



Helmeted Male Figure

Date

ca. 300 BCE-300 CE

Primary Maker

Nayarit

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

These figures are powerful examples of the Nayarit ceramic figurine tradition. Covered in red slip paint, they include the characteristic clothing styles and ornaments that identify effigies from this region. Both figures wear multiple ear and nose rings for decoration and lines around the face indicate tattoos or scarification. The male figure is dressed in a shirt tied at one shoulder and a modest loincloth. His pointed hat shows a zigzag pattern in white over red. The female figure wears a simple wrap skirt of decorated cloth and elaborate jewelry. All the garments are profusely decorated with abstract geometric designs in black and white over red slip paint. These types of characters are among the most expressive figures in Mesoamerican ceramic art.

Dimensions

Overall: 27 x 9 1/8 x 6 3/4 in. (68.6 x 23.2 x 17.1 cm)