



Fish Spirit Sculpture

Date

mid 20th Century

Medium

Wood, shell, cassowary feather and teeth

Description

Fish shaped figure from the From the Upper Sepik River Region of the East Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea and dates back to the mid-20th century. Fish figure with a

carved wood head and a shell-like body and fins. The teeth in the mouth are possibly piranha teeth and consist of multiple rows of sharp teeth. The eyes look like marble or beads. The jaw has fallen off but attached to it are two shells and cassowary feathers. There are small bundles of cassowary feathers attached to the fish throughout. On each side of the body, there are carved details of filled diamond-like figures with fin-like shapes at two of the four points. Between those shapes is a carved band in a chevron design. There are numerous fins throughout.

Dimensions

with stand: 14 × 27 × 4 1/4 in. (35.6 × 68.6 × 10.8 cm)