



ITEM# UJKA427

A SUKENAO KATANA

SIGNED & DATED, EARLY EDO PERIOD (GENROKU ERA: AUGUST 1690)

Swordsmith:	<i>Tsuda Ômi no Kami Sukenao (1st generation)</i>
Measurements:	Length: 71.5cm (<i>ubu</i>) Curvature: 1.8cm Moto-haba: 3.18cm
Jihada:	<i>Tight koitame-hada with plenty of ji-nie</i>
Hamon:	<i>Billowing gunome mixed with tôran-ba, bright with a plenty of nie</i>
Certificate #1:	NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon (<i>Especially Worthy of Preservation</i>)
Certificate #2:	NTHK-NPO Yûshûsaku (<i>Designated as a Highly Excellent Masterwork</i>)
Certificate #3-5:	NTHK-NPO Kanteishô (<i>koshirae, tsuba, fk, certified as Authentic</i>)
Fujishiro rank:	Jôjô-saku (<i>ranked as a highly superior swordsmith</i>)
Sharpness:	Ryô-wazamono (<i>maker of extra sharp swords</i>)
Included:	Shirasaya, Edo koshirae, fabric bags, stand, kit, printed description

SOLD

Maestro *Sukenao* was born in the village of *Takagi* in 1639, and entered as an apprentice with grandmaster *Echizen no Kami Sukehiro* soon becoming his most prolific student. This sword is dated to August 1690 when *Sukenao* was 53 years old, three of four years before records show he died in 1693~94. This absolutely brilliant katana features a gorgeous *toran-midare hamon* in *Sukehiro* style and comes with an outstanding tiger-themed Edo period *koshirae*. *Sukenao* is ranked *jôjô-saku* (highly superior) and *ryô-wazamono* for the excellent cutting ability of his swords.



