

Basic Detail Report



Soul Boat

Date

20th Century

Medium

Balsa wood, paint and nails

Description

Carved wooden boat with figures from the Kuna (Guna) people of Panama. Seventeen human figures and two

animals are depicted. The sculpture is painted red, blue and purple. The smaller figures have objects in their hands. There are two alligators, one on each side of the boat. Both sides of the boat are painted with geometric designs. Called a soul boat, this sculpture would have been placed in the tomb of a deceased Kuna person along with other goods that would assist in the transition to the afterlife. Collected by donor in 1923.

Dimensions

26 1/2 × 12 × 31 1/2 in. (67.3 × 30.5 × 80 cm)