



Ceremonial Head (Yina)

Date

ca. 1965

Primary Maker

Nukuma people

Medium

wood and pigment

Description

A Yina is a head, either carved of wood or occasionally made of clay, that is associated with a clan. Each one is named; some are male, some female. The motif on the post and on the back of the head refers to the Yina's name. Each clan owns several; pairs are regarded as brothers and sisters. They are associated with lakes in which the images are submerged from time to time. The heads characteristically have a broad black band painted across the face and little round, projecting eyes. The top of the head is usually furnished with a backward projecting hook in the form of a bird's head.

Dimensions

Overall: 44 x 11 1/4 x 6 in. (111.8 x 28.6 x 15.2 cm)