

SA1205154

Pair of Japanese Satsuma hexagonal vases with Rakan and dragon, Meiji–Taisho

Price

GBP 750

| USD \$1,015 | EUR 878

Item Reference: SA1205154

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 15.8 cm (6.2")

Width = 6.5 cm (2.6")

Depth = 6.5 cm (2.6")

Description

These two Japanese Satsuma vases form a true pair, matching in size, shape, palette and overall decorative effect, which is an important advantage both visually and commercially. Their strong paired presence makes them far more desirable than two merely related cabinet pieces, and together they create a highly coherent and impressive display. The decoration is of notably good quality. The figures are individually characterised rather than treated as repetitive stock faces, and the painter has handled the composition with confidence across both bodies. The long dragon is especially striking, and the raised moriage work around it adds texture, relief and visual depth. Rich gilding remains one of the strongest features of the pair, giving the surfaces a warm and luxurious presence that is entirely in keeping with better late Meiji export Satsuma. These vases belong to the circle of good-quality Satsuma workshops producing refined wares for export in the late Meiji to early Taisho period. They are clearly above ordinary tourist-grade Satsuma in both execution and decorative ambition. The combination of figural painting, dragon imagery, dense gilding and moriage gives them e...

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