

HIGO ENJU NAMBOKU DAITO

NAGASA: 77cm SORI: 1.4cm

HIROMURA and his son, KUNIMURA brought their travels to a close in HIGO. SENJUIN brother, SHIGEMURAs' son, HIROMURA studied with SHIKKAKE NORIHIRO before marrying the daughter of RAI TARO KUNIYUKI and working the RAI forge. These many styles were knit to the HIGO KONE-TSUCHI ultra fine KO-MOKUME. A significant definer of ENJU is their highly worked steel and its SHIRA-KERU off-white surface color. KUNIYUKI style CHU-SUGUHA marks ENJU's RAI inheritance.

The active and almost NIJU BOSHI points this work to the KUNIYASU/KUNISUKE line.

The HI appears ATO-BORI as JI-NIE enshrouds ENJU SHIRA-KERU KO-ITAME HADA that descends smoothly along the JI. ARA-NIE FUKASHI rises from an HOTSURE carved CHU-SUGU HABUCHI, where NOTARE gently varies. A swept MIDARE moves in the CHU-width BOSHI that finds KO-MARU drawn twice. KAERI falls away steeply. Full polish, SHIRA-SAYA

NBTHK KANTEI-SHO to HIGO ENJU \$11000

MIYAIRI KIYOHIRA

NAGASA: 79.5cm SORI: 1.8cm

This is the brother of Living National Treasure, MIYAIRI AKIHIRA. KIYOHIRA is famous for his excellent reproductions of KIYOMARO. KIYOHIRA was born in TAISHO 13. This "gorgeous" KIYOMARO copy is dated SHO-WA 46, 1971; and has been offered in the SHIBATA catalogue at 150 MAN YEN.

This strong and heavy, stunning 31 1/8" TORIIZORI TACHI SUGATA with its arcing CHIKEI and UTSURI from KO-MOKUME HADA overwhelms the viewer. Streaming SUNAGASHI and KINSUJI run through finger-size O-GUNOME. UBU NAKAGO is perfectly clear.

Reduced NAKAGO scale: 63%

JO Polish IO SHIRA-SAYA

\$10500

Reduced NAKAGO

scale: 78%