Saki-kasane: 5.2mm

Moto-kasane: 6.2mm

Kissaki: 3.50cm

Saki-haba: 2.16cm

Nagasa: 71.5cm

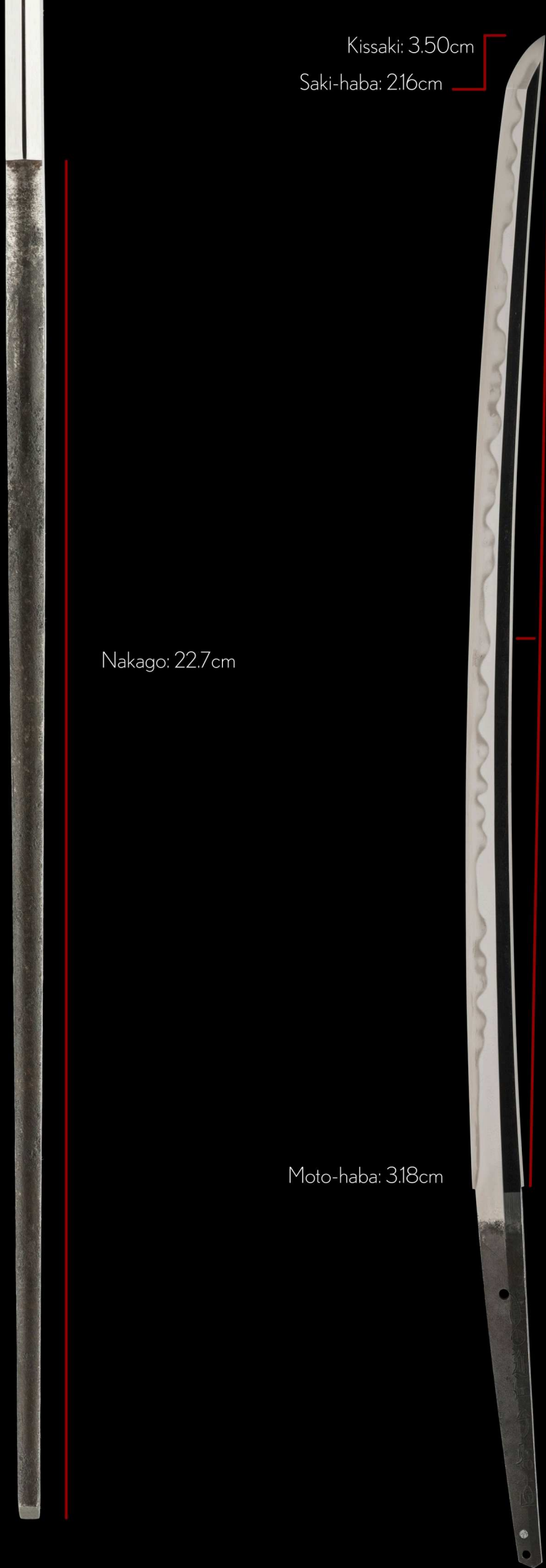
Nakago: 22.7cm

Sori: 1.80cm

Omosa: 720g

Moto-haba: 3.18cm

Mekugi-ana: 2



Maestro *Sukenao* was born in the village of *Takagi* in 1639, his birth name being *Tsuda Magodayû*. He entered as an apprentice of grandmaster *Echizen no Kami Sukehiro*, one the greatest smiths of the Shintô period. Sukenao later married Sukehiro's daughter in 1675 and became his most prolific student.

Sukenao lived in *Osaka Soya-chô* and his works are seen up until about *Genroku Roku-nen* (1693) as this was the year he died at the age of 55.

Dated to August 1690 when *Sukenao* was 53 years old, this brilliant katana features a gorgeous *toran-midare hamon* in *Sukehiro* style. This katana comes with an outstanding tiger-themed Edo period koshirae.


Sukenao is ranked *jôjô-saku* (highly superior smith) and *ryô-wazamono* for the excellent cutting ability of his swords.

This sword comes with an NBTHK Tokubetsu Hozon certificate and NTHK-NPO *Yûshûsaku* designation, their highest rank.



Location: *Settsu* (resident of Osaka)
Title: *Ômi no Kami* (Lord of Ômi province)
Family name: *Tsuda*
Swordsmith: *Sukenao* (first generation)

ubu-nakago (original, unaltered tang)
sujikai-yasurime (diagonal file marks)



津 (Tsu)

田 (da)

近 (Ô)

江 (mi, no)

守 (Kami)

助 (Suke)

直 (nao)

Genroku sannen hachigatsu hi

Dated on a day in the eighth month in the third year of Genroku era (August 1690)

(Gen) 元

(roku) 禄

(san) 三

(nen) 年

(hachi) 八

(gatsu) 月

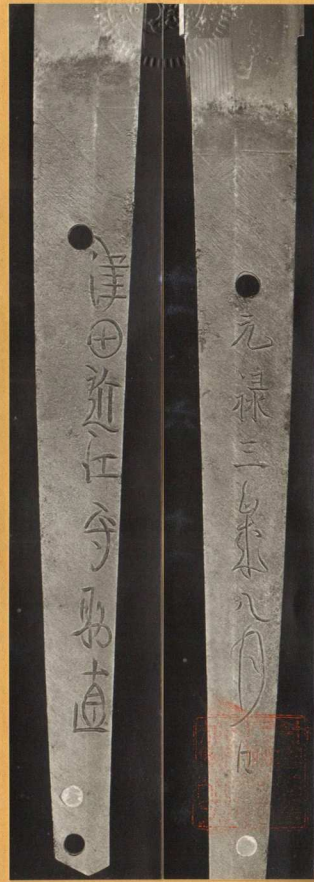
(hi) 日



Note the beautiful cursive script on the nakago which Sukenao began in 1682.

