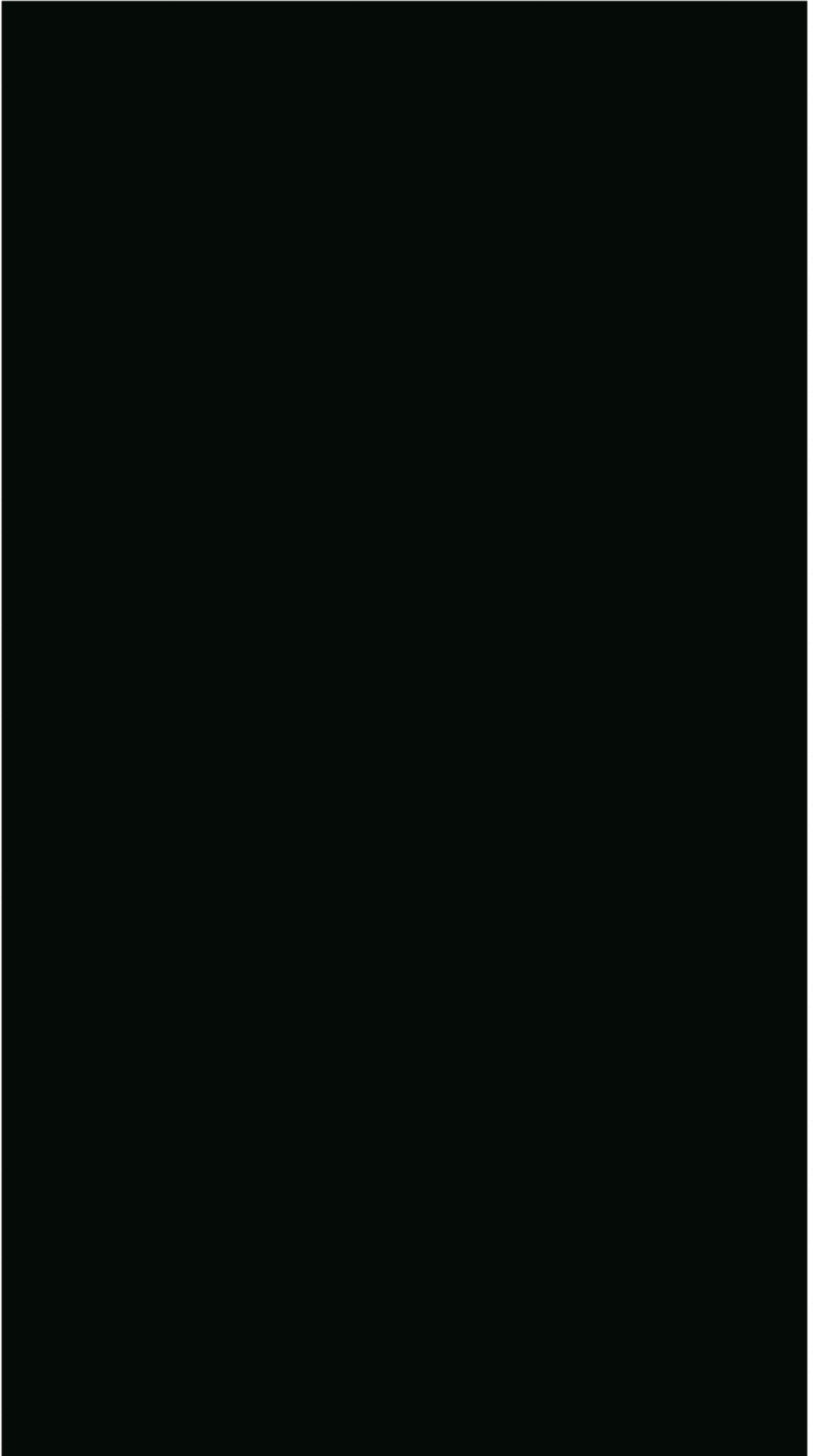


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GILT-BRONZE RING STAFF

A ceremonial sistrum or ring staff (*shakujō* in Japanese) thought to have been brought from China to Japan by Kōkai (774–835), the founder of the Shingon sect. This staff, a registered National Treasure, is in the possession of Zentsū-ji Temple, Kagawa prefecture. 13.8 × 27.0 cm.

Courtesy of Kyoto National Museum