



## 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 258

**Starting price:** €1200

**Estimate:** €2500

### A FINE STAG ANTLER KAGAMIBUTA NETSUKE OF WITH RAIN DRAGON (AMARYU) AND REISHI

Unsigned

Japan, Tokyo, Asakusa District, second half of 19<sup>th</sup> century

The beautifully marbled stag antler bowl inset with an openworked disc, very finely carved with a snarling rain dragon holding a large reishi-scepter and grasping its long mane with one clawed limb. Central himotoshi in the back, the cord attachment to the back of the disc.

DIAMETER 4.2 cm

Condition: Excellent condition, some minor 'imperfections' to the material.

**Provenance:** Ex-collection Richard R. Silverman, purchased from Otsuki, Kyoto, in 1976. 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.