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A Japanese Satsuma tea caddy with lid, Meiji (1868-1912) POA

A Japanese Satsuma tea caddy with lid, Meiji (1868-1912), in glazed cream-coloured earthenware, of square section form and raised on four scroll-form feet, each of the sides decorated in fine overglaze enamels and gilt with a central cartouche containing either a pair of birds in flight with tassels, flowerheads and scrolling foliage or chrysanthemum blooms; all set against a dark blue ground with lotus and peony heads amongst dense foliate scroll in purple, turquoise, red and black enamels with gilt, the top with a square opening and surmounted by a gilt metal domed cover with a design of dragons amongst swirling clouds in relief, the base signed Satsuma-yaki Masanobu (?????) with the Shimazu mon and red enamel seal.

Condition: Minute frit to bottom of one foot

Material and Technique	Earthenware with overglaze polychrome enamel and gilt decoration
Origin	Japanese
Period	Pre 1900
Condition	Excellent
Dimensions	11cm. x 10cm. (4 1/4in. x 3 7/8in.)

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