



Raoni's Rattle



6 666 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

KAYAPÓ CEREMONIAL RATTLE
(MEBÊNGÔKRE) REPORTED BY
DUTILLEUX AS HAVING BELONGED TO
CHIEF RAONI JEAN-PIERRE DUTILLEUX
COLLECTION Brazilian Amazon, Upper Xingu
region 20th century Height: 30
cm DESCRIPTION High-quality ceremonial rattle
(maraca), made from a natural gourd that has
been carefully hollowed out and mounted on a
finely turned hardwood handle. The surface of the
gourd features an engraved and raised geometric
design, consisting of linear and cross-shaped
motifs characteristic of the Kayapó (Mebêngôkre)
artistic tradition. These motifs, directly linked to
the group's body-painting systems and identity
codes, bear strong symbolic significance. The top
is adorned with a plant-based fastening element

Dealer

Collection

Rare & Unusual Objects

Mobile : 0032475266745

Mons 7000

embellished with feathers, a remnant of a ritual assembly that is now partially preserved. A fiber ligature connects the gourd to the handle, while a wrist strap allowed the object to be held during performances. The piece exhibits a uniform patina from long-term use, confirming its actual use in a ceremonial context.

FUNCTION AND CONTEXT Among the Kayapó, the ceremonial rattle plays an essential role in collective rituals. It accompanies songs, sets the rhythm of dances, and is used when figures of authority speak. Beyond its auditory function, it serves as an object of power, contributing to the staging of the chief's speech and presence.

PROVENANCE Jean-Pierre Dutilleux Collection Object collected during fieldwork in the Brazilian Amazon. According to a certificate issued as part of the collection, this specimen is reported to have belonged to Chief Raoni, an iconic figure of the Kayapó people.

EXHIBITION "MONDE PREMIER," Belgium, 2018

NOTE Objects directly linked to Chief Raoni, due to his international stature and his central role in the defense of the indigenous peoples of the Amazon, remain extremely rare on the market. This piece is part of this limited group of objects of great historical, symbolic, and collectible significance.