

EMBODIED
SPIRITS
Ritual
Carvings
of the
Asmat

Tobias
Schneebaum



Embodied Spirits Ritual Carvings Of The Asmat

Mike Jess



Embodied Spirits Ritual Carvings Of The Asmat:

Embodied Spirits Tobias Schneebaum, 1990 Presents a broad array of objects most of them previously unexhibited from two of the most important American collections of art from the Asmat region of Indonesian New Guinea including more than 100 elaborately worked shields drums horns and weapons as well as body ornaments and decorated ancestor skulls Scholarly texts examine the history of the Asmat the creation function and symbolism of various types of carvings the spiritual significance of ritual objects used in warfare headhunting and cannibalism and the religious and philosophical concepts of Asmat culture

Asmat Art Dirk Smidt, 2012-11-13 Asmat Art features the world renowned woodcarvings of the Asmat former head hunters who live in the western half of New Guinea This book presents a full range of Asmat woodcarving art but emphasizes the rare early shields and figure sculptures Drums canoe prowheads and the larger more dramatic objects are also shown Together with bisj poles war shields are perhaps the most famous creation of Asmat artists and these were carved throughout the region It is in the design and construction of the shields that the variations in style region can most clearly be seen Figure sculptures of varying styles are also well represented here and a limited number of the huge ceremonial carvings such as bisj poles and basu suangkus have also been included The cultural context in which these items play their part is described in detail in the introductory chapters But it is not the intention of this book to be an ethnography The focus is on the art pieces themselves

Religions of Melanesia Garry Trompf, 2006-09-30 Melanesia boasts over one quarter of the world's distinct religions and presents the most complex religious panorama on earth The region is famous for its unusual new religious movements that have adapted traditional beliefs to modernity in surprising ways As the first bibliographical survey to comprehensively cover the entire region Religions of Melanesia is an invaluable research aid for anyone interested in this growing field Trompf's work is a complete listing of scholarly publications and provides readable and concise descriptions that will clearly guide the researcher toward the most relevant sources This survey covers 2188 entries organized topically and regionally Trompf covers such subjects as traditional and modern belief systems and the emergent indigenous Christianity that has taken root Regional coverage includes Irian Jaya Papua New Guinea Solomon Islands Vanuatu New Caledonia and Fiji

West New Guinea Dylan Gaffney, Marlin Tolla, 2025-02-20 This book explores the human past in West New Guinea otherwise known as Indonesian Papua West Papua or Irian Jaya The western part of New Guinea and its surrounding islands were critical for the early peopling of the Pacific region over 50 000 years ago when Homo sapiens moved out of Africa and into Asia seafaring through the islands of Wallacea as far as New Guinea the Bismarck Archipelago and the Solomon Islands After arriving on the shores of West New Guinea people adapted to diverse environments including coral reefs tropical rainforests swamps montane cloud forests and savannah grasslands Over millennia people transformed these habitats by burning and cutting the forests translocating plants and animals and managing access to resources Food production later emerged in the region as the global climate warmed up around 10 000

years ago Between 4000 3000 years ago the Austronesian languages began to enter West New Guinea with its speakers settling around the coasts and offshore islands New forms of exchange connected people and particularly within the last 2000 years drew West New Guinea into global networks The objects produced and traded at ethnographic contact like pottery stone axes string bags shell ornaments and wooden carvings can be informative about these networks but they are increasingly changing as people navigate and transform their material worlds in the present The examination of these objects in museums not only casts light on their makers traders and collectors but also highlights the ongoing connections that Papuans have with their material culture in the twenty first century The 22 chapters in this book contribute novel perspectives and critical data on each of these themes The authors come from archaeology social anthropology biological anthropology linguistics museology palaeoecology and beyond They write about a wide array of West New Guinea s regions including the highlands north and south coasts Bird s Head Peninsula Cenderawasih Bay and the Raja Ampat Islands

