



Footed Bowl

Date

ca. 850-1000

Primary Maker

Gran Coclé

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

This Gran Coclé bowl is from the ceramic style known as Macaracas. The use of purple coloring, which arose from the preceding Cubita style, along with black and brick red

over distinctive light or white backgrounds is typical of this style. The slip color is somewhat grayish, while the red is a deeper color, a specific coloration that may reflect local pigment and clay sources. The designs of the Macaracas style tend to be separated into panels and zigzag elements, as can be seen in the four-paneled decoration of this bowl and the lines that cover it. This example depicts a crocodile-like animal in the form of a snake. The snake is a very common motif and is often considered a sacred animal due to its association with creation mythology.

Dimensions

Overall: 6 1/2 x 11 1/2 in. (16.5 x 29.2 cm)