



PROANTIC

LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Solid Copper Tsuba - Meiji Period (late 19th Century) - Ryuko And Ken Motif - Mumei



420 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Copper

Description

Solid copper tsuba, dating from the late Meiji era (late 19th century). This piece stands out from modern industrial productions due to its complex artistic composition, its organic patina, and the finesse of its engraving. It is an art object steeped in symbolism.

CHARACTERISTICS: Material: High-density solid copper. Period: Late 19th century (Meiji era, a period of artistic transition). Technique: Artistic casting with hand-finished details. Border (Mimi):

A fine, precise border, reflecting a pursuit of elegance and lightness characteristic

of high-quality pieces. Patina: Deep natural patina with rich shades, accentuating the reliefs and contrasts of the scene. Weight: 117

grams Dimensions: Diameter 8

cm **ICONOGRAPHY AND SYMBOLISM:** The

Dealer

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Saint-Doulchard 18230

composition is a model of visual storytelling: Ryuko (Dragon and Tiger): The dragon (celestial, Yang) and the tiger (terrestrial, Yin) are depicted in a symbolic duel. This union represents the perfect balance of opposing forces necessary for wisdom and self-control. The Ken (Sword of Wisdom): A central, rare, and significant element, the dragon is coiled around a Ken (straight sword). In Esoteric Buddhism, this blade represents the decisive action of the warrior and the spiritual power that cuts through ignorance. Continuity (Omote/Ura): The design is continuous from one side to the other, with the dragon's tail winding harmoniously around the structure, making this tsuba a cohesive work of art from every angle. POINT OF INTEREST: Rarity of the motif: Unlike the mass-produced items found on the market today, this piece features a complex iconography (Dragon + Tiger + Ken) that is very uncommon. "Special Edition" Quality: The finesse of the details, the texture of the copper, and the care taken in the chiseling after casting clearly distinguish it from modern industrial fittings. Period Piece: A testament to the transition of Japanese craftsmanship toward decorative art in the late 19th century, it possesses a "soul" and historical weight that contemporary replicas lack. CONDITION: Patina: Very beautiful, unaltered antique patina, giving it an noble and "weathered" appearance. Structure: Excellent structural integrity, with clean and precise edges.