



ITEM# UJKA402

A NIDAI IPPÔ KATANA

SIGNED, EARLY EDO PERIOD (TENNA ERA: 1681~1684)

Swordsmith:	<i>Ippô (nidai, second generation, ubu nakago)</i>		
Measurements:	Length: 74.5cm	Curvature: 1.5cm	Motohaba: 3.0cm
Jihada:	<i>Well forged itame-hada and masame-hada</i>		
Hamon:	<i>Bursting gunome-chôji-midare with long ashi and plentiful sunagashi</i>		
Certificate #1:	NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon (designated as Especially Worthy of Preservation)		
Certificate #2-4:	NTHK-NPO Kanteisho (sword, koshirae, tsuba and FK designated as Authentic)		
Fujishiro:	Jô-saku (ranked as a superior swordsmith)		
Sharpness:	Wazamono (rated as a maker of good sharp swords)		
Included:	Shirasaya, koshirae, bag, stand, kit, booklet, printed description		

SOLD

For those looking for an extra-long katana with a bright and lively hamon to lift the spirits, here is a sword definitely worth considering. Second generation (*nidai*) *Ippô* was known as *Sasaki Zenjirô* is the son of *shodai Ippô* (featured earlier in this catalogue) and originally from Ômi province. He went on to study with *shodai Korekazu* in Edo (the nation's capital Tokyo) to hone his skills. Nidai Ippo has achieved prestigious *Jûyô Tôken* which reflects the skill of his work. This katana is a full 74.5cm in *nagasa* and has been recently been polished to a superb standard. Complimenting the sword is a terrific set of koshirae that features a *fuchi-kashira* dragon meshed within powerful waves, a long-life arabesque and peony themed *tsuba* with protective *shisa* lions in the form of *shakudô menuki*. Five certificates in total accompany this impressive katana.



Saki-kasane: 4.8mm

Moto-kasane: 7.1mm

Omosa: 850g

Kissaki: 3.09cm
Saki-haba: 1.97cm

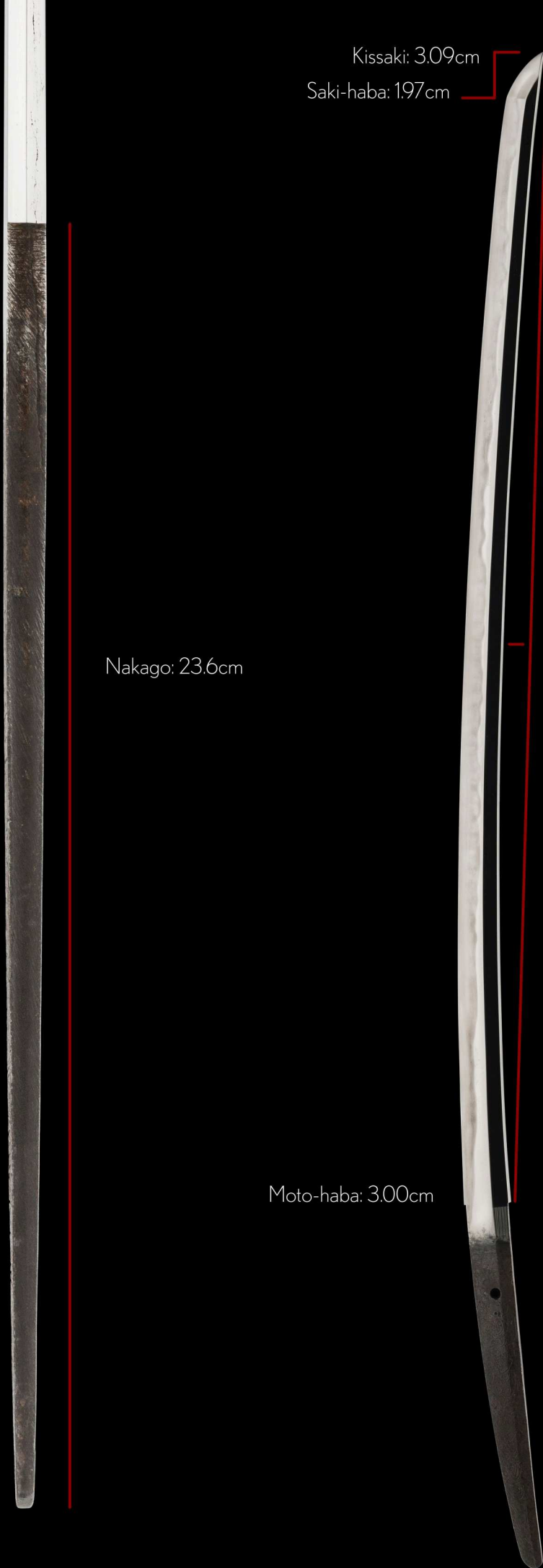
Nakago: 23.6cm

Moto-haba: 3.00cm

Nagasa: 74.5cm

Sori: 1.50cm

Mekugi-ana: 1



Known also as *Sasaki Zenjirô*, son of the first generation Ippô, he was ranked *wazamono* (sharp sword maker) and from the famed *Ishido* school that has its roots to the *Bizen Ichimonji* school.

