

A Victorian Natural History Specimen / Wunderkammer Shell Display on Turned Walnut Pedestal, the Melo melo shell (fam. Volutidae), Italy, 1880.

Italy circa 1880.

Misure 16″ – 41 CM H 3,50″ – 9 CM L 8″ – 20 CM D

Price

€ 1,400

Reference

M2807

Serial number

SdT-0111

Enquiries

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An important and elegant natural history specimen of scientific and collector's interest, typical of European late 19th-century cabinets of curiosities. The composition is dominated by a large, fine shell specimen of the exotic gastropod Melo melo (Family Volutidae, Lightfoot 1786), displayed in a vertical position. The base is embellished with a natural cluster of minor shells, including Polinices mammilla (Linnaeus, 1758), Natica vitellus (Linnaeus, 1758), and Trochus maculatus (Linnaeus, 1758).The entire piece rests on a refined turned pedestal made of walnut wood (Juglans regia) with a shaped profile. Italy, circa 1880.