



Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE0421)

Fri, 16th Apr 2021

Lot 23

Starting price: €1000

Estimate: €2000

¥ A TALL IVORY NETSUKE OF A TARTAR ARCHER

Unsigned

Japan, late 18th century, Edo period (1615-1868)

Finely carved standing with the feet pointing in opposite directions, wearing an elaborately patterned robe with wavy collar, key-fret band, and cloud and wave designs, carrying a quiver of arrows on his back and holding a bow tightly to his side with his left hand, the right hand raised toward his shoulder, his head turned upward to the side, the face showing a fierce expression with large bulging eyes, inked pupils, a broad nose with flaring nostrils, and a wide-open mouth, two asymmetrical himotoshi to the back. The ivory bearing a fine patina.

HEIGHT 11 cm

Condition: Excellent condition with only minor surface wear and expected natural age cracks.

Provenance: German private collection.

The Tartars were a race of Mongolian nomads, occupying areas in Northern China. They tended to drive south in the winter and invaded China and Japan in the 13th century, finally founding the Yuan dynasty (1279-1368) in China under Kublai Khan, a grandson of Genghis Khan.

Auction comparison:

Compare with a closely related netsuke at Bonhams, Fine Japanese Art, 12 May 2016, lot 245 (**part lot, sold for 4,375 GBP**).