Japanese Wakizashi With An Openwork Iron Tsuba And A Green Braided Handle - Edo-period Mount



450 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Wrought iron

Length : 65 cm

Description

A Japanese wakizashi featuring a slightly curved, single-edged blade and a traditional mount. Its slender silhouette is accentuated by a circular iron guard and a handle wrapped in olive-green braiding.The handle, or tsuka, is covered with grainy-textured stingray skin, visible through the diamond-shaped openings in the wrapping. Embossed metal ornaments, known as menuki, are set beneath the intersections of the wrapping. A metal ferrule marks the base of the handle, while its tip is protected by an openwork pommel that reveals the underlying covering.The guard, or tsuba, has a dark, patinated surface. Its openwork design combines small, elongated and dot-like openings arranged in geometric patterns. Two larger openings frame the central passage of the blade. Metal washers, known as seppa, complete

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the assembly on either side of the guard.At the base of the blade, a copper habaki features a large circular opening on its side, a distinctive detail of this mount. The tang, examined outside the handle, is unsigned (mumei) and has a single mounting hole.The sword retains a distinctly antique appearance, with a contrast between the patina of the iron, the coppery hues of the habaki, and the muted green of the cord wrapping.Condition: The blade is heavily oxidized and pitted, with several chips along the cutting edge and wear on the tip. Handle shows wear and fraying of the braiding; metal fittings are patinated and oxidized. Presented without a scabbard. See photographs for conservation details.Origin: Japan.Date of the mount: Edo period, 18th-19th century. (but likely older)Blade: antique, unsigned; precise date not established.Total length: 65 cm.Distance from the tsuba to the tip: 47 cm.Blade width: 2.5 cm.Blade thickness: slightly more than 5 mm.