Finch & Co



JAPANESE BOXWOOD AND IVORY NETSUKE OF CHOKARO SENIN WITH HIS MAGIC HORSE

FINE JAPANESE BOXWOOD AND IVORY NETSUKE OF CHOKARO SENIN WITH HIS MAGIC HORSE APPEARING FROM AND DISAPPEARING INTO A GOURD

SIGNED IN RAISED RELIEF TO A RECTANGULAR TABLET AT THE BACK OF THE GOURD WHICH ACTS AS THE HIMOTOSHI

'YOSHIHIDE' (HOSHU) TOKYO SCHOOL

LATE 19TH CENTURY – MEIJI PERIOD

SIZE: 4.5CM HIGH, 2.5CM DIA. – 1¾ INS HIGH, 1 INS DIA. / 5CM HIGH – 2 INS HIGH (WITH HORSE EXPOSED)

LITERATURE

THE NETSUKE ILLUSTRATES THE LEGEND OF CHOKARO, ONE OF THE TAOIST IMMORTALS, OR SENIN, AND HIS MAGIC HORSE WHICH CARRIED HIM THOUSANDS OF MILES YET COULD BE TUCKED INTO A GOURD. A POPULAR JAPANESE SAYING IS BASED ON THE SURPRISE OF CHOKARO'S HORSE EMERGING FROM THE GOURD: 'HYOTAN KARA KOMA' MEANING AN UNEXPECTED OCCURRENCE.