South Coast New Guinea Cultures Bruce M. Knaft,1993-03-25 The communities of south coast New Guinea were the subject of classic ethnographies and fresh studies in recent decades have put these rich and complex cultures at the centre of anthropological debates Flamboyant sexual practices such as ritual homosexuality have attracted particular interest In the first general book on the region Dr Knaft reaches striking new comparative conclusions through a careful ethnographic analysis of sexuality the status of women ritual and cosmology political economy and violence among the region s seven major language culture areas The findings suggest new Melanesian regional contrasts and provide for a general critique of the way regional comparisons are constructed in anthropology Theories of practice and political economy as well as post modern insights are drawn upon to provide a generative theory of indigenous social and symbolic development

Genealogies for the Present in Cultural Anthropology Bruce M. Knaft,2013-09-13 In the wake of tensions between modern and postmodern sensibilities what larger directions now emerge in cultural anthropology In this major work Bruce Knaft takes stock of important recent initiatives in cultural and critical theory By combining critical reviews and ethnographic engagements with fresh readings of major figures and approaches the work develops a larger vantage point for considering the dispersing influence of practice theories postmodernism cultural studies postcolonial studies modern post positive feminism and multicultural criticisms *Impermanence* Haidy Geismar,Ton Otto,Cameron David

Warner,2022-03-01 Nothing lasts forever This common experience is the source of much anxiety but also hope The concept of impermanence or continuous change opens up a range of timely questions and discussions that speak to globally shared experiences of transformation and concerns for the future Impermanence engages with an emergent body of social theory emphasizing flux and transformation and brings this into a dialogue with other traditions of thought and practice notably Buddhism that has sustained a long lasting and sophisticated meditation on impermanence In cases drawn from all over the world this volume investigates the significance of impermanence in such diverse contexts as social death atheism alcoholism

migration ritual fashion oncology museums cultural heritage and art The authors draw on a wide range of disciplines including anthropology archaeology art history Buddhist studies cultural geography and museology This volume also includes numerous photographs artworks and poems that evocatively communicate notions and experiences of impermanence

Objects of Authority Jakub Stejskal, 2022-08-12 Is the celebrated elegance of Cycladic marble figurines an effect their Early Bronze Age producers intended Can one adequately appreciate an Assyrian regal statue described by a cuneiform inscription as beautiful What to make of the apparent aesthetic richness of the traditional cultures of Melanesia which however engage in virtually no recognizable aesthetic discourse Questions such as these have been formulated and discussed by scholars of remote cultures against the backdrop of a general scepticism about the prospects of escaping the conditioning of one's own aesthetic culture and attuning to the norms of a remote one This book makes a radical move it treats the remote observers lack of aesthetic insight not as a hindrance to aesthetic analysis but as a condition requiring an aesthetic theory that would make room for an aesthetic analysis independent of the model of competent aesthetic judgement or appreciation Objects of Authority represents a rare effort at bringing together methods and concepts that are often addressed by separate disciplines It will appeal to scholars and advanced students working on philosophical art historical and anthropological theories of visual art and material culture

How to Read Oceanic Art Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, N.Y.), Eric Kjellgren, 2014-09-02 An engaging explanation of Oceanic art and an important gateway to wider appreciation of Oceanic heritage and visual culture *Indonesia, a Country Study* William H. Frederick, Robert L. Worden, 1993 Describes the history politics customs etc of India **Indonesia, News & Views**, 1988-04 **Pacific Studies**, 1992 **Indonesia** William C. Younce, 2001 Indonesia Issues Historical Background Bibliography Recent Publications in Natural History, 1991

Encyclopaedia of South East and Far East Asia P. C. Sinha, 2006 **Oriental Art**, 1992 **Shadows of New Guinea** Philippe Peltier, Floriane Morin, 2006 A publication revealing the extraordinary talents of the sculptors of New Guinea in turn marked with staggering ferocity and surprising delicacy The rituals of the native inhabitants of this major island sometimes involved headhunting perceived as a need to appropriate the enemy's vital forces in order to increase one's own It is a complex mythology that has given rise to numerous sacred or magic sculptures the oldest of which were carved with stone tools or sharp shell edges and finished with the pointed teeth of small animals The Barbier Mueller Museum presents almost two hundred pieces from New Guinea belonging to its collections documented by superb photographs some of which are previously unpublished Dust Jacket **Paperbound Books in Print**, 1992 *News & Views, Indonesia*, 1988 *Pacific Arts*, 1996

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