



## 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 122

**Starting price:** €750

**Estimate:** €1500

### SUZUKI GENGENSAI: A BAMBOO HANAKAGO (FLOWER BASKET)

By Suzuki Gengensai (1891-1950), signed Gengensai saku Japan, 1914-1923

The handled flower basket of susudake (smoked bamboo) with rattan accents, the main section of the body plaid in a hexagon weave, above and below the hexagon is woven in an open twill plating framed with sections in a diagonal weave, a large handle formed of three bamboo sections joined with delicate knots and attached to the body with large open elaborate knots, the underside signed GENGENSAI saku. With a faceted and lacquered bamboo otoshi (water container) and original tomobako (wood storage box) with an inscription, Teiryō hanakago ('Flower basket with handle').

HEIGHT 47 cm, WIDTH 20 cm

Condition: Excellent condition with minor wear.

Provenance: British private collection.

Suzuki Gengensai worked in the Osaka region and studied basketry under Yamashita Kochikusai. He was given the art name 元々齋 in Taisho 3 (1914), as inscribed to the base of the present basket, and in Taisho 12 (1923) he changed his name to 玩々齋 (both names are pronounced as Gengensai). Therefore, this basket can be safely dated to this nine-year period of Gengensai's career.

### Literature comparison:

A related piece by the same artist is published in *Masters of Bamboo: Artistic Lineages in the Lloyd Cotsen Japanese Basket Collection*, pg. 96, no. 54. A related basket by the same artist, titled 'Soaring Cliff', was exhibited in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, *Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey Collection*, 13 June 2017 – 4 February 2018.

### Auction comparison:

Compare a related bamboo flower basket by Ueda Shounsai, but of smaller size and dated to the Showa period, at Christie's, *Japanese and Korean Art*, 18 April 2018, New York, lot 79 (sold for 6,250 USD).