Finch & Co



JAPANESE BAMBOO WATER DROPPER CARVED WITH A CICADA OR SCARAB BEETLE

A FINE JAPANESE BAMBOO WATER DROPPER CARVED WITH A CICADA OR SCARAB BEETLE TO THE RIM

SMOOTH AGED YELLOWISH BROWN PATINATION RESEMBLING STONEWARE

EDO PERIOD LATE 18TH – EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 5.5CM HIGH, 5CM DIA. - 2¼ INS HIGH, 2 INS DIA.

LITERATURE

WATER VESSELS FOR THE SCROLL PAINTER OR CALLIGRAPHER TAKE VARIOUS FORMS DEPENDING ON THEIR FUNCTION. THE INK-STONE REQUIRES A CONTROLLED AMOUNT OF WATER AND THIS DROPPER IS OF THE TYPE WHERE THE FLOW OF WATER COULD BE CONTROLLED BY PLACING A FINGER OR THUMB OVER THE AIR HOLE. WITH THIS VESSEL A TINY AMOUNT OF WATER COULD BE DEPOSITED ON THE INK-STONE ENABLING THE ARTIST TO THICKEN OR WATER DOWN THE CONSISTENCY OF THE INK AS NEEDED.

MOST OF THE OBJECTS USED BY ARTISTS OR SCHOLARS IN THEIR STUDIOS WERE ARTFULLY CONCEIVED WITH LAYERS OF MEANING. IN JAPAN THE CICADA IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUMMER SEASON AND FOR MANY THE JAPANESE SUMMER DOES NOT OFFICIALLY BEGIN UNTIL THE FIRST SONGS OF THE CICADA ARE HEARD.