



Ryoshibako (document box) with a design of a samurai on horseback

Date

ca. 1920

Primary Maker

Kozan

Medium

Lacquer, gold, and semiprecious inlays

Description

This document box depicts a samurai on horseback looking toward distant mountains and is decorated in the shibayama style, inlaid with small semiprecious appliqués such as mother-of-pearl, tortoiseshell, enamel, and ivory. The mountains were created using the togidashi technique against the glossy black background. In the foreground, grasses are depicted in hiramaki-e on the ground of kinpun (gold powder), together with water created in togidashi. The box's interior is decorated in dramatic nashiji clouds. Black lacquer kiri-wood storage box inscribed Koyo Kari Oryôshi (box for papers with décor of autumn hunting), inside seal mark in gold lacquer of artist Kôzan.

Dimensions

6 × 13 1/16 × 16 5/16 inches (15.2 × 33.2 × 41.4 cm); With storage box: 8 1/8 × 14 1/2 × 17 5/8 inches (20.6 × 36.8 × 44.8 cm)