

Basic Detail Report



Shamisen

Date

1900-1915 ca.

Description

Long necked fretless lute, disassembled in a red wooden box. The square shaped body is covered with white goat skin, which has been slashed open. Instrument comes with three ebony pegs, yellow dyed gut strings, and a plastic bridge. The neck is separated into three parts,

which have scarfed joints. The neck actually goes through the body and creates an endpin at the bottom of the body. The neck and body frame are made of either rosewood or red sandalwood. There are grey metal ferrules around the endpin and the peg holes. There is also a red knotted cord through which the strings are run. This knot attaches to the endpin. The top of the neck has a leather like cover on it. This instrument comes with a bachi (large wooden plectrum used to play the instrument), and a red embroidered "cap" to cover the top side of the body when playing. Body: square red sandalwood or rosewood body, with convex sides; decoratively cast gray metal ferrule around endpin Neck: neck in three pieces (top with peg box, middle and bottom goes through body) with scarfed joints Pegs: three fluted ebony Heads: front and back of body covered in goat skin

Dimensions

Total length: 97 cm Top part of neck: 37 cm Middle part of neck: 37.5 cm Bottom part of neck: 38 cm
Soundbox (lxwxh): 20 cm x 18 cm x 9 cm Bachi (lxw): 20 cm x 10 cm