

Nombuso Gallery  
January 2006

afriCAn art

# Welcome to the Nombuso Gallery Spring Catalog.

Once again, we have some classic masks and art from all over Africa, including Botswana, Zambia, Matupaland, Yorubaland, and Zimbabwe.

These are all unique works of art, some more than 100 years old. They have been collected from the finest craftsmen, museums, and galleries throughout Africa.

Please come into the gallery to see the amazing quality and workmanship of our fine pieces. We know any of these would be a fine addition to your home. If you have any questions, please call 630 248 6440.

Joseph Matapele



## YORUBA GELEDS SHRINE MASK

This very fine hard wood mask, believed to be a representation of Oduduwa, the ancestral father of the Yorubans, was made to grace a shrine in Ile-Ife, the spiritual center of Yoruba.

The mask was made between 1912 and 1922 and was part of the Jackson collection in Brussels.

It has a deep patina, and there are several old thin, hair-line cracks on the face.

19" high, mounted on a contemporary ivory base.

\$475



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## MANDIEN MASKS

We have one of the finest collections of masks from the Kran people of the Ivory Coast. From the village of Tiobly, these masks were found near the town of Taulepleu on the Liberian border. The beaded masks represent the playful spirit of the people, while the all-wood masks are usually used in initiation ceremonies.

Some of these masks date from 1940, others from the 1980s.

9.5" through 27", polished, stained and burnt wood, braid, beads and cowrie shells.

\$185 to \$1200





## KIFWEBE SHRINE STATUE

The Songye from Zaire carved this shrine statue for the Kifwebe, a secret society. An important feature of the Kifwebe mask is the ridging on its surface. The incised grooves on the face depict the dark and light stripes of sacred animals, such as the zebra, porcupine, and snake.

It was made in the early part of the twentieth century. The abstracted shape combined with curving lines in contrasting colors makes this a stunning piece of art.

29" high with a small integral base.

\$485

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## ACCESSORIES

We have many small gift items that will make delightful presents, and can be displayed on any wall.

We have authentic purses, large bags, necklaces, bracelets, scarves, totems, small cooking implements, and many other wonderful small items.

These items were carved and created in Ghana, Zambia, Botswana, and Chad.



## DOGON STATUE

The Dogon strip the human form to its essentials. This extremely rare piece from the sub-Sahara represents Tellem, the mythical ancestor born from the god Amma.

Used as a physical medium in initiations, these statues are said to transmit an understanding to the initiated.

They are hand carved on wood and stained with a contemporary polished stand.

\$700



## DJEMBE DRUMS

The djembe is West Africa's most popular drum. Created in Ghana and Eastern Mali, it has a remarkably flexible range of tones, achieved by its shape and tight tuning.

Made in the traditional methods from thin goat skins, these drums look and sound wonderful, and will be a great addition to your collection.

We carry many sizes and styles.

From \$45



## ZULU SHIELD

This shield and spear was made in the Kalahari, South Africa in 1946. It was previously exhibited at the Museum of Tribal Arts in Cape Town.

Made from the skin of the Springbok antelope, these shields are said to make the warrior run as fast as the antelope they were carved from. Springboks can run as fast as 50 mph and can leap up to 30 feet.

They are in mint condition and tanned with lime.

\$175

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## CEREMONIAL CUP

This cup was carved by a shaman to be used in the wedding ceremonies of the Chieftan families. Such cups are passed down from generation to generation and are owned by the community. This fine example was carved in the late eighteenth century, and was brought to America by way of Trinidad.

Made from Sapele Mahogany, this 30" cup was carved with stand to keep it from spilling.

\$845



## CONGO SCULPTURE

This modern sculpture is a wonderful example of the work of Ng'umbo artisans in the artist's colony in Monze.

The figure depicts the heads of the tribal elders. Traditionally carved for one person, modern examples depict a whole council of statesmen. Tending towards the abstract, this statue has a contemporary feel with lots of open areas.

Carved from highly polished Afromosia, this sculpture stands 49" tall.

\$225



## GAFSA TAPESTRY

Hand-woven by the famous Ghanaian women weavers in their homes, these rugs and wall hangings are inspired by designs passed down through many generations. These modern tapestries are still made in the traditional style and are influenced by Arabian carpets that were traded many years ago.

Symmetrical in design, they employ the rich colors made from the dyes of many local plants.

Made of sheep's wool and available in many sizes.



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