



African Tribal Art - Guéré Mask



750 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Solid wood

Width : 20 cm

Height : 35 cm

Description

Ex-private Belgian Mercier collection.

This mask presents various excrescences, including upholstery nails enhancing the dark patina. The forehead evokes a warrior's helmet, a distinctive feature of these masks designed to inspire fear. Mainly used in the west of the Ivory Coast by the Bété, these masks were influenced by the Gla Glaé mask society of the Wobé and Guéré populations, forming a group designated under the name of Wé, meaning "the men who forgive easily. This Krou cultural group has inherited these traditions transmitted and taught by the Nyabwa. Having a warrior origin but also participating in the resolution of conflicts, this sacred mask is worn with amulets which protect its wearer with its power against witchcraft.

Dealer

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These masks are made available to the chief with the aim of strengthening his authority through the exercise of customary justice.

The tribal art collection comes from Guy Mercier, a consultant for the Solvay group, who began his collection in the early 20th century. During his work in West and Central Africa, he acquired works there. However, the bulk of his collection came from the "curiosity cabinets" that were popular in European capitals during the 1920s. Additionally, he acquired pieces from prestigious galleries in Paris, Brussels, London and New York. This collection was then entrusted to Mr. Jean Charles Mercier, the grandson of Guy Mercier.

Item accompanied by its certificate of authenticity.

PS: what does the certificate of authenticity consist of?

<https://www.african-arts-gallery.com/faq.aspx?qid=8>

PLEASE NOTE THE PRICE OF TRANSPORT INCLUDES LOSS, THEFT, BROKENAGE INSURANCE.