

## Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE0421)

Fri, 16th Apr 2021

### Lot 73

**Starting price:** €1500

**Estimate:** €3000

#### 𠄎 ANRAKU: A SUPERB IVORY NETSUKE OF A SHISHI WITH BALL

By Shukosai Anraku, signed Anraku 安樂

Japan, Osaka, first half of 19<sup>th</sup> century, Edo period (1615-1868)

**Published:** Illustrated with a line drawing in Meinertzhagen, Frederick / Lazarnick, George (1986) MCI, Part A, p. 4.

The Buddhist lion standing in an alert stance on top of a large ball, its curly mane and bushy tail boldly carved and stained with sumi (ink), the eyes inlaid in dark horn. The ball is engraved with two further shishi amongst rockwork, snarling up at the shishi on top. The ivory is lightly stained, and the surface is elaborately worked with stippling and sumi, typical for the artist. Natural himotoshi and signed within a rectangular reserve framed by a cross-etched circle – ANRAKU.

HEIGHT 4 cm

Condition: Superb condition with hardly any wear.

**Provenance:** Old Viennese private collection assembled within the same family over three generations.

#### **Auction comparison:**

Another shishi by Anraku was recently sold at Lempertz, Netsuke from the Albert Brockhaus Collection, 27 June 2020, Cologne, lot 524 (**sold for 5,500 EUR**).

