



Tripod Bowl

Date

ca. 1200-1550

Primary Maker

Mixtec

Medium

pottery and paint

Description

Mixtec artists from the Valley of Oaxaca in southern Mexico were highly accomplished craftspeople well before

the Aztecs made political incursions into their homeland. Eventually a large population of Mixtec potters lived in the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan. This tripod bowl is completely covered with geometric and water motifs. The designs are beautifully executed in vibrant red, white, and black. The interior rim is adorned with volutes, which suggest the movement of water. The bright colors and the fine delineation of this bowl's motifs exemplify the excellent polychrome technique achieved by Mixtec potters, and many similar vessels have been found in burials and temple dedications in the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan.

Dimensions

Overall: 5 7/8 x 9 1/4 x 10 in. (14.9 x 23.5 x 25.4 cm)