



Mask (Deangle)

Date

early 20th Century

Primary Maker

Dan

Medium

Wood, metal and pigment

Description

The Dan are a people from North East Liberia. Masks are the dominant form of artwork that has been linked to the Dan people. These art forms are idealized portraits which display recognizable human characteristics. Spirituality plays a huge role in the creation of masks among these people; spirits inhabit living tribe members to 'dance the spirit' while wearing a mask and other decorative elements that embody the spirit. The dark patina of sculptures from this culture is indicative of Dan workmanship. This Dan mask has the typical stylized

features of the Dan style: extended lips, cheekbones, thin eyes with a protruding forehead and an oval-shaped head.

Dimensions

10 1/2 × 6 1/2 × 2 1/2 in. (26.7 × 16.5 × 6.4 cm)