

SA1197367

"Repentant Demon" — A Masterful Meiji-Era Tomochika School Netsuke

Price

GBP 1,450

| USD \$1,958 | EUR 1,698

Item Reference: SA1197367**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 3.5 cm (1.4")

Width = 4.5 cm (1.8")

Description

"Repentant Demon" — A Masterful Meiji-Era Tomochika School Netsuke This is a superb Meiji Period (1868–1912) Japanese Netsuke, standing 3.5cm tall and 4.5cm wide. Carved from natural bone, the piece depicts the famous folklore subject Oni no Nenbutsu—the "Praying Demon." In this satirical scene, a once-fearsome Oni (ogre) has humorously "converted" to Buddhism. He is shown as a wandering priest sitting beside a massive Temple Bell (tsurigane), holding a mallet and a subscription ledger. The carving is highly expressive, using a polychrome stain to create deep shadows and bring out the muscular detail of the demon and the heavy texture of the bronze bell. The Signatures & Engravings This piece is uniquely detailed, featuring a "triple-threat" of markings that confirm its high-end origin: The Workshop Mark: Inscribed in red on the side of the ledger is the character (Tomo). This links the piece to the Tomochika School, a legendary lineage of Tokyo carvers famous for their witty, high-detail folklore figures. The Prestige Seal: On the base is a small red lacquer inlay containing the character (To), meaning "carved." This separate inlay was an "upgrade" used by master wo...

Seller Details

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