

Basic Detail Report



Heddle pulley

Date

19th-20th century

Medium

Wood

Description

Two-headed heddle pulley: human head with bull horns, horse (?) head on back Although Baule communities now purchase plastic, imported goods, in the recent past, Baule sculptors adorned everyday objects such as heddle pulleys, stools, combs, and spoons with animal and human heads, as well as incised geometric designs. Figures and faces that adorn heddle pulleys do not represent a spirit or divine being. Nevertheless, sculptors

devoted considerable time and effort to the creation of finely made objects. Unlike sculpted figures and masks that convey deeper meaning, everyday objects are examined closely for their craftsmanship. These objects alone are described with words that mean, "to take a good look." Sculptors take such care in the production of these small objects because they can often lead to larger commissions for figures or masks.

Dimensions

Height: 8 inches (20.3 cm)