

Nom : Altar stand

Description : Altar stand, Edo peoples, Benin Kingdom, Nigeria, 18th-19th century, Copper alloy

This object possibly supported an ivory tusk on an altar. The depiction of four female figures holding gongs suggests an association with an iyoba, or queen mother. Two figures strike bird gongs, which symbolize the infallibility of the oba.

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Source : Musée national d'art africain