



## Ancestor Figure

### Date

early 20th Century

### Primary Maker

Abelam

### Medium

Wood and pigment

### Description

This male ancestral figure comes from the Abelam people residing in the Maprik area of the Prince Alexander Mountains in the East Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea. The figure is carved with hornbill beak legs and a pierced nose. Abelam figural carvings were made principally on the occasion of male initiation cycles. Carved figures like this bearded male retained the invisible powers of the spirit world and had an affective visual presence among viewers.

### Dimensions

27 × 8 × 3 1/2 in. (68.6 × 20.3 × 8.9 cm)