



Seated figure

Not on display

Title/Description: Seated figure

Born: 1850 - 1950

Object Type: Figure

Materials: Fibre, Wood

Measurements: h. 133 x w. 50 x d. 50 mm

Accession Number: 262

Historic Period: 19th Century - Late, 20th Century - Early

Production Place: Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo

Cultural Group: Kongo

Credit Line: Donated by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1973

Unlike 915, where the 'medicine' is missing, this figure has a good-sized lump on its abdomen and another on its head. There may well be a cavity in the head intended to accommodate part of the 'medicine'. The neuter figure is meticulously carved, especially the left hand, and the cross-legged position is clearly carved from the underside as well as on top. *Nkisi* figures were made and used to give protection against misfortune, whether from natural or supernatural .

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. 139.

Provenance

Acquired by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury in 1972.

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

