



Helmet Mask (kponyugu)

Date

early to mid 20th Century

Primary Maker

Senufo

Medium

Wood

Description

The Senufo people combine warthog tusks, antelope horns, crocodilian jaws, and the features of other animals to produce intimidating, chimeric kponyugu helmet masks. When used in ceremonies, a mixture of grass and resin is inserted into the toothed maw and ignited to give the appearance of breathing fire.

Dimensions

40 × 15 × 14 1/2 in. (101.6 × 38.1 × 36.8 cm)