

Image



Splashboard (Lagim)

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Massim

Medium

Wood

Description

Splashboards are an important part of the canoes used for kula trade voyages. Each canoe has two splashboards, one on the bow and one on the stern, which hold up the sideboards, increase the depth of the hull and keep the ocean water from splashing the people traveling in the canoe. This particular splashboard features a design that has been attributed to the Trobriand and D'Entrecasteaux Islands. This design is characterized by one or two small human figures with arms and legs bent to an elbows-to-knees type of pose. Typically, this design will also feature

a row of long-billed birds linked head to tail above the human figures.

Dimensions

31 × 22 1/2 × 2 in. (78.7 × 57.2 × 5.1 cm)