
PAGODA RED



BURA SPIRIT VESSEL

\$2,880

c. 1900 • Niger • Terra Cotta • Collection #CAA0328B

H: 29.25" Dia: 10.0"

Sometimes called a "Bura bell" due to its shape, this sculptural terra cotta object was part of the Bura tribe's burial ritual. Buried with its flared mouth facing down, this cylindrical storage vessel would have protected the deceased's possessions as they transitioned to the afterlife. Decorated with complex incisions and dimples, this solid, earthy vessel is phallic in its sculptural presence. This particular example draws the varied motifs together with a simple, ribbon-like carving emerging from the busy field of patterns.



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