

Masks Artefacts Box

Each object in the box has been photographed and a short description added to help you use the objects in a meaningful and culturally respectful way.

Please check that all the objects shown below are in the box when you first collect it and that all the objects are returned, in good condition, at the end of the loan period. Some objects are fragile please treat with care. Any lost or damaged objects will be charged for.

Total number of objects in box = 8 (7 artefacts and 1 wall hanging)



Indonesian Tiger Festival mask

Even today on predominantly Moslem Java, the high and cold Dieng Plateau is a sacred place and in the villages there trance dances are performed with a variety of animal masks.

The mask (**topeng**) is held over a fire to draw the spirit of the animal into it and to bring the dancer under its power. The dances performed probably originated in ancient rituals honouring the ancestors and for the deities of planting and harvest. Later, Hindu and Islamic religious beliefs added to the richness of the ceremonial stories.



Mexican Wooden Mask

Masks have a long standing tradition in Mexican which has been embedded into the culture from its native roots, from the conquest of Mexico from the conquest of Mexico in 16th Century into the modern day.

Today the many battles between good and evil taken from myths and religious stories are represented in carnivals and celebrations.

Through the use of masks and dance people share their experiences and their culture.



Ghana – Ashanti mask

Small round face mask traditionally decorated with bead work and inlaid with brass.



Ghana mask



Happy Sad Mask

A contemporary mask from Indonesia
Please get more information



Kenya – Masai face mask

This colourful mask is traditionally carved from Mvulli wood. Each piece of wood is hand selected with the feeling that certain shapes may express the true symbolism of the mask, enhancing its cultural significance.



Fang mask – Ivory Coast

This mask is not worn, but paraded through villages to keep them safe, by warding off misdeeds and protecting the villagers against miscreants.



Information still to be added