

Nom : Kongo Female Figure

Description : Female figure with child, Kongo peoples, Boma region, Democratic Republic of the Congo, 19th to early 20th century, Stone

Before the 1920s, male and female figures carved in stone served as Kongo funerary monuments commemorating the accomplishments of the deceased. The mother and child was a common theme representing a woman who has saved her family line from extinction.

Kongo mortuary figures are noted for their seated postures, expressive gestures and details of jewelry and headwear that indicate the deceased's status. The leopard claw hat is worn by male rulers and women acting as regents.

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Source : Musée national d'art africain