



Justice Mask Pounou / Tsangui-gabon



1 200 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Solid wood

Length : 28 cm

Width : 15 cm

Height : 18 cm

Description

Black mask of justice - Pounou / Tsangui - Gabon
Gabonese masks are often named after the rituals in which they participate (Bwiti, bwété, byéri, ngil, emboli, okuyi, mukuyi...). They intervene in all circumstances vital to the community, rites of a social nature (bereavements, funerals, illnesses), rites of purification or fertility (birth, adolescence, virginity), rites of reconciliation and justice (to re-establish the authority of the chief, good understanding in families, or resolve generational conflicts), or lastly rites of protection (aimed more specifically at attracting the good graces of ancestors or genies...). Mukuyi masks, commonly known as "white masks", are coated with kaolin, which in ancient times was mixed with pulverized human bone powder. This ritual white blush, still

Dealer

Artpremierafrik

Marchand d'art africain

Mobile : 0618583181

24 Bis Rte de Saint-Denis

Deuil-la-Barre 95170

in use throughout equatorial Africa, is called Pfemba. A sign of communication with the supernatural world, white clay earth is used by both men and women, notably during Bwiti rites. The nine frontal keloid lozenges represent Punu founding myths, with the central point representing the creator spirit. The rarer black masks were used to administer justice, to identify sorcerers and thieves, and to organize poison ordeals. Initiates used masks painted black, which were then carefully hidden.