



Cihongo-chokwé Mask



3 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Solid wood

Length : 26 cm

Height : 26 cm

Description

Cihongo mask - Chokwe / Tschokwe - Angola
The CIHONGO mask is the male counterpart to the PWO mask. Their stylistic proximity is evident in the treatment of the facial features: the large, rounded, unobstructed forehead, marked with the cross of Saint Andrew, the ears adorned with metal earrings, the half-closed eyes and "tear" marks, the same shape of nose, the mouth with highlighted blunt teeth. The Cihongo is the representation of a male spirit evoking power and wealth. In the past, only the chief or the chief's son could wear the Cihongo. These masks were topped by a fan-shaped headdress adorned with feathers. The dancer wore rattles to give rhythm to his dance. His costume consisted of a knitted raffia jumpsuit with long sleeves and tights. Over it, a

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fiber skirt gave rhythm to his movements. The Chipenya Mutwe mask, made of plant fibers or carved from the mass, was often accompanied by a headband around the upper edge of the mask, courtesy of Détours des mondes.