

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. Twenty-nine human figures and one

alligator are depicted. The boat is painted red and blue. One large figure on a pole is holding a drum and there is one large figure on the back. Both sides 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 × 12 × 31 1/2 in. (66 × 30.5 × 80 cm)