NEPAL, RAI
1. Mask
wood, brown, black and white paint, pierced eyes, slit mouth, circular emblem on the forehead, thick encrusted paint, slightly damaged.
H: 21.5 cm
Provenience: Paul Rutten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 800 €

SUDAN, BONGO
2. Memorial figure "ngya"
wood, light brown patina, carved with a peaked cap, shorts indicated, a head with triangular facial plane without neck rising from broad shoulders, dam., missing parts (both foot tips, right shoulder), cracks, base;
these statues represent the departed and serve as a monument for the living, but also scare off witches through their striking human features. Since each Bongo man could gain prestige by successfully hunting large animals and killing enemies in battle; his relatives would honour him a year after his death by erecting these "ngya" figures on his graveside and holding a feast. Apart from the effigy of the deceased, the relatives would also add large notched posts that recorded the number of the deceased's successful kills - human and animal - and sometimes effigies of his victims.
H: 56 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 4,000 €

SUDAN, BONGO
3. Tomb figure
heavy wood, greyish brown patina, an overlength cylindrical trunk rising from thin stump legs, a massive neck supporting a head extremely projecting to the back, showing a small, triangular flattened facial plane, dam., missing parts (left hand, both feet), traces of insect caused damage (cavity on top of the head), cracks and abrasion (weathering), metal plate
H: 47 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 2,500 €

WEST AFRICA
4. Three objects
a heddle pulley of the Baule, Ivory Coast, remains of kaolin, abstracted forms, carved with ornaments, complete with bobbin, collection number "R18", slight traces of abrasion, h: 16 cm; a fertility doll "biiga" of the Mossi, Burkina Faso, wood, brown patina, cylindrical arm- and legless trunk with accentuated breasts, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, h: 19.5 cm; a ritual object "ofo" of the Igbo, Nigeria, metal, decorated with grooves and spirals, crowned by a stylized human head, four small feet on the back, min. dam., slight traces of corrosion, h: 11.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 800 €
LIBERIA, BASSA
5 Mask "geh naw"
wood, partly shiny dark brown patina, hollowed facial plane, the eye zone horizontal
deprofieled, elaborate coiffure consisting of seven voluminous lobes, pierced around the rim,
dam., missing parts through insect caused damage, base;
the mask type "geh-naw" belongs to a secret society called "chu-den-zo". It used to
entertain the audience when the initiated boys returned from the bush camp or when
distinguished guests came to visit the village. The dancer wore the mask on the forehead,
looking through a gap within the cloth, veiling his head and the upper part of his body.
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Helmut Zake, Heidelberg, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 5.000 €

MALI, BAMANA
6 Hyaena mask "suruku" of the "korè" society
wood, dark brown patina, pierced eyes, projections on forehead and nose, stylized ears,
notched tattoos, slightly dam., minor missing parts;
the masks were looked upon as bearers of energy, and already during their making they
received blood sacrifices. During the performance the dancers took a crooked posture,
leaning on short sticks, which optical lengthens their arms and imitates the bearing of the
hyaena. The meaning of the hyaena mask differs according to the respective context of its
appearance. Within the scope of the "korè" celebration the hyaena in most cases
symbolizes the effort of the initiate to perfect their secret knowledge.
H: 30 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 3.000 €

MALI, DOGON
7 Standing female figure
wood, reddish brown patina with traces of black paint, encrusted in some areas, the body
arranged in geometrical forms, helmet-shaped head with the typical arrow-shaped nose,
min. dam. (breasts), crack (head backside and back), missing parts (base), the surface
showing traces of weathering and insect caused damage, above all at the leg zone, base;
the bulging abdomen and the protective gesture of the hands refer to the depiction of a
pregnant woman. According to G. Dieterlen figures with such a posture were used on altars
intended for rituals dedicated to the souls of women who have died during pregnancy or
childbirth. Among the Dogon, such a woman is never buried in the cemetery of her
lineage, nor is a funerary pot ever placed in the family sanctuary for her. Her soul is
banished and left to wander. However, a cult is established for her by a powerful healer,
who is responsible for the altar mentioned above.
H: 44,5 cm
Provenience: Ludwig Bretschneider, Munich, Germany (1983)
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.500 €, estimate: 7.000 €

MALI, DOGON
8 Hermaphrodite
wood, greyish brown patina, encrusted in some areas, a high towering slender body rising
from bulky feet, crowned by a cylindrical head with raised C-shaped eyes, slightly dam.,
minor missing parts, base;
present figure might represent a "dege dal nda", a so-called "sculpture of the terrace", or a
figure called "vageu", which was displayed on a family altar.
H: 85 cm
Provenience: Alfons Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 3.000 €
MALI, DOGON

9 Standing figure
light brown wood, mat patina, fragmentary legs carrying an elongated trunk, flanked by long arms worked close to the body, crowned by an almost neckless head with tribe-typical facial features, collection number "H8" on the back, min. dam., missing parts (legs), cracks, metal base
H: 38 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

MALI, DOGON

10 Door lock
wood, dark brown, slightly encrusted patina, carved with notched and linear incised ornaments, crowned by a sitting pair of figures with tribe-typical facial features, bolt missing, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, metal base
H: 29 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

BURKINA FASO, BOBO

11 Zoomorphic mask "wan nyaka"
wood, polychrome paint, mat patina, vaulted calotte with raised forehead ridge, surmounted by long horns, completely painted with coloured ornaments, pierced around the rim, min. dam., signs of abrasion, metal base;
the masks of the Bobo have totemistic character, they are part of the genesis myths of the clan they belong to. "Wan nyaka" means "little antelope" and appeared at funerals and circumcision festivities.
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

BURKINA FASO, BOBO

12 Standing female figure
wood, blackish brown patina, high-legged figure with slanting shoulders, the facial plane marked by a broad mouth, slightly dam., paint rubbed off, missing part (at the back of the left heel), metal plate;
the most important artistic works of the Bobo are their masks, figural objects are quite rare.
H: 26 cm
Provenience: Leopold Häfliger, Luzern, Switzerland
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

BURKINA FASO, GURUNSI

13 Pair of figures
wood, reddish brown patina, a male and a female figure, their schematized bodies positioned headon, with the tube-like curved limbs symmetrical arranged, the respective gender accentuated, drilled holes in arm and abdomen of the male figure, slightly dam., minor missing parts (head of the male, coiffure of the female figure), cracks, on metal plate;
in contrast to the masks, which were performed in public, the figural objects of the Gurunsi were strictly kept hidden. They are exclusively used for sooth-saying and were kept in special shrines for the rest of the time.
H: 38 cm
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 4.000 €
BURKINA FASO, LOBI
14 Male figure "bateba phuwe"
wood, spotty brown patina, torso with circular incisions, surmounted by an oval head with slanting eyes and a sharp-ridged nose, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, metal base
H: 22.5 cm
Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.800 €

BURKINA FASO, LOBI
15 Two male figures "bateba phuwe"
wood, brown patina, a) slightly encrusted patina, remains of kaolin, remarkable carved eyes, min. dam., metal socle, h: 20,5 cm; b) slightly shiny brown patina, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, h: 20 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 800 €

BURKINA FASO, LOBI
16 Small standing figure
wood, matt patina, remains of black paint, the hands resting on the chest, crowned by a narrow head with the eyes arranged lateral, min. dam., fine cracks, base
H: 11.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 60 €, estimate: 500 €

BURKINA FASO, LOBI
17 Small colon figure
light brown wood, red paint remains, wearing uniform and matching headgear, carved with a face in half relief on the back, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, metal plate
H: 16 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 60 €, estimate: 900 €

BURKINA FASO, LOBI
18 Female figure "bateba ti puo"
wood, spotty, greyish brown patina, rising from slightly bent legs with big feet, a bulky torso supporting an almost neckless head, upraised arms, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage and abrasion, metal base
H: 25.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.500 €

BURKINA FASO, LOBI
19 Standing figure "bateba phuwe"
wood, encrusted, mat patina, sacrificial traces, high-legged, angular shoulders and free worked arms, dam., missing parts because of insect caused damage, right arm missing, cracks, signs of abrasion, metal base
H: 83 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 4.000 €
BURKINA FASO, MOSSI
20 Mask "wan balinga"
wood, remains of polychrome paint, animal hair, vaulted calotte with human facial features, crowned by a rooster's comb, entirely coated with ornaments, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of abrasion, base
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 3.000 €

BURKINA FASO, MOSSI
21 Standing male figure
heavy wood, reddish brown patina, traces of black paint, a long-legged slender body with sloping shoulders and overlength arms, dam., rep. (left arm), the left hand missing, as well as a part of the right hand, minor missing parts (neck, head, left heel), base; big figures could replace the body of a deceased chief at funeral ceremonies. Smaller anthropomorphic figures are used in honour of village chiefs.
H: 51,5 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 2.000 €

BURKINA FASO, MOSSI
22 Fertility doll "biiga"
wood, brown patina, poker-work, cylindrical body with breasts and linear incised ornaments, abstract head, slightly dam. (mouth)
H: 15 cm
Provenience: Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 30 €, estimate: 200 €

BURKINA FASO, MOSSI
23 Two fertility dolls "biiga"
wood, brown patina, a) dark brown patina, armless torso with incised decorations, drilled navel, earholes and high forehead crest, h: 28 cm; c) abstracted body without recognizable facial features, h: 33,5 cm; both showing min. missing parts and slight traces of abrasion, bases; girls as well as boys used to take care for such dolls, in order to be prepared for their later role as parents.
Provenience: c) Neumeister München, 11. November 2012, lot 126
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.600 €
CÔTE D'IVOIRE, BAULE

24  Face mask of the "mblo" - group
light-weighted wood, remains of matt blackish brown patina, the coiffure arranged in three concentrical half circles in flat relief, completed by flat bow-shaped braids on both sides, the actual facial plane concentrated on a rather small area in the lower third, summarised by a fine toothed rim, the regular facial features with lowered lids achieving an even self-contained expression, the surface structure marked by abrasion of paint and insect caused damage, cracks (partly spread with mass), minor missing parts (mouth, eyes, right ear), beard under chin lost, traces of insect caused damage backside, base; masks like the present represent recognized, named individuals. The men and women portrayed in masks are known for their great skill as dancers, for their exceptional beauty, or because they are important political figures. They represent an ideal in Baule culture typified by this mask. Physical beauty for the Baule and many Africans is almost always equated with the embellishment and natural endowments. The downcast eyes and closed lips imply respect and composure, two moral qualities that the Baule esteem greatly.

H: 28 cm
Provenience: Hermann Sommerhage, Duisburg, Germany
Alfons Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.800 €, estimate: 6.000 €

CÔTE D'IVOIRE, BAULE

25  Standing female figure "blolo bla"
wood, shiny brown patina, remains of black paint, the hands resting on the bulging abdomen, tribe-typical scarification marks, min. dam., fissures, slight traces of abrasion, base

H: 30 cm
Provenience: Alfons Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 4.000 €

CÔTE D'IVOIRE, BAULE

26  Pair of figures "bo osu"
wood, dark brown patina, encrusted with clay, crude carved figures with cylindrical bodies and indicated arms, the facial features incised, massive coiffures, fabric loincloth, slightly dam.; the "bo osu" represent bush spirits and were always carved in pairs. They are placed in shelters near a path or on top of termite hills. This placement is intended to provoke the spirit to stay out of the village and help with the hunt. "Bo osu" go around with bush animals and help their human partners to shoot and trap small game. They are personal figures for hunting.

H: 29,5 cm (female); 31,5 cm (male)
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.800 €

CÔTE D'IVOIRE, BAULE

27  Heddle pulley
wood, shiny, dark brown patina, u-shaped corpus, crowned by a human head, parallel scarification marks in the forehead area, elaborate grooved coiffure, bobbin missing, min. dam., fissures, small missing parts, base

H: 15,5 cm
Provenience: Adrian Schlag, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 2.000 €
CÔTE D’IVOIRE, BAULE

28 Three heddle pulleys

group of three, wood, dark brown patina, horseshoe-shaped corpus with anthropomorphic head, bobbin missing, h: 14.5 cm; heddle pulley with buffalo head, slight traces of usage, h: 17.5 cm, on metal base; additional: a heddle pulley of the Senufo, Ivory Coast, crowned by a Kalao bird’s head, complete with bobbin, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, h: 17.5 cm, on wooden base;
heddle pulleys belong to the weavers and were passed on as appreciated heirloom within the family. Because of their private character, the weaver is allowed to define their form on his own.

