



PAINTED MEXICAN JAGUAR MASK

\$328

c. 1950 • Mexico • Wood • Collection #CAA0719

W: 9.5" D: 6.0" H: 13.5"

The Jaguar Mask is an essential component of traditional Mexican dance and ritual, symbolizing power and ferocity. This particular mask hails from the state of Guerrero, Mexico known for its rich cultural heritage and striking artistry. Guerrero has the most prolific masked festival traditions in Mexico, with a variety of dances and mask types. This mask would've been used in one of the most popular dances of the Nahuatl culture of Guerrero, la Danza de los Tecuanes.

The mask is characterized by its bold and vivid colors and intricate carvings capturing the essence of the revered jaguar. Continued...



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La Danza de los Tecuanes. symbolizes the struggle between humans and nature and was performed to drive away harm from crops and livestock while attracting rainfalls for a bountiful harvest. The dance portrays the story of a wild jaguar wrecking havoc on a peaceful village. In order to defeat the jaguar and save the land, livestock, and their people, a group of hunters work together to kill the jaguar. Dancing to traditional music, each participant wears a unique mask to bring the story to life. Exhibiting excellent craftsmanship and lively detail, this mask can be mounted to add storied character to any interior.

