Early Art of the African Continent Part One The Sahel, Savannah, Western Africa, and Guinea Coast,

Seeking an Answer:

Why are 90-95% of Africa's known cultural heritage artifacts housed outside the continent of Africa?



Art Week Four

West Africa and the Guinea Coast





Lidded
Saltcellar,
Sierra Leone,
SapiPortugese,
15th-16th
century, ivory,
29.8 cm high

16th century
end-blown Ivory
Olifant carved
by the Sapi in
Sierra Leone,
depicting
various hunting
scenes and the
Portuguese
court of arms
and armillary
sphere.



Man's robe
(boubou or kusaibi) (back),
1920s or earlier,
unrecorded Mandinka
artists, northern Liberia
or eastern Sierra Leone,
cotton and silk; 36 x 66
inches



Bundu or Sowei Helmet Mask (Ndoli Jowei), Mende, Nguabu Master (Moyamba district, Sierra Leone), late 19th-early 20th century, wood and pigment, 39.4 x 23.5 x 26 cm (Brooklyn Museum)





Gongoli mask by Mende artist, Sierra Leone, of wood, mid-to-late 20th century.

Staff of Office: Figures, spider web and spider motif (*òkyeame*) (detail), 19th–early 20th century, Ghana, Akan peoples, Asante, gold foil, wood, nails, 156.5 x 14.6 x 5.7 cm







Memorial Head (Ntiri), 17th century (?), Ghana, Adanse traditional area, Fomena, Akan people, 31.3 x 19 x 14.5 cm (<u>The Metropolitan Museum of Art</u>) Cloth (detail), 1968 (Asante people), stamped and embroidered cotton, 221 x 140 cm









Owie Kimou, Portrait Mask (*Mblo*) of Moya Yanso, Baule peoples (Côte d'Ivoire), early 20th century, wood, brass, pigment, 36.2 cm high



Pair of Diviner's Figures, 19th-mid-20th century (Baule peoples, Côte d'Ivoire), wood, pigment, beads and iron, 55.4 x 10.2 x 10.5 cm (The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Commemorative Figure (*Lefem*), 19th-early 20th century, Bangwa, wood, organic matter, fiber, Cameroon, Grassfields region





Full mask; right: face of mask (detail). Mask (mbap mteng), early 1900s (Bamileke peoples), cotton, burlap, glass beads, twine, leather, and wood,

Ceremonial Palm Wine Vessel, 19th–20th century (Grassfields region, Cameroon), gourd, glass beads, cloth, cane, wood, 76.2 x 30.8 x 19.7 cm (



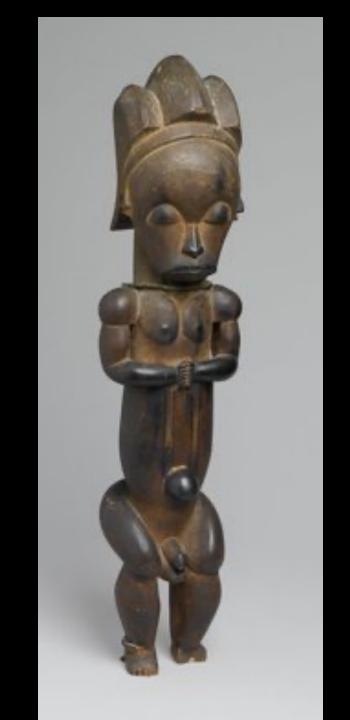
igure from a Reliquary Ensemble: Seated Female, 19th–early 20th century (Fang peoples, Okak group, Gabon or Equatorial Guinea), wood, metal, 64 x 20 x 16.5 cm (T



617 Byeri reliquary figure, Fang, Gabon. The Byeri Figure used as a guardian statue to surmount the Reliquary Byeri Box in which bones of important ancestors were held.



An Ntem River Valley
Master. *Reliquary Guardian Figure*(Eyema-o-Byeri), mid-18th to mid19th century. Wood, iron,



Kota Late 19th to early 20th century Object Place: Haut-Ogooué or Ogooué-Lolo province, Gabon



Mask, late 19th century Lumboexpand_more Wood, pigments