Provenience: Galerie Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.500 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, BETE

29 Mask

wood, encrusted brown patina, the facial plane arranged in horizontal levels, decorated with metal tags, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage, traces of abrasion
H: 23 cm

Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 700 €, estimate: 4.000 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, BETE

30 Heddle pulley

wood, shiny blackish brown patina, a long neck supporting a head with tribe-typical facial features, bobbin missing, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion;
the weaver who uses traditional methods employs so-called heddle pulleys to guide his cotton thread. They are decorated with motifs taken from the ancestral cult or tribal symbols. However, heddle pulleys do not embody ritual meanings.
H: 20 cm

Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, DAN

31 Mask "kagle"

wood, middle brown, partly encrusted patina, of oval form, marked by a roof-like protruding forehead and half-circular vaulted cheeks, beard of wool threads, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion;
the "kagle" mask figure used to wear a wig of cotton threads and a puffed raffia fiber skirt. Important requisites were bundles of hooked branches, used to annoy the audience.
According to the hooked branch "ka" the mask figure is called "kagle".
H: 24 cm

Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €
CÔTE D’IVOIRE, DAN
32  Miniature mask "ma go"
wood, partly encrusted black patina, protruding tube-shaped eyes, partly stud with metal sheet, four metal teeth, a beard made from cloth fringes underneath, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion;
the Dan have miniature versions of nearly every mask type. These miniature masks are called "ma go ", which means "small head". On travels they act as a substitute for the big masks in representing the helping spirit.
H: 13 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.500 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, DAN
33  Mask "ma go"
wood, partly shiny, dark brown patina, of oval form with a raised forehead ridge, pierced eyes and a protruding rhomb-shaped mouth, pierced around the rim, traces of insect caused damage
H: 17 cm
Provenience: German Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.000 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, DAN
34  Spoon "wa ke mia"
light brown wood, dark brown patina, handle in form of a human head, min. dam., slight traces of usage;
part of the belongings of a "wunkirle", a married highly esteemed woman of the village. The big spoons are signs of dignity, they were exclusively used for the ritual carrying of rice. The "wunkirle" had to prepare meals for feasts in the circumcision camps as well as on great days and for every visitor of the village. In order to meet this demand she needs a helping spirit, which is manifested in the big spoon "wa ke mia".
H: 48 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.000 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, EBRIÉ
35  Standing female figure
middle brown wood, dark brown patina, strings of white miniature glass beads, the neck carved with rings, simplified facial features, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 18 cm
Provenience: Haberzettl, Munich, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 900 €
CÔTE D’IVOIRE, KULANGO
36  Seated figure
wood, black patina, encrusted in some areas, with symmetrical arranged limbs sitting on a stool, a columnar neck supporting a narrow head with flattened facial plane and a voluminous projecting coiffure, eyes and side-parting accentuated by indigo blue paint, slightly dam., cracks, missing parts (both foot tips), paint rubbed off; the small ethinical group of the Kulango belongs to the Volta peoples, living on the northeastern Ivory coast, south of the Lobi, east of the Jimini and north of the Agni and Abron. Their geographical position is reflected in their works of art, which mainly reveal Akan influences, as is the case with present figure. Characteristic for the Kulango is the accentuation of the mostly blackened objects with white or blue paint.
H: 36 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 3.500 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, KULANGO
37  Small figure
wood, shiny, blackish brown patina, the hands resting in front of the chest, the arms forming a square-like frame, a long columnar neck with scarification marks supporting an oval head with pointed chin, min. dam., missing parts through insect caused damage, base
H: 22,5 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, SENUFO
38  Figural carved staff "tefalapica"
wood, brown patina, remains of black paint, round staff, carved with a sitting female figure, carrying a bulbous vessel on her head, min. dam., fine cracks, slight traces of abrasion; "tefalapica" means "the girl of the man working with the hoe" and presents the trophy money in a kind of hoeing competition. In September and October the young men of the Senufo have to cultivate the new yams fields, an exhausting field work, organized as a kind of competition.
H: 125,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebath, Hameln, Germany (1993)
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, SENUFO
39  Standing pair of figures "tugubele"
wood, blackish brown patina, sacrificial traces, a male and a female figure, their bodies nearly identical in shape and posture, the female adorned with a string of cowrie snails, the male one with a cape, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; such small human figures belong to single persons, mainly soothsayers. They are indispensable for getting into contact with the "tugubele", the small invisible and omnipresent bush spirits. The "tugubele" promise to help their human partners, when they are appreciated accordingly, which means that a figure has to be carved, representing them. Just like the bush spirits such figures are called "tugubele".
H: 16,5 cm resp. 20, 5 cm
Provenience: Henseler, Munich, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 1.800 €
CÔTE D’IVOIRE, SENUFO
40  Standing male figure "tugubele"
wood, partly encrusted dark brown patina, free carved arms presenting the palms of the hands, a narrow head with crested coiffure, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, socle
H: 26,5 cm
Provenience: Vittelshuis, Delft, The Netherlands
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 4.000 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, SENUFO
41   Three heddle pulleys
wood, partly shiny, dark brown patina, each of them with horseshoe-shaped corpus, crowned by the head of a Kalao bird, h: 15 cm, resp. a "kpelie" mask, h: 20 cm; additional: a heddle pulley of the Jimini, Ivory Coast, crowned by an antelope's head with long horns, h: 18 cm, all bobbins missing, slight traces of abrasion, base
Provenience: Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

CÔTE D’IVOIRE, SENUFO
42   Ring with buffalo head
brass, ornamented face surmounted by a little bird, big pair of horns, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; this "nyi-kar-yi" was even called "ring of silence". Members of a healing society used to hold it between the teeth, when one of them was buried.
H: 10,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.000 €

GHANA, ABRON
43   Standing female figure
wood, shiny blackish patina, showing a static posture with hanging arms, the flat face with incised scarification marks, the coiffure arranged in four flat lobes emerging from an angular point on top, slightly dam., paint rubbed off (nose, chin, breast, base)
H: 31,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 3.000 €

GHANA, AKAN
44   Two head sculptures
terracotta, a) memorial head with broad forehead and diadem-shaped coiffure, the raised bean-shaped eyes seem to be closed, the curved brows grown together at the root of the nose, h: 12, 5 cm, dam.; b) memorial head with ringed neck, with a flattened slanting facial plane and abstract facial features, h: 10,5 cm, slightly dam., wooden bases; memorial heads of the Akan were not thought as individual portraits, they just showed singularities of the deceased, just like coiffure, skin scarification marks or ornaments, which made him recognizable for his relatives.
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.000 €
GHANA, ASHANTI

45  
Pair of ancestor figures
wood, brown patina, black paint, a standing male and female figure depicted in seated posture, both arranged frontal, long necks, carved with rings, supporting proportionally big heads, the females coiffure arranged in fanciful horn-like lobes, while the male ones is simple and flat with side parting, painted scarification marks, slightly dam., cracks, minor missing parts because of insect caused damage, paint rubbed off, on plates; the Ashanti are the most popular group among the Akan. Present pair of ancestor figures probably was installed on a magical shrine, as the pierced bases of both figures imply.
H: 63 cm (male), 58 cm (female)
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 850 €, estimate: 3.500 €

GHANA, ASHANTI

46  
Top of a spokesman staff "okyeame poma"
light brown wood, bowl-shaped base with four thorn-like projections, terminating in a human head on ringed neck, laced with small holes, presumably once coated with gold foil, slightly dam., crack (back of the bowl-shaped base);
such staffs, visualizations of proverbs, became important regalia of the "okyeame".
H: 34 cm
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

GHANA, ASHANTI

47  
Two statuettes
wood, a) figure with ringed neck, fly whisk or hoe across the left shoulder, black encrusted patina, h: 15 cm, slightly dam. (nose, mouth, foot tips), metal plate; b) standing figure, at the back of the head carved with a mask of the "bonu amwin" type, painted in blue and red, h: 11,8 cm, slightly dam., base;
"bonu amwin" means 'god of the woods'. This mask of high authority belongs to the "do" secret society. This mask was greatly feared, it was a powerful force for averting harm and maintaining order in the community.
Provenience: b) Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €

GHANA, ASHANTI

48  
Two miniature sculptures
brass, aged patina, a) equestrian figure with raised sword, h: 6,3 cm, base; b) stylized bird (ibis ?) on plate together with three chicks (one of them without head and with broken leg), Baule, Ivory Coast, h: 6,3 cm
Provenience: a) Franz Burkhard, Karlsruhe, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 800 €

GHANA, EWE

49  
Twin figure "venavi"
wood, shiny, brown patina, strings of glass beads, min. dam., small missing parts, base;
alike the "ibeji" figures of the Yoruba, the "venavi" figures were carved for deceased twins or triplets. They serve as abode for the spirit of the deceased. The Ewe women used to care for them, they were fed, washed and caressed. For the Ewe venerate twins and regard them as a connecting link to the otherworld.
H: 14,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 60 €, estimate: 800 €
TOGO, MOBA

50  Small standing figure "yendu tchitchiri"
wood, partly shiny brown patina, of abstract form without recognizable facial features, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, base; according to size and usage the sculptures of the Moba can be divided in three groups: the smaller figures, displayed on altars are called "yendu tchitchiri" and have protective function for personal use; the sculptures of medium are called "bavong tchitchiri". The big sculptures finally, represent the clan founder "sakap", they are called "sakap tchitchiri" and protect the whole village.
H: 17.5 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 50 €, estimate: 800 €

BENIN, FON

51  Figure "bla-bochio"
wood, thick encrusted brown patina, block-like body, rising from a round base, wearing a cape of fabric, exuberant hangings with metal chains and a flute, crowned by a round head with big eyes, strong sacrificial traces, min. dam., missing parts (right foot, base), metal plate; "bla-bochios" are captivated figures and were used in various situations. They help to defy captivity, like e. g. slavery in former times, or prevent diseases nowadays. Furtheron they enable to commit persons to oneself, e. g. two lovers.
H: 48.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 1.500 €

NIGERIA, BINI

52  Mask
wood, kaolin, polychrome paint, cowrie snails, of oval form, a deepened facial plane with protruding mouth and singular carved teeth, crowned by a conical headgear and two projections aside, pierced around the rim, small missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, base; these masks are danced by members of the "Ekpo" society, who take care for the well-being of the village and settle disputes.
H: 36 cm
Provenience: Klinkmöller, Berlin, Germany
Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Lore Kegel, Hamburg, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 3.000 €

NIGERIA, BINI

53  Mask
wood, encrusted patina, kaolin, remains of paint, of oval form, a deepened facial plane with high forehead and tribe-typical facial features, crowned by a high tapering headgear with inserted mirror glass, pierced around the rim, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, metal base
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €
NIGERIA, BINI
54 Zoomorphic mask "azigho"
wood, polychrome paint, of oval form with a high forehead and v-shaped horns, brows in
double arches, pierced eyes, drilled holes around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of
abrasion, small missing parts backside;
this animal mask with human features depicts an antelope.
H: 38,5 cm
Provenience: Alfonso Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.600 €

NIGERIA, BINI
55 Zoomorphic mask "azigho"
wood, mat patina, kaolin, red and black pigment remains, of oval form with a high
forehead and v-shaped horns, brows in double arches, pierced eyes, scarification marks on
the cheeks, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight signs of abrasion, small missing parts,
metal base;
this animal mask with human features is depicting an antelope.
H: 30 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

NIGERIA, EJAGHAM
56 Anthropomorphic head crest
wood, dark brown patina, a conical shaped neck, supporting a narrow head with european
features, the lids lowered, the mouth with beautiful curved lips revealing a row of teeth
with notched incisors, a crown-shaped crest with a tuft of animal hair on top, slightly dam.
(nose, ears, crown), cracks, missing parts (crown and head backside), traces of insect
caused damage (neck), paint rubbed off
H: 37 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 1.800 €

NIGERIA, EKET
57 Miniature mask
light-weighted wood, middle brown patina, black paint, kaolin, a small mask face with
slanted face halves, rising to a raised vertical middle ridge, fit into a rectangular frame,
slightly dam., paint rubbed off, traces of insect caused damage (at the lower rim and
backside), drilled holes around the rim broken in parts
H: 17,5 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 3.000 €

NIGERIA, EKET
58 Miniature mask
light coloured wood, remains of black and red paint, oval hollowed mask face with a
board-shaped flattened framing, sickle-shaped pierced eyes, various drilled holes, slightly
dam., minor missing parts, paint rubbed off;
these masks were used by the 'ekpo'-society during the planting and harvesting of yams.
H: 13,5 cm
Provenience: Werner Fischer, Gelsenkirchen, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.200 €
IBIBIO/EKET, NIGERIA

59  Mask

wood, mat patina, kaolin, remains of paint, disc-shaped base, carved with a mask face, showing almond-shaped eyes and a small "snub nose", pierced around the rim, min. dam., small missing parts, slight traces of abrasion;
this mask shows elements of both the Ibibio and the Eket and probably derives from the border area of both ethnic groups.
H: 18 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, EKET

60  Mask

wood, slightly encrusted patina, remains of pigments, of round form, sickle-shaped pierced eyes, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage, slight traces of abrasion;
the Eket are a small ethnic group belonging to the Ibibio and settling in about 45 villages.
Salmons and Nicklin take the formal and ornamental elements as lunar signs, especially because the Eket are used to this imagery, which is expressed by the connection of their female deity or "Big Mother" ("eka abbassi") to the moon.
H: 19,5 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.400 €

NIGERIA, EKET

61  Mask

wood, remains of polychrome paint, a vaulted oval fond carved with a protruding mask face, framed by radial arranged projections, pierced around the rim, min. dam., missing parts, cracks, traces of abrasion
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 1.200 €

