

JEWELRY

Faberg floral arrangement valued at \$1.27M appears on Antiques Roadshow

June 26, 2017



There are only an estimated 80 Fabergé floral studies thought to have survived. Image credit: BBC

By STAFF REPORTS

An ornament designed by Russian jeweler Fabergé made its way to BBC's Antiques Roadshow for appraisal in the United Kingdom.

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In what is being described as one of the most significant finds on the long-running television show's history, jewelry expert Geoffrey Munn recently appraised a Fabergé ornament for \$1.27 million. Antique Fabergé pieces fetch large sums at auction due to the brand's period of dormancy after the Russian Revolution began in 1917, which caused the maison to shutter until being revived decades later ([see story](#)).

Uncovering lost treasures

Antiques Roadshow was filming at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley, West Midlands in the U.K. on June 21 when the Fabergé piece was brought for inspection by its owner.

The piece was appraised by jewelry expert Mr. Munn during filming for the television show's 40th anniversary series.

Dan Bansal, of Hagley, in the U.K., brought the piece to be appraised, not realizing the high value of the ornament. With the valuation set at approximately \$1.27 million, the piece may be sold at auction for between \$1.5 million to \$1.78 million.

The object in question is a Fabergé piece in the form of a stem of flowers. Executive producer of Antiques Roadshow Simon Shaw said the Fabergé ornament is likely to be the television program's most expensive valuation to date.

"We've had one of the most significant jewelry finds in 40 years of Antiques Roadshow history – but we don't want to spoil the surprise," Mr. Shaw said in a statement for The Daily Mail.

We've had one of the most significant jewellery finds in the [#AntiquesRoadshow](#) history. Programme will be broadcast in the autumn. pic.twitter.com/g3lZB3wzgl

Antiques Roadshow (@BBC_ARoadshow) [June 21, 2017](#)

Antiques Roadshow's 40th anniversary season will air on BBC One in the fall.

According to ArtNet, there are only 80 known fruit and flower pieces by Fabergé thought to have survived. The ornaments are often presented in rock crystal to give the appearance of a blossom in a bud vase.

A similar Fabergé piece, depicting a spray of buttercups, sold at auction at Sotheby's London in 2013 for \$566,000. But, a hawthorne flower piece, auctioned by Christie's London in 2013, did not sell.

More recently during Sotheby's London's "Russian Works of Art, Fabergé & Icons" sale in June 2017, two Fabergé florals, one of cornflowers and the other of forget-me-nots, did not find buyers. The pieces had pre-sale estimates of \$233,000 to \$323,000 and \$323,000 to \$452,000, respectively.

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