

*Jūyō-tōken* at the 48th *jūyō shinsa* held on October 11, 2002

*tachi, mei*: Ari (有) (below cut off) (Aritoshi [有俊], Yamato)

## Measurements

*nagasa* 72.3 cm, *sori* 2.2 cm, *motohaba* 2.75 cm, *sakihaba* 1.9 cm, *kissaki-nagasa* 3.1 cm, *nakago-nagasa* 23.3 cm, *nakago-sori* 0.3 cm

## Description

*Keijō*: *shinogi-zukuri*, *iori-mune*, normal *mihaba*, high *shinogi*, despite the *suriage* a deep *koshizori*, *chū-kissaki*

*Kitae*: *ko-itame* that is mixed with a little bit of *ō-hada* and that features *ji-nie* and a *nie-utsuri*

*Hamon*: *ko-nie*-laden *suguha* that is mixed with some *ko-gunome*, *ko-ashi*, and along the upper half with *hotsure* and *uchinoke*

*Bōshi*: brief *ko-maru-kaeri* with some *hakikake* at the tip

*Horimono*: on both sides a *bōhi* that ends in *marudome*

*Nakago*: *suriage*, *kirijiri*, old *yasurime* indiscernible, new *yasurime katte-sagari*, two *mekugi-ana*, on the *haki-omote* side, the large and thickly chiseled character *Ari* is left, the rest has been cut off

## Explanation

It is said that Aritoshi (有俊) was a smith of the Taima School but extant signed works of him are very rare. The *meikan* date him around Bun'ei (文永, 1264-1275) but no dated work from that era has been confirmed yet. However, there exists a *tachi* that is dated with Einin six (永仁, 1298) which roughly outlines Aritoshi's active period. As for Aritoshi's workmanship, the *kitae* shows a tendency towards *masame* and the *hamon* is a *suguha* or a *suguha-chō* that is mixed with *gunome*.

This *tachi* is *suriage* but retains the character for *Ari* at the very tip of the tang, and its typeface leaves no doubt that we are facing here a work of Aritoshi. The blade shows an excellently forged *kitae* and a *suguha* whose *nioiguchi* is accented in a gorgeous manner.