



DESCRIPTION

The spiritual force represented by this headdress, known as a-Mantsho-na-Tshol, or roughly “master of medicine,” reigns supreme in Baga society. The sinuous curves and undulating contours of the elegant sculptural representation evoke the power, elusive grace, and flexibility of this Baga spiritual entity. This statue features a large belly and a bold head, which has two round eyes and two fang-like spikes. A chain of lozenges is incised and enhanced with applied color up the length. The headdresses also appear to have served as emblems of a clan’s identity and power, and were used in competitions between families. The headdresses could also be danced at any time to enliven the community. Despite their seemingly unwieldy size, these sculptural forms are manipulated during performances with astonishing dexterity and dynamism.

DETAILS

- Culture: Baga People
- Geography: Guinea and Guinea-Bissau
- Circa: 19th-20th Century
- Size: 11”W x 91”H x 8”D
- Weight: Approximately 40LBS
- Materials: Wood, Pigment, Steel Base

LIST PRICING

- SBG0002.....008201