



Female Figure [Ere Ibeji]

Date

mid 20th century

Primary Maker

Nigeria, Yoruba people

Medium

wood and pigment

Description

An Ibeji figure is carved whenever a twin dies. The figure is tenderly cared for, washed, annointed with camwood powder, rubbed with indigo, and dressed in beads, thus placating the spirit of the dead twin. A Yoruba mother gains honor from the number of twins she has borne, even though most or all may die.

Dimensions

10 3/4 x 3 x 2 3/8"