



**DESCRIPTION**

The Kota once used reliquary guardian figures (mbulu ngulu) to protect and demarcate the revered bones of family ancestors. The bones were preserved in containers made of bark or basketry. The mbulu ngulu stood atop this bundle, bound to it at the figure's lozenge-shaped base. It is thought that the figurative form of the mbulu ngulu was intended to reinforce and communicate the reliquary's intense power. Kota mbulu ngulu are unique among African sculptural forms in their combination of wood and hammered metal.

**DETAILS**

- Culture: Kota People
- Geography: Gabon
- Circa: 19th c
- Weight: 12LBS
- Materials: Wood, Metal

**SIZES**

- SKT0002.....8"W x 18"H x 3.5"D
- SKT0003.....9.5"W x 21"H x 3"D

**LIST PRICING**

- SKT0002.....00905
- SKT0003.....00306

