Table Medal in Commemoration of the Fortieth Anniversary of the October Revolution, 1957.

In bronze, measures 70.0 mm wide; weighs 179.9 g. The artwork in high 3-d profile is in very typical Socialist Realism style of the period. The obverse depicts two young people under a Soviet banner marching toward the bright future symbolized by bountiful sheaves of wheat and some smokestacks. Note the pigeon in the hand of the young woman, a symbol of Soviet peaceful intentions (the period was characterized by Khrushchev's peace overtures toward the West, soon to be replaced by a far more bellicose stand.) The inscription along the edge is "In Commemoration of the Fortieth Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution." The reverse shows a group of armed soldiers and civilians led by Lenin pointing the way forward.

The model for the medal, struck at the Leningrad Mint in 1957, had been created by the highly esteemed Leningrad die-cutter N. Sokolov. Its circulation number is unknown - or at least it is not quoted in the otherwise very detailed reference guide Commemorative [Table] Medal of the Soviet Period, 1919 - 1991 by A. Shkurko and A. Salykov (C. 2005, Moscow). The number was probably quite small however judging by how infrequently this medal appears on the market. In all likelihood, it was intended for a selected group of high-ranking Soviet officials who took part in the anniversary celebrations.

Excellent condition. The raised details are extremely crisp and essentially pristine, free of visible wear. Shows very attractive even toning to the brass.

/Commemorative [Table] Medal of the Soviet Period, 1919 - 1991, #131/.

Please note, the penny in our photo is for size reference.

Item# 38648

$225.00

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