

A.J. Strachan. An outstanding George III 18ct Gold Snuff Box
made in London in 1802 by Alexander James Strachan.

£15,500



Description

The Snuff Box is beautifully modelled in a rounded broad rectangular form. The cover, sides and base are decorated with plain vertical liner bands interspersed with engine turned panels. The cover displays an upturned thumbpiece and each end displays a concentric panel of engine turned designs, around a plain central elongated oval. The decoration is in excellent crisp condition. The interior is well marked and the underside of the cover is engraved with a double Crest below the motto "Regermino" engraved on a banner. The crest on the right is that of Laing (as used by Sir James Laing of Thornhill, Sunderland). The motto "Regermino" is the Latin for "to spring forth, sprout, or germinate again". Alexander James Strachan is the best known maker of gold and silver boxes in early 19th century London and was the principal supplier to the Royal Goldsmiths Rundell, Bridge & Rundell. Strachan was also noted as "the most productive of the early nineteenth-century London box makers," see Truman, C., The Gilbert Collection of Gold Boxes, p.321. Strachan's first mark was registered in 1799. He was also referred to as the "Paul Storr of Gold Boxes" by Arthur Grimwade, (London Goldsmiths, 1697-1837, Their Marks and Lives, London, 1976 pp.672-73). Length: 3 inches, 7.5 cm. Width: 1.5 inches, 3.75 cm. Depth: 0.75 inches, 1.88 cm.