



## Kifwebe Moon Mask - Zaire, Democratic Republic Of The Congo - First Half Of The 20th Century



980 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

### Description

Kifwebe MOON MASK  
Luba culture, Zaire, Democratic Republic of the Congo  
First half of the 20th century  
Wood, horsehair and pigments  
H.: 25; W.: 19.5 cm  
A round, domed mask carved from a single piece of wood, evoking the moon. Three spirits are associated with Kifwebe masks: two male and one female - of whom this mask is a representation. According to legend, the incised bands pigmented with white kaolin refer to the chasm from which they emerged, and where the spiritual world begins. This highly expressive mask features a square, prominent mouth; its nasal ridge, with incised nostrils, extends up to the forehead to form a crest; the eyes, with half-closed eyelids, open slightly into two horizontal slits. The whole is incised with bands arranged concentrically around the nasal

### Dealer

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axis of symmetry. This mask was worn during  
initiation rituals heralding the new moon. Text and  
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