

PAN

AMSTERDAM

VAN PRUISSSEN ASIAN ART



Large Lacquer Panel with Agyō and Ungyō

Large Lacquer Panel with Agyō and Ungyō
Japan, Showa period (1926-1989), dated 1960
By Kaya Hosui (1899-1994), sealed Hosui
Size: 148,6 cm x 123,4 cm.

This monumental lacquer panel by Kaya Hosui (1899-1994), dated 1960, features Agyō and Ungyō, fierce Niō guardians from Japanese Buddhist tradition. Crafted with vivid red and deep black lacquer, Agyō is prominently depicted in raised red lacquer (takamaki-e), symbolizing birth and active force. Ungyō appears as a subtle soapstone silhouette, representing completion and inner power. Together, they embody the cosmic duality of all things. Hosui, a master lacquer artist, significantly modernized Japanese lacquer art, earning high honours including the Order of the Rising Sun (1973).