特保
11199905

№ 144460



鑑定書

長二尺三寸六分弱

一刀銘

津田近江守助直

元禄三歳八月日

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

平成十一年六月十一日

財団法人日本美術刀剣保存協會



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 11th year of Heisei (1999), June 11th

One, Katana

Mei (signature)

Tsuda Ômi no kami Sukenao
Genroku sannen hachigatsu hi

Nagasa (length)

2-shaku 3-sun 6-bu jaku (71.5cm)

Nihon Bijutsu Token Hozon Kyokai
(NBTHK)



捺 審 査 印 員	備 考	寸 法	拵 え	中 心	図 影 柄 り	鋨 子	刃 紋	下 地	鍛	造 り 込 み	銘 文	第 一 二 四 六 四 号
				目釘穴 三個 備捏 鍔化粧付筋違ハ		湾れ丸く返る	焼出し有り、大さね五の目に湯割刃交じり 良く拵付き明る評える			小板目詰み池拵付く	表 津田近江守助直 裏 元禄三年八月日 鑄造り 庵棟 生ぶ中心	棟

NTHK-NPO Yushusaku Certificate of Authenticity

This katana was designated as *Yushusaku* (Highly Excellent) by the Non-Profit Society for the Preservation of the Japanese Sword

One, Katana

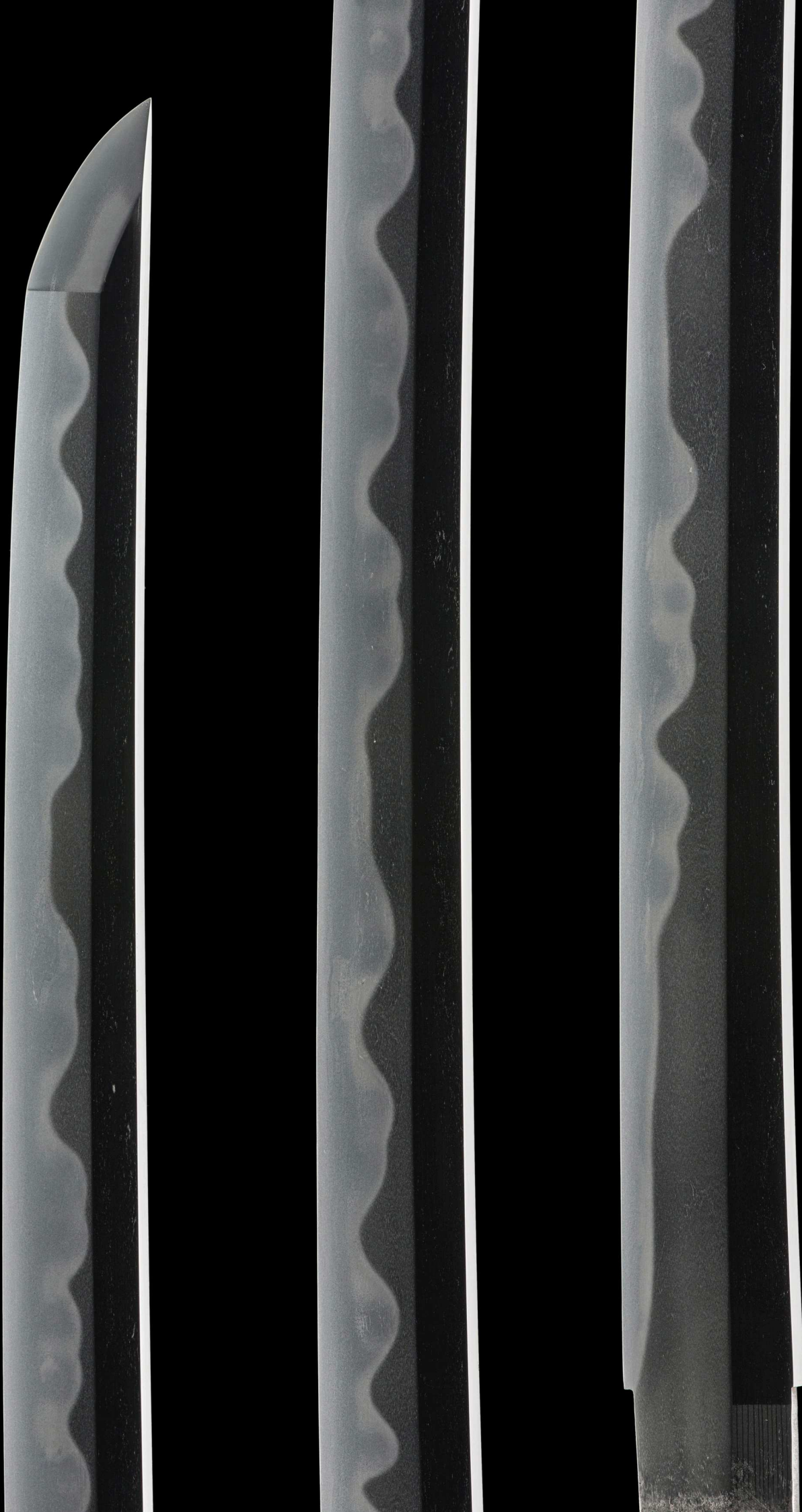
Mei (signature)
Tsuda Ômi no Kami Sukenao

