



## Basket (Hösig Di)

### Date

mid to late 20th Century

### Primary Maker

Emberá

### Medium

Palm fibers (*astrocaryum standleyanum* and *carludovica palmata*) and natural pigments

### Description

The Emberá-Wounaan are a cultural supergroup living in the Darién Province of Panama. Following Spanish colonization of the region, Emberá and Wounaan peoples migrated into inhabitable areas along river basins in the region. The history of these baskets, as well as their manufacture in Panama is a particularly fascinating one. While the Wounaan have a longer history of basket weaving in Colombia, they most migrated to the Darién Province of Panama following a ten-year period of civil war

in their home country. With them they brought the art of weaving incredibly intricate, watertight baskets that used natural pigments to create a variety of colorful geometric and occasionally figurative designs. These baskets, also called Hösig Di by the Wounaan, are made primarily by Wounaan women and since the establishment of an export business for these baskets have become one of the primary ways for women to support themselves financially.

### Dimensions

10 3/8 × 8 in. (26.4 × 20.3 cm)