



Japanese Maki-e Lacquer Fubako (Letter Box), with Pair of Deer Motif.

This exceptional Japanese fubako (letter box), is beautifully decorated in finely executed gold and silver maki-e on a rich brown-black lacquer ground.

The gently rounded lid depicts a stag and doe resting among a field of autumn grasses, one of the most celebrated motifs in Japanese art. Associated with the sacred deer of Nara and the beauty of the autumn season, the composition embodies elegance, serenity, and the refined aesthetic of the late Edo period. The decoration extends seamlessly around all four sides of the box with luxuriant sprays of autumn grasses rendered in varying tones and textures of gold and silver. A removable interior tray is subtly embellished with a matching design, while the original braided silk cord and lotus-form ring pull remain intact, enhancing both the beauty and authenticity of the piece. Executed using a combination of traditional maki-e techniques, including raised and finely textured gold lacquer, the decoration displays remarkable depth and sophistication. The restrained interior provides a

harmonious contrast to the richly ornamented exterior, exemplifying the refined craftsmanship for which eighteenth-century Japanese lacquer is renowned. Originally intended for the storage of letters, documents, or treasured papers, this fubako is both a functional object and a work of art. Its elegant proportions, exquisite lacquerwork, and timeless autumn landscape make it an outstanding example of late Edo-period Japanese lacquer and a distinguished addition to any collection of Asian art or finely crafted decorative objects.

PRICE

\$9,500

PERIOD:	c.1780
ORIGIN:	Japan
DIMENSIONS:	6" h x 11 3/4" w x 8 3/4" d 15.2cm h x 29.8cm w x 22.2cm d
ITEM #:	A5597
