





The Vulcan Phoenix Safe

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The Story

In Roman mythology, Vulcan was the son of Jupiter and Juno, husband of Venus. The designated God of Fire and Volcanoes, from where he took his name, he manufactured arms and armour for gods and heroes. Vulcan also created the mighty metal: iron.

The Phoenix was a massive bird of red and gold who lived for 500 years then burnt itself on a funeral pyre before rising again from the ashes. The Egyptians believed that the Phoenix represented the sun, birth and resurrection. Combine these tales of iron and fire and you have the story behind the forging of this magnificent safe.

Made in Austria around 1890 the text on the brass plaque reads: FIREPROOF AND THIEF-

RESISTING. PHOENIX CORPORATION. VIENNA.
With a smaller plaque below which reads: VULCAN
Made in Austria

Endowed with two ornamental escutcheons over a double-locking system, the solid brass wheel must be turned to gain entry. The safe is enhanced with a decorative cornice in the Greco-Roman style.

This 'artique' is perfect example of the majestic forms of design/security much beloved of the Austro-Hungarian Empire during the reign of the Imperial House of Hapsburg from 1814-1918. From its birthplace in Vienna, it travelled across Continents to the Far East, coming to rest in Singapore for use by the proprietor of an exotic shop house on Cross Road.

The exterior has been hand-painted to emulate the grains of mahogany and rosewood, panelled in vavona burr. Inside the door, the beautifully-preserved original label shows the spread winged Phoenix as he rises. He is also evident on the engraving on the internal safe which has been lined with antique leather. Underneath you will find four vented cedar humi-drawers. These have been veneered in satinwood and rosewood and a hygrometer has been incorporated to verify the relative humidity of your precious cigars.

The newly-designed base has been specially crafted in the richest mahogany and Santos rosewood. The interior has been fashioned in bird's eyes maple as an Art Deco-style drinks cabinet complete with cocktail carousel, bevelled mirrors, and brass galleries. On the right hand side, a three-tiered glass storage unit swivels out for your convenience.

The Vulcan Phoenix safe is a fitting tribute to a grand period in history adapted for today's modern lifestyle while retaining all the splendour of its provenance. Just imagine the pride and pleasure you would receive entertaining friends and colleagues from this impressive masterpiece, a choice of originality and excellence.

Dimensions: 64w x 55d x 180h