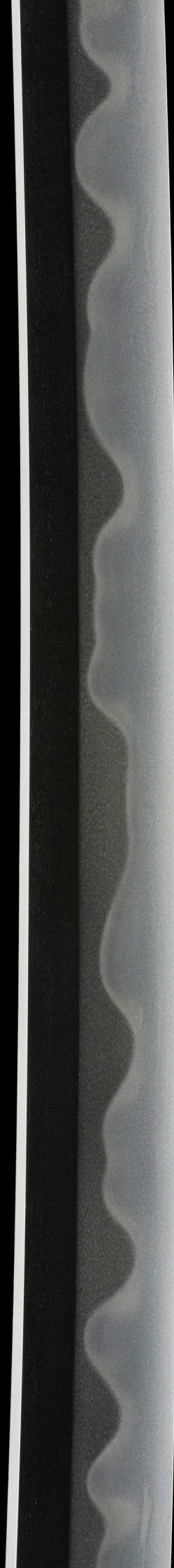
Nagasa (length)
2-shaku 3-sun 6-bu kore ari (71.5cm)


Issued in 5th year of Reiwa (2023), December 17th

Nihon Token Hozon Kai
(NTHK-NPO)

This sword has reached the highest level of honour at the NTHK-NPO.
Four judges have stamped their names to the certificate.







A simply outstanding example of a *toran-midare hamon* surging along the steel.

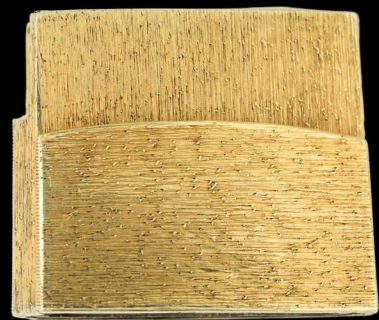
Note the consistency of the *nioguchi* (crystals that make up the hamon). This is the mark of a master smith.



See the light.



Shirasaya
(protective scabbard)

