

Basic Detail Report



Cup

Date

300 BCE-200 CE

Primary Maker

Tumaco-La Tolita

Medium

pottery and paint

Description

The representation of the human face within the jaws of the jaguar is typical of Mesoamerica, where it symbolizes the divinity contained in the transformation to a jaguar. The man-jaguar is one of several man-animal combinations found represented in the pottery of Tumaco/La Tolita indicating a mythical world through which primitive man attempted to explain his environment. In this piece, the human face is seen in the mouth of a kinkajou, a mammal related to the raccoon and the coati.

Dimensions

Overall: 8 x 11 1/4 x 8 1/4 in. (20.3 x 28.6 x 21 cm)