

Basic Detail Report



Rattle

Date

1850-1880

Primary Maker

Tlingit

Medium

Copper, antler, abalone, pebbles

Description

Globular rattles have largely been associated with the practice of shamans on the Northwest Coast. Their similarity to the human cranium, as a symbol of the inner spirit world, is thought to be related to the shamanic realm. The globular rattles have also been employed by ritualists who function as attendants to ceremonial dancers, using the soft sound of the rattle to effect positive spirit presence and maintain calm in those

dancers susceptible to spirit possession.

Dimensions

Overall: 9 3/4 × 4 × 4 3/4 in. (24.8 × 10.2 × 12.1 cm)