# American Aesthetic style sterling silver water jug

Gorham Manufacturing Co

£3,950



REF: 7105



Langfords
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Height: 247 mm (9.72")

Width: 175 mm (6.89")

Diameter: 140 mm (5.51")

Weight: 967 g

Description

Beautifully crafted antique American sterling silver water jug in the Aesthetic style, with a frosted surface decorated with the most delicate hand-engraved swags supported by rope held in place with links. Between the swags are sections of trailing foliage and starburst panels, while above there is a band of inverted bead pattern interspaced with delicate flower heads.

The upper portion of this excellent silver jug has an applied band decorated in the oriental style and is fitted with a curving handle decorated with stylised berries and branches around the upper portion. The collet base is surmounted by a band of applied beadwork.

"Art for art's sake", was a phrase coined by Theophile Gautier in 1835, and became the slogan for the Aesthetic Movement - a movement that set forth to promote the cult of pure beauty in the arts - dreamlike and wistful.

Aesthetic silver design focused on decorative surface detail where the shape of pieces was borrowed from an earlier stylistic era, but now covered in a riot of flowers, plants and birds, featuring decorative motifs from Japan; herons, blossom, bamboo, chrysanthemum and butterflies.