



Mask of a God and Two Panel Figures

Date

ca. 400

Primary Maker

Maya (archaeological culture)

Medium

stucco

Description

These three sculptures may have originally adorned the façade of a Mayan structure in the remote, forested region of southern Mexico, near the border with Guatemala. The mask probably represents the god Chac, rain god of the Maya. The figure on the left may represent a person of high rank wearing jade ear spools and nose ornaments, or possibly another representation of Chac. He holds a fragment of tocado above his helmeted head, and a sheath of maize in his right hand. The figure on the right is even more elaborate and may represent a deceased being with closed eyes and protruding tongue, and yet another representation of Chac. He also holds a sheath of maize and his coloring indicates what might have once been a coating of heavy red pigment.

Dimensions

Overall (Mask): 31 1/2 x 44 x 12 in. (80 x 111.8 x 30.5 cm) Overall (Figure, Left): 34 x 16 3/4 x 12 in. (86.4 x 42.5 x 30.5 cm) Overall (Figure, Right): 27 3/8 x 18 7/8 x 10 1/2 in. (69.5 x 47.9 x 26.7 cm)