



**DESCRIPTION**

In Sierra Leone the powerful female Bundu or Sande society directed young girls' initiation. They made use of characteristic masks which, surprisingly, were carved by men. They were intended to evoke beautiful and wealthy women. A very elaborate hairstyle, shown in careful detail, multiple folds of flesh round the neck as a sign of prosperity, scented palm oil on the mask as well as the body- everything is designed for the same purpose.

During the initiation the young girls learn the manners which will direct their lives, and the shape of the mask, with its receding chin and small mouth, reflects the blind obedience demanded from women.

The role of the Bundu society was not limited to the initiation. Directed by the Majo, an experienced woman, the society watched over social life in general.

**DETAILS**

- Culture: Mende People
- Geography: Sierra Leone
- Circa: 20th Century
- Weight: 2LBS
- Materials: Wood

**SIZES**

- MME0011.....8"W x 16"H x 11"D
- MME0012.....8"W x 20.5"H x 10.5"D

**LIST PRICING**

- MME0011.....00503
- MME0012.....00601