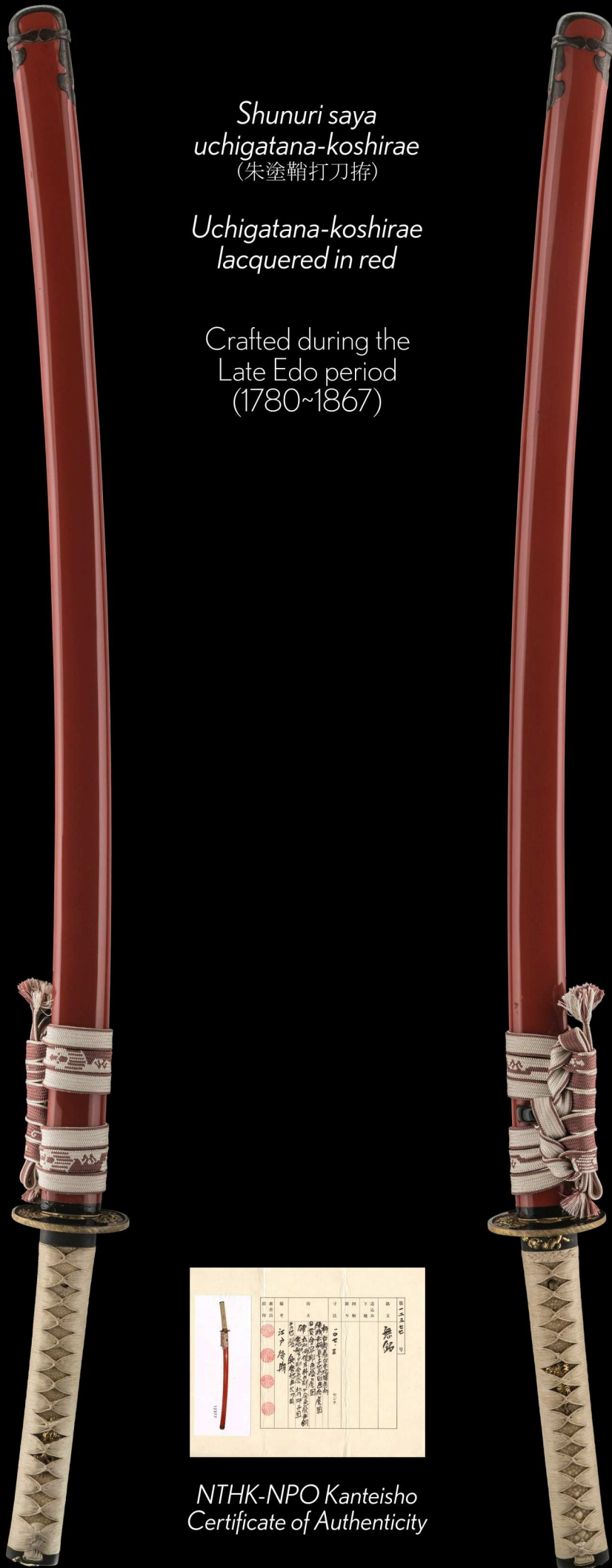


gold-wrapped *ni-ju habaki*
with crisp file marks

*Shunuri saya
uchigatana-koshirae*
(朱塗鞘打刀拵)

*Uchigatana-koshirae
lacquered in red*

Crafted during the
Late Edo period
(1780~1867)



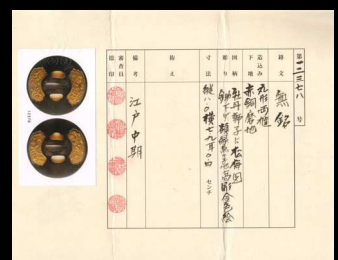
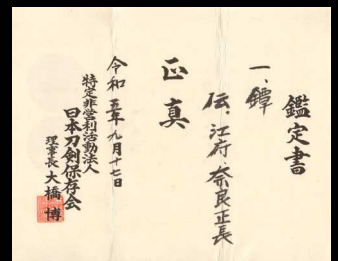
NTHK-NPO Kanteisho
Certificate of Authenticity



This splendid *tsuba* has been attributed to *Nara Masanaga* from Edo (Tokyo). It is unsigned and made of polished *shakudô*. The design is that of peony, guardian shisa lions, with a pine tree and plum.

It features *gakubuchi* (lit. frame) carved into the plate. Nanako ground inside the plate, gold accents.

Certified authentic from the NTHK-NPO.





(reverse)





Fuchi-kashira
attributed to
Yokoya Eisei
(1700s)

