



Body Armour

A rare cuirass or body-armour made of plaited cane. Fly River, Papua New Guinea, Melanesia. Woven cane. 42,5 x 36,5 x 29 cm. 19/20th century.

Provenance:

Collected in the field prior to 1910. Ex coll. : P.L. collection c. 1910; L.R. Hornshaw (1903-85), eldest son of B.L. Hornshaw, Australia; presented to a subsequent owner by L.R.H. on 14/3/1935. With a paper label stating "Cuirass or corselet, body protector against arrows Fly River New Guinea 1910, Pres. By L.R.H 14.3.35" on one side and "Body protector, Fly River New Guinea from P.L. collection (1910), Pres. By L.R.H. 1935" on the other.

Literature:

Pub. : FRIEZE MASTERS 2013. Galerie Meyer, Paris. Fig. 7

See an identical woven cane cuirass collected by Luigi Maria D'Albertis on the Fly River expeditions between 1876 and 1877 and published by him in NEW GUINEA - WHAT I DID AND WHAT I SAW, Vol. I and II. London: S. Low Marston Searle & Rivington, 1880, p. 126, vol II.