



## Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE1021)

Fri, 29th Oct 2021

### Lot 79

**Starting price:** €600

**Estimate:** €1200

#### ICHIO: A WOOD NETSUKE OF TWO PUMPKINS

By Ichio, signed Ichio 一往

Japan, probably Tanba province, mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, Edo period (1615-1868)

Finely carved as two pumpkins attached to their branch. The four leaves show finely carved veins, and the stigma are inlaid in dark horn. Very clever use of staining and beautiful patina. Natural himotoshi through the branch and signature ICHIO, the artist apparently unrecorded, but working in the Tanba school style.

LENGTH 4.8 cm

Condition: Very good condition with extensive surface wear.  
**Provenance:** Ex-collection Richard R. Silverman. Richard R. Silverman (1932-2019) was a renowned Asian art collector with one of the largest private collections of netsuke outside of Japan. He lived in Tokyo between 1964 and 1979 and began to collect netsuke there in 1968. Since the 1970s, he wrote and lectured about netsuke and was an Asian art consultant for Christie's, Sotheby's, and Bonhams. His gift of 226 ceramic netsuke to the Toledo Museum of Art constitutes perhaps the largest public collection of these miniature clay sculptures in the world. After moving to California, Silverman became a member of the Far Eastern Art Council at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in 1984. In 1993, he joined LACMA's Executive Board. He served on the board of directors for the International Society of Appraisers from 1986 to 1994 and served nine years as chair for the City of West Hollywood Fine Arts Commission. Richard Silverman was posthumously awarded the Order of the Rising Sun for his decades-long promotion of Japanese culture.