

LANGFORDS

Antique & Contemporary Silver

Unusual William IV poppyhead silver wine funnel

Charles Fox II

£1,450



REF: 9468

Height: 170 mm (6.69")

Diameter: 77 mm (3.03")

Weight: 132 g

Description

Early-19th-century silver wine funnel and filter whose body is in the form of a poppy head. The flared rim is hand chased with foliage and the top of the funnel is hand chased with overlapping leaf-work. The interior filter is hand pierced in a pretty and finely executed swirling berry design.

This is a most unusual form for a wine decanting funnel. The deep bowl and curved spout will make for easy filtering and decanting.

First appearing at the end of the 17th century, silver wine funnels were designed to decant wine from the bottle to a decanter for the table. The bowl was pierced with holes for catching larger pieces of detritus such as cork, while a retaining ring kept a piece of muslin straining cloth in place which filtered out finer sediment and prevented spoiling the wine in the decanter.

In the 18th century the spigot was crafted with a curved tip to ensure the wine ran gently down the wall of the decanter and, particularly for very fine or old wines, prevent bruising the wine.