



## Model Canoe

**Date**  
mid to late 20th Century

**Primary Maker**  
Massim

**Medium**  
Wood, fiber, cowry shell and pigment

### Description

Models such as this were created as children’s toys, for ceremonial purposes, or for sale to tourists or non-indigenous peoples. Today, children use these models for games, including canoe races. Canoe models are valuable assets as they speak to how the larger canoes that they represent were designed and decorated. Kula canoes in particular hold special significance in Massim culture and society as they are central to the Kula trade that occurs throughout the Massim area.

### Dimensions

a: 14 1/4 × 59 × 21 in. (36.2 × 149.9 × 53.3 cm) b: 2 3/4 × 49 5/8 × 2 3/4 in. (7 × 126 × 7 cm)