



## 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 45

**Starting price:** €5000

**Estimate:** €10000

### ¥ OKATORI: A SUPERB IVORY NETSUKE OF A RAT EATING A FRUIT

By Yamaguchi Okatori, signed Okatori □□  
Japan, Kyoto, early 19th century, Edo period (1615-1868)

A larger than usual model, finely carved and stained, the rat crouching and gnawing at a fruit held in its front paws, the fur masterfully incised and appealingly worn, the large eyes inlaid in dark horn, the well-carved paws grasping the thick tail which curls around underneath forming the himotoshi, the signature OKATORI to the back at the base of the tail within a rectangular reserve.

LENGTH 4.9 cm

Condition: Very good condition, expected surface wear with associated age cracks, one ear with a tiny chip.

Provenance: Dutch private collection.

### Auction comparison:

Compare to a closely related ivory netsuke of a rat gnawing at a fruit by Okatori, measuring 4.2 cm in length, sold at Bonhams, The Julius and Arlette Katchen Collection of Fine Netsuke Part II, 10 May 2017, London, lot 48 (**sold for 13,750 GBP**). Another closely related ivory netsuke of a rat gnawing at a candle by Okatori, measuring 3.9 cm in length, was sold at Zacke, Fine Netsuke & Sagemono, 16 April 2021, Vienna, lot 46 (**sold for 13,904 EUR**).

**Trade Certificate:** The trade certificate for the sale of this lot within the EU has been granted (permit number AT 22-B-0255).