NIGERIA, GOEMAI

62  Standing female figure

wood, red and blackish brown patina, scarification marks aside the mouth, slightly dam., minor missing parts (breasts, left arm and hand, lobes, skirt), paint rubbed off, metal plate; carved figures mostly appear in connection with the mens society "kwompten", whose activities are kept strictly confidential from non-initiates and women. Obviously they were used for healing rites, at which the figures task is to find out the cause of the illness. In return the convalescent has to arrange a feast for the village community and has to sacrifice a goat and millet.
H: 43 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 3.000 €
NIGERIA, IBIBIO
63  Mask with hinged jaw "idiok ekpo"
wood, blackish brown, partly encrusted patina, a bulging forehead, tube-shaped projections on the temples, beak-like mouth with hinged jaw, pierced around the rim, dam., insect caused damage, missing pieces;
belonging to the "idiok" masks, the so-called "ugly ghost" masks, representing straying spirits.
H: 26 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, IDOMA
64  Face mask "ikpobi"
wood, brown patina, kaolin, accentuated round cheeks, vertical forehead tattoo, drilled holes in the chin area for insertion of a fibre beard, drillings around the rim, slightly dam.,
paint rubbed off, cracks, metal base;
in former times the "ikpobi" mask type was used on victory celebrations at dances performed by returning warriors, while the heads of killed enemies were presented as trophies. Nowadays "ikpobi" mask figures appear in pairs of male and female mainly at funeral ceremonies.
H: 24 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, IDOMA
65  Face mask
light-coloured wood, black encrusted patina, projecting eyebrows, bulging eyelids with pierced see holes underneath, raised scarification marks, the mouth situated at the tip of the chin, slightly dam., crack (lower lip), base;
presumably belonging to the “ikpobi” mask type, which was used on victory celebrations at dances performed by returning warriors, while the heads of killed enemies were presented as trophies. Nowadays "ikpobi" mask figures appear in pairs of male and female mainly at funeral ceremonies.
H: 32 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 3.000 €

NIGERIA, IGALA
66  Anthropomorphous mirror box
wood, blackish brown encrusted patina, rectangular corpus carved with a flat deepening which is closed by a lid, the whole object coated with incised geometrical ornaments, crowned by an anthropomorphic head, slightly dam., paint rubbed off, cracks, metal base;
can be assigned to the Iyale workshop in the Dekina district, where W. Fagg assigned comparable pieces to a carver named Umale. M. Caremans compared these anthropomorphic boxes with those made by the Nupe. The very flat Nupe boxes were used to hold manuscripts. But present object rather was used for insertion of a mirror.
H: 60 cm; B: 21 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.000 €, estimate: 3.500 €
NIGERIA, IGBO

67  Mask
wood, encrusted black pigment, kaolin, a gazing look from painted pupils and eyes framed with black paint, min. dam., missing parts through insect caused damage, traces of abrasion, on metal base;
this mask type appeared at so-called "okoroshi" ceremonies, which are connected with rituals for deities or spirits of the water "owu". The mask type is spread from the southwestern to the northern Igbo country. During the rainy season all activities come to rest for about a month, in order to celebrate the appearance of the water spirits. Two groups of dancers are posted opposite to each other: those who encorporate the good spirits "okoroshi oma" or "beautiful ghosts", whose masks and costumes were dyed in white and on the opposite - those who encorporate the evil spirits "okoroshi ojo" or "malicious, dark ghosts", whose faces are blackened.
H: 29 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 2.400 €

NIGERIA, IGBO

68  Mask
light brown wood, whitened oval face with a flat nose, scarification marks, eyebrows, lips and coiffure accentuated by black paint, enclosed by big ears, pierced around the rim, traces of insect caused damage, paint rubbed off, small missing parts, base
H: 24 cm
Provenience: Manfred Sackmann, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 3.000 €

NIGERIA, IGBO

69  Standing female figure
wood, light brown patina, kaolin, black paint, a slender body with remarkable voluminous breasts, emphasized by the framing, half-circular arranged arms in front of the body, the face showing a smug expression, caused by the unusual narrow and tapering nose and the lowered lids, triangular tattoos aside the mouth, slightly dam., cracks (left side of the head, neck, breast area, back), minor missing parts (hairline, toes), on metal plate;
emphasis on sexual characteristics is most often found in masquerade puppets used to indicate deviant sexual behavior, though the use of this atypical figure, which depicts an European, is uncertain.
H: 50 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, IGBO

70  Ritual object "ofo"
brass, partly encrusted patina, decorated with grooves and spirals, crowned by a stylized human head, four small feet on the back, min. dam., slight traces of corrosion; "ofo" objects symbolize the connection between the chief and his ancestors.
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Wolf, Zürich, Switzerland
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 800 €
NIGERIA, IJAW
71  Water spirit mask
wood, partly encrusted mat patina, kaolin, of narrow form with pointed chin and scarification marks, crowned by a projecting headgear with ornamental carvings, pierced around the rim, missing parts through insect caused damage, slight traces of abrasion, base; these masks were worn horizontal, because the water spirits have their face in one level with the surface of the water as well.
H: 37 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.500 €

NIGERIA, IJAW
72  Dance crest in shape of a human head
wood, encrusted brown patina with traces of red, black, white and yellow ochre, an elongated head, disc-shaped flattened on top, showing expressive facial features with protruding eyes and a prominent big mouth with bare teeth, opening backside for insertion of magical mass, dam., missing parts (eyes, brows, mouth, base), cracks, paint rubbed off
H: 36 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, ISOKO
73  Dignitary staff
wood, brown patina, kaolin, an elaborate carved base supporting a female half figure with upraised arms, holding a vessel on top of her head, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base;
the Isoko are an ethnic group settling in the western Niger Delta bordered by the Urhobo in the West and Northwest, the Ijo in the South and the Kwalie Igbo and Aboh in the North and Northeast. Although the Isoko belong to the Edo according to their language, origin and culture, there are cultural overlappings with the Igbo, which probably refers to a common historical background.
H: 101 cm
Provenience: Helmut Gernsheim, Castagnola, Switzerland
Arendt Oetker, Berlin, Germany
Lempertz Brussels, 25. April 2009, lot 90
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.500 €

NIGERIA, MONTOL
74  Standing male figure
wood, reddish brown patina, traces of black paint, crude forms, the upper part of the body and the legs slightly twisted against each other, marked by massive thighs and short stump arms, the spherical head showing an abstract upturned face without mouth and chin, a bulging back, traces of insect caused damage (neck, cheek, right foot), cracks (head), block-like base;
the Montol are an ethnical group of about two million people, living along the northern banks of the Benue, between Jos and Shendam. Their sculptures were used for fortune telling and healing rites. They belong to a men society called "komtin". Figures of the Montol are quite rare and their style is not clearly defined. It varies from one carver to the other.
H: 45 cm
Provenience: Klinkmöller, Berlin, Germany
Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 5.000 €
NIGERIA, OGNONI

75  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, brown and black paint, of oval hollowed form, crowned by a coiffure in two lobes, flanking the forehead in two horn-like plaits, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; "elu" masks are worn by young men of the Ogoni secret society. They were attached to a cone-shaped fibre and cloth cap. The corresponding costumes varied. The small caricatures represent different characters. In a funny or tragic way they illustrate oral traditions in stories and songs.
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Aloys Faust, Cologne, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 4.500 €

NIGERIA, OGNONI

76  Horned mask "elu"
wood, dark brown patina, remains of paint, kaolin, of oval hollowed form, showing tribe-typical facial features and scarification marks, horns in the shape of rabbit ears projecting to the back, dam., missing parts through insect caused damage (esp. backside), slight traces of abrasion; probably a variation of the "karikpo" mask type. The combination of human face and animal horns is a popular mask form in southeastern Nigeria. The horns symbolize superhuman power and strength.
H: 25 cm
Provenience: Feuerpeil, Aachen, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 3.000 €

NIGERIA, OGNONI

77  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, partly encrusted patina, black paint, showing the typical "snub nose" and full lips, crowned by an elaborate coiffure with middle parting, carved and painted tattoos, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; "elu" masks are worn by young men of the "ogoni" secret society. They were attached to a cone-shaped fibre and cloth cap. The corresponding costumes varied. The small caricatures represent different characters. In a funny or tragic way they illustrate oral traditions in stories and songs.
H: 16.5 cm
Provenience: Manfred Zirngibl, Passau, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.500 €

NIGERIA, OGNONI

78  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, polychrome paint, tribe-typical facial features with full lips and raised scarification marks at the temples, pierced around the rim, fissures, traces of insect caused damage and abrasion
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.500 €
NIGERIA, OGONI
79  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, kaolin, black paint, scarification on the forehead, elaborate coiffure, min. dam.,
traces of abrasion;
"elu" masks are worn by young men of the Ogoni secret society. They were attached to a
cone-shaped fibre and cloth cap. The corresponding costumes varied. The small caricatures
represent different characters. In a funny or tragic way they illustrate oral traditions in
stories and songs.
H: 22 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.500 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
80  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, encrusted blackish brown patina, showing typical facial features, originally probably
wearing a kind of headgear, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of insect caused
damage and abrasion
H: 18,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 2.200 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
81  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, matt patina, black paint, kaolin, tribe-typical facial features with circular pierced
eyes, cap-like headgear, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of abrasion
H: 18,5 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
82  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, matt patina, polychrome paint, tribe-typical facial features and scarification
marks,coiffure with side parting, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of insect caused
damage and abrasion
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
83  Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, encrusted dark brown patina, fixed by plant-fibres, crowned by a small head-like
headgear, raised scarification marks in the area of the forehead and the temples, pierced
around the rim, rep. (cheeks), min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, minor missing parts
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 2.000 €
NIGERIA, OGONI
84   Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, shiny brown patina, narrow slit eyes, the coiffure consisting of four horn-like projecting lobes, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage and abrasion
H: 30,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 1.800 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
85   Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, dark brown patina, coiffure consisting of two side lobes and two horn-like appendages, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 24 cm
Provenience: Amu Reiter, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.800 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
86   Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
light brown wood, dark brown patina, tribe-typical facial features with "snub nose" and raised scarification marks, high-crested forehead ridge, pierced around the rim, min. dam., minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion
H: 21 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.800 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
87   Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, kaolin, black paint, coiffure in two lobes, flanking the forehead in two horn-like plaits, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; "elu" masks are worn by young men of the Ogoni secret society. They were attached to a cone-shaped fibre and cloth cap. The corresponding costumes varied. The small caricatures represent different characters. In a funny or tragic way they illustrate oral traditions in stories and songs.
H: 15 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, OGONI
88   Mask with hinged jaw "elu"
wood, the facial plane whitened with kaolin, black paint, scarifications accentuated in red, wooden splinters forming the teeth, slightly dam., cracks, small missing parts, traces of abrasion
H: 11 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 600 €
NIGERIA, TIV

89  Standing male figure

wood, blackish brown patina, encrusted in some areas, of compact stature with the arms carved close to the body, the round face marked by deepened glazed eyes with painted pupils, the head spread with a thick layer of clay-like mass with real hair, slightly dam., paint rubbed off, base; presumably an "atsuku" figure.

H: 26 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €

NIGERIA, TIV

90  Standing male figure

wood, rich dark brown patina, small remains of kaolin, a stocky body rising from bulky feet, especially expressive: glazed eyes with painted pupils, ears with drilled holes, slightly dam., minor missing parts; Tiv figures can be divided in two groups: some, rather realistic, are portable, while the larger, more abstract images are posts. Both types seem to have been general tutelary deities revered for the protection and prosperity they provided agricultural lands and families, especially regarding marriage and human fertility.

H: 29,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 900 €

NIGERIA, TIV

91  Voice disguiser

bone (human ?), with circular mouthpiece, partly covered with strings of miniature glassbeads, crowned by a human head with real hair, the eyes inset with glass, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion

H: 14 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €

NIGERIA, WURKUN

92  Post figure

wood, matt brown patina, schematized forms, abstract facial features, min. dam., cracks, missing parts through insect caused damage, block-like base; the Wurkun are well-known for their pairs of male-female figures on iron spikes. Their function is to ensure the well-being of the owner and his family, with a special orientation towards the fertility of the crops. In most cases they were set up in the fields outside the teepee-like structure made of a grass mat, with a large pot for sacrifices nearby. Others were established on shrines within the owner's compound like the Chambas "tauwa" figures and, like them, were used for curing illness by divination.

H: 42,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 1.800 €
NIGERIA, YORUBA

93  Pair of shrine figures

wood, greyish brown patina, male/female, their bodies well-rounded and of well-balanced proportions, the facial features and details like hands and feet, as well as the neck decolletage of the male figure delicate carved, both wearing loincloth and high tapering headcrest, each rising from an eight-sided base, dam., the surface shows traces of insect caused damage (above all the head of the female figure); for the Yoruba shrine figures are not thought to depict deities in person, but rather their venerators and priests. The figures should illustrate the solemnity of the sacrificial act and the dignity of the persons who make the sacrifice.

H: 30 cm

Provenience: Helmut Zake, Heidelberg, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 5.000 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA, AREA OF IJEBU

94  Janus-headed headdress

wood, middle brown patina, encrusted in some areas, black paint, funnel-shaped base with wickerwork at the lower rim, nearly identical carved narrow, elongated heads with horns, extremely slanting eyes with mirror glass inlay, diamond-shaped mouth, dam., crack (between the heads), traces of insect caused damage (forehead and cheek on one side), place of repair (horn), paint rubbed off;
the Ijebu Yoruba live near the coast, and their land is filled with numerous lagoons and rivers. It was the proximity and importance of water that led to the introduction of a cult known as "ekine", which is devoted to water spirits. There are three main water spirits, "igodo", the bird - "agira", the antelope - and "oni", the crocodile. "Okoro", represented by a human headdress, seems to act as intermediary. The present type presumably a mixture of "okoro" and "agira".

H: 55,5 cm

Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA

95  Dance crest "egungun"

wood, honey brown patina, traces of indigo blue paint, the face showing round forms, dominated by big eyes and incised scarification marks, the incisors filed, a magical bundle affixed to the forehead, slightly dam., crack (head and base right hand side), metal base; the "egungun" society controls the relation between the ancestors and the living people. The "egungun" mask dancers appear in times of crisis, at commemorative ceremonies and on "odun egungun" festivities. Their function is to protect the people and guarantee the well-being of the community. The power of the masks is enhanced by special medicine "ogun", which is usually attached to the costume, in this case to the forehead.

