

19th century silver and paste serpent brooch

£75



Description

An early 19th century silver and paste brooch in the form of a serpent, circa 1820.

Paste jewellery refers to decorative pieces made using cut glass to imitate gemstones. Popularised in the 18th and 19th centuries, especially in Georgian and Victorian eras, paste was a fashionable and affordable alternative to diamonds and other precious stones.

Crafted with remarkable skill, high-quality paste jewellery was often set in silver or gold and featured intricate designs. Renowned jewellers like Georges Frédéric Strass helped elevate paste to an art form.

Today, antique paste pieces are highly collectible, valued for their historical significance and craftsmanship. Despite being imitation, well-made paste jewellery can be both beautiful and striking in appearance.