



Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE1021)

Fri, 29th Oct 2021

Lot 85

Starting price: €750

Estimate: €1500

TOMONOBU: A RARE LACQUERED WOOD NETSUKE OF A GOLDEN FROG ON A LOTUS LEAF

By Arima Tomonobu, signed Tomonobu 友信
Japan, Nagoya, mid-19th century, Edo period (1615-1868)

Finely carved and gold-lacquered with a frog perched on a furled lotus leaf, facing ahead, its forelegs splayed, ready to leap. The leaf rendered with realistic texture and gold-lacquered veins, the underside with a lotus bud and a smaller leaf borne on curved stems forming the natural himotoshi of the netsuke. Signed TOMONOBU to the underside within a rectangular reserve.

WIDTH 4.3 cm

Condition: Excellent condition with minor wear.

Provenance: From a private collection in Florida, USA.

Literature comparison:

Compare a wood netsuke of a frog on a lotus leaf by Tomonobu, illustrated in Eskenazi (1973) Japanese netsuke formerly in the collection of Dr. Robert L Greene, p. 31, no. 71. Compare also a wood netsuke of a frog on a lotus root and leaves by Tomonobu at Christie's, The Raymond and Frances Bushell Collection of Netsuke, Part IV, 23 April 1991, New York, lot 11.

Auction comparison:

Compare a wood netsuke of a frog by Tomonobu at Bonhams, The Julius and Arlette Katchen Collection of Fine Netsuke Part I, 8 November 2016, London, lot 169 (**sold for 1,625 GBP**).