Carved Drum (ngoma) - Luba-maniema / Zela, Democratic Republic Of Congo



750 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Solid wood

Height : 34 cm

Description

Carved Drum (Ngoma) - Luba-Maniema / Zela, Democratic Republic of CongoWood, hideHeight: 34 cmA finely carved kelp-shaped drum with a cylindrical foot and rounded body, surmounted by a hide membrane fixed with small nails. The corpus is richly decorated with incised geometric bands of chevrons and triangles, interspersed with two high-relief anthropomorphic figures. Each figure displays a diamond-shaped torso with prominent breasts, hands resting on the abdomen, and a stylized face with closed eyes and incised brows, reflecting the distinctive idiom of the Zela subgroup of the Luba-Maniema peoples.The reddish heavy hardwood, combined with the bold geometric ornament and simplified figural carving, points to production in the Maniema region, stylistically

Dealer

Art Classique
curiosités, art premier et Asiatique
Mobile : 0032-475272534

Bilzen 3740

close to both the Luba and Kusu traditions. Such drums (ngoma) played a role not only as musical instruments but also as ritual and prestige objects, associated with communication, initiation rites, and the invocation of ancestors.Provenance: Private collection, Europe.Condition: Age-related wear, cracks and patina consistent with traditional use; minor losses to the rim of the hide.