



Growling Bear, Ainu Carved Wood, Japan, Circa 1970 #4



190 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Solid wood

Length : 39,5

Width : 23

Height : 19,5

Description

Direct carving of wood - prone to teething. The Ainu are an indigenous people living in northern Japan. For them, nature is inhabited by divine spirits called "kamuy," both male and female, some benevolent, others malevolent. It is believed that the origin of these statuettes lies in the stylized animistic miniature bear figurines called "inoka." Kimun kamuy, when descending from the mountains, dons his bear costume. Like the Inuit of Canada and the Chukchi of Siberia, the Ainu consider the bear to be the equal of humans. From 1924 onward, production was encouraged by Prince Hirohito. After the war, carved wooden bears became widespread in homes. A decline began in the 1980s, coinciding with rural exodus. A detailed illustrated information sheet on Ainu bears will be provided to the buyer.

<https://www.proantic.com/en/1534044-growling-bear-ainu-carved-wood-japan-circa-1970-4.html>

Dealer

Curiosités du Japon

20th Century Japanese Arts

Mobile : +33 0613747892

12 passage Verdeau

Paris 75009