Finch & Co



UNUSUAL JAPANESE NATURALISTIC COPPER NETSUKE IN THE FORM OF A BAMBOO NODE

AN UNUSUAL JAPANESE NATURALISTIC COPPER NETSUKE IN THE FORM OF A BAMBOO NODE FINELY INLAID WITH A SILVER CRESCENT MOON AND SHAKUDO LEAVES

SIGNED TO THE REVERSE 'YOSHIOKA INABA NO SAKU'

THIS NETSUKE IS AN EMBLEM OF FIDELITY AS THE JAPANESE WORD FOR A 'NODE OF BAMBOO' IS 'SETSU' WHICH ALSO MEANS 'FIDELITY'

MEIJI PERIOD (1868 - 1912) CIRCA 1880 - 1890

SIZE: 4CM HIGH, 2CM WIDE, 0.5CM DEEP - 1½ INS HIGH, ¾ INS WIDE, ¼ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

NETSUKE MADE OF IRON AND SOFT METALS WERE PRODUCED BY THE SAME ARTISANS WHO CREATED SWORD FITTINGS. THEIR SKILL WAS AT A VERY HIGH LEVEL TO THAT EXPECTED BY THE SAMURAI PATRONS. THESE TWO FINELY SCULPTED EXAMPLES ARE ALSO RARE AS THEY ARE NOT 'KAGAMIBUTA' THAT IS CLASPS MADE FOR SAGEMONO OR PIPE CASES, OR 'KANAGU', THE METAL FITTINGS USED ON THE FRONT OF PIPE BAGS, ALL OF WHICH WERE MORE COMMONLY MADE BY THE CRAFTSMEN OF SWORD FURNITURE.