

An Art Deco white gold filigree ring set with white and blue sapphires

18k white gold; white and blue sapphires

Ring size EU 52 – US 6 – UK L½ (resizable); gross weight 3.53 g.

Art Deco, probably American, circa 1920–1930.

Condition: good, consistent with age.

An elongated openwork plaque in 18k white gold, worked in fine filigree with scrolls and foliate motifs, on a slender plain shank.

Three round white sapphires run along its axis in octagonal bezels with millegrain edges. A square calibré-cut blue sapphire closes each end, and a triangular blue sapphire flanks the central stone on either side, drawing a cross of colour through the white.

Historical context – American Art Deco Jewellery

When platinum grew scarce and was restricted for war use around 1918, American jewellers turned to white gold to keep the cool, pale look of the period. Die-striking allowed filigree of great finesse to be made in quantity. Elongated “dinner rings” of this kind became one of the signature forms of the 1920s.

Iconography and symbolism

Art Deco replaced the curves of Art Nouveau with the geometry of the machine age: octagons, triangles, strict symmetry. Here that rigour is softened by filigree as fine as lace. The blue sapphires point outward like compass needles, while the white stones hold the centre in a column of light.