



Fine Japanese Art (JAP0522)

Fri, 27th May 2022

Lot 337

Starting price: €10000

Estimate: €20000

KANO TSUNENOBU: A MUSEUM-QUALITY 'GEESE IN WINTER' EIGHT-PANEL FOLDING SCREEN, EX-COLLECTION KENZO TAKADA

By Kano Tsunenobu (1636-1713), signed Tsunenobu hitsu with seal Ukon Tsunenobu

Japan, 17th century, early Edo period (1615-1868)

The Byōbu finely painted with ink on paper, with a silk brocade frame and mounted to a black-lacquered wood screen with gilt-metal fittings neatly incised with peony and foliate scroll.

Depicting a continuous scene with a gaggle of geese on a snowy outcrop, one standing on a gnarled willow covered in snow, with a flock of geese flying toward them in the background.

Signed lower left TSUNENOBU hitsu [made by Tsunenobu] and with a red seal Ukon Tsunenobu.

SIZE 206 x 75 cm (each panel) TOTAL SIZE 206 x 600 cm

Condition: Very good condition, particularly when considering the age, with minor wear, soiling, few small tears and losses.

Provenance: Galerie Gisèle Croës, Brussels, 1990. Kenzo Takada, acquired from the above. Kenzo Takada (1939-2020) was an iconic Japanese fashion designer living in France. He founded Kenzo, a worldwide brand of perfumes, skincare products, and clothes, and was the honorary president of the Asian Couture Federation. Takada was made a Knight of the Legion of Honor on 2 June 2016. For decades, Kenzo Takada had built an impressive and diverse collection of furniture, paintings, objects, works of art and fashion pieces, including many objects of fine Japanese art, displaying in his home a subtle balance between the influences of East and West, reflecting the free spirit of his creative genius.

Kano Tsunenobu (1636–1713) was a Japanese painter of the Kano school. He first studied under his father, Kano Naonobu, and then his uncle, Kano Tan'yu, after his father's death. He became a master painter and succeeded his uncle Tan'yu as head of the Kano school in 1674. It is believed many works attributed to Tan'yu might actually be by Tsunenobu, but it is difficult to know since they often worked on larger pieces together.

Auction comparison:

Compare a pair of closely related eight-panel screens by the same artist, depicting cranes and pine trees in a similar wintery setting, at Christie's, Japanese Screens, Paintings and Prints, 27 October 1998, New York, lot 146 (**sold for 74,000 USD = 124,500 USD** in today's currency after

inflation).