



Nkisi Nkonde (medicine figure)

Artist/Maker

Unknown, Kongo

Medium

Fiber, metal/tin, pigment, wood, glass, nails

Description

Male medicine figure (Nkisi Nkonde) with right arm upraised with the fingers curled to hold a weapon, now lost, and the thumb upraised. Nails have been inserted throughout the body, except for the head and face. The head is carefully carved with an elaborate cap, a back projection, detailed eyebrows, and a slightly open mouth with tongue protruding. The stomach area has a large circular projection containing unknown substances and covered with glass. Braided fiber is wrapped around the neck, shoulders, chest, waist, legs, and the circular container. Three fabric covered medicine bundles and five bundles of wood are attached to the body. Traces of pigment.

Dimensions

28 1/2"

Object number

AF2002.2264.COP