



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 262

Starting price: €4000

Estimate: €8000

Y KOKUSAI: A SUPERB STAG ANTLER CHAIRE (TEA CADDY)

By Ozaki Kokusai (1835-1892), signed Koku □
Japan, Shiba, Tokyo, c. 1860-1880

Published: Moss, Sydney L. (2016) Kokusai The Genius: and Stag-antler Carving in Japan, vol. II, pp. 168-169, no. 167.

Masterfully carved in imitation of a potter chaire (tea caddy) with a beautifully stippled and ink-engraved design of grasses, some of the design using the naturally markings of the antler. The lid is of ivory, again in imitation of the typical pottery chaire lid, which are usually carved from ivory. The underside with a plugged spiral-ridged base, showing a circular seal KOKU, where one might typically expect the potter's mark (typically, Raku), deliberately half obscured as if partially glazed over. One himotoshi to the side, the cord attachment to the underside of the flush-fitting ivory lid, which shows a firing flaw in the form of a simulated crack.

HEIGHT 3.7 cm

Condition: Excellent condition.

Provenance: Ex-collection June Schuerch.

Literature comparison:

A similar stag antler ojime of a chaire, also with ivory lid and by Ozaki Kokusai, is illustrated next to the present lot in Moss, Sydney L. (2016) Kokusai The Genius: and Stag-antler Carving in Japan, vol. II, pp. 168-169, no. 168. Another smaller stag antler netsuke of a chaire, also with ivory lid and by Ozaki Kokusai, is illustrated in Moss, Sydney L. (1982) Eccentrics in Netsuke, pp. 112-113, no. 71.

**this lot within the EU has been granted (permit number
AT 22-B-0209).**