

Object Summary



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Enamelled Gold Polychrome Beaker with Hindu Devotional Scenes on Exterior and Bottom

19th century

India

British India/Princely States

Enameled gold

Overall: 3 1/16 x 3 5/16 in. (7.8 x 8.4cm)

The Mughal empire and its successors - a combination of British-ruled India and Princely States - was a deeply heterogenous place, with myriad languages, cultures, and religions existing and flourishing side by side. We know that the royal workshops of the Muslim Mughal courts, for example, were deeply influenced by the master Jain and Hindu craftspeople (among many others) who worked in them. This is a solid gold beaker/cup, richly enameled with scenes of Hindu deities and their vahanas (vehicles/mounts). It pays tribute to a long line of master metalworking, jewellery making, and miniature painting skills honed for royal and courtly patrons.