
PAGODA RED



YORUBA GONG CURRENCY

\$488

c. 1900 • Nigeria • Iron, Steel • Collection #CAA268

W: 5.5" D: 2.5" H: 10.25"

Like many pieces of traditional African metalwork, this metal gong served multiple purposes within the Yoruba communities of northern Nigeria. It was a ceremonial instrument, a potent status symbol, and a valuable currency piece used in rare and significant exchanges. During religious ceremonies, members of the tribal elite would hold the gongs by their woven handles and beat them with rubber-coated mallets. Since this particular gong is complete with its original clapper, it may have also functioned as a bell. Continued...



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With acoustical curves and a fantastic textured finish, this gong has a wonderful sculptural presence, now elevated by a custom steel stand.



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