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A complete set of 6 table medals commemorating classics of Russian literature, circa 1970s, in original 6-pocket holder case and original storage envelope.

The medals are in bronze, measure 36.6 mm wide and weigh 28 g each with the exception of Pushkin (27 g). The artwork in high 3D relief is typical of table medals of the Soviet era. The models of the table medals, struck at the Leningrad Mint in 1977, are the work of several artists working there. Listing them in the order the medals are positioned in the 2nd photo (obverse without the case), left to right and top to bottom:

"Lev Tolstoy" - by N. Sokolov; "Fyodor Dostoyevsky" - by N. Sokolov; "Mikhail Lermontov" - by Yu. Stryuchkov; "Nikolay Gogol" - by A. Yuzhakova; "Nikolai Nekrasov" - by A. Kozlov & M. Eshba; "Alexander Pushkin" - by A. Kozlov.

The initials of each artist are struck on the obverse of each medal.

The holder case with 6 dividers is made of thin plastic. The external storage envelope is artistically finished with an ornament on the front and the title of the set "Классики Русской Литературы" ("Classics of Russian Literature") written across it in a flowing font. Its reverse features the logo of the Leningrad Mint at the bottom.

The medals are in excellent condition. Barely any signs of age and use, absolutely not detracting from their beauty. The details of the 3D high reliefs are exceptionally crisp, the likenesses are precise. The holder case with clear plastic dividers is in very good condition, showing just 4 small cracks - proof positive (if unwelcome) of the case's age as this plastic does become quite brittle with age and cracks easily. The external storage envelope is in very good condition as well and shows just very minor corner bumps and creases.

Russia has always been a country where literature is revered. Even with the avalanche of new modern media in all its formats, reading is still very much alive.

/Commemorative [Table] Medal of the Soviet Period, 1919 - 1991, ## 1063, 1068a, 1076a, 1081, 1084a, 1089/.

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

Item# 38955

**\$175.00**

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