



**Antique Chinese Silver Teapot with decorative repousse panels and bamboo elements c.1890
£2,250.00**

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This large and attractive pumpkin shaped teapot has been finely ornamented in the high Chinese style using repousse and chased techniques. It is a whimsical and uplifting example which features an elegant bird's beak spout and naturalistic cast bamboo form insulated handles with the knob of the hinged lid, in similar style. There are Chinese marks to the underside of the base.

To the top of the pot, surrounding the lid, is a trompe l'oeil circlet of bamboo which complements the repousse and chased bamboo stems and leaves ornamenting the lid. Surrounding the base of the knob to the lid, an additional ring of hand cut and chased silver bamboo leaves sits over the chased lid, adding textural interest, heightening the realism and accentuating the faux bamboo elements of the composition.

Around the body of the pot are six large scenic panels executed in repousse and chased techniques bordered with fine trellis above and below. Each scenic panel has been applied to a segment of the pumpkin. The panels are framed by plain silver borders which define the clefts of the pumpkin. The scenes are all ornamented in a naturalistic style and the subjects include birds in specimen trees, mythical animals in the heavens and humans in the grounds of a domestic dwelling. The scenes include a man and a woman relaxing in a garden setting, a dragon amongst the clouds, a bird amongst plum blossom and a crane in a pine tree. The scenes suggest that this fine tea pot can be used, and its contents enjoyed, throughout the year, whatever the season.

The craftsmanship is very good throughout as is the condition. A lovely and very good sized example of a late 19th century Chinese silver teapot.

Origin	Chinese
Period	19th Century
Style	Other
Condition	Excellent
Dimensions	Weight: 492 gram
Diameter	H:14cm W:23cm

Antique ref: 10016