



ITEM# UJWA155

## A MASAKUNI WAKIZASHI

UNSIGNED, LATE EDO PERIOD (BUNKA ERA: 1804-1818)

**Swordsmith:** Higo no Kuni MASAKUNI  
**Location:** Satsuma no Kuni (Kagoshima prefecture)  
**Measurements:** Length: 49.1cm Curvature: 1.1cm Motohaba: 3.1cm  
**Jihada:** Tight ko-itame  
**Hamon:** Gunome choji midare, ashi in hachu  
**Nakago:** Ubu-nakago, yamagata, kiri yasuri  
**Certificates (x 2):** NTHK-NPO Kanteisho (a sword AND fittings designated as Important by the Society for the Preservation of the Japanese Sword)  
**Included:** Koshirae, sword carry bag, sword stand, maintenance kit, DVD, printed care guide, registration and all exportation paperwork to home country

**SOLD**

This distinctive wakizashi is attributed to Masakuni, a rarely seen swordsmith who is the 4th generation descendant of Masayoshi in the Satsuma region. He was known as *Taira no Masayoshi*.

It is a highly creative work of art that displays the qualities of the Dotanuki School - a leading group that produced swords in the Bizen tradition during the Edo period in Higo province.

The Dotanuki School earned great admiration amongst the Samurai class from the mid-1500s due to their superior cutting ability. They were renowned for producing blades that would endure the harshest conditions; grueling battlefield encounters year in and year out.

Beautifully finished in a traditional *sashikomi* polish, the *hamon* displays wonderful accents of clove blossoms in direct respect of the Bizen tradition. The blade is extremely healthy and protected by a gorgeous *saya* (scabbard) decorated in lacquered mother-of-pearl. Further fittings are in a dragon theme with a fabulously unique gold *habaki* in the form of a *sensu* (Japanese fan).