



Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE0422)

Fri, 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 87

Starting price: €7500

Estimate: €15000

TOYOKAZU: A SUPERB WOOD NETSUKE OF A MONKEY WITH PEACH

By Shugasai Toyokazu, signed Toyokazu □□

Japan, Sasayama, Tanba province, mid-19th century, Edo period (1615-1868)

Published: Sagemonoya (2009), The 2009 New York Sans Ivoire Netsuke & Sagemono Selection, p. 41, no. 102.

Very finely carved and warmly stained, depicting a seated monkey (saru) mischievously guarding a suggestively carved peach with one hand, the other scratching his back. The simian's glaring eyes are inlaid in pale and dark horn and the hairwork is neatly engraved. Good, asymmetrical himotoshi through the underside and back. Signed within a typical oval reserve in cleanly cut characters TOYOKAZU.

HEIGHT 3.3 cm

Condition: Very good condition, minor wear, a tiny dent to the very edge of one foot.

Provenance: French private collection, purchased from Sagemonoya, Tokyo, in 2009.

Shugasai Toyokazu is widely regarded as the most accomplished pupil of Naito Toyomasa (1773-1856).

Literature comparison:

A very similar netsuke by Toyokazu is illustrated in Ducros, Alain (1994) Netsuke & Sagemono, p. 88.

Auction comparison:

For a related wood netsuke by Toyomasa of three monkeys fighting over a peach see Bonhams, The Harriet Szechenyi Sale of Japanese Art, 8 November 2011, London, lot 155 (**sold for 85,250 GBP**). Another related wood netsuke by Toyomasa of two monkeys fighting over a peach was sold at Tessier Sarrou, Arts D' Asie, 13 December 2021, Paris, lot 60 (**sold for 160,000 EUR**).

