Primary Maker: Gebrüder Bing
Title: Submarine
Date: 1906-1912
Medium: Metal, paint
Dimensions: Overall: 4 1/2 × 12 1/2 × 2 1/2 in. (11.4 × 31.8 × 6.4 cm)
Credit Line: Acquired with generous support from Bloomberg Philanthropies, Richard Gilder, and an anonymous donor
Object Number: 2014.31.4364

Object Name: Transportation toy
Classification: TOYS

Curatorial Remarks:
Gebrüder Bing’s clockwork submarine, made in 1906, pays tribute to Germany’s preeminence in submarine building before World War I. During this time, advances in electrical engineering afforded submarines the ability to operate underwater without the use of combustion engines, which threatened to suffocate the crew. Though Bing’s tiny toy sub could not submerge, it captures the cultural fascination with these new and mysterious undersea craft.

Physical Description:

Markings: Unmarked