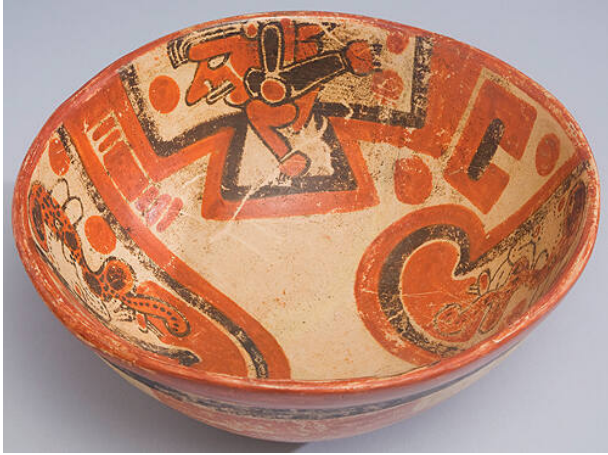


Basic Detail Report



Bowl

Date

ca. 1-500

Primary Maker

Greater Nicoya

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

Although the term Intermediate Zone has been criticized for an under appreciation of the innovation present in Costa Rican ceramics, it does capture the geographical reality that ideas traveled south from the stratified state societies of Central Mexico. In this vibrant bowl, painted in red, black, and cream-colored slip, can be seen a style of depiction that owes much to the ceramic traditions of Oaxaca and the Valley of Mexico. Two humans and two supernatural entities are shown inside cartouches in a very symmetrical arrangement. A masterwork such as this bowl was most likely used by a chief to impress his peers at the competitive feasts that characterized political interactions of ancient Costa Rica.

Dimensions

Overall: 3 3/4 x 9 in. (9.5 x 22.9 cm)