Finch & Co



A SUPERB AND RARE 'JINGASA' IN THE SHAPE OF 'MOUNT FUJI'

CIRCA 1854 - 1860

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VERY FINE CONDITION

BLACK LACQUER, WOOD, COTTON, LEATHER, GILT

JAPAN

LATE EDO PERIOD / 1854 - 1860

SIZE: 12CM HIGH, 43CM DIA. - 4¾ INS HIGH, 17 INS DIA.

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LITERATURE

THE 'JINGASA' IS A TYPE OF 'KASA' COMMONLY WORN BY SAMURAI AND 'ASHIGARU' (FOOT SOLDIERS). THE SAMURAI CLASS IN FEUDAL JAPAN, AS WELL AS THEIR 'RETAINERS' AND FOOT SOLDIERS, USED SEVERAL TYPES OF 'JINGASA' MADE OF LACQUER, IRON, COPPER, WOOD, PAPER, BAMBOO OR LEATHER, WHICH ALMOST ALWAYS HAD 'CRESTS' ON THEM.

THIS 'JINGASA' OF 'ICHIMONJI' TYPE, MOULDED FROM BOILED LEATHER, 'NERIKAWA URUSHI-NURI' AND DRY LACQUER 'HARIKAKE', IS A VERY UNUSUAL HAT, THE GRACEFUL FLARED FLANKS AND FLAT TOP REMINISCENT OF THE SACRED MOUNT FUJI. THE UNDERSIDE IS DECORATED WITH SMALL 'SQUARES' OF GOLD LEAF. UNUSALLY, THE HAT STILL RETAINS

A ‘WASHI’ (PAPER BAG) WITH ‘KANJI’ READING: ANSEÏ ERA, 1857, THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE, MORNING GLORY, ‘HIKOKASU’, PROBABLY THE NAME OF THE OWNER.

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