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Large Cantagalli Footed Bowl

Italy, 19th century

27cm high, 40cm diameter

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A large footed bowl in the style of Ottoman Iznik pottery, in terms of design. This bowl is richly decorated with flowers typical of Iznik pottery, such as rosettes, tulips, prunus blossoms and carnations, and the stylized saz leaves. These floral decorations have been made with cobalt blue, light blue, turquoise, manganese, and green. Alternating cartouches display a pot or small vase out of which spring out rosettes and tulips on a white ground. These cartouches are separated from each other with prunus blossom spray sand leaves on a cobalt base. The foot has a narrow border with an alternating pattern of flower buds in small cartouches and a pair of tulips. A broader band of alternating rosettes and saz leaves and weaving vines decorates the foot as well.

The inside of the bowl has a narrow border around the rim that matches that on the foot. On the base on the inside of the bowl is highly stylised polychrome rosette.

The underside of the base of the bowl features the iconic signature marker of the 'singing cockerel.' In 1878 Ulisse Cantagalli inherited a factory in Florence and began to trade as Manifattura Figli di Giuseppe Cantagalli. His main production was of copies of Italian maiolica, but also of other European and Middle Eastern ceramics which he was inspired by.