

Single-Owner Collections / Thursday, 23rd April 2026 / Lot 4049



LOT 4049

A fine Japanese su-yari with long triangular-section blade, Edo period, blade length 46cm, the deep-fullered face highlighted with red lacquer decoration, the long tang with single hole piercing and signed to one face, mounted on a long red lacquer shaft with corrugated finish, the upper grip section picked out with gilt painted decoration, with rattan and copper metal bindings and steel hiramaki terminal, overall length 290cm, the blade with red lacquer saya. Provenance: the collection of the late Roald Knutsen (1933-2025); purchased from Wallis & Wallis, December 1959, for £2. Note: Roald Knutsen identified the signature as Kanezaki and noted twenty-three smiths of this name recorded and that Mr B.W. Robinson said this piece dates to the last part of the 17th or first part of the 18th century, probably made by the fifth generation of Kanezaki.

Estimate: £300 - £400

Condition Report

40489. Blade/head looks to be refinished. Some light evidence of old rust in places particularly around the head area. Gilt decoration finish on upper grip area is quite worn. Lacquer along full length of shaft has some bruises, general marks, knocks, one area towards the end with recent white paint streak.

Hiramaki terminal with some active rust.

Saya with general lacquer losses particularly around joining seams. Losses to tip area quite substantial with cord binding repair. General losses to lacquer throughout.

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