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What is a reliquary figure ap art history

Reliquary Figure (byeri) is a type of wooden carved figure by the People's Fanx in the nineteenth-twentieth centuries. They serve as guardians for reliquaries, which are containers for relics of honorable people in Fang society. These numbers have very strong links with ancestors, almost act like a talisman, who have supernatural properties and will bring happiness and keep relics from evil. As a nomadic culture, fang people do not comb the relics of their ancestors in a permanent cemetery, so these characters were important to society because of their role as guardians. The composition of the figure shows a kind of balance, the face has been shaped to be calm and suitable for the dead with closed mouths and closed eyes looking down, also with an elongated torso and hands that are connected. But the body shows exaggerated masculinity to guard those who are disrespectful. The enlarged head suggested intelligence, which explains that people sometimes consulted them before making important decisions. The bulging belly button suggests their relationship with ancestors. The figures are not deliberately realistically sculpted, which means that they are rather conceptual, and the intentions of the artists show the idea of sculpture rather than depict a human figure realistically. The shape of the figure is almost geometric, which shows the abstract approach of artists to their creation. This specific figure is masculine, but there are also carved females. Drawing reliquary (byeri); Peoples of tusks (southern Cameroon); c. 19th-20th-century PM N.W. wood; 58.4 cm high Form:Wooden carved figureAbstraction - emphasis on the geometric shapes of the objectDetermination on the idea of the figure of the protector, instead of depicting a realistic human figureThese figure is masculine, but the female byer was sculpted, as well as the long torso; sent eyes; closed mouthDevice Musculature Function:Guard family reliquary boxes with forbidden look of women and uninitiated boys & bad spiritsreliquary - a container for sacred relicsKostniki important ancestors & strong substances / herbsLike talisman (an object with supernatural properties that protects from evil and brings happiness)Sometimes they were consulted when considering an important decisionTimes used as dolls to teach their ancestors history to young men of societySee certain spiritual (not naturalistic) ideasContent: The head is a symbol of the infant, while the body represents, that adult Displays a continuous cycle of human developmentBroaded head - indicating intelligenceBulging nape & high forehead - neonatal characteristicsExposiveness relationship between living & deadReflects meaning of ancestorsBulging muscles contrast with contemplative / calm, expressionless face and symmetrical beyond to emphasize the characteristics that people Fang valuedMuscles represent a willingness to recoifle attacking reliquarorsPatient expression suggests honor, peace, vitality, and the ability to hold opposites in the

balancePresents the popular hairstyle of men of high time statusIndicated to the geometric abstraction of the human figureO the idea of a guardian figure, not the depiction of a human figureContext: Peoples fangs lived in rainforestsFor 300 years they moved to regions that are now Southern Cameroon & Northern GabonThi gradual movement stimulated the value of portable objects, such as the figure of reliquaryFang people believe that the ancestors had power even in the life of extralifeWorshipped & preserved men who founded pedigrees & women who successfully gave birth to many childrenThings These figures sit on top of the relic In the late 19th century, French colonizers perceived the byeri as idols, and banned themThe Fang people were forced to destroy and sell many of the carved figuresThemes :AncestorsPowerAfterlifeSpiritualityLegacyProtectionWisdomContinuousness of developmentConnection between living and deadPatience & tranquilityStatus/role in societyCross-cultural ComparisonTerra-cotta WarriorsBoth the Fang byeri and the Terra-cotta warriors were crafted for protectionReliquary figure guarded bones, linking living with ancestorsTerra-cotta Warriors guarded the tomb of China's first emperor: Qin Shi Huangdi Source:Krieger textbookKhan Academy Fang Reliquary Figure video Reliquary Guardian Figure (Eyema-o-Byeri), Gabon, Fang peoples, mid 18th to mid 19th century, wood and iron, 58.4 cm high (Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York) These figures look calm and contemplative, but also display real strength and vitality in their muscular forms. Smarthistory images for teaching and learning: More images of Smarthistory... Figure from the Reliquarter Ensemble: Sitting Woman, 19th-BEGINNING of the 20th century, Peoples of Fang, Okak Group, Gabon or Equatorial Guinea, wood, metal, 64 x 20 x 16.5 cm (Metropolitan Museum of Art) Figure of reliquary ensemble: Sitting Woman, 19-beginning 20th century, peoples fang, okak group, Gabon or Equatorial Guinea, wood, metal, 64 x 20 x 16.5 cm (Metropolitan Museum of Art) Peoples of gabon fang believed that the ancestors of relics possessed great spiritual power. Byeri was a Fang association dedicated to honoring the ancestors and founders of the lines, leaders, and prolific women who made a significant contribution to society during their lifetime. After their death, their relics, especially the skull, were preserved in cylindrical containers with bark and guarded by carved wooden heads or figures mounted on tanks. The shiny black surface of this carved female figure continues to glistens with repeated uses of palm oil used for ritual purification. The sculptor shaped this figure to illustrate the ability to maintain balance, quality admired by Fang. He paired the infant's large head with the developed body of an adult. A static outside and wordless face contrasts with the palpable bulging tension of the muscles and the protruding forms of the arms, legs and breasts. These reliquarter sculptures can be male or female and are not considered portraits of the deceased. They were often decorated with gifts of jewelry or feathers and received ritual offerings of libations, such as palm oil. During the byeri initiation, the data was removed from the containers and manipulated like puppets in performances that dramatized the upbringing of the dead for teaching purposes. At the beginning of the 20th century, fang reliquarating sculpture began to be acquired by Western collectors who admired the indufferable interpretation of human form. This particular work was previously in the collection of two well-known modernist artists, the painter André Derain and the sculptor Jacob Epstein. Additional Resources: This work at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Fang people in art and life in Africa (University of Iowa) Smarthistory images for teaching and learning: More images smarthistory ... If you see this message, it means that we are having trouble loading external resources on our website. If you're behind an internet filter, make sure *.kastatic.org and *.kasandbox.org are unlocked. Unlocked.

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