The Ishido school started in Ômi province and multiplied to cities such as Osaka and Tokyo. Shodai remained in Ômi province, and so did Nidai Zenjiro for much of his life. Zenjiro eventually moved to Tokyo later on to work with *shodai Korekazu* of the famed Edo Ishido school.

The steel flows like a stream that bursts into *sunagashi* in several places. The hamon is an extra bright and bubbling *gunome chôji-midare* with long impressive *ashi* (legs) running down the long length of the blade.

Fujishiro ranks Zenjirô a *jô-saku* (superior smith) and one the finest smiths of Ômi province during the shintô period.

Quite interesting to note is that the *nakago* (tang) is signed with the characters *Nyûdô*. This is the name used when a smith becomes a monk, devoting himself to Buddhism.





Location: *Ômi* (resident of Shiga)

Family name: *Sasaki*

Monk name: *Nyûdô*

Clan name: *Minamoto*

Swordsmith: *Ippô* (second generation)

ubu-nakago (original, unaltered tang)

o-sujikai-yasurime (diagonal file marks)

江 (Gô)

州 (shû)

住 (jû)

人 (nin)

佐 (Sa)

々 (sa)

木 (ki)

入 (Nyû)

道 (dô)

源 (Minamoto)

一 (I)

峯 (ppô)



(*ura*, reverse)

03202103

No 1015542



鑑定書

一刃 銘 江州住人佐々木入道源一峯

長 二尺四寸六分

右は當協會に於て審査の結果特別保存刀剣と
鑑定しこれを証する

令和三年五月二十四日

公益財団法人日本美術刀剣保存協會



東京都 教育委員会
第 322853 号
令和2年12月8日

NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon Certificate of Designation

A sword designated as *Especially Worthy of Conservation*
by the Society for the Preservation of the Japan Art Sword

Issued in the 3rd year of Reiwa (2021), May 24th

One, Katana

Mei (signature)

Gôshû jûnin Sasaki Nyûdô Minamoto Ippô


Nagasa (length)

2-shaku 4-sun 6-bu (74.5cm)

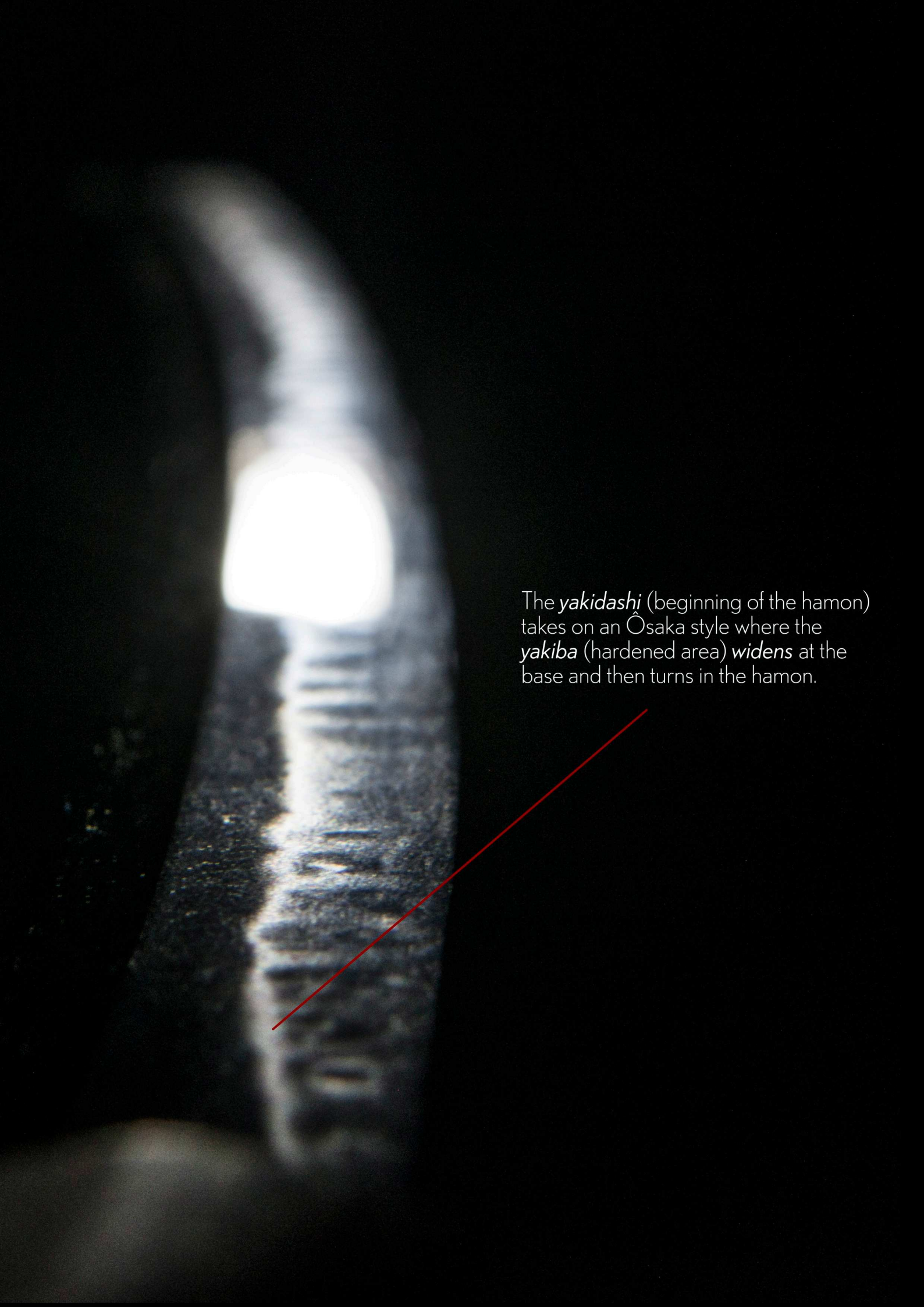
Nihon Bijutsu Token Hozon Kyokai
(NBTHK)





