

where uncertainty falls

the incidence of the word “uncertain” in The Met’s collection

clay

textile

object

sculpture

painting

drawing & print

other

● B.C.

● A.D. - 1200

● 1200 - 1850

● since 1850



uncertain



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uncertainty



uncertainties

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Label: Whether they are free or enslaved is uncertain.



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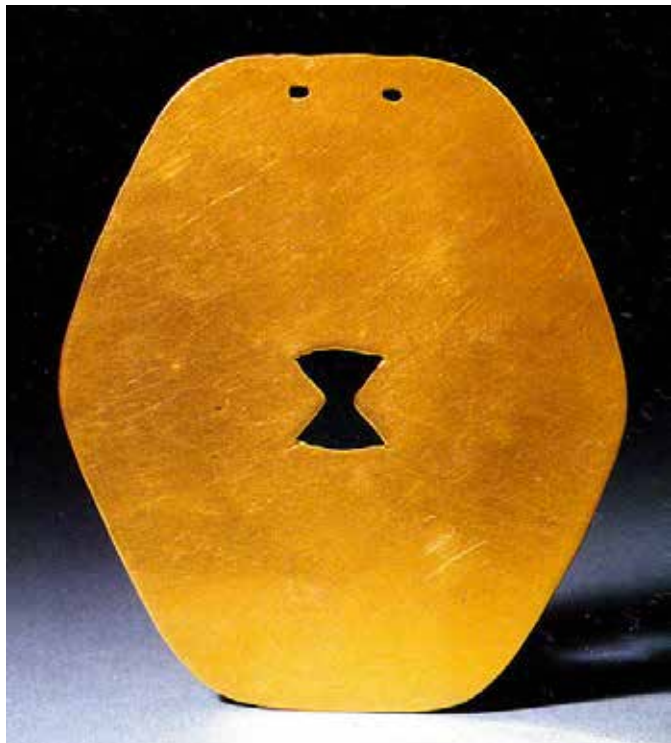
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Label: uncertain color, appearing opaque black; opaque pale turquoise blue trails and eye spot in translucent blue.



Label: It is uncertain how much actual needle-lace trimming was produced in England during the mid-seventeenth century, but there is a relatively large number of surviving whitework samplers dated to the 1640s.



Label: Symbolic of survival in times of adversity, the pines, having been suddenly threatened, reflect the artist's uncertainty about his ability to find spiritual sanctuary in a world from which he feels alienated: The strangely shaped pine trees of Mount Tiantai have been depicted by artists of previous periods. . . . I have decided to portray this theme, drawing upon my own imagination.



Label: The artist's identity remains uncertain but scholars have associated the drawing with several Venetian masters working at the turn of the sixteenth century.



Label: The cord was broken, so the original order of the beads and amulets is uncertain.



Label: Although this drawing echoes the vocabulary of Stefano da Verona, it is more likely attributable to one of his followers, due to its schematic quality and the uncertain spatial relation among the figures.



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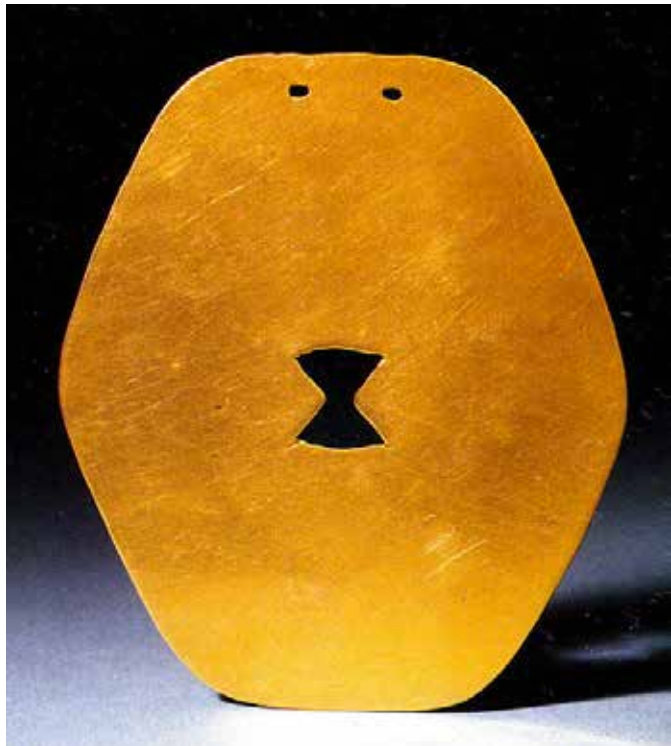
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Label: The sharpness of the hawk's eye and the grasping motion of the protruding bamboo leaves above its head fracture the empty space in which the viewer may contemplate the other bird's uncertain fate.



Label: Whether they are free or enslaved is uncertain.



Label: There appears to be a feature underneath the neck, but I am uncertain whether this is a suspension loop or another element that relates to the loss of part of the front portion of the pendant.



Label: Two breasts and uncertain object.



Label: However, as Bellange did not identify his figures by inscription, there is some uncertainty, not least because the copies by Merian, such as this print, are inscribed with identifications that contradict the usual iconography.



Label: With some uncertainties in its state of preservation, this ensemble combined at-home coziness and social grace despite the added bulk.



Label: Here, the two are face to face, with the lion drawing first blood but the outcome of their struggle forever uncertain.



Label: Even the nationality of the idiosyncratic artist who created this print is uncertain.



Label: On concave base, in relief Greek letters: uncertain.



Label: One trail wound horizontally one and a half times around underside of mouth; another wound horizontally slightly over once around neck; another trail of uncertain color applied in overlapping strands, partially marvered, partially in relief, as a band around upper body.



Label: The figurine, of uncertain gender, is handmade and solid, with a flaring cylindrical body.



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Title: Cuneiform tablet: genre uncertain.



Label: It may be that they considered the presence of tupus, an object typically associated with Andean women (Gero 2001), to establish the sex or gender of this person, but this is uncertain.



Label: Translucent pale yellow green; handle, applied bits, and trail of uncertain color.



Label: The figurine, of uncertain gender, is in the Kamelarga style.



Label: The figurine, of uncertain gender, is handmade and solid.



Label: In creating the plaque, it is uncertain whether the metalworkers began with a pre-formed blank of metal, hammered or cast, or worked directly from nuggets of gold that they joined together through hammering.The full effects of these distinctions on people, in death or in life, are still uncertain.



Label: The social organization of metalworkers in the Central Caribbean of Costa Rica and Greater Chiriqui is uncertain, but the Bribri identified a clan, inokOLDiwak, as the “owners of the creek of money” or “of gold” among other clans such as aktenwak (“owners of a variety of avocado”) and amukwak (“owners of Agave sp. [sic]”) (Bozzoli 1975, 36; alternate translation in Ibarra 2003, 389).

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