

SA1107007

Japanese Tea Bowl (Chawan),
Ninsei Kyo-ware Style, Late
Edo Period (1800–1849)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1107007

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Description

A Japanese antique earthenware tea ceremony bowl (Chawan) in the style of Nonomura Ninsei, created during the Edo period. The bowl is hand-painted with a summer flower pattern and gilded elements over a glazed body. Enamel cracking (known as "mesh") is characteristic of this type of ceramic. A Japanese tea bowl is called a Chawan, and the earliest examples in Japan were imported from China between the 13th and 16th centuries. Over time, as the Japanese tea ceremony developed into a distinct cultural form, locally made Japanese pottery and porcelain grew in prestige. By the Edo period, bowls were often produced in Japan and came in a variety of shapes and sizes. This piece is associated with Kyo-ware, a style pioneered by Nonomura Ninsei (1648–1690), who worked in Kyoto. His work marks a turning point in the history of Kyoto ware. In 1647, Ninsei built a kiln near the Ninnaji Temple in Omuro, northwest Kyoto. He achieved great success in creating tea ware. Unlike painted styles that used iron pigments under a transparent glaze, his overglaze decoration involved applying enamel over the glaze, which allowed for more colorful and detailed designs. Ninsei is credited with dev...

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