

SA1209227

Japanese Sumida Gawa Cup and Saucer with Applied Sage Figures, Attributed to Ishiguro Kōko — Meiji / Early Taishō Period

Price

GBP 230

| USD \$311 | EUR 269

Item Reference: SA1209227**Date of manufacture: 1910**

Description

An unusual Sumida ware (和歌山 / Sumida-gawa) cup and saucer set, Japan, late Meiji to early Taishō period, c. 1900–1920, bearing a partially obscured oval seal mark to the underside of the saucer that reads consistently with Kōko (和歌), attributed to the workshop of Ishiguro Kōko. The form is striking and uncommon within the Sumida repertoire: the cup is raised on a short cylindrical pedestal foot that sits within a recessed well at the centre of the saucer, producing a tall, almost chalice-like silhouette when the two elements are combined, rather than the flat-footed teacup more usually seen in the kiln's output. The body of both pieces is worked in a strong coral-red slip that has been scraped and textured to reveal the iron-brown earthenware beneath, giving the surface a weathered, almost lacquered quality. Over this, a glossy black treacle glaze has been poured from above, flowing down in irregular drips and pools that meet the red slip in ragged, scalloped edges — the characteristic Sumida flambé effect. The interior of the cup is glazed in a deep mossy green that reads almost black, with the saucer rim finished in a warm amber-brown band where the treacle thins. App...

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