



Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE1021)

Fri, 29th Oct 2021

Lot 100

Starting price: €6000

Estimate: €12000

Υ CHOGETSU: A SUPERB WALRUS TUSK SHUNGA NETSUKE OF A MERMAID WITH OCTOPUS

By Shunkosai Chogetsu, signed Chogetsu 潮月
Japan, Edo (Tokyo), c. 1850, Edo period (1615-1868)

Published: Bandini, Rosemary (1999) Shishi and other
Netsuke. The Collection of Harriet Szechenyi, p. 37, no. 54.

Superbly carved as an octopus entangled around the tail fin of a mermaid. The cephalopod's funnel shaped mouth is pressed forward lustfully, the large eyes are inlaid in lustrous dark horn, and a bulging vein is visible on its forehead. The mermaid smiles somewhat coyly, almost reluctant but certainly willing, one hand brushing through her hair which is held in place by a comb. The walrus ivory with typical marbling and beautifully polished, smooth to the touch – a true tactile pleasure in the hand! Himotoshi and signature within an oval reserve – CHOGETSU – underneath.

LENGTH 6.3 cm

Condition: Excellent condition.

Provenance: Ex-collection Harriet Szechenyi, sold in her sale at Bonham, 8 November 2011, London lot 69 (sold for 10,625 GBP). Purchased by Sagemonoya, Tokyo. Then Carré collection.