



Punu-lumbo Mask - Gabon



1 200 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Solid wood

Length : 29 cm

Width : 15 cm

Height : 29 cm

Description

Origin. Gabon Tribe Name. Bapounou Material. Wood Dimensions. 29 cm Shipping Method. Colissimo within 24-48 business hours. This Punu-Lumbu (or Punu) mask displays remarkable morphological and artistic characteristics: General Characteristics and Morphology Face Shape: The face is oval and delicately carved, ending in a pointed chin, typical of the aesthetic of female masks from this ethnic group in Gabon. Patina and polychromy: The face has a light patina, ranging from beige to ochre, while the hairstyle and the sides are covered with a dark patina, ranging from brown to black. Touches of red pigment highlight the lips and the motifs on the forehead. Anatomical Details and Ornaments The Eyes: They are depicted as half-closed or slit-like and almond-shaped, suggesting an attitude of

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contemplation, serenity, or a vision of a spiritual world. The hairstyle: Voluminous and complex, it consists of a wide headdress curved backward, rising above the forehead. It features engraved or braided patterns on the sides. Scarifications: A geometric relief pattern (often diamond- or checkerboard-shaped, evoking the "bakala" or frontal diamond) is carved in the center of the forehead. Thin, arched eyebrows, outlined in black, frame the eyes. The mouth and nose: The nose is straight, slender, and well-defined. The mouth is small, slightly parted or pursed, with lips colored a dark red. Ears: Delicately shaped and positioned on either side of the face. Structure and Back Profile: The side view highlights the pronounced volume of the domed hairstyle as well as the soft contours of the face. Interior: The hollowed-out cavity at the back bears traces of traditional wood-carving tools, attesting to authentic craftsmanship. Perforations are visible along the edges to allow for the attachment of the raffia or fiber costume worn during ritual dances.