A close-up, low-angle shot of a katana blade against a black background. The blade is oriented vertically, with the tip at the top. A bright, circular light source is positioned behind the tip, creating a strong glow. The blade's surface is dark, but a distinct hamon (edge pattern) is visible, characterized by a series of long, parallel, slightly wavy lines that run down the length of the blade. A thin red line points from the text below to the hamon. The overall lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture and shape of the blade.

A dazzling *gunome-midare hamon* shines brightly with long *ashi* (legs).

A close-up photograph of a sword's hamon (temper line) against a dark background. The hamon is a bright, glowing line that runs vertically down the center of the blade. It has a distinct, slightly wider base at the top, which is the yakidashi. Below this base, the hamon narrows and then turns into a series of small, repeating, wavy patterns. A thin red line starts from the bottom left and points diagonally upwards towards the yakidashi area.

The *yakidashi* (beginning of the hamon) takes on an Ōsaka style where the *yakiba* (hardened area) *widens* at the base and then turns in the hamon.



Sweeping sands of *sunagashi*.

Sparks of divinity.



The hamon marches along...



Shirasaya
(protective scabbard)



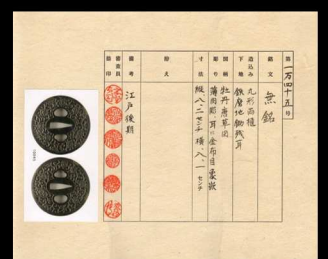
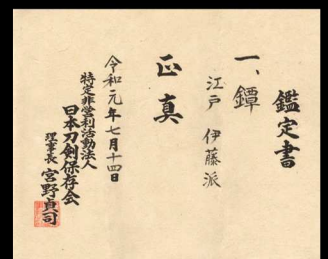
copper *habaki* with
diagonal file marks



This polished iron tsuba with raised rims and *nunome-zôgan* has been attributed to the *Itô* school in Edo province during the late Edo period.

The elegant arabesque design is intertwined with peonies. Arabesque vines symbolize long life and the peony is referred to as the "king of flowers" and a symbol of good fortune, bravery, and honour.

An NTHK-NPO Kanteisho certificate of authenticity attributing the piece to the *late-Edo period* circa 1780~1867 has been attained.



Be brave.





Waves flex their strength with a golden dragon in tow.





Fuchi-kashira
 attributed to
Tamagawa School in Mito province
 (1780-1867)

Dragon in waves



NTHK-NPO Kanteisho
 Certificate of Authenticity



Menuki (decorative grips on the hilt) carry a shisa lion and peony theme that brings harmony to the peonies seen on the tsuba.

These high quality shakudô menuki were crafted during the Late Edo period.

