



Mask Representing Heheya - Hopi Culture, Arizona - Circa 1920-1930



8 000 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

MASK representing HeheyaThe Kachina messenger of the rain gods Hopi culture, Arizona Circa 1920-1930Leather, wood, horsehair, plant fibres and pigmentsH: 33; W: 44 cmHelmet mask made of leather decorated with polychrome pigments. Heheya is recognisable by his blue-green mask, his wooden ears, his mouth made of fabric and his schematic nose - probably a corn cob covered with cotton. These elements are all pigmented red - a colour also used to outline the circular eye holes. An inverted blue triangle is painted from the top of the nose to the cheeks. The lower edge of the mask has a rigid structure made of woven plant fibres - the remaining cords remind us of its role: to support the deity's costume. On the reverse side, the important symbol of the sacred calendar, also

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known as the horizon calendar, of the mesa dances is painted in red ochre and black on a white background. Heheya, the kachina messenger of the rain gods, appears during the third mesa.

Illustrative image: Hopi rain ceremony, village of Shungopavi, Arizona, United States, circa 1870 and 1900. Text and photos © FCP

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