Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Japanese Lacquer and Gilt-Painted Tea Table, Circa 1800

£245

Emmett & White Ltd
Cross House, Waterloo Square, Alfriston, East Sussex BN26 5UD
01323 870 595 • info@emmettandwhite.com • emmettandwhite.com

REF: 5155

Description

An elegant early 19th-century Japanese tea table, richly finished in lacquer and gilt-painted decoration, dating to circa 1800. Combining practical purpose with the refined decorative arts of Japan, this beautifully made piece has a quiet sophistication that makes it equally compelling as a functional occasional table or as a display object in its own right.

The table's surface is enhanced with a deep lacquered ground, over which gilt-painted ornament brings warmth, movement, and light. The contrast between the lustrous dark lacquer and shimmering gilt decoration gives the piece a distinctive visual depth, rewarding close inspection and changing subtly as the light moves across its surface. Such decoration reflects the enduring Japanese mastery of lacquerwork, a medium valued for both its beauty and remarkable durability.

Tea tables of this kind were designed for the preparation and presentation of tea, an activity that held an important place in Japanese domestic and social life. The compact, balanced form lends itself naturally to a variety of interiors, whether used beside a chair, displayed in a drawing room, or incorporated into a collection of Asian decorative arts.

With its early date, refined finish, and attractive combination of lacquer and gilt painting, this table is a particularly appealing example of Japanese furniture from the opening years of the 19th century. It offers both decorative richness and a tangible connection to the craftsmanship and visual traditions of the period.

Emmett & White Ltd
Cross House, Waterloo Square, Alfriston, East Sussex BN26 5UD
01323 870 595 • info@emmettandwhite.com • emmettandwhite.com