



Zoomorphic Mask Known As Panya Ngombe - Pende Culture, Democratic Republic Of The Congo



840 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

ZOOMORPHIC MASK known as Panya NgombePende culture, Democratic Republic of the Congo First half of the 20th century Wood and pigments H.: 26; W.: 32 cm(historical restoration)This mask, carved from a single block of wood and tapering towards the chin, features large, openwork eyes shaped like coffee beans. It wears a stylised beard collar, carved in a sawtooth frieze and highlighted with black and white kaolin pigments. Its rectangular mouth - almost as if about to whistle - protrudes slightly. It has long ears pigmented with red ochre. The entire forehead and the mask's design are entirely carved in a chequerboard pattern with triangular motifs.Panya Ngombe represents the buffalo or wild cow - a symbol of prestige and high rank. It was danced during the Mukanda, the initiation

Dealer

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rite for young boys. When not dancing, it adorned
the huts of chiefs or dignitaries, thus
distinguishing their homes. Provenance: -
Private collection, Paris. - Acquired in 2009 by
the former collector from the Philippe Lange
gallery, Brussels. Text and photos © FCP
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