



Octopus Lure Called Maka Feke - Tonga Islands, Polynesia - Late 19th - Early 20th Century



940 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

Octopus Lure Called Maka Feke Tonga Islands, Polynesia Late 19th - early 20th century Hard stone, shells, wood and natural fibres H.: 23 ; W.: 6.5 cm The literal translation of its name, maka feke, tells us about the purpose of this object. Indeed, maka means stone or rock and feke, octopus. So this lure is made up of a cone of hard stone, embellished with two half-spheres of shells assembled with plant fibres. The whole lure can be handled using a handle made from a rigid wooden rod. In the words of Irmgard Moschner, recalled in 1955: "We sailed the boat past the coral caves, where the octopus were waiting for their prey, let the lures hang overboard and pulled on the line. The octopus would firmly suck in the presumed prey and then be hauled back into the boat." Bibliography: A similar specimen is kept at

Dealer

Galerie FCP Coridon

Old weapons and cutlery. Tribal Arts. Objects of curiosities

Tel : 06 81 15 31 79

Mobile : 06 75 98 11 19

110 rue des rosiers

Saint-Ouen 93400

the Weltmuseum Wien (formerly known as the Museum für Volkerkunde), the Museum of Ethnology in Vienna, under number 49 and another at the National Museum of Australia, under number Oz 219. A similar specimen is reproduced in Art and Artefacts of the Pacific, Africa and the Americas, the James Hooper Collection, no. 698, plate 85, page 158 and another in Fish Hooks of the Pacific Islands by Daniel Blau and Klaus Maaz, plate 86, page 261. Ref. 5528. Text and photos © FCP
CORIDON