

Nom : Tsogo Mask

Description : Mask, Tsogo peoples, Ogowe River region, Gabon, Late 19th to early 20th century, Wood, pigment

The striking disconnect between the divisions of the painted surface and the underlying carved form is an aspect of African art that first entranced Western audiences. The Western lack of awareness of context was such that when this mask was exhibited in the 1950s in France, it was identified as coming from another part of Africa. Later research attributed this mask to the Tsogo peoples as part of wider regional tradition of divided color faces.

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Source : Musée national d'art africain