



Funerary Urn

Date

ca. 600-800

Primary Maker

Zapotec

Medium

pottery

Description

Oaxacan funerary urns were made with a combination of mold-made and hand-made pieces and, in this example, one can see how Zapotec potters experimented with the plasticity of the clay in order to create unique pieces. This miniature urn is a representation of a god with a serpent

headdress. Large serpent profiles flank the deity and he wears a mask with a curling upper lip. The exaggerated earspools are typical of Zapotec iconography while the large chest pendant depicts a stylized flower motif.

Dimensions

Overall: 6 x 6 1/8 x 4 1/2 in. (15.2 x 15.6 x 11.4 cm)