



Admiralty Islands Ladle with Fishes

A very fine ceremonial food ladle decorated with two large fish carved free-standing from a cross-bar. Ornate ladles were used by men of importance and quite possibly the decoration of the handle is linked to the status of the man in the hierarchy of initiated men the tribe or in a Secret Society. Most ladles have geometric handles – figurative or zoomorphic examples are rare.

Admiralty Islands, Bismarck Archipelago, P.N.G., Melanesia. Coconut shell, wood (alstonia), pigments, and puttynut (Parinarium). 33 x 12,2 cm. 19th century.

Exhibitions

"NUTS...!" The Coconut in Oceania. Galerie Meyer, Paris, 2018, Parcours des Mondes

Literature:

Published : "NUTS...!" The Coconut in Oceania. Galerie Meyer, Paris, 2018, pp. 9/10

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Ohnemus, Sylvia: AN ETHNOLOGY OF THE ADMIRALTY ISLANDS, The Alfred Bühler Collection, Museum der Kulturen, Basel, Crawford House Publishing, Bathurst, 1998.