

SA1232141

Japanese Meiji Bronze Miniature Minogame Tortoise & Young Sculpture c1880

Price

GBP 189

| USD \$258 | EUR 221

Item Reference: SA1232141**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 4.3 cm (1.7")

Width = 8.6 cm (3.4")

Depth = 6.3 cm (2.5")

Description

Japanese Meiji Bronze Miniature Minogame Tortoise & Young Sculpture c1880 This is a wonderfully unusual and characterful antique Japanese Bronze sculpture depicting a mythical Minogame tortoise carrying a smaller tortoise upon its back. Dating to the Meiji period, circa 1880–1900, the miniature bronze has been charmingly modelled with the larger creature standing upon four outstretched legs, its elongated neck terminating in a wonderfully expressive dragon-like head with an open mouth. The domed shell is finely decorated with traditional geometric patterning and is surmounted by a delightful smaller tortoise, creating an especially appealing composition. The outer perimeter of the shell has been modelled with flowing, almost flame or seaweed-like decoration, terminating in a series of pointed projections towards the rear. The combination of the exaggerated head, spreading feet and elaborate shell gives the bronze a particularly distinctive Japanese character. In Japanese culture, the minogame is a legendary tortoise associated with extreme longevity, good fortune and prosperity, and consequently became a popular auspicious subject within Japanese decorative arts. Of...

Seller Details

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