



183



519

Height: 35 centimeters

The King of KONGO embodies the African-style visual prestige of a Portuguese bishop.



273

Height: 67 cm (including feathers)

Nail sculpture – N'Kondi Kongo



274



275



276

Height: 45 centimeters

The hunter's mask, crafted by a head injury, features ivory eyes with concave bevels.

Under the influence of a spirit, individuals would dance in reverence for several months, concealing these rituals from colonial officials. Kibanguism safeguarded such sacred ceremonies to demonstrate to the departed that they remained acknowledged by the living.



355

Height: 22 centimeters

The hunter's powder box is still utilized with a flintlock rifle.



356



358



359

Height: 25

The indomitable wearer of ex-votos adorns the entire body, excluding the arms, legs, and head. Bells centimeters

on the neck and right forearm (solar) ward off negative energies by thwarting their advancements.

Defying all malevolent powers, including death, the figure protrudes its tongue and pulls the moon to the ankle of the left leg. A gleaming blood-hued stone, reminiscent of a heart, is set in place of the actual organ. Forged copper throughout safeguards against malevolent beings attempting enduring assaults. The bells serve to divert malicious aims.



365



366

Left: 26 cm Right: 29 cm

Individual figurine. Despite being neighbors, the BAKONGO and the BAYOMBE have always maintained distinct differences, especially evident in the hairstyle and scarifications depicted. While their lifestyles were quite similar, the depictions of motherhood depicted here remained uninfluenced by the typical expectations imposed by colonial powers, under threat of destruction. This stands in contrast to the communal motherhood represented by 272, where the clasped hands mimic those of the infant Jesus.



466

Height: 18 centimeters

KONGO stool featuring Portuguese AZULEJOS design.



467

Height: +/- 70 cm

Carving of an elephant in ivory representing a village chief. Traditionally, this item was crafted with one tusk resting on the ground at the animal's passing, without posing a threat to the species.

Now facing a serious threat, we often overlook the fact that it is the "civilized" individuals with their billiard balls and piano keys who are truly responsible for the decline of this pachyderm.

China shoulders the primary responsibility for the global ivory trade, resulting in the slaughter of 35,000 to 40,000 elephants annually in the current era.



494

Height: +/- 35 cm

Deceased. Dense and extremely durable timber. Deterrent to cellulose enthusiasts such as termites.

Ivory orbs. Traditional stance among the BAKONGO, akin to the soapstone depictions of various dimensions found in every family's huts, on graves, or as votive offerings to the river.



526

Height: 21 centimeters

Protective sculpture of a Bangala or Haoussa soldier from the public force during the early stages of Belgian colonization. Inside the abdomen, there is a bullet positioned behind the rock crystal block and additional protective elements. The spear is detachable for convenient transportation in a backpack.