



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Meiji Carved Ivory Brush Holder, Japan



690 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Ivory

Length : 5.5cm

Width : 6.7cm

Height : 12.5cm

Depth : 10cm

Description

This exceptional cylindrical brush holder is a finely crafted work of Japanese art. The piece is carved from a noble material, ivory, with a lid adorned with a delicate miniature flower. The Sculpture and Figures: The entire cylinder is covered with a high-relief depicting a lively and popular scene, typical of rural community life or a local festival. A multitude of figures are represented with striking realism. At the center of the composition, a group is actively engaged in preparing mochi (rice cakes), pounding rice in a large mortar. Around them, other figures are visible: a man in a conical hat rests on a staff, while a courageous woman carries a heavy load on her back, suggesting scenes of market life or travel. Details and Style: The sculptor paid meticulous attention to detail, including the

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draping of the kimonos, the animated facial expressions, and the landscape setting composed of stylized pine trees and chrysanthemums. This dense and narrative style is emblematic of Japanese export art from the Meiji period (1868-1912). This vessel is a precious testament to the exceptional skill of Japanese artisans of that era.