



Portrait Mask

Date

c. 1879

Medium

wood, paint, mammal skin

Description

human, wood, painted all black, except whites of eyes, and teeth (which are carved separately, 3 missing) ears and lips, red. 4 holes burned through at each eye, and 4 under chin. remnants of sticks under eyebrows/eyelids at one time? description in 'Haida Art' - this mask used in secret society dances represents a gaagiid, or wild spirit

of the woods, someone who narrowly escaped drowning but whose flesh has changed colour from long exposure in cold water.