H: 23,5 cm

Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA

96  Dance crest "egungun"

wood, reddish brown and black patina, half-spherical base, carved with an anthropomorphic head with the lobed coiffure widely projecting to the back, facial features and linear grooved scarification marks symmetrical arranged, slightly dam., missing parts (above all at the rim of the base), paint rubbed off, base;
the "egungun" cult is closeley related with funeral ceremonies and rites for worshipping the ancestors. The masks are completed by elaborate colourful costumes of multilayered textile in alternating colours and patterns.

H: 21 cm

Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €
NIGERIA, YORUBA

97 Dance crest "egungun"
wood, black and dark brown patina, indigo blue paint, mirror glass eyes, slightly dam.,
missing parts through insect caused damage (right rim), cracks (calotte, coiffure), base;
the ancestors come to the town in the form of "egungun" to cleanse the community of
wrongdoing and misfortune. They are called "ara orun" - "visitors form the other world".
H: 27.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 900 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA

98 Dance staff "oshe shango"
wood, dark brown patina, encrusted with camwood powder, the handle circular in cross
section, carved with two female figures, arranged back-to-back, their stylized bodies nearly
identical formed, crowned by the double axe symbol, the eyes inset with nail heads,
slightly dam., minor missing parts, cracks, paint rubbed off, metal base;
used by men and women during "shango" celebrations. Their characteristic feature is the
double axe symbol, in this case slightly modified. "Shango" is associated with fertilizing
rain, he is said to be truth-loving and should punish liars and thieves.
H: 43 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA

99 Ceremonial axe "aringo jagun"
wood, partly encrusted, brown patina, kaolin, iron blade, round handle, carved with a
kneeling female figure with both hands up to the breasts, head with projection and inserted
blade, dam., cracks, traces of corrosion;
ceremonial axes are dedicated to "ogun", the deity of iron and war, sometimes to "shango",
the god of thunder.
H: 53.5 cm
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.500 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA

100 Ceremonial staff
bronze, metal, surmounted by a janiform head with mitra-shaped coiffure, min. dam., traces
of corrosion, base
H: 52.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA

101 Ifa oracle tapper
wood, dark brown patina, carved with kneeling female figure, min. dam., minor missing
parts through insect caused damage, base;
tappers are used by the diviners to strike the Ifa tray with the pointed end in order to
attract "orunmilas" attention at the beginning of the session.
H: 38.5 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany (1981)
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 1.500 €
NIGERIA, YORUBA
102 Ifa oracle head
ivory, dark brown patina, circular base, fine grooved coiffure, linear incised scarification marks, min. dam.;
such figures symbolize the presence of "eshu", acting as mediator with the other deities.
H: 8,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 60 €, estimate: 500 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA
103 Bell "omo"
brass with dark patina, white pigment dots, elongated form with handle on top, decorated with a human face, min. dam., slight traces of corrosion, base;
such bells were used for ritual purposes, probably to get in contact with the ancestors.
Provenience: Sotheby's?
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.000 €

NIGERIA, YORUBA
104 Kneeling female figure "onile"
brass, patina, showing the typical "ogboni" gesture, eyelet for support, traces of corrosion, encrusted with clay;
"onile" figures were kept inside the "oshugbo" houses. They symbolize the founders of the community. According to Witte they were used for delivering decisive messages in case of conflict between "ogboni" members.
H: 15 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 600 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
105 Small male power figure "mu po"
wood, encrusted blackish brown patina, cord, rectangular deepening in the back with remains of magical loading, slightly dam., minor missing parts (surface structure of the face, foot tips), base;
Bamileke healers and soothsayers used such small wooden statuettes to represent their patients, who would be treated at a distance. Sometimes the statuettes have a cavity in the back into which magical substances would be placed and the cavity closed with a band of leather or cloth. Some of them would be carried by mask-wearing members of the "kungan" society during their big rituals.
H: 13,5 cm
Provenience: Maurice W. Shapiro, New York, USA
Christie's New York, 11 November 1993, lot 104
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.000 €, estimate: 3.000 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
106 Small power figure "mu po"
wood, middle brown patina, encrusted in some areas, the head surmounted by a turban-shaped superstructure of blackish mass with cowrie shell, horn tip and feather bunch, asymmetrical crude carved facial features, base
H: 11,8 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 1.600 €
CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
107  Small power figure "mu po"
wood, blackish brown shiny patina, encrusted in some areas, cap-like coiffure, cavity for
insertion of magical loading in the head, slightly dam., base
H: 8 cm
Provenience: Maurice W. Shapiro, New York, USA
Christie's New York, 11 November 1993, lot 104
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 1.600 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
108  Standing male figure
wood, dark brown patina, beaded necklace, red dyed band of fabric, body with bulging
belly and accentuated male gender, slightly dam., minor missing parts (head, left foot tip),
base;
small figurines had various functions. They served as protection for the wearer against evil
in any form. They were also used as badges of membership in a sacred organization.
Others functioned as emblems of officialdom, related to indigenous government. And some
figurines did healing duties in the hands of local practitioners or should cause fertility.
H: 14,5 cm
Provenience: Haberzettl, Munich, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
109  Standing figure
wood, matt blackish brown patina, cord saturated with mass, abstract facial features, the
eyes projecting on either side, a nearly bowl-shaped hollowed belly with square opening
for charging with magical ingredients, slightly dam., missing part (right leg), block-like base
H: 12,5 cm
Provenience: Haberzettl, Munich, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.500 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
110  Standing figure
wood, blackish brown patina, shiny in some areas, hole in the head for insertion of magical
loading, slightly dam., missing part (right foot tip), metal plate
H: 11,5 cm
Provenience: Maurice W. Shapiro, New York, USA
Christie's New York, 11 November 1993, lot 104
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 1.800 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
111  Standing figure
wood, black patina, encrusted in some areas, necklace of shiny blue miniature glass beads
around neck and hips, fixed by brown mass, slightly dam., base
H: 12,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.200 €
CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMILEKE
112  Prestige drinking horn
buffalo horn, dark patina, red pigment remains, front carved with a human figure, min. dam., slight traces of usage, base;
in all Grassfields kingdoms, drinking horns, plain or ornate, are a man's most important personal article, a reference to the significance of palm wine for shared sociability and pleasure and as a sacrificial libation substance.
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €

CAMEROON GRASSFIELDS, BAMUM
113  Fly whisk
wooden handle, partly stretched with leather resp. fabric, crowned by a human head decorated with red beads, min. dam., slight traces of usage, some beads missing, metal base
H: 88,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

CAMEROON, BANGWA
114  Standing male figure
wood, brown patina, with free carved arms, open mouth with inserted tongue, stripes of fabric saturated in mass around the neck, slightly dam., missing parts in the surface structure, right foot rest., crack (rectangular base)
H: 22 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €

CAMEROON, KAKA
115  Standing female figure
wood, matt patina, sacrificial traces, of abstract form, clamp-like arms, crowned by a head with pointed chin and simplified facial features, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 25 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

GABON, PUNU
116  Miniature mask
light-coloured and -weighted wood, the facial plane whitened with kaolin, encrusted in some areas, eyebrows and narrow slit eyes blackened, flat nose, vertical forehead ridge, the coiffure arranged in two "ear-like" arranged lobes, slightly dam., minor missing parts at the back of the rim and at the coiffure, paint rubbed off, base;
belonging to the so-called "white masks of the Ogooué". The "mukudji" or "okuyi" masks usually symbolize the spirit of a beautiful deceased girl.
H: 18 cm
Provenience: Lore Kegel, Hamburg, Germany (ca. 1990)
Neumeister, München, 11. November 2010, lot 201
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €
GABON, PUNU

117  Mask "okuyi"
light brown wood, white, black and red pigment, slightly asymmetrical facial features,
bulbous coiffure, hole on top, min. dam., minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion;
belonging to the so-called "white-faced masks of the Okuyi". These masks represented
female entities from the spirit world, fantastical beings who intervened in the villages on
important collective occasions: bereavements, palavers, the birth of twins, times of
epidemic, hunts for malevolent sorcerers, and so on. Masked dancers standing on stilts
would confront each other in "jousts". Each dancer would be assisted by a team, whose
purpose was to help him perform his competition with an acrobatic feat. The best dancer in
the eyes of public would win the match.
H: 19,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €

D. R. CONGO

118  Two standing figures
wood, a) "crypto fetish", Suku, h: 19,5 cm, rep. (right heel), base; b) magical figure, Pindi,
h: 16,5 cm, reddish brown patina, pierced arms, drilled hole in the head, block-like base
Provenience: a) Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.200 €

D. R. CONGO, BAKONGO

119  Standing power figure "nkisi"
wood, shiny brown patina, remains of pigments, package of magical mass on the head and
at the abdomen, incised scapulae, min. dam., small missing parts (left foot tip, package),
wooden base
H: 16,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, BASIKASINGO

120  Standing female figure
wood, brown patina, encrusted in some areas, fabric belt, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of
abrasion, metal base;
the Basikasingo have rites for ancestors, who have the power to cause disease and
misfortune. If a mischief happened, people tried to experience the wishes of the ancestors
by interpreting dreams and by soothsaying. They were kept in small shrines under the
authority and guardianship of a petty chief, village headman or dominant lineage elder.
Sometimes such figures were individually identified ancestors, called "bashumbu".
H: 36 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, HEMBA

121  Mask
wood, matt greyish brown patina, of oval form, heart-shaped deepened facial plane with
asymmetrical facial features, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of insect caused
damage, metal base
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.500 €
D. R. CONGO, MBO/BIRA
122 Mask
wood, matt patina, black and red pigment remains, of oval form, overall paint with white dots, enclosed by a plant fibre cuff, an open teeth revealing mouth, completely pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 25 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
123 Face mask "mwana pwo"
wood, reddish brown patina, black paint, of oval hollowed form with a five-parted coiffure, a broad teeth revealing mouth, typical cross tattoo on the forehead, pierced around the rim, min. dam., small missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, metal base; depicting a female ancestor, whereupon the Chokwe distinguish two characters: "pwo", a mature, adult woman and "mwana pwo", the younger female. Masks with few scarification details are more often said to represent the younger character. The "pwo" mask type appears during boy's "mukanda" initiation. In the performed dances the roles of women in Chokwe society is characterized. The mask type is always danced by men, who already have reached the highest stage of initiation.
H: 24 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 5.000 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
124 Chief figure
wood, brown patina, an elongated trunk, flanked by angled arms, a strong neck carrying a head with accentuated cut facial features, a disc-shaped beard and "mutwe wa kayanda" headdress, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage, cracks, slight traces of abrasion, metal plate; in Chokwe society chiefs are regarded as the representatives of God on earth, and as the intermediaries between the world of humans and the realm of ancestral and wilderness spirits that affect humans and their environments. The chief, or "mwanganga" is literally the owner of the land, the individual who is ultimately responsible for the well-being, success, fertility, and continuity of his people.
H: 38.5 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 4.000 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
125 Standing female figure
wood, blackish brown shiny patina, marked by a compact, massive body rising from short and thin legs, the elongated arms resting in front of the body, the head showing a voluminous grooved coiffure, while the facial plane is concentrated on a rather small area, old collection number at the back of the base 'A-206', slightly dam., cracks (partly spread with blackish mass), missing parts (both feet, base), plate
H: 25 cm
Provenience: Bernd Schlimper, Düsseldorf, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.500 €
D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
126   Small standing figure
light brown wood, spotty, brown patina, compact body, the barrel-shaped trunk flanked by clamp-like arms, oval head with simplified facial features, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, metal socle
H: 22.5 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
127   Three combs
wood, brown patina, a) six flat teeth, the handle carved with ornaments, crowned by a human head, h: 17.5 cm; b) fragmentary (only one half of the comb with four teeth preserved), surmounted by a head in profile, h: 23 cm; c) eight teeth, head in profile, h: 17 cm; each comb with slight traces of usage and small missing parts, base
Provenience: a) + b) Peter Loebath, Hameln, Germany
c) Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
128   Three combs
wood, brown patina, a) six teeth, open worked handle, crowned by a human head, base, h: 19.5 cm; b) ten teeth, crowned by a head in profile, h: 15 cm; c) Luba, seven teeth, a long neck supporting a head in profile, base, h: 16 cm; all showing slight traces of abrasion
Provenience: a) Peter Loebath, Hameln, Germany
b) Gerhard de Vos, Dormagen, Germany
c) Ingo Evers, Bonn, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.800 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
129   Whistle
wood, brown patina, remains of black paint, crowned by a hat-like headgear, circular mouthpiece, min. dam., slight traces of usage
H: 10 cm
Provenience: Helmut Gernsheim, Castagnola, Switzerland
Arendt Oetker, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
130   Lamellophone "sanza"
wood, metal, rectangular corpus, carved with geometrical ornaments and stylized human face, seven metal keys, min. dam., traces of usage and abrasion; the length of the keys determines the different pitches. While playing, the sanza is held in both hands and the two thumbs, sometimes even the forefinger are plucking the strings.
M: 18 x 10 cm
Provenience: Ingo Evers, Bonn, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.400 €
D. R. CONGO, CHOKWE
131 Tobacco container
wood, matt shiny patina, cylindrical form, handle in shape of a standing human figure, min.
dam., slight traces of usage;
Chokwe and related people smoked tobacco, or inhaled it as snuff within a ritual context in
order to honour the memory of lineage ancestors.
H: 7 cm
Provenience: Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 500 €