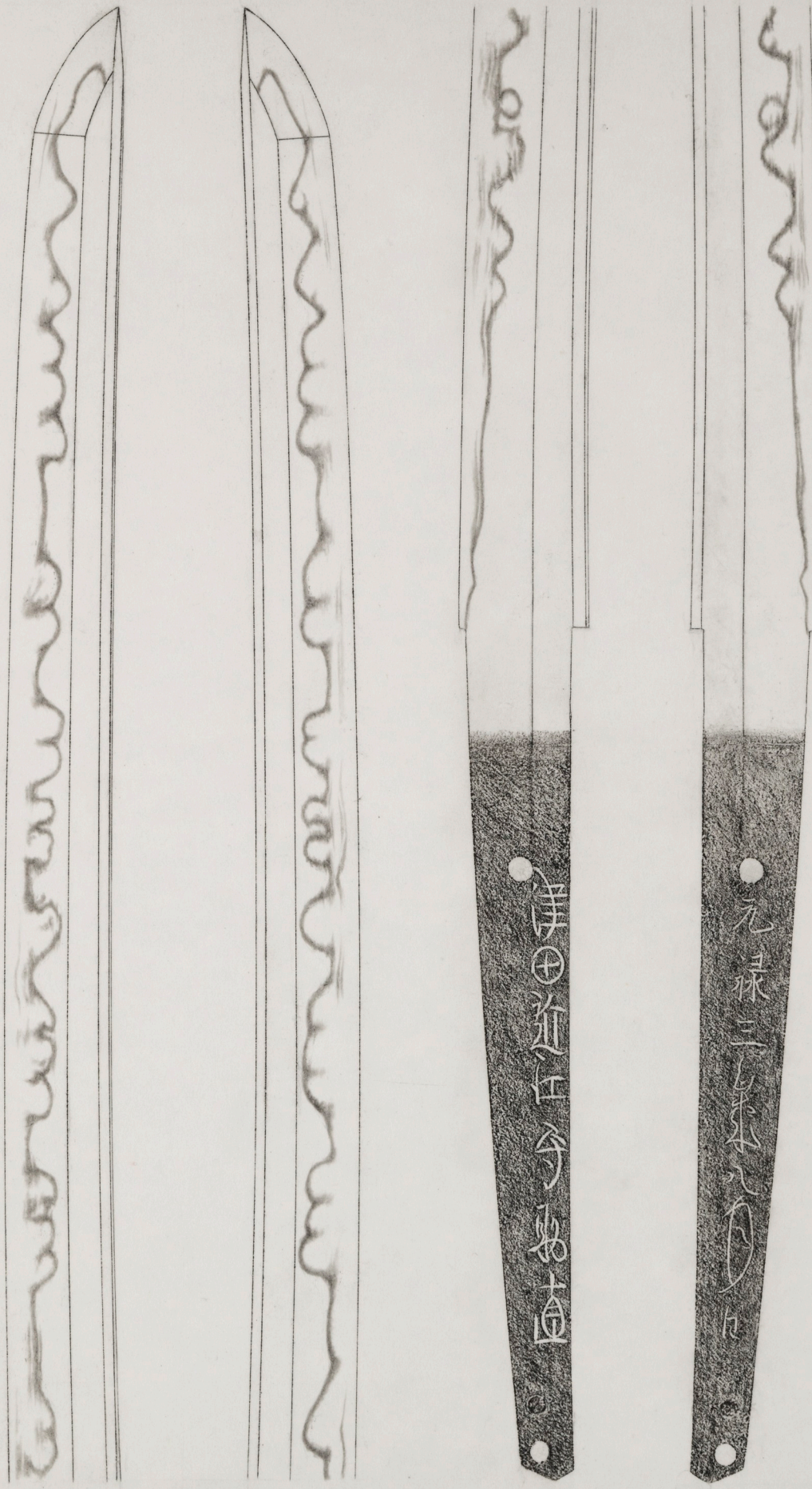
Tiger motif





Tigers in the form of *menuki* peek through the interwoven silk that is braided in *jabara-maki* form.





津 (Tsu)
田 (da)
近 (Ô)
江 (mi, no)
守 (Kami)
助 (Suke)
直 (nao)

A traditional *oshigata* (tracing) was produced by hand in Japan on *washi* paper documenting the sword's overall shape, signed contents on the *nakago* and the beautiful pattern of the *hamon*.



Congratulations Paul.

Warm regards,
Pablo

ARIGATO!

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*Nelson playing with Barney in the backyard.
Happy boy!*

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