



Japanese Bronze By Iwase Seiho: Falcon



1 200 EUR

Signature : Iwase Seiho ????

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Bronze

Height : 26 cm

Description

A refined Japanese okimono in bronze depicting a falcon, signed Iwase Seiho (????), dating from the early Showa era, circa 1930-1945. The sculpture depicts a falcon balanced on a stylized rocky promontory, its body tilted slightly forward and its head raised in moment of alert immobility. The composition is both dynamic and controlled, conveys a restrained power and acute awareness traditionally associated with birds of prey in Japanese culture. Historically associated with nobility and prestige, falcons bear witness to their long association with falconry and elite activities in Japan. Rendered in finely cast bronze, the work is distinguished by its sober, modern treatment of form. The plumage is deliberately simplified, favoring flowing, harmonious volumes over complex surface details. This approach reflects

Dealer

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the aesthetic change between the wars, when Japanese goldsmiths moved away from the naturalistic Meiji style, adopting a more sculptural and design-oriented language influenced in part by Art Deco. The warm brown patina, subtly modulated, accentuates the sharpness of the form and lends the piece a discreet sophistication. The rocky base, stylized and almost architectural, blends harmoniously with the figure, reinforcing the overall balance of the composition. Iwase Seiho's works are relatively rare and poorly documented, but they bear witness to exceptional craftsmanship and a clear sensitivity to proportions and volumes. His bronzes occupy a singular place in the production of the Showa period, bridging the gap between traditional okimono subjects and a more modern aesthetic vocabulary. This example stands out for its particularly successful synthesis of presence, elegance and sobriety - qualities that make it both a decorative object and a sculptural work of art. It is an excellent example of early Showa bronzework, and will appeal to collectors of Japanese art as well as those interested in twentieth-century design.