



Fine Netsuke & Sagemono (NE0421)

Fri, 16th Apr 2021

Lot 131

Starting price: €6000

Estimate: €12000

ITTAN: A RARE WOOD NETSUKE OF A CAT GEISHA

By Ittan, signed Ittan 一旦 gito 戯刀

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

Published: Joly, Henri L. (1912) The W. L. Behrens Collection, Part 1, Netsuke, p. 37, no. 905.
Meinertzhagen, Frederick / Lazarnick, George (1986) MCI, Part A, p. 249.
Katchen, Arlette (2010) Netsuke 7, Vol. 2, p. 37, no. K367.

Finely carved as a cat standing upright, masquerading as a woman, holding up the hem of her kimono which is open at the neck and secured at the waist, one hand raised to the side, the face with an enigmatic expression and neatly detailed features, the fur incised with great precision. The back signed ITTAN gito (carved in fun by Ittan).

HEIGHT 5.2 cm

Condition: Excellent condition with only minor surface wear.

Provenance: W. L. Behrens collection, no. 905. L. A. Luxmoore collection, acquired at Sotheby's, London, 1969. Ex-collection Julius and Arlette Katchen. Australian private collection, acquired from Bonhams, The Julius and Arlette Katchen Collection of Fine Netsuke Part II, 10 May 2017, London, lot 137 (**sold for GBP 9,000**).