

SOUFFLÉ 'COLOCYNTH' VASE

By Daum Nancy

Circa 1907

A Japanese inspired rare mould-blown vase, gourd shaped, with a bright orange *Colocynth* flower on an opaque ground with deep green stems and leaf, all in high relief.

Height : 23 cm high

Signatures : Cameo 'DAUM NANCY' with the Cross of Lorraine, on the side of the vessel.

Reference : (i) Clotilde Bacri, *Daum Masters of French Decorative Glass*, Thames & Hudson, 1992, pictured page 96.
(ii) Victor Arwas, *Glass Art Nouveau to Art Deco*, Academy Editions, 1987, pictured twice on page 82.
(iii) Janine Bloch-Dermant, *The Art of French Glass*, Thames & Hudson, 1980, pictured page 149.



The ***Colocynth*** plant is a member of the gourd family, hence the vase shape. The flower looks very like a pumpkin or butternut blossom.

This ***Colocynth*** vase was constructed using an unusual technique – trapping powdered glass between two layers of glass to give the background a jade-like appearance. It was produced in a range of colours, this being one of the most striking. There is a cream on beige version, a green, yellow and white version, and one with a pale blue flower on an orange ground, which is very attractive. Even though the model is depicted in many books on Daum, they are all, however, quite rare, and seldom appear on the international market. The importance of this model is born out by the fact that the Collection of Daum in Nancy houses one.

The description in the Janine Bloch-Dermant book, *The Art of French Glass*, reads :

“Collection Daum Nancy. A rare work from a mould-blown series of vases so completely reworked with the cutting wheel as to belie the mechanical method used for forming the pieces.”

Daum’s blow-out vases have far higher relief than those of Gallé. This is clearly noticeable in this particular example.

BURR & MUIR

Cape Town 27-21-4221319
Partners : Geoff Burr & Graham Muir