



YORUBA EGUNGUN HEADDRESS

\$2,280

c. 1900 • Nigeria • Wood • Collection #CAA0192

W: 7.25" D: 9.25" H: 9.75"

Attributed to the Yoruba people of western Nigeria, this wooden headdress was worn during a masquerade known as egungun. A widespread Yoruba ritual, egungun performances honor a community's ancestors during funerals and annual gatherings. Dressed to embody those ancestors, egungun masqueraders confront the questionable behaviors of community members and reinforce the moral standards of previous generations.

Surmounted by a crest-like hairstyle, this helmet mask has abstracted features, with closed eyes and subtle scarification on each cheek. Continued...



1740 W. Webster Ave., Chicago, IL 60614 • 773-235-1188 • info@pagodared.com

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PAGODA RED

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The original darkened finish has aged considerably over a century of use, lending the mask a rich patina and beautifully worn texture.



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