



CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT

Bid Number:
2025.07.01



(For more condition photographs, please see object file)

Date: October 24, 2025

Contact:

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Object:

Japanese Ornament

Object ID:

2025.01.28.21

Description:

A decorative ornament from Japan, likely purchased as a souvenir or gift. Made in the Oshi-e craft style, the ornament features padded layers of fabric that create a three-dimensional relief. Fabric layers in the relief include hand-painted surfaces, looped yarns, manufactured fibers such as lurex, and wired metallic trim. The relief is laid on top of a backing fabric which has been formed around a stiffened board for support. A braided cord is attached to the back for hanging.

The Oshi-e craft originated in Tokyo during the Edo period in Japan and often depicted imagery of luck and happiness. This ornament portrays two figures: a man and a fish. The male figure likely is a representation of one of the Seven Gods of Fortune, Ebisu, the god of prosperity and wealth in business, as well as the patron of fisherman. Ebisu is often shown with a large fish symbolizing abundance. In this rendition, Ebisu also has a golden bag behind him, symbolizing monetary wealth.

Measurements:

Diameter- 4 ½"
Circumference- 13 ¾"

Category:

Textile

Location:

Box 26
Display Case 10
Charles Whipple Greene Historical Collection
George Hail Free Library

Condition Analysis:

In excellent condition overall. Minor amounts of dust and articulate have settled into the looped yarns.

Recommended Treatments:

Vacuum with conservation grade vacuum to remove dust.