

A M I R M O H T A S H E M I



Silver Lidded Huqqa Piece

India, 18th century

9cm high, 9cm diameter

Stock no.: A4950

This round-shaped silver box was originally used as a lid to cover a *huqqa* (i.e. a pipe traditionally used for smoking flavoured tobacco). It consists of a domed lid surmounted by a finial and knop. The pierced work throughout the body is delicately decorated in the *jali* ("latticework") style with floral and bird motifs amidst scrolling lines; these perforations would have allowed the *huqqa* to function smoothly by enabling ventilation for the heat and smoke. The *huqqa* lid was later converted into a container with a detachable wooden concealer to the circular base.