

## Hand-painted porcelain tea cup & saucer pair Pansies, by Dulevo Factory, 1924 - 1927.

The cup stands approx. 2 ¼" tall, 3 ¼" across at the lip, slightly less at the base. The saucer is almost 1" tall and 5 ¾" across at the lip. A charming delicate ornament of violet pansies and salad-green leaves runs around the rim of both cup and saucer against the solid background of a wide gold-plated band. As is always the case with hand-painted ornaments, none of the elements that look the same are truly identical.

Maker marked on the bottom. This version of the Dulevo Porcelain Factory logo, which includes the first version of the USSR State Emblem with six scrolls representing the first six republics comprising the Soviet Union, was in use only from 1924 to 1927 (fig. # 220 in Volume One of Marks on Soviet Porcelain, Faience, and Majolica, 1917-1991 by Nasonova et al).

In very good to excellent condition. The gold plating at the lip of both cup and saucer shows mild wear. There are a few occasional tiny contact points and hair-thin scratches on the porcelain, however they become visible only if the item is tilted to reflect a bright light. Only one chip, to the left of the handle, is easily visible. Judging by a splotch of violet paint in it, it is a manufacturing accident. There are no significant post-manufacturing imperfections. Overall, the pair has excellent presentation, the wear adding to its air of age and authenticity, not detracting from it.

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 standards of quality. 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.

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**\$280.00**

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