



Fine Japanese Art (JAP0621)

Fri, 4th Jun 2021

Viewing:

You may view objects in this auction in our gallery from 25 May to 4 June, 2021. 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 preview will be open from 10 AM to 1 PM. FFP2 masks are required.

Lot 44

Starting price: €600

Estimate: €1200

A GOLD AND SILVER-INLAID GOTO SCHOOL SHAKUDO KOZUKA WITH RAIKO AND HIS MEN IN DISGUISE WITH SHUTEN DOJI AND ATTENDANT OGRES

Japan, Goto School, 19th century, Edo period (1615-1868)

The kozuka inlaid in gold and silver with a group of warriors led by Raiko Minamoto kneeling before the ogre-king Shuten Doji, who is seated on a finely polished and neatly incised shakudo mat and surrounded by his demon attendants beside three further warrior figures, all on a shakudo nanako ground, the reverse well-polished and left undecorated.

LENGTH 9.2 cm

WEIGHT 23.8 g

Condition: Excellent condition with only minor surface wear.
Provenance: British private collection.

The present kozuka depicts a scene from the popular tale Oeyama Ekotoba ('Tale of Mount Oe in Pictures and Words'), which relates how the famous warrior Minamoto no Raiko (Minamoto no Yorimitsu, 948-1012) kills the giant ogre Shuten doji and subdues his cannibalistic band of demons dwelling on Mount Oe. Here, Raiko and his men are disguised as yamabushi priests and are being granted an audience by Shuten doji, surrounded by his attendant ogres, attempting to trick the ogre-king into dropping his guard.