



# Seal

---

**Not on display**

**Title/Description:** Seal

**Born:** 1850 - 1899

**Object Type:** Animal, Figure

**Materials:** Walrus ivory, Wood

**Measurements:** l. 89 mm

**Accession Number:** 119

**Historic Period:** Late 19th century

**Production Place:** Arctic, North America, The Americas

**Credit Line:** Donated by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1973

---

This is a well observed carving of a swimming seal, thrusting its body through the water in an undulating curve. It has no means for attachment and no discernible function, so was possibly made for the European market. The eyes and nostrils are inlaid with wood, or possibly baleen.

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) p. 257.

---

---

---

## Provenance

Purchased by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury from G. Bloch in 1957.

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

