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Auction	Decorative Art
Date	18.05.2022, ca. 14:12
Preview	13.05.2022 - 10:00:00 bis 16.05.2022 - 18:00:00

LARGE VASE WITH THE PORTRAIT OF EMPEROR WILLIAM I.

KPM. Berlin.

Date: 1871-1888.

Technique: Porcelain, decorated with cobalt blue and gold, grisaille painting.

Description: A large cobalt blue amphora-shaped vase, decorated with a rich, partially etched gold décor. Mounted on an octagonal, stepped porcelain pedestal. On the front an oval grisaille portrait of Emperor Wilhelm I of Prussia (1797-1888) in field marshal uniform, framed by a finely etched gold bordure which is topped by an imperial crown between laurel branches. Partially gilded eagle head handles made of bisque porcelain on the sides.

Measurement: Height 61,5cm.

Mark: Sceptre mark in underglaze blue, red orb.

Provenance:

Private collection Rhineland-Palatinate

Ornate vases, produced by the Royal Porcelain Manufactory in Berlin as personal gifts to personalities loyal to the emperor and those in high positions, were very popular since the end of the 18th century. Such Renaissance-style vases, with laurel framed portraits topped by the imperial crown, were reserved for the Prussian Court and were exclusively commissioned by Wilhelm I of Prussia. The model was presumably designed by Julius Wilhelm Mantel, who had been the model master of the manufactory since 1841 and had already designed a similar version of the so-called Victoria Vase in 1860 in honour of Crown Princess Victoria of Great Britain.

The enclosed letter, signed by emperor Wilhelm I and empress Augusta, makes this vase gift a very exceptional example of this practice.

The letter is dated June 1879 and states that the vase was presented on the occasion of the recipient's congratulations on the wedding anniversary of the imperial couple on the 11th of June.

Here is the transcription:

To the Privy Chief Justice and District Court Presidents von Breuning.

It did us a great deal of happyness to see from your letter of June 9th, with how warmly you and your wife remembered us on the occasion of the anniversary on the 11th of June. Receive Our thanks for your congratulations with the assurance that We will not cease to dedicate kind remembrance to you.

Berlin/Coblenz, 21/22 June 1879

Wilhelm Augusta.

Estimate: 2.000 € - 3.000 €; Hammer: 7.000 €
