

Japanese Shino Chawan (Tea Bowl) Signed “Toutou” with Tomobako, 20th Century

CHW-520: Authentic Japanese Shino ware tea bowl (chawan), signed “Toutou” (陶陶) and complete with its original wooden storage box (tomobako). The box is inscribed 志野茶碗 (“Shino chawan”).

This chawan features a thick white feldspathic Shino glaze with natural iron brushwork, pinholes, and crawling typical of Mino Shino ceramics. Wide, low form is well suited for tea ceremony use

Identification

Item Number: CHW-520
Object Type: Chawan
Style Classification: Shino ware
Kiln / Region: Mino tradition, Japan
Artist: Toutou (陶陶)
Date / Era: 20th century

Physical Description

Form: Wide, low tea bowl
Dimensions: 12.5 cm diameter × 5.3 cm height
Weight: 230 g
Clay Body: Stoneware
Glaze: Feldspathic white Shino glaze with iron brushwork
Firing: High-temperature oxidation
Foot: Trimmed foot with impressed seal and incised signature
Interior: Glossy white glaze with subtle pinholing
Overall Description: Classic post-war Mino Shino revival chawan with strong adherence to traditional surface character and tea functionality.

Tea Use and Seasonality

Primary Tea Suitability: Usucha
Secondary Tea Suitability: Light koicha (experienced practitioners)
Primary Seasonal Expression: Summer
Secondary Seasonal Expression: Spring and Autumn
Handling Character: Light, open, cooling in the hands

Box and Authentication

Tomobako: Original

Box-Lid Inscription: 志野茶碗 (Shino chawan)

Seal(s): Artist seal and incised signature on foot

Attribution Basis: Box inscription, seal, stylistic analysis

Condition and Conservation

Structural Condition: Excellent

Restoration / Conservation: None

Surface Wear: Natural kiln texture only

Provenance

Collection: Tea Dogu. Acquired in auction, Lot-1899, March 25, 2023

Prior Ownership: Unknown

Exhibition / Publication History: Not recorded

Market Information

Retail Price (Tea Dogu): \$450

Comparable Market Range: \$380–\$500

Availability: In stock and for sale

Curatorial Notes

This chawan represents a well-executed example of 20th-century Mino Shino revival ware. The presence of an original tomobako and clear artist identification significantly enhances its value for both tea practice and collection.