

SA1188782

Miniature Japanese Satsuma Vase with Signed Chosei Mark, Meiji Period

Price

GBP 400

| USD \$541 | EUR 468

Item Reference: SA1188782

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 10.7 cm (4.2")

Width = 5.4 cm (2.1")

Depth = 5.4 cm (2.1")

Description

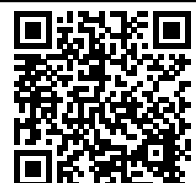
This exceptional miniature Japanese vase exemplifies the refined aesthetic and technical mastery of Kyoto Satsuma ware during the Meiji era (circa 1890–1910). Despite its small size, the piece demonstrates the level of decorative precision typically reserved for much larger vessels. The vase presents a rich, continuous narrative in finely painted panels, depicting noble female and male figures among pine trees and stylised clouds, executed in polychrome enamels with lavish use of gilding. The central female figure — likely the bodhisattva Kannon — is accompanied by a dark, wide-eyed spirit emerging from behind, possibly a guardian or demonic presence, a common feature in Japanese Buddhist iconography. The surrounding diaper-work, floral medallions and textile-like motifs in gold highlight the meticulous brushwork and layered decoration. Technically, the vase is crafted from fine cream stoneware with a transparent crackled glaze, typical of Kyoto Satsuma. The foot bears a rectangular reserve containing a clear gilt mark: ??? (Chosei-zo), meaning “Made by Chosei”, a known Kyoto studio artist active in the late Meiji period. Miniature Satsuma vases of this quality are inc...

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