

Basic Detail Report



Benkei Bridge

Date

ca. 1936-1962

Primary Maker

Tsuchiya Kōitsu ()

Medium

paper, ink

Description

This ōban woodblock print, Benkei Bridge, by Koitsu is an exceptional impression distinguished by its deep, richly layered colors and subtle tonal range. Unlike many later

recarved editions, which often display brighter, more saturated hues with less nuanced shading, this impression retains the restrained palette characteristic of earlier printings. Published by Doi Hangaten, carved by Harada, and printed by Yokoi, the print bears the "E" seal, dating it to approximately 1936-1962. The composition depicts Benkei Bridge in Chiyoda, Tokyo, an elegant bridge constructed from materials salvaged from older bridges. Its traditional Japanese design made it a well-known and admired landmark during the early twentieth century. The print is in excellent condition, with strong, well-preserved colors, clean margins, and an unmarked verso. The beautifully executed bokashi gradation in the night sky enhances the atmospheric quality of the scene, making this an outstanding example of one of Koitsu's most celebrated designs.

Dimensions

15 9/16 × 10 5/8 in. (39.5288 × 26.9876 cm)