Basket - AUN II

Object: Basket
Place of origin: Sakai (made)
Date: 2014 (made)
Artist/Maker: Tanabe, Shochiku (Mr), born 1973 (maker)
Credit Line: Purchased with the support of Christie's and many other donors
Museum number: FE.36-2014
Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description

Acquired from the exhibition ‘Zen by Shouchiku Tanabe’ at the gallery Pierre Marie Guiraud, Brussels, 7 March to 5 April 2014, this substantial woven form measuring almost 50 centimetres in height is a compelling example of the experimental approach to basket-making taken by Tanabe Shochiku (1973-), who has recently succeeded to the fourth-generation headship of one of Japan’s leading family of basket-makers. Rising from a heart-shaped base, it has rounded corners and irregularly undulating sides that taper upwards to a low peak from which and from below which the woven bamboo strips of which the piece consists twist downwards and outwards in a fluidly knotted configuration. Both the lighter internal and darker external surfaces of the bamboo strips are visible, the subtle patterning this provides being enhanced by the surface marking of the tiger bamboo (torachiku) the artist has used. The ‘Aun’ of the title of the piece means alpha and omega and is the Japanese equivalent of the Hindu mantra ‘Om’ or ‘Aum’.

Descriptive line
Japan, modern crafts, studio, basketry

Physical description
Squat form of with rounded corners and irregularly undulating sides that taper upwards to a peak from which and from below which the bamboo strips from which the piece is woven twist down and outwards in a fluidly knotted configuration; the lighter internal and darker external surfaces of the bamboo strips are visible, the patterning this provides being enhanced by the surface markings of the tiger bamboo (torachiku) the artist has used

Dimensions
Height: 48.0 cm, Width: 53.0 cm, Depth: 63.0 cm

Museum number
FE.36-2014

Object history note
Exhibited at the exhibition ‘Zen by Shouchiku Tanabe’ held in Brussels at (gallery) Pierre Marie Guiraud, 7 March - 5 April 2014

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1289509/aun-ii-basket-tanabe-shochiku-mr/