Object: Bow

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 bow from reddish wood on whose end a small remainder of a raffia bowstring is tied. It has big notches on both ends and on each side a different revolving band pattern carved in.

So far, the origin of the bow could not be determined clearly. Probably it comes from a West African country (Ghana or Ivory Coast). However, it is possible, too, that the bow comes from today's Republic of the Congo.

The object was acquired by the Ulm merchant Christoph Weickmann for his cabinet of curiosities and is mentioned in the inventory for Weickmann's collection of 1659. From where he obtained the non-European objects is unknown except for one case and not researchable due to missing sources. What is certain, however, is that Weickmann didn't gain them on site by himself. He must have got them from middlemen because he didn't travel outside of Europe.

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: Wood, raffia palm bast; carving

Measurements: L 156,4 cm

Events

Created When Before 1659

Who

Where West Africa

[Relationship When

to location]

Who

When

Where Africa

[Relation to

person or institution]

Christoph Weickmann (1617-1681)

Where

Who

Keywords

• Bow

• Koloniale Kontexte

• Kunst- und Wunderkammer