D. R. CONGO, DENGESÉ
132 Pair of figures
wood, middle brown patina, partly encrusted with clay, crudely carved, sex characteristics
emphasized, traces of red and white pigment on the face, flat heads with drilled holes for
insertion of magical substances, slightly dam., cracks, missing part (right foot of the male
figure), metal plate;
the Dengesé are a small ethnical group in central Zaire, belonging to the so-called "Kuba
Complex".
H: 17,5/18 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, DENGESÉ
133 Figural carved dignitary staff
wood, blackish brown patina, round shaft, carved with a stylized figure, supporting a janus-
head, completed by a flat pierced handle, drilled hole in the abdomen of the figure, as well
as in the shaft, slightly dam., crack (janus head), paint rubbed off
H: 90 cm
Provenience: Louis Clooten, Belgium, Ex-Colonial Officer
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, DENGESÉ
134 Ceremonial spoon
wood, black patina, a long and slender handle, decorated with a mask face and carved
with a human fist on top, slightly dam., missing parts and cracks (spoon, thumb), metal
base
H: 53 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, HEMBA
135 Male ancestor figure "singiti"
wood, blackish brown patina, encrusted with clay, firm stand, broad shoulders, distinctive
face with prominent bearded chin, unusual styling of the coiffure, slightly dam., minor
missing parts, crack (base), rep. (right forearm), presumably replaced (left forearm);
"singiti" figures depict important persons, such as war lords, clan founders or local chiefs.
They provide a literal and symbolic link between past generations and current clan leaders,
whose families are entrusted with their ownership and care. They were kept in special
ceremonial huts, where they received sacrifices and prayers.
H: 40,5 cm
Provenience: Ludwig Bretschneider, Munich, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.600 €, estimate: 9.000 €
D. R. CONGO, HEMBA

136 Ancestor figure "singiti"
light brown wood, partly encrusted brown patina, remains of kaolin, rising from fragmentary legs, dressed with an apron, a long, strong neck carrying an oval head with chin beard, a disc-shaped flattened coiffure with cross ornament backside, min. dam., missing parts (legs), slight signs of abrasion, on wooden base
H: 45.5 cm
Provenience: Adrian Schlag, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 2.000 €, estimate: 9.000 €

D. R. CONGO, HEMBA

137 Janiform magical figure "kabeja"
wood, brown, partly encrusted patina, sacrificial traces, a male and a female figure, arranged back to back, showing free worked, angled arms, with the hands resting aside a prominent navel, square shoulders and a massive neck supporting the janus-head with oval faces, tribe-typical facial features, dam., rep. (arm), missing parts through insect caused damage, base
H: 25.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, HEMBA

138 Apes mask "soko mutu"
wood, partly encrusted dark brown patina, of characteristic form, a broad half-circular mouth and elongated tapering nose, hole in the parting, min. dam., minor missing parts through insect caused damage; "soko mutu" mask dancers were costumed with a tapa cape, wig and beard from the pelt of the colobus ape. They were looked upon as frightening characters. Their apparently grinning mouth promised rage and disaster and reminded of the fears of death. Over 100 years. Artist and wood unknown.
H: 17 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, HOLO

139 Magical figure "mvunzi"
wood, reddish brown patina, traces of black paint, a high towering figure, rising from bent legs, with both hands resting on the breast, crowned by a broad face with tapering chin and a sun-helmet-like head crest, small drilled holes at the back and between the legs for insertion of magical substances, slightly dam., crack (head crest, face and body right hand side), block-like base; presumably a magical figure "mvunzi", who protects humans against certain evil spirits. The main fortuneteller usually possesses such "mvunzi", who employs them in cases of sickness, for theft or for the hunt. In many cases, for example with theft, a "mvunzi" possesses not only a protective function, but also an offensive character by acting against the evil spirit and imposing on it an even greater evil.
H: 61 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Belgian Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 4.000 €, estimate: 15.000 €
140  Sitting figure of the Queen "Holo dya Mukhetu"

wood, dark brown patina, traces of camwood powder, symmetrical posture with elbows on the knees, the coiffure arranged in two lateral braids, cavities for insertion of magical material in head and breast, dam., missing parts through insect caused damage and weathering, both forearms missing

H: 22 cm

Provenience: Gerhard de Vos, Dormagen, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany

Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 1.800 €

141  Framed figure "nzambi"

wood, slightly encrusted brown patina, arching frame, crowned by a seated bird, a figure with outstretched arms inserted, min. dam., small missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, base;

the Holo are a small ethnic group, living in the borderland between Zaire and Angola. In the course of their history they were exposed to various influences. The Pende crossed their realm, the Kongo introduced the sacred kaolin and their masquerades are adopted from the Yaka.

H: 19.5 cm; B: 11.5 cm

Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany

Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.600 €

142  Standing figure

wood, brown patina, blackened in parts, without feet rising from a rectangular base, geometrical incisions on belly and back, crowned by a sickle-shaped coiffure, min. dam., small missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, metal base

H: 30 cm

Provenience: Gerhard de Vos, Dormagen, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany

Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.200 €

143  Standing female figure

light-coloured wood, remains of reddish brown patina, string of miniature glass beads around the neck, incised scarifications on belly and face, drilled hole in the parting and on the underside ("kryptofetish"), dam., paint rubbed off, traces of old age and usage, base

H: 22 cm

Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany

Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.200 €

144  Zoomorphic mask

wood, shiny brown patina, blackened in parts, in form of a stylized antelope (?), showing slanting eyes and a pointed par of horns, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base

H: 26.5 cm

Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany

Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €
D. R. CONGO, HUNDE
145   Mask
wood, partly shiny dark brown patina, of oval, flat form, pierced eyes and mouth, min. dam., minor missing parts, fissures, slight traces of abrasion;
the Hunde are a small ethnical group living to the northwest of Lake Kivu. Their masking tradition combines the Kumu and Lega styles. Their society system is organized by the "mbuntsu" society. Masks like the present one should indicate a high ranking member of the "mbuntsu" society.
H: 27.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, ITURI
146   Mask
wood, red and white pigment, prominent forehead with metal tag, circular pierced eyes, rectangular mouth with separate worked teeth, min. dam., small missing parts, cracks, slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 26 cm
Provenience: Michel van den Dries, Gavere, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, ITURI
147   Mask
wood, matt patina, of oval form, the face halves dyed in different colours, mouth with separate worked teeth, min. dam., cracks, missing parts through insect caused damage on the rear, base;
Ituri is called a rain forest region, the home of various ethnical groups. Their mask types show great stylistic similarities, so that it can be talked about one stylistic region.
H: 23.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, ITURI
148   Mask
dark brown wood, white paint, of oval form, small almond-shaped slit eyes, the whole facial plane painted with dots, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 26.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, KASONGO
149   Power half figure *"kakudji"
wood, brown patina, the lower part of the body covered by a loincloth made from stripes of animal skin, the bearded face surmounted by a funnel-shaped projection filled with magical mass, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage, base
H: 21 cm
Provenience: Wolfgang Ketterer, Munich, 6 May 1978, lot 509
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 3.500 €
D. R. CONGO, KASONGO
150   Power half figure "kakudji"
wood, partly shiny brown patina, string of plant fibre and animal skin, head with elongated
chin beard, cavity in the head filled with magical material, min. dam., cracks, small missing
parts, slight traces of abrasion;
the Kasongo are neighbours with the Hemba, the Songe, the Bangubangu, the Kusu and
the Tetela, which influenced their figures stylistically.
H: 27.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 850 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, KUBA
151   Standing figure
wood, shiny, blackish brown patina, barrel-shaped upper part of the body with
proportionally thin arms, decorated with elaborate scarification marks, which can even be
found on the strong neck, the head marked by symmetrical facial features with serene
expression and tribe typical coiffure, slightly dam., cracks (above all at the back of the
head), slight traces of abrasion;
probably a figure called "ndop", representing the highest leaders of the Kuba "nyim". The
statues were kept in the womens rooms. They should provide fertility and should substitute
the king during times of absence.
H: 35 cm
Provenience: Maria Wyss, Basel, Switzerland
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 5.000 €

D. R. CONGO, KUBA
152   Mask "pwoom itok"
wood, polychrome paint, conical protruding eyes, enclosed by drilled holes and horn-like
appendages, raffia and cloth bonnet with cowrie shells and beads backside, min. dam.,
slight traces of abrasion, base;
this mask is known as "pwoom itok", "ishendemala", "ishyeenmaal" or "shene malula". It
can be found among various Kuba groups, including the Bushoong and the Ngeende. It
appears during the young men´s initiation and also performs as a dance mask. It incarnates
an old wise man who is consulted by the other dancers. Among the Bushong it is worn by
members of the "babende" secret society, which is responsible for the apprehension of
criminals.
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Stefan Lank, Munich, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 4.000 €

D. R. CONGO, KUBA
153   Mask "pwoom itok"
light brown wood, thick dark brown patina, remains of paint, conical protruding eyes,
encoded by drilled holes and horn-like appendages, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion,
mntal base;
this mask is known as "pwoom itok", "ishendemala", "ishyeenmaal" or "shene malula". It
can be found among various Kuba groups, including the Bushoong and the Ngeende. It
appears during the young men´s initiation and also performs as a dance mask. It incarnates
an old wise man who is consulted by the other dancers. Among the Bushong it is worn by
members of the "babende" secret society, which is responsible for the apprehension of
criminals.
H: 22.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 4.000 €
D. R. CONGO, KUBA
154  Mask "pwoom itok"
wood, shiny dark brown patina, remains of polychrome paint, conical protruding eyes, enclosed by drilled holes, min. dam., minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion
H: 26,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.600 €

D. R. CONGO, KUBA
155  Friction oracle "itombwa"
ligh brown wood, shiny brown patina, a short-legged elongated body with flat back and human head, complete rubbing implement, collection number "K134", min. dam., slight traces of usage;
regarded as infallible divinatory instruments, friction oracles were used to mediate between diviners and omniscient nature spirits in order to determine the cause of illness and appropriate courses of treatment and to expose dishonesty.
H: 5 cm; L: 29 cm
Provenience: Kegel-Konietzko, Hamburg, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.200 €

D. R. CONGO, KUMU
156  Mask
wood, matt brown patina, kaolin, characterized by large round eyes and an open mouth with visible teeth, pierced around the rim, dam., missing parts, traces of abrasion, cracks, base;
this mask comes from the eastern part of the area, occupied by the Kumu close to the Nyanga. It is said to represent an owl and was danced to "know the things of the forest" by the initiates when they resided in initiation camps.
H: 32 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, KUMU
157  Mask "nsembu"
wood, matt patina, remains of paint and kaolin, large eyes, an open mouth with visible teeth, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 22,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, KUMU
158  Mask
wood, shiny dark brown patina, oval, slightly vaulted form, rectangular pierced eyes and mouth, pierced around the rim, slight traces of abrasion, base;
apart from a number of different figures used in prophecy and ancestor figures, their most important ritual objects are masks, called "nsembu" or "ible", which appear in paired dances that contrast male and female roles during initiation into the "nkunda" divination society. These masks are of abstract shape with big eyes and rectangular mouth and often show geometric patterns in white, black and red.
H: 27,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €
D. R. CONGO, KUSU
159  Standing power figure "nkisi"
wood, slightly encrusted brown patina, expressive facial features with visible teeth, animal horn on top, min. dam., missing parts (base), slight traces of abrasion, metal plate
H: 34,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, KUYU
160   Dance club "ebongo"
light brown wood, black and red paint, staff-shaped handle, the neck decorated with geometrical ornaments, supporting a big head with flat facial features, an oval mouth with revealed teeth, crowned by a high tapering coiffure, min. dam., cracks, traces of insect caused damage, slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 51 cm
Provenience: Martin Lippmann, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Zemanek-Münster, Würzburg, 22. November 2003, lot 356
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 800 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, KWESI
161   Mask
wood, reddish brown patina, a heart-shaped facial plane, accentuated by kaolin, pierced around the rim, traces of insect caused damage and abrasion
H: 26,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA
162   Mask "lukwakongo"
wood, light brown patina, kaolin, the facial plane subdivided by a blackened nose ridge, protruding eyes with drilled pupils, drilled holes in the chin area for attachment of a raphia beard, min. dam., small missing parts, fine cracks
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.600 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA
163   Big horned mask "kayamba"
wood, honey brown and greyyish brown patina, human long-face mask with remains of kaolin, which originally covered the whole mask, drilled holes around the rim, dotted tattoos on the cheeks, slightly dam., missing parts (both horn tips, nose, left eye), hairline cracks, on base;
this is the only type of Lega mask that is exclusively worn before the face in the few rites and places where it occurs. In some instances two masks of this type perform together when they represent troublesome strangers. This type of mask performs in very few "yananio" and "kindi" rites. In some cases it is part of the baskets containing collectively owned initiation objects. In other instances the mask belongs to a preceptor of "kindi" grade.
H: 45 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.500 €, estimate: 5.000 €
D. R. CONGO, LEGA
164  Mask "idimu"
wood, dark brown patina, kaolin, heart-shaped facial plane with typical features, a short beard made from plant fibres, min. dam., minor missing parts, traces of abrasion; Lega masks are "bwami" initiation objects. There are five different types: "lukwakongo", "kayamba", "idimu", "muminia", and "lukungu". They serve as important marks of rank, identifying the owners as members of specific "bwami" levels. The "idimu" mask is owned collectively and is kept by an appropriate member of "yananio" or "kindi". In a major performance, the "idumu" mask is hung on a fence surrounded by the smaller, individually owned "lukwakongo" masks.
H: 21.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 4.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA
165  Mask "idimu"
light brown wood, shiny dark brown patina, heart-shaped deepened facial plane, curved brows with dots, min. dam., traces of abrasion
H: 20.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA
166  Mask
made of the kneepan of an elephant, dark brown patina, drilled holes around the rim, slightly dam., minor missing parts, base; Lega masks are "bwami" initiation objects. There are five different types: "lukwakongo", "kayamba", "idimu", "muminia", and "lukungu". They serve as important marks of rank, identifying the owners as members of specific "bwami" levels. The "idimu" mask is owned collectively and is kept by an appropriate member of "yananio" or "kindi". In a major performance, the "idumu" mask is hung on a fence surrounded by the smaller, individually owned "lukwakongo" masks.
H: 20.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.000 €, estimate: 3.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA
167  Small mask "lukwakongo"
wood, shiny brown patina, remains of pigments, beard made from plant fibres, min. dam., fissures;
young men received the "lukwakongo" masks during the "yananio" rites. These masks were the most important insignia of rank until the owner moved to the higher level of "kindi" and trades his wooden mask for an ivory one, called "lukungu". These masks were emblems of rank and visible signs for the connection between the deceased and the living, between former initiates and their successors. They were presented during different stages of initiation.
H: 15 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 3.000 €
D. R. CONGO, LEGA

