



## Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE0421)

Fri, 16th Apr 2021

### Lot 17

**Starting price:** €500

**Estimate:** €1000

#### ¥ AN OLD IVORY NETSUKE OF KIYOHIME

Unsigned

Japan, 18<sup>th</sup> century, Edo period (1615-1868)

An old, worn ivory netsuke depicting the wrathful female demon Kiyohime holding a strand of her hair in one hand and a mallet in the other, her dragon-like body tightly wrapped around the bell of Dojo-ji. Her eyes are inlaid in dark horn. The ivory bearing a beautiful, lustrous patina. Himotoshi through the bell.

HEIGHT 4 cm

Condition: Good, age-related condition. One old, worn-down chip to the edge of the bell. Some age cracks and surface wear.

Provenance: Dutch private collection.

In the legend of Kiyohime, the priest Anchin fell in love with the once beautiful Kiyohime, but refrained from his passions, escaping from her which made Kiyohime transform into a dragon-like monster due to her rage. In her rage she belched a fire so great it not only melted the temple bell but also killed Anchin.