



GALERIE MEYER
OCEANIC & ESKIMO ART



Asmat / Marind-Anim Nautilus Shell Spoon

A very fine and remarkably elegant eating spoon in the shape of a stylized bird. The basic shape may actually represent the bird of paradise (*Paradisaea raggiana*) parading during the mating ritual or in flight. Cut from the curved section of a large nautilus shell it is an extremely functional though fragile item made with the utmost attention to structural strength and esthetic beauty. Asmat/Marind Region (not localized), South east Indonesian New Guinea, Melanesia. Nautilus shell (Nautilidae) with a patina of use and age. Broken and glued. 15,5 x 5 cm. 19th/20th century.