

19th century leather cased mother of pearl opera glasses

£125



Description

A pair of 19th century pair of Bush and Drummond gilt brass and mother of pearl leather cased opera glasses.

Opera glasses are small, portable binoculars designed for viewing performances in theatres, opera houses, and concert halls. Popular in the 18th and 19th centuries, they allowed audiences to see stage details more clearly without compromising elegance.

Often crafted from materials like brass, mother-of-pearl, or enamel, they were as much a fashion accessory as a practical tool. Unlike standard binoculars, opera glasses usually have lower magnification, ensuring a wider field of view in indoor settings.

Many came with delicate handles or chains for convenience. Today, antique opera glasses are collectible items, reflecting both the artistry and social culture of past eras.