Hairpin Featuring A Youthful Female Bust. Probably From Zaramo, Tanzania.



160 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Length : 23,4 cm

Description

An elegant hairpin whose long, tapered stem extends into a youthful, feminine bust with sleek lines, featuring two small, raised breasts. The beaming, almost surprised face has a radiant expression, brought to life by the white pearls set into the eyes. The rows of pearls encircling the neck and waist delicately emphasize the balance of the silhouette.Dimensions: Height: 23.4 cm.Materials: Hardwood, with an antique reddish-brown patina, glossy in places. Antique white and blue porcelain beads. Signs of wear; slight chipping on the lower part of the figure.This figure belongs to the repertoire of mwana hiti, associated with female initiation and fertility among the Zaramo and Kwere peoples. Among the Kwere, after the wedding ceremony, the husband would present his wife with a

Dealer

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figurative hairpin when they moved into their own home. Worn in the hair, this ornament symbolized the young bride's new status.Sold with a certificate of authenticity by expert Serge Reynes. Guaranteed to be genuine and of the period.* Shipping costs upon request.