

Pipe

Not on display

Title/Description: Pipe

Object Type: Pipe

Materials: Cane, Wood

Measurements: l. 152 x h. 38 x d. 28 mm

Accession Number: 929

Historic Period: Late 19th/early 20th century

Production Place: Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo

Cultural Group: Kongo, Yombe

Credit Line: Purchased with support from the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Art Trust, 1986

This delightful miniature has 'classical' (in the pure sense) features, making an attribution on the
criterion of cultural style difficult. A Yombe or Kongo origin seems most probable. The small size and
short stem have more in common with European pipes than the African model, whether for smoking
tobacco, as here, or hemp. The pipe has been well used; the bowl is charred, especially on the right-
hand side, indicating that the owner lit it with his right hand. The stem may be a replacement.

Margaret Carey, 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) p. 184.

Provenance

Purchased by the Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia from Merton Simpson Gallery, New York on the advice of Robert Sainsbury in 1986 out of funds provided by the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Art Trust.