

Basic Detail Report



Box (tebako) with design of peonies and family crests

Date

19th century

Primary Maker

Unidentified artist

Medium

Wood, gold and black lacquer

Description

Gold lacquer on black ground; inside lined with gold brocade. Two round brass rings for cords, metal rim all around edge of box and cover. Gold and nashiji ("pear-skin") lacquer decoration of five petal plum crest with peony scrolls. Five petal plum crest represents Sugawara Michizane, or Kwanko, the famous Minister of Right, highest rank in the imperial court of the Emperor Daigo (900 A.D.). He was enshrined in the main shrine at Kyoto called Temmangu and Dadaifu and many other places in Japan. This style of plum blossom "mon" (family crest) was used by Generals Maeda Toshiiye (1538-1599) and Maeda Toshinaga (1562-1614), although this object was created long after their lifetimes.

Dimensions

Including ring handles: 9 × 13 × 11 1/2 inches (22.9 × 33 × 29.2 cm)