168  Miniature mask "lukwakongo"
light brown wood, kaolin, blackened in parts, dotted and cross-shaped scarification marks, plant fibre beard, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; young men received the "lukwakongo" masks during the "yananio" rites. These masks were the most important insignia of rank until the owner moved to the higher level of "kindi" and trades his wooden mask for an ivory one, called "lukungu". These masks were emblems of rank and visible signs for the connection between the deceased and the living, between former initiates and their successors. They were presented during different stages of initiation.
H: 10,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA

169  Mask "lukwakongo"
wood, matt patina, remains of kaolin, blackened in parts, typical heart-shaped facial plane with elongated nose ridge, drilled holes in the chin area for attachment of a raphia beard, min. dam., minor missing parts;
Lega masks are marks of rank within the different levels of initiation in the "bwami" society. There are five different mask types: "lukwakongo", "kayamba", "idimu", "muminia", and "lukungu". Young men received the "lukwakongo" masks during the "yananio" rites. These masks were the most important insignia of rank until the owner moved to the higher level of "kindi" and trades his wooden mask for an ivory one, called "lukungu".
H: 18,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA

170  Small mask "lukwakongo"
wood, brown patina, remains of kaolin, long beard made from plaited plant fibres, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 14 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.800 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA

171  Miniature mask "lukwakongo"
wood, blackish brown patina, oval form with reduced, slightly asymmetrical facial features, min. dam., traces of abrasion
H: 11,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 600 €
D. R. CONGO, LEGA

172 Multiheaded figure "sakimatwematwe"
wood, dark red patina, a crude carved female figure, the back of the head carved with a second face, simplified as the first, but individually formed, slightly dam. (feet), metal plate; the multi-headed figure demonstrates the ability of the high-level "bwami" members, as a result of the initiation process, to see in many different directions and to be wise and fair minded.
H: 18 cm
Provenience: Manfred Schäfer, Ulm, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LEGA

173 Three animal figures
wood, a) dark brown patina, kaolin, "mugugundu", bulky stature with open mouth, l: 24 cm, h: 5,5 cm; b) slightly encrusted brown patina, quadruped with big head, base, l: 17,5 cm, h: 5,5 cm; c) brown patina, kaolin, quadruped with long tail, blackened incisions, l: 18 cm, h: 5,5 cm; all showing slight traces of abrasion
Provenience: a) Gerhard de Vos, Dormagen, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LELE/KUBA

174 Mask
wood, encrusted brown patina, shield-shaped flat with long grass beard and plant fibre bonnet, pierced around the rim, min. dam., small missing parts (nose tip), slight traces of abrasion
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 4.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LELE

175 Mask
wood, shiny dark brown patina, of flat u-shaped form, remains of a bonnet made from plant fibres on the rear, pierced around the rim, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion; the Lele are decisively influenced by neighbouring Kuba groups, which makes it difficult to differentiate their ritual artworks from those of the other Kuba kinsmen. Typical however, are shield-shaped, flat masks, painted in various colours, and with slit pierced eyes, several eye brows, and small mouths.
H: 25,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LUALWA

176 Anthropomorphic face mask
wood, blackish brown patina, canwood powder, a vaulted forehead, split by the sharp-edged elongated nose ridge, kaolin rubbed into the deepenings of the notched scarification marks, plant fibre cord backside for fixing the mask with the mouth, dam., minor missing parts, paint rubbed off, cracks; the Lualwa masks are all used in the "bangongo" dance to appease the spirits, increase hunting success, and initiate "bangongo" society dancers. They sometimes perform at funerals of dignitaries but are danced only at night, so as not to harm women.
H: 33 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.000 €, estimate: 5.000 €
D. R. CONGO, LUBA

177  Torso of a female figure
wood, blackish brown patina, the body arranged frontal and symmetrical, the large-scale face slightly turned up, showing well-balanced facial features, the coiffure arranged in a plaited pattern, dam., scratches, paint rubbed off, cracks, breakage (right forearm), block-like base; the posture of the head and arms, together with the facial features creating a dignified expression.
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 5.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LUBA

178  Magical half figure
light brown wood, reddish brown patina, cavity with remains of magical mass on the head, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage; magical materials included items thought to have rare and enhancing life powers, such as pulverized fragments of human bone, or the hair of twins. By supplying the object in this way, the ritual specialist invites the spirit to inhabit the receptacle, which can then be used to assist with particular tasks.
H: 29 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LUBA

179  Half figure 'kakudji'
wood, brown, partly shiny patina, oval head, a package with magical mass on top, loincloth, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LUBA

180  Small male oracle figure
wood, brown patina, remains of pigments, stylized forms and facial features, a hole on top of the head filled with magical mass, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 11,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LUBA

181  Miniature power figure
wood, blackish brown patina, the body wrapped with strips of fur, head with cavity, inserted with magical mass and fabric, drilled holes below the breast, probably from metal tags, drilled ear holes, slightly dam., base
H: 7,8 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 300 €
D. R. CONGO, LUBA/HEMBA

182 Small half figure "kakudji"
wood, brown patina, the lower part originally dressed with a loincloth, crowned by a package of magical mass, min. dam., cracks, base
H: 13,5 cm
Provenience: Hans Koller, St. Gallen, Switzerland
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.600 €

183 Three power half figures "kakudiji"
wood, blackish brown patina, a) female, with both hands supporting the breasts, h: 13 cm, cavity in the head, filled with magical mass, raised scarification marks, slightly dam.; b) female, both hands resting aside the prominent navel, h: 14 cm, opening in the head, slightly dam., cracks, minor missing parts, metal plate; c) power figure wrapped with fur, h: 12,5 cm, various cavities (head, ears, underside) filled with mass, some traces of kaolin, slightly dam., cracks
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.800 €

184 Fragmentary figure
wood, encrusted brown patina, probably from a power figure "kakudji", three metal tags in the area the head, ring-shaped head crest with cavity for insertion of magical material, min. dam., cracks, traces of insect caused damage, base
H: 13 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €

185 Miniature half figure
wood, partly shiny brown patina, hole on top of the head closed by a metal tag, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 8,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €

186 Three power half figures
wood, a) half figure "kakudji", matt greyish black patina, band of fur, h: 9 cm, decorating nail in the head, slightly dam., metal plate; b) half figure "kakudji", matt greyish brown patina, h: 8,5 cm, round deepening in the head, slightly dam., crack, plate; c) half figure, Tabwa, reddish brown patina, traces of black paint, drilled holes in belly, ears and head, slightly dam., base
Provenience: a) + b) Ingo Evers, Bonn, Germany
c) Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.800 €
D. R. CONGO, LUBA
187 Magical figure
wood, shiny black patina, encrusted in some areas, symmetrical arranged body, regular facial features, with free carved arms supporting a horn-shaped object, originally filled with magical ingredients, slightly dam., base
H: 11 cm
Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.600 €

D. R. CONGO, LUBA
188 Mask board
wood, matt patina, paint remains, carved with a superimposed mask face surrounded by linear incisions, pierced around the rim, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage and abrasion;
these masks are worn like an amulet or preserved in the house to protect the owner.
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebart, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €

D. R. CONGO, LUBA
189 Rattle
wood, dark brown patina, feathers, three bowl-shaped nuts with slits, filled with seeds, surmounted by a halffigure with mortar-like headgear, min. dam., cracks, base;
Luba rattles are central to divination practices for healing the sick and reversing misfortune. A Luba diviner enters a state of spirit possession through a combination of percussion and song. Female relatives sing the "Song for Twins" to invoke the spirits attention, while shaking rattles and ringing bells. Once the spirit has "mounted" the diviners head, the women continue to play the instruments in order to maintain the presence of the spirit throughout the duration of the consultation.
H: 29,5 cm
Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, LULUA
190 Small standing protective figure
wood, dark brown patina, remains of kaolin, of typical form, carved with an loincloth, oval head with a hole and a horn on top of the head, min. dam., wooden socle;
such small protective figures served the general well being, they should bring luck and beauty, should protect pregnant women and increase fertility.
H: 16,5 cm
Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, LULUA
191 Standing protective figure
wood, brown patina, remains of pigments, holding a small bowl in the left hand, circular drillings in the head area, high towering headgear, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 17 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.200 €
D. R. CONGO, MBOLE
192 Female figure
wood, dark brown patina, schematized body, a broad heart-shaped face with simplified features, min. dam., traces of weathering, base; belonging to the "lilwa" secret society. The slanting, "hanging" feet as well as the posture of the body could be a hint, that a hanged person is depicted, who was killed according to a sentence of "lilwa".
H: 28,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.000 €, estimate: 5.000 €

D. R. CONGO, MBOLE
193 Male figure "okifa"
light brown wood, spotty, dark brown patina, beige pigment remains, schematized forms, an oval head without recognizable facial features, crowned by a flat headgear, hole on top of the head, min. dam., traces of abrasion, base
H: 28 cm
Provenience: Alfons Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, MBOLE
194 Standing figure
wood, partly shiny, dark brown patina, remains of pigments, without feet rising from a high base, schematized form and simplified facial features, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, minor missing parts, base
H: 29 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.600 €

D. R. CONGO, METOKO
195 Male half figure "ntanda"
wood, dark brown patina, camwood powder, bicolored face halves, the body painted with dots, slightly dam., missing parts, traces of insect caused damage, cracks, block-like base; the male figure "ntanda" and the female "itea" are used in initiation rites and are also brought out to keep the peace during disputes. "Ntanda" and "itea" are used as temporary receptacles for the souls of the departed during important funerals and are then broken and left in the forest.
H: 56 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Alfons Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.000 €, estimate: 5.000 €

D. R. CONGO, NDAAKA/BALI
196 Mask
wood, shiny patina, polychrome paint, of oval form, face halves dyed in different colours, painted with dots, circular pierced eyes, an open mouth with separate worked teeth, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 23,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 3.000 €
D. R. CONGO, NDAAKA

197  Mask

wood, matt patina, of oval form, the facial plane divided in quarters dyed in red resp. white, pierced around the rim, min. dam., minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, base

H: 23 cm

Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

198  Maske "phumbu"

wood, black paint, kaolin, plant fibres, tribe-typical facial features, raffia bonnet with three cone-like projections, pierced around the rim, min. dam., taces of insect caused damage and abrasion, base;

present mask represents a chief and was used during masquerades supposed to entertain the village inhabitants. When the "phumbu" mask appeared, it was frequently accompanied by an assistant wearing a "tundu" mask. His task was to find a good seat for the chief with the best possible view.

H: 53 cm

Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 3.500 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

199  Mask "phumbu"

wood, matt patina, polychrome paint, raffia bonnet with four cone-like projections, min. dam., paint rubbed off, base;

present mask represents a chief and was used during masquerades supposed to entertain the village inhabitants. When the "phumbu" mask appeared, it was frequently accompanied by an assistant wearing a "tundu" mask. His task was to find a good seat for the chief with the best possible view.

H: 40,5 cm

Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

200  Mask "mbuya"

wood, polychrome paint, marked by continous brows, eyes with hanging lids and the typical "snub nose", scarification marks "mifunyi" on forehead and cheeks, raffia bast bonnet, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, base;

masks of the Pende were used to worship the chief and for initiation rites or for sacred purposes of the priests. In particular, this artist has captured the "bedroom eyes" ("zanze"), believed essential to women's power over men.

