



**DESCRIPTION**

The predominance of the sculptural ceramic vessels at the center of the Upper Benué religious practices represents a marked departure from the wood figures and masks typical of other subregions. The highly decorated and anthropomorphized vessels, made primarily by women artists, instead exploit the expressive capacities of clay.

Ceramic vessels were the focus of ritual practices across the Upper Benué region and, in most cases, they were conceived to house various kinds of spiritual forces from protective ancestors to harmful diseases. The designs inscribed on the surfaces of the vessels emulate the scarification on the bodies of women to establish a link between the people and the spirits to facilitate positive alterations in human destiny.

**DETAILS**

- Culture: Upper Benué
- Geography: Nigeria
- Circa: Late 19th - Early 20th Century
- Size: 23"W x 44"H x 23"D
- Weight: Approximately 50LBS
- Materials: Terracotta

**LIST PRICING**

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