



Money Pot

Date

mid 20th Century

Primary Maker

John Paul

Medium

Wood

Description

A traditional Palauan money pot carved by master carver John Paul in 1969. For many years, money pots were used to store bead money and were found in every household. These common objects became mostly outdated once Palau transitioned over to the US dollar economy. Carvers

continue to handcraft these intricate vessels with ornate designs for the purpose of trade. According to the donor, John Paul was “fine carver and designer” who regularly brought items of trade. For some time Paul was hospitalized for tuberculosis and his apprentice, Jimmy Mtoched, began to bring carved creations designed or started by Paul.

Dimensions

9 1/4 × 3 1/4 in. (23.5 × 8.3 cm)