

S.J. PHILLIPS



19th century gold, ruby and pearl Renaissance revival fringe necklace, c.1870, in the manner of Ernesto Pierret,

designed as a row of alternating cushion ruby and pearl collets with ropetwist detail, suspending a full series of gold oblong panel batons, similarly decorated with applied cushion ruby accents and pearl collets, further ruby collet and bead terminal, ropetwist wirework and beaded frames, the oblongs alternating stem batons with beads and pearl terminals, the gold testing as 18ct with 22ct gilding, on an S scroll clasp possibly later added, apparently unmarked, total ruby weight approximately 6.30cts.

Ernesto Pierret (1824-1898) moved to Rome from Paris, where he trained as a young man. He opened his first shop in Rome in 1845, and is listed in 1867 in Murray's Handbook to Central Italy and Rome, which praised his creations in the Classical style. After his marriage in 1865, Pierret moved to a Renaissance palazzo at 20 Piazza di Spagna in the heart of the jewellery quarter. His wife's father was a papal lawyer and his connections to the Vatican provided the firm with distinguished customers.

According to an advertisement, they counted among their clientele the Queen of Italy.

Length 39.5cm / 15.5"

Height 2cm / 0.75"

Weight: 64g