Object Summary



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Gem-Set Enameled Footed Gold Cup with Bird and Floral Motifs

19th century

India (Jaipur)

Mughal

Enameled gold, gemstones

Overall: 3 1/8 x 1 7/16 in. (7.9 x 3.7cm)

This wine/sherbert cup is inset with gemstones and richly adorned with bird and floral motifs in enamel. Indian artists excelled at the art of enamelling, an art practiced by Muslim and Hindu artists alike from Multan and Lahore in present-day Pakistan to Jaipur in northern India. The practice of enameling was first recorded in India in the 1500s during the reign of the second Mughal emperor, Akbar the Great. According to his account, objects such as cups, flagons, and rings were adorned with enamel.