



Lake Sentani Master Carvers Knife

A very fine master carvers knife decorated with the powerfully carved, expressive head of an ancestral being. The handle is decorated with beautifully carved motifs in low relief representations of the “eye”, interlocking spirals and swirling motifs reminiscent of the movement of water (fouw) and water-striders (Gerridae). The salvaged steel blade is originally from a European trade-knife and bears the remains of the “Forkbrand” stamp of the knife maker Friedr Herder Abr Sohn, Solingen Germany, dating back to the late 19th century. “Forkbrand” was a specific brand of steel blades and tools made for the Asian, Eastern, and colonial markets. A short aluminum sleeve has been added in the post WWII period to the blade’s insert.

Lake Sentani, Indonesian New Guinea, Melanesia.

Hard wood with a fine patina of age and use.

31,5 cm

19th/20th century

