# Antique German sterling silver model of an Indian elephant

Bruckmann & Söhne

£24,000



REF: 10399



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Height: 200 mm (7.87")

Width: 320 mm (12.6")

Depth: 105 mm (4.13")

Weight: 965 g

Description

Beautifully made, antique, highly decorative German sterling silver model of an Indian elephant, encrusted with semiprecious stones. An oval, jewel-encrusted pull-off cover on the elephant's back opens to allow the model to be used as a container. The model is nicely detailed and includes sections of hand chased decorations that form a cover and drapery. His pair of tusks are ivory and qualify for an ivory exemption certificate.

Made in Germany for the English market, this fine silver elephant was imported and hallmarked at the London Assay Office with 1899 import marks. As a means of avoiding import duties, from the late 18th century and into the 20th, there was a high tax on luxury goods imported into Britain, but if an item could be classified as a useful piece it could be brought into the country without duty. Silver animal and bird models were often made with removable heads so they could be described as containers or boxes.

Please note: the net weight of silver given has been calculated to exclude the precious stones.

Note: Under the rules of the UK government's Ivory Act 2018, this silver elephant qualifies for an ivory exemption certificate.

This large silver Indian elephant is not available to purchase online. Please get in touch if you would like more information or are interested to buy it.


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