

SA1209324

Sumida Gawa Pottery Suiban / Brush Washer with Two Climbing Figures, Signed Kōko, Meiji–Taishō Period

Price

GBP 400

| USD \$541 | EUR 468

Item Reference: SA1209324**Date of manufacture: 1910**

Description

A hand-thrown Sumida ware (すみだ / Sumida-gawa) lobed suiban or brush washer, Japan, late Meiji to early Taishō period, c. 1900–1920, signed Kōko and attributed to the potter Ishiguro Kōko (石黒 公生). An iron-rich red earthenware body of heavily ribbed, wheel-thrown form, the exterior finished with the characteristic Sumida matte red "flashed" slip — here showing the extensive honest wear and flaking typical of the type, the slip never vitrified and wearing away in use to reveal the pale grogged clay beneath. The interior and upper rim are covered in a deep olive-green glaze pooling thickly in the well, meeting a lustrous aubergine-red flambé band at the lobed and folded rim that drips irregularly down the exterior — the flambé effect typical of the workshop. The applied figural decoration is separately modeled and glazed in porcelainous white, cobalt underglaze blue, iron-brown and green, attached to the body before the final firing. Two three-dimensional figures of old men — each with a bald pate, tufted black hair, heavy brows and grotesquely expressive features — clamber over opposite sides of the rim as if climbing into the bowl. One is clad in a blue overgarment wit...

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