



Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE0422)

22nd Apr, 2022

Viewing:

You may view objects in this auction in our gallery from 19 April to 22 April 2022. We are open Monday to Friday from 10 AM to 6 PM CET, as well as by appointment. On the day of the sale, the viewing will be open until 1 PM CET.

Lot 72

Starting price: €800

Estimate: €1500

¥ DORAKU: AN IVORY NETSUKE OF A DRUNKARD

By Doraku, signed Doraku 道乐

Japan, Osaka, mid-19th century, Edo period (1615-1868)

Well carved and superbly stained as a smiling man clad only in a fundoshi, his naked back neatly incised with an ornate tattoo depicting floral and foliate designs, his body hair finely incised as well, the incision work heightened with sumi. He is holding up a stippled sake bottle, the label of which is found at the top of his head, inscribed Joshu Issho (one sho of high-grade sake) and with the sake maker's logo possibly reading Yama Isseki within a square. The back and underside with himotoshi. Signed to one leg within a wavy reserve DORAKU.

HEIGHT 4 cm

Condition: Good condition with minor surface wear, minimal age cracks, a tiny nick to the edge of one himotoshi. A cup or other object appears to have been held in the man's left hand but is now lost. Fine honey-yellow patina.

Provenance: The Gabor Wilhelm Collection, Paris.

Auction comparison:

Compare to an ivory netsuke of two wrestling drunks by Doraku, sold at Zacke, Fine Netsuke & Sagemono, 16 April 2021, Vienna, lot 71 (**sold for 11,376 EUR**).

Trade Certificate: The trade certificate for the sale of this lot within the EU has been granted (permit number AT 22-B-0150).