

CARL FABERGÉ EGG FOUND IN THE AMERICAN MID-WEST



1887 was a special year for the creativity of Carl Fabergé. He had already made two Imperial Eggs for Tsar Alexander III as gifts for his wife, Tsarina Maria Fedorovna in 1885 and 1886. However, in 1887, not only was the Imperial Egg made by the firm of Carl Fabergé, but also was the first entirely designed by them.

This Egg was last displayed to the public in March 1902, as part of an exhibition of treasures owned by the Imperial Family in St Petersburg. So has not been publically on view for 112 years.

The Egg was seized by the Bolsheviks and was last recorded in 1922 in Moscow.

In 1964 it was sold as “a gold watch in an egg-form case, but was not attributed to Carl Fabergé. It sold for a mere £900 to a female purchaser from the deep south of the United States. This lady died in early 2000 and her estate was sold off. The Egg was not believed to be of any great value and eventually was sold at a bric-a-brac market.

A scrap metal dealer purchased the Egg for the gold and jewel value for approximately £8,000. The idea being that he would sell it to another dealer to melt the gold down. It seems the melt down dealers thought he had overpaid and thus remained unsold. He refused to make a loss on his purchase and thus the Egg was unceremoniously kept on a kitchen shelf amongst other items, within a small house.

It was not till 2012 with the use of modern computers, that he entered “Egg” and “Vacheron Constantin”, the name of the surprise time piece within the Egg, that he discovered he had a very special creation.

This Egg with a purported value of £20 million has now been sold to a private collector. No doubt over the coming months the new owner will be revealed.

When I give my talks around the world, I always mention that there are 7 Eggs still missing. I tease my audience when they get home they should have a good rummage around their houses and in the loft. Well now this exact story has come true !

Scroll down for the Surprise.

SURPRISE OF THE IMPERIAL EGG FROM 1887

