



## Igbo-nigeria Helmet



3 000 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Solid wood

Length : 45 cm

Height : 45

### Description

Agbogho Mwo mask - Igbo Ibo - Nigeria This mask is named by the Igbo, Agbogho. The mask/dancer "Agbogho (woman) Mmuo, Mwo (spirit)" is the equivalent of our Venus and Aphrodite. It represents the spirit of a young girl. His complexion is white or light, and he may have a simple hairstyle (bun, braids) or one, 2 or 3 enormous crests (representing combs). Sometimes he is used as an "advertising medium" (scene with characters, as with the Géléde of the Yoruba). These masks are always executed with the greatest care. The horns are rather a masculine attribute (cf "Mgbedike", the brave, the fearsome). They are danced for harvest festivals and every year in honor of the "spirit of the earth", sometimes alongside the "spirit of the mother", another type of Ibo mask. The dancers

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wear false breasts to caricature the preciousness of these young girls pretending to marry. By their mimicry, the dancers make the spectators laugh.