



BAMBARA OIL LAMP WITH SEATED FIGURE

\$3,480

c. 1900 • Mali • Iron • Collection #CAA1424

W: 12.0" D: 3.75" H: 34.5"

Crafted by a blacksmith of the Bambara people of West Africa, this iron lamp once illuminated nighttime rituals and mask performances. Burning tulu oil made from tree nuts, the lamp gave off a distinctive smoky glow that was ideal for spiritual rites. The iron lamp was forged with branching limbs, each ending in a ladle-like cup. At its top, a figure rests in a seated position, overseeing the ritual performances. On its own or hosting flickering votive candles, this sculptural lamp lights up modern interiors with its sense of history and sculptural presence.



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