H: 28,5 cm

Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 2.500 €
D. R. CONGO, PENDE

201 Horned mask "giphogo"
wood, red pigment, kaolin, a heart-shaped facial plane with a zig-zag beard in relief, horns in shape of lance tips, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, minor missing parts;
the Pende people live at the left bank of the Kasai river. They became well known for their big masks, like "pumpu" and "giphogo", rather than for their triangular miniature masks.
H: 41 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

202 Mask "munyangi giphogo"
wood, brown patina, kaolin (encrusted in some areas), small traces of turquoise pigment, small heart-shaped facial plane with flat mirror-projected on top and abundant grass-fibre beard, skin scarification marks, drilled hole underneath the nose, slightly dam.; the "munyangi" masks are worn as visors, away from the face starting from the forehead, freeing the nose and the eyes. They are doted with an imposing headdress which enables the small mask to be fitted on the forehead of the dancer. All these masks are linked to the chief's power.
H: 28 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.600 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

203 Passport mask
wood, greyish brown patina, kaolin, drilled holes around the rim, slightly dam., minor missing parts at the back of the rim, metal base
H: 13,5 cm
Provenience: Alfons Bermel, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 1.000 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

204 Small mask "pota"
wood, kaolin, brown paint, red dyed facial plane, narrow slit bean-shaped eyes, a closed disc-shaped flattened mouth, slightly dam., waterspots, base;
"pota" is a forehead mask, secured in place by a pillbox hat. It performs with great variety and often executes manoeuvres associated with other masks. "Pota" often takes over duties from "kipoko" so that it is described as "first minister" among the village masks.
H: 19,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €

D. R. CONGO, PENDE

205 Kneeling figure
wood, reddish brown patina with traces of black paint, stylized in form, a block-like body, kneeling on thin legs with tapering knees, crowned by a heavy-weighted head with disc-shaped coiffure, round scarification marks and linear incised tattoos on the face, plant fibre belt, nose ornament, slightly dam., minor missing parts at the coiffure, crack (at the back of the head), paint rubbed off (coiffure), base
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €
D. R. CONGO, PENDE (OST)

206  Mask "kindombolo"
wood, red pigment, blackish brown paint, remains of kaolin, the flat facial plane coated with three rows of drilled holes, flanking a bold nose, a projecting beard underneath, typical "shaved" hairline, slightly dam., base; the drilled holes symbolize scars caused by smallpox. "Kindombolo's" scars evoke his character since many argue that survivors of smallpox lose all respect for physical danger or social censure. Called "cruel" because he carries a whip, "kindombolo" maintains order on the dance floor but delights in outlandish and vulgar surprises.
H: 24 cm
Provenience: Alfons Bermel, France
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.000 €

D. R. CONGO, RUNGU

207  Mask
wood, shiny brown patina, black paint, of oval vaulted form with slightly asymmetrical facial features and elongated chin, blackened coiffure along the hairline ornamented with drilled holes, pierced around the rim, fine cracks, minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, base; some masks, collected in the area of the Rungu, belonged to a member of a voluntary association, but their exact use is not known since they were not observed in context.
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Helmut Zake, Heidelberg, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 700 €, estimate: 4.500 €

D. R. CONGO, RUNGU

208  Head sculpture
wood, shiny brown patina, remains of black paint, a band of fabric around the long neck, open mouth with visible teeth, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 9 cm
Provenience: Portugese Collection, Lisbon
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 80 €, estimate: 900 €

D. R. CONGO, RUNGU

209  Dignitary staff
wood, shiny brown patina, carved with a snake, a small reliefic figure, a human head, on top a half figure and knob-shaped ending, min. dam., small missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, fine cracks
L: 98 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €

D. R. CONGO, RUNGU

210  Dignitary staff
wood, shiny brown patina, blackened in parts, iron spit at the bottom, surmounted by a standing male figure, min. dam., small missing parts, slight traces of corrosion
H: 73 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 800 €
D. R. CONGO, RUNGU
211 Dignitary staff
wood, shiny dark brown patina, carved with a standing, smiling figure dressed with shorts, surmounted by a fork-shaped ending with an open worked circle in between, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion; staffs with heads were probably used by dignitaries as a sign of office.
L: 85,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 800 €

D. R. CONGO, SALAMPASU
212 Face mask "kasangu" of "ibuku" society
wood, of oval form, a broad, bulging forehead separated from the deepened, triangular flattened facial plane below, the face halves dyes in red and black, alternating on the forehead, dam., minor missing parts (eyes, mouth, chin), cracks (chin), paint rubbed off, traces of insect caused damage; the masks of the Salampasu were used for circumcision rites of the male secret societies. The number of masks a secret society owned, indicated proven courage, experience of warfare and the number of "enemy heads" that had been taken.
H: 23,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SALAMPASU
213 Mask "kasangu" of "ibuku" society
wood, spotted dark brown patina, kaolin, stylized form, a bulging forehead, the triangular facial plane below concave hollowed with a projecting tapering chin, sickle-shaped pierced eyes flanking a bulky short nose, slightly dam. (nose, chin), paint rubbed off (above all at the back of the rim), coiffure of rotan bowls missing, base
H: 30 cm
Provenience: French Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SALAMPASU
214 Figure of a dancer
blackened wood, raffia fibers, rotan, feathers, dressed with a grass fibre skirt, wearing a "mukinka" mask and a pointed headgear, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage, base; these masked dancer figures are a later addition taken from the Chokwe.
H: 61 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SHI
215 Face mask "idimu"
wood, blotched brown patina, incised scarification marks (cheeks and nosebridge), slightly dam., abrasion; the "idimu" mask is owned collectively and is kept by an appropriate member of "yananio" or "kindi". In a major performance, the "idimu" mask is hung on a fence surrounded by the smaller, individually owned "lukwakongo" masks. "Idimu" represents the power which enables the community to enter the higher level of "bwame".
H: 26,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 3.000 €
D. R. CONGO, SHI
216   Face mask
wood, reddish brown patina, kaolin, of regular hollowed form with a high projecting
forehead, the facial features concentrated on a rather small area, the see holes enclosed by
grooves, accentuated with kaolin, slightly dam., drilled holes in the chin area (partly
broken), cracks (forehead), paint rubbed off, metal base;
ethnical group living in the area between the Tanganyika and Kivu Lake. The Shi are
famous for their inventive yet pure shaped wooden beer and water vessels and their
beadwork, to a lesser extent for masks.
H: 31 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 3.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SHI
217   Apes mask
light-weighted wood, reddish brown patina, dark brown paint, abstract form, the brows
separated from the facial plane in a horizontal overlapping rim, the flat face halves
culminating in a vertical ridge forming the nose, mouth and chin zone flattened, slightly
dam., minor missing parts (backside at the rim, edge of the brows), small traces of insect
causd damage
H: 21,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
218   Mask "kifwebe"
wood, dark brown patina, of narrow overlong form with a round head and a concave
hollowed facial plane, narrow slit eyes, the bulky nose and a cuboid mouth widely
protruding, the facial plane coated with band tattoos, pierced around the rim, dam., paint
rubbed off, minor missing parts at the rim (mouth, eyes, chin, backside at the rim), rep.
(breakage on the right side of the head, fixed with silver metal strips and wire, additional
spread with a tar-like mass);
the "bifwebe" masks (sing. "kifwebe") represent a spirit being and belong to an association
called "bwadi ka bifwebe". The mask is supplemented by a plaited costume and a long
raffia beard. They appear at various ceremonies, as security force, or for warding off
enemies in case of war. Because of the missing forehead crest, the mask is of female type
"kikashi". The striped, in parts jagged pattern, presumably a hint on its origin from the
eastern area of the Songe land.
H: 39,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Gemany (70's)
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 2.000 €, estimate: 10.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE/TETELA
219   Plankmask of "kifwebe" society
light weighted wood, middle brown patina, kaolin, narrow board with accurate incised
concentrical decor, accentuated with kaolin rubbed into the deepenings, a mask face with
linear scarification marks and painted pupils superimposed, dam., missing parts at the rim,
paint rubbed off;
presumably used as hut panel.
H: 60 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 3.000 €
D. R. CONGO, SONGE
220 Mask board
wood, brown patina, kaolin, black paint, a mask face of the "kifwebe" type superimposed in the centre, min. dam., traces of abrasion; they have a dual function: first as a dance mask and secondly as an emblem of the "bifwebe" association to be hung to a wall or fence.
H: 34 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebart, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
221 Mask board
wood, brown patina, remains of kaolin and black paint, a mask face of the "kifwebe" type superimposed in the centre, min. dam., cracks, traces of abrasion; they have a dual function: first as a dance mask and secondly as an emblem of the "bifwebe" association to be hung to a wall or fence.
H: 29 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebart, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
222 Wall mask "kifwebe"
wood, matt patina, polychrome paint, carved on a flat rounded board, protruding rectangular mouth and a high forehead comb, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion, on metal base
H: 34 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebart, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
223 Miniature mask "kifwebe"
wood, dark brown patina, remains of pigments, raised forehead and nose ridge, a long beard of plant fibres underneath, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 14,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebart, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
224 Male power figure "nkisi"
wood, matt middle brown patina, loincloth of animal skin, fixed by cord, hole in the parting with inserted magical loading, slightly dam., cracks; the magical figures ("mankisi", sing. - "nkisi") were not conceived as objects of display but as intimate devices used for protection, healing or therapy. The determining factor in their assessment is not visual but is rather dependent on the magical ingredients (="bishimba"). The smaller figures belong to individual persons, while the big ones are the property of the whole village. In their function they often correspond to the protective or sacred figures of the Christian and other religions. Sometimes they also fulfil malignant goals: they heal and destroy, protect and attack.
H: 20,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €
D. R. CONGO, SONGE
225  Two power figures
wood, middle brown patina, a) h: 12 cm, eyes with metal inlay, opening in the parting, incised scarifications on breast and back, dam., missing parts (left upper arm, right foot tip), metal plate; b) h: 14 cm, bullet casing in the head, brass tag in the belly, drilled ear holes, dam., missing parts, cracks (head, base), block-like base
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
226  Two friction oracles "katadora"
wood, brown patina, both with square open worked body and anthropomorphic head, min. dam., fine cracks, slight traces of abrasion
H: 13 cm resp. 13,5 cm
Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
227  Small power figure
wood, partly encrusted brown patina, remains of kaolin, trapezoid lower body, oval head with simplified facial features, crowned by a thorn-like projection, rep. (middle), min. dam., slight traces of abrasion
H: 19 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.300 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
228  Power half figure "nkisi"
wood, slightly shiny brown patina, dressed with a loincloth made from plant fibres, circular drillings, knob-shaped headgear, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion
H: 20,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SONGE
229  Neckrest
wood, reddish brown patina, remains of black paint, of rectangular waisted form, slightly vaulted for placing the head a bit more comfortable, the narrow sides carved with anthropomorphic heads, slightly dam., cracks, minor missing parts, paint rubbed off
B: 17,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 600 €
D. R. CONGO, SUKU

230  Power figure
wood, dark brown patina, rising from slightly bent legs, dressed with an apron, a package of magical mass including feathers attached to the upper arm, the cavity in the breast filled with magical mass, a string of glass beads with small animal horns around the neck, the head showing tribe-typical facial features, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, metal plate; probably a magical figure called "phungu". These figures served as containers for protective magical power exercised by the experts against illness, to avenge sorcery and for supernatural assistance in hunting.
H: 52.5 cm
Provenience: Ludwig Bretschneider, Munich, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 1.200 €, estimate: 6.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SUKU

231  Standing female figure "biteki koshi"
wood, reddish brown patina, red pigment, a crude carved body, small drilled holes in head, ears, forearms and between the legs ("cryptofetish") for insertion of magical substances, slightly dam., cracks (backside), block-like base; commemorative statues and ancestral figures like the present one are considered to be abodes for the invisible benevolent forces of the ancestors. They are used by healers, diviners and clan chiefs in rituals pertaining to the ancestral cult.
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, SUKU

232  Female figure
wood, dark, reddish brown patina, cylindrical trunk with the arms carved close to the body, hole on top of the head, min. dam., small missing parts (base), cracks, slight traces of abrasion, metal base
H: 29.5 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, SUKU

233  Slit drum
wood, dark brown patina, remains of kaolin, in the shape of an armless half figure with slit-like deepened corpus, min. dam., slight signs of abrasion, fissures, metal plate; the diviner uses this drum to accompany the singings initiating the oracle. The rectangular opening was not just a resonator, it could contain magical mass as well.
H: 43.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.500 €

D. R. CONGO, TABWA

234  Dignitary staff
wood, red- and blackish brown shiny patina, handle in shape of a human half figure, an anthropomorphic head on either side, eyes with metal inlay, iron spout, slightly dam., paint rubbed off; the staff presumably belonged to a chief or diviner. The two faces in opposite directions refer to the ability to see both past and future.
L: 132 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 3.500 €
D. R. CONGO, TABWA
235  Dignitary staff
wood, shiny brown patina, copper wire, string of glass beads, round staff with metal spout, crowned by a female half figure, min. dam., cracks, traces of corrosion; presumably belonging to the prestige objects of a chief.
H: 136.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany (1991)
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, TABWA
236  Dignitary staff
wood, reddish brown patina, knob in shape of an anthropomorphic head with chin beard and incised tattoos on the cheeks, band ornament with notched zigzag decor around the neck, slightly dam., cracks, inserted eyes (missing on the left), traces of usage/strong abrasion at the back of the head, base
H: 82 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.200 €

D. R. CONGO, TABWA
237  Dignitary staff
wood, shiny brown patina, blackened in parts, carved with a human head, on top a standing figure rising from a conical base, min. dam., missing parts, slight traces of abrasion; the staff presumably belonged to a chief or diviner. The two faces in opposite directions refer to the ability to see both past and future.
L: 75 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 800 €

D. R. CONGO, TABWA
238  Three figures
wood, a) standing female figure, Tabwa/Rungu, h: 24 cm, drilled hole in the head, grooved nose ridge, eyes in concentrical rings, cross-shaped tattoos on the cheeks, slightly dam., crack, paint rubbed off, metal plate; b) standing figure with shovel-like big hands, h: 24.5 cm, flat head with coiffure in lattice pattern, slightly dam., rep. (right leg), old collection number "262", c) figure with two-coloured coiffure, h: 19.5 cm, vertical incisions on the cheeks, slightly dam., metal plate
Provenience: a) Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, TABWA
239  Standing male figure in colon style
wood, brown patina, black paint in some areas, carved with shorts and boots, cap-like coiffure with drilled hole in the parting for insertion of magical substances, spectacle-like eyes, slightly dam., metal plate
H: 25.4 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.800 €
D. R. CONGO, TABWA
240 Three miniature figures
wood, brown patina, traces of black paint in some areas, a) standing female figure, h: 12.5 cm, brows arranged in double bows, vertical forehead ridge, slightly dam., base; b) half figure with coiffure in shape of a billed cap, h: 14 cm, rich patina, cavity in the head, slightly dam., cracks, base; c) standing female figure, h: 14 cm, tonsure-like blackened coiffure, slightly dam., cracks, paint rubbed off, base
Provenience: b) Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.400 €

D. R. CONGO, TABWA
241 Small half figure
wood, brown patina, blackened in parts, face, hands and scarification marks accentuated by pokerwork, hole on top of the head with remains of magical mass, min. dam.
H: 13.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €

D. R. CONGO, TEKE
242 Miniature power figure "biteki"
wood, middle brown patina, the body coated with a package of magical mass, tribe-typical headgear, min. dam., small missing parts, acrylic base
H: 12.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.000 €

D. R. CONGO, TETELA
243 Small female power figure
wood, encrusted greyish brown patina, wearing a thin leather strap wrapped around the left arm, simplified facial features, min. dam., traces of insect caused damage
H: 16 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 1.000 €

D. R. CONGO, TUMBWE
244 Standing male figure
wood, reddish brown patina, black paint in some areas, a high-towering body with elongated limbs, drilled hole on top of the head for insertion of magical mass, dam., missing parts (left upper arm, both foot tips and base), old place of repair (a small wooden piece fitted in the left thigh), metal plate; the Tumbwe live at the southwestern river banks of Lake Tanganyika. Few sculptures are known from this area and oral history says that some were made by Luba carvers at the request of the Tumbwe chief Lusinga.
H: 46 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.500 €
D. R. CONGO, YAKA
245 Small male power figure "phuungu"
wood, reddish brown patina, necklace with yellow glass beads, simplified body, both hands resting on the abdomen, the narrow head carved with large ears and the typical nose, slightly dam., insect caused missing part at the coiffure, base; such figures served as containers for protective magical power exercised by the experts against illness, to avenge sorcery and for supernatural assistance in hunting.
H: 22 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 450 €, estimate: 2.500 €

D. R. CONGO, YAKA
246 Standing female power figure
wood, light brown patina, dark brown patina at the coiffure, the angled arms carved close to the body with the hands amalgamated in front of the breast, stylized facial features with linear incised tattoos underneath the eyes, small drilled holes in head, ears and anus ("cryptofetish"), slightly dam., coiffure, base
H: 20 cm
Provenience: Joseph Christiaens, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

D. R. CONGO, YAKA
247 Three miniature figures
wood, dark brown patina, a) magical figure "mbwoolo", h: 12,5 cm, armless trunk, legs fused; b) pendant figure in shape of a standing male, rising from a conical-shaped base with central drilling, slightly dam., cracks, partly spread with mass, c) half figure, Holo, Angola, h: 14,5 cm, v-shaped arms; metal bases
Provenience: a) + c) Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.600 €

D. R. CONGO, YAKA
248 Mask
light brown wood, mat, dark brown patina, of flat and oval form with a pierced nose and a teeth-showing mouth, a plug-shaped handle for support at the lower rim, min. dam., paint rubbed off in some parts, metal base; probably part of a mask "ndeemba" used at circumcision rites for young boys, symbolizing fertility and virility.
H: 41,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

ANGOLA, CHOKWE
249 Mask representing a foreigner "katoyo"
wood, dyed in red, small traces of black paint, characterized by horizontal brows, angular nose and a broad mouth, skin scarification marks, forehead tattoo, drilled holes around the rim, slightly dam., missing parts backside, original inserted teeth now missing, base
H: 23 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 2.000 €
ANGOLA, HOLO
250  Small standing amulet figure
wood, shiny dark brown patina, shortened arms, rectangular cavity in the chest, drilling in
the area of the neck, min. dam., fissures, minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 15 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.000 €

ANGOLA, LUENA
251  Mask
light brown wood, matt brown patina, with regular facial features and tattoos
corresponding to the prevailing ideal of beauty, abundant coiffure made from plant fibre
cord, beaded ornaments, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 25 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 5.000 €

ANGOLA, LUENA
252  Mask "mwana phwevo"
wood, brown and black patina, with regular facial features and rich tattoos corresponding
to the prevailing ideal of beauty, abundant coiffure made from plant fibre cord, beaded
ornaments, remains of a costume backside, pierced around the rim, min. dam., base;
the "mwana phwevo" masks were danced by men. They appear on various festive
occasions in order to amuse the village people, especially women, with their charming
dances.
H: 22,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 650 €, estimate: 3.000 €

ANGOLA, LUENA
253  Mask
wood, shiny brown patina, of oval form with pointed chin, elaborate scarifications in the
area of the forehead and the temples, pierced around the rim, min. dam., minor missing
parts, slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 25 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 3.000 €

ANGOLA, LUENA
254  Mask "mwana phwevo"
wood, shiny spotty patina, showing tribe-typical facial features, scarifications, double-
curved eye brows and accentuated cheeks, pierced around the rim, min. dam., slight traces
of abrasion, on base;
the Luena are an ethnic group in the border territory between Angola, Zambia and the
Democratic Republic of Congo. In Angola, they are named after the river of the same name,
and in the north-west of Zambia, they are known as Lovale.
H: 28 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €
ANGOLA, LUENA

255  Mask "mwana phwevo"
wood, honey brown patina, triangular facial plane with long chin, arcing brows with bean-shaped narrow slit eyes below, the oval mouth with pierced corners, pointed and linear incised scarification marks, slightly dam., minor missing part at the back of the rim, metal base;
the name of the mask 'young woman' refers to a mythic female person, who died young of age. The masquerade should remind of the painful loss.
H: 22 cm
Provenience: Mon Steyaert, Brussels, Belgium
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 250 €, estimate: 1.800 €

ANGOLA, LUENA

256  Mask "mwana phwevo"
wood, shiny spotty patina, with regular facial features and rich tattoos corresponding to the prevailing ideal of beauty, pierced around the rim, min. dam., fine cracks, slight traces of abrasion
H: 24 cm
Provenience: Inge Hett, Berlin, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.700 €

ANGOLA, LUENA

257  Standing female figure
wood, shiny brown patina, remains of pigments, fine scarification marks, drilled eyes, earholes and hole on top of the head, cracks, missing parts (foot tips), slight traces of abrasion, metal plate;
the Luena have a matriarchic society system, which is why most of their sculptures are females representing protective spirits or female ancestors. The latter used to assist male diviners in their battles against the harmful or anti-social elements that threatened the community, because women were believed to have more influence in the manipulation of the supernatural.
H: 26 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 900 €

ANGOLA, MBUNDA

258  Mask "sachihongo"
light brown wood, matt dark brown patina, wide and oval form, a broad forehead with deeply etched furrows, cross-shaped scarification marks on the cheeks, open mouth with separate worked teeth, pierced around the rim, min. dam., missing parts, traces of abrasion, base;
"Sachihongo" is the incarnation of a hunter, but is depicted as chief and sooth-sayer as well. The masks ("makisi") represent ancestor spirits. They appear after the circumcision of young boys, during times of convalescence in the bush camps, where they dance, accompanied by the songs of the male and female audience. The mask is completed by a crown of feathers, fiber beard and a net suit, made of the fibers of the "mushamba" tree.
H: 33.5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 4.000 €
EAST AFRICA

259  Standing figure

wood, shiny brown patina, a jacket indicated by vertical incision and metal tags, the eyes inset with metal sheet, rep. (left arm), missing parts (base), cracks, slight traces of abrasion, base

H: 50.5 cm

Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.500 €

EAST AFRICA

260  Two objects

a) a calabash with wooden stopper in form of a human head with attached glass beads and cowrie snails, min. dam., slight traces of usage, h: 14 cm; b) a magical horn of the Nyamwezi, Tanzania with plant fibre cuff, attached beads and peg in the shape of a human head with real hair, h: 27.5 cm, min. dam., cracks, slight traces of abrasion

Provenience: a) Lempertz Brussels, 25. April 2009, lot 125
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.300 €

EAST AFRICA

261  Dignitary staff

wood, shiny brown patina, upper part in form of stylized half figure, the eyes inset with miniature beads, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base

H: 44 cm

Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 900 €

EAST AFRICA

262  Comb

wood, brown patina, seven teeth, the handle decorated with incised linear ornaments, crowned by a small standing figure, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion

H: 24 cm

Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 60 €, estimate: 800 €

TANZANIA

263  Two standing figures

wood, brown patina, a) a male figure of the Sukuma, with carved belt and pierced pupils, min. dam., cracks, base, H: 20 cm; b) a female figure of the Pare, wearing a red necklace, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base, h: 20 cm

Provenience: b) Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.200 €
TANZANIA, GOGO
264  Club "knobkerrie"
wood, dark brown patina, spherical club-head, carved with anthropomorphic face and 
crested coiffure, min. dam., minor missing parts, base
H: 49 cm
Provenience: Ingo Evers, Bonn, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 80 €, estimate: 900 €

TANZANIA, KAGURU
265  Dignitary staff
wood, shiny brown patina, round handle with iron spout, the upper part carved with a 
female half figure showing tribe-typical facial features and coiffure, min. dam., minor 
missing parts
H: 123 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany (1989)
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 2.000 €

TANZANIA, KWERE
266  Fly whisk
wood, dark brown patina, handle in form of a kneeling female figure, pierced pupils,
delicate carved bipartite coiffure, animal tail missing, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion,
base
H: 31,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 80 €, estimate: 1.000 €

TANZANIA, LUGURU
267  Top of a dignitary staff
wood, reddish brown patina, round staff, carved with a head, a second figure backside,
with arms and legs embracing the staff, pierced eyes and grooved coiffures, drilled hole on 
top of the head for insertion of magical substances, slightly dam., on metal base
H: 32,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 1.000 €

TANZANIA, MAKONDE
268  Colon mask "lipiko"
wood, polychrome paint, europen facial features, scarification marks in the area of the 
forehead and the cheeks, min. dam., minor missing parts, traces of insect caused damage;
"lipiko" masks appeared at initiation celebrations. They were worn by the young initiates 
"vaali" at the 'mapiko' masquerade. They depict women rather than men and were kept in 
special sacred mask houses outside the village. Women were not allowed to see them.
H: 22 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 2.000 €
TANZANIA, MAKONDE
269 Mask
terracotta, slightly shiny patina, round form, pierced eyes and mouth, enclosed by C-shaped ears, min. dam., minor missing parts, slight traces of abrasion
H: 25,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.600 €

TANZANIA, NYAMWEZI
270 Standing male figure
wood, blackish brown, in the head area reddish brown patina, the feet slightly turned inward, the trapezoid upper part of the body provided with broad shoulders and proportionally short arms, the spherical head with receding chin marked by horizontal brows and small eyes with shell inlay, slightly dam., cracks, paint rubbed off, block-like base
H: 46 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 500 €, estimate: 4.500 €

TANZANIA, PARE
271 Standing figure
wood, shiny brown patina, black paint remains, massive round head with large ears, the eyes inset with white miniature glass beads, cavity underneath, min. dam., small missing parts (foot tips), cracks, base;
its a special characteristic of this region to wrap small wooden or clay figures in fabric or leather, and a second characteristic is to provide them with holes for insertion of magical substances. The figures have two functions: they were used as media for educating young people during initiation. The second function is their usage for practices of ritual healers and sooth sayers.
H: 21 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 1.800 €

TANZANIA, PARE
272 Standing pair of figures
wood, slightly encrusted blackish brown patina, simple bodies with slender closed contours, closely wrapped in fabric, which is soaked with blackish mass, just the faces left free, min. dam., metal bases
H: 20,5 cm resp. 21 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.500 €

TANZANIA, PARE
273 Small standing figure
wood, dark brown patina, the body closely wrapped in fabric saturated with blackish mass, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 17,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany (1981)
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 80 €, estimate: 500 €
TANZANIA, PARE
274  Title staff
wood, blackish patina, the shaft elaborate decorated with diagonal grooves, crowned by an artificial carved bird head with open beak, small monkey's head with grotesque features and bowl-shaped projection, drilled hole for suspension, slightly dam., base
H: 37.5 cm
Provenience: Lempertz Brussels, 25. April 2009, lot 121
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.000 €

TANZANIA, SUKUMA
275  Standing figure
wood, blackish brown patina, slender high towering body, spherical head with flat chin and big c-shaped ears, opening in the parting for insertion of magical material, slightly dam., cracks (face), missing parts (left hand), paint rubbed off, rep. (left foot), metal plate
H: 69 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.800 €

TANZANIA, SUKUMA
276  Face mask
wood, dark brown patina, of hollowed form with a flat sloping head, expressive forms, the rectangular pierced eyes flanked by big half-circular vaulted ears, slightly dam. (ears, nose tip), crack (chin right hand side), missing parts (nose), metal base
H: 29 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 350 €, estimate: 1.500 €

TANZANIA, SUKUMA
277  Mask
wood, dark brown patina, broad facial plane with pierced eyes and mouth, pierced around the rim, rep. (both sides), slight traces of abrasion;
it is