Object: Wreath from cowries Museum: Museum Ulm Marktplatz 9 89073 Ulm (0731) 161-4330 info.museum@ulm.de Collection: Alte Kunst, Project for the reappraisal of the collections from colonial contexts Inventory Ohne Inventarnummer number:

Description

A wreath from 16 cord strands in different lengths and at which cowries in different sizes are bound. Three shells each form a combined segment.

The object is ascribed to the former cabinet of curiosities of the Ulm merchant Christoph Weickmann. The belonging, however, is not certain and the distinct origin of the object is unknown.

Probably it is a currency that was used in Africa, Asia or Oceania.

The remains of the collection Weickmann came into possession of the city of Ulm between 1785 and 1825 and were deposited with the Association for Arts and Antiquities in Ulm and Upper Swabia since 1857. At the end of the 19th century the objects came, together with the collection of the Antiquities Society, into the newly founded Gewerbemuseum (Museum of Applied Arts) and 1925 into the Museum of the City of Ulm.

Basic data

Material/Technique: Cowries, string; bound

L 15 cm Measurements:

Events

[Relationship When to location]

Who

Where Asia [Relationship W.

to location]

When

Who

Where Africa

[Relationship

When

to location]

Who

Where Insular Oceania

[Relation to

person or institution]

When

Who Christoph Weickmann (1617-1681)

Where

Keywords

- Cypraeidae
- Koloniale Kontexte
- Kunst- und Wunderkammer
- Legal tender
- Shell money