

Basic Detail Report



Backrest & Vessel for a Shaman

Date

400 BCE - 250 CE

Primary Maker

Huastec

Medium

Ceramic

Description

The concentric circles on this backrest/vessel represent the shaman's eye and its power of penetrating the

mysteries of life. The backrest is shaped like a bird, possibly symbolizing the ability of the shaman to alter the shape and form of his soul and leave the body to engage in out-of-body "soul-flight". Birds are often used to reference the theme of shamanic "soul-flight".

Dimensions

10 7/16 × 5 1/2 × 9 1/16 in. (26.5 × 14 × 23 cm)