

# Basic Detail Report

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**Title**

Netsuke: Fox priest

**Artist**

Eiraku Tokuzen

**Date**

early 19th century

**Dimensions**

H: 1 3/4 in. (4.5 cm)

**Medium**

painted earthenware

**Classifications**

Sculpture

**Credit Line**

Gift of Richard R. Silverman

**Object number**

2009.144

**Exhibition History**

Toledo, Toledo Museum of Art, *Life in Miniature: Ceramic Netsuke from the Silverman Collection*, October 1, 2010 - February 27, 2011, repr. (col.) Checklist, p. 66 and (det.) p. 73, (catalog title: Adornment in Clay: Ceramic Netsuke from the Richard R. Silverman Collection).

**Collections**

Netsuke, Sculpture

**Label Text**

Animals composed of intertwined human or animal figures were a popular subject in Indian miniature painting. These fantastical images may have alluded to the Hindu belief in the transmigration of souls—the reincarnated soul coming back again and again to inhabit both human and animal bodies.

The image is painted on wasli, a type of paper invented by Indian miniature painters in which several sheets are glued together in layers and then polished to create a shiny, smooth surface for the paint.

**Not On View**