



Shaman's charm

On display

Title/Description: Shaman's charm

Born: 1800 - 1900

Object Type: Figure, Ornament

Materials: Walrus/whale ivory

Measurements: l. 32 x w. 10 x d. 15 mm

Accession Number: 132

Historic Period: 19th century

Production Place: North America, Northwest Coast, The Americas

Cultural Group: Tlingit, Tsimshian

Credit Line: Donated by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1973

In this miniature sculpture (opposite), the carver has achieved an illusion of completeness, despite the fact that only the head and forelegs of the animal, perhaps a bear, are present. It was probably a shaman's pendant and has a hole through the lug at the back.

Steven Hooper, 1997

Entry taken from *Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection, Vol. 2: Pacific, African and Native North American Art*, edited by Steven Hooper (Yale University Press, 1997) pp. 268-269.

Exhibitions

'Empowering Art: Indigenous Creativity and Activism from North America's Northwest Coast',
Sainsbury Centre, Norwich, 12/3/23 - 30/7/23

Provenance

Formerly in the collection of W. O. Oldman.

Purchased by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury from K. J. Hewett in 1964.

Donated to the Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia in 1973 as part of the original gift.
