

Item# 41317

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