

Object Summary



Gilt-Copper Lobed Bowl with Enamelled Geometric Motifs

16th century

Balkans

Ottoman

Enameled copper, gilding

Overall: 2 3/16 x 6 1/8 in. (5.6 x 15.5cm)

This bowl's luminous surface was created through the tombak gilding technique, in which a copper vessel covered in powdered gold and mercury is fired in a kiln (the mercury serves to secure the gold). It is of a type of refined metalwork produced in the Balkans, in particular, during the height of the Ottoman empire. The vessel's faceted surface was

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achieved through the engraving and hammering of copper sheet, and colorful enameled roundels contribute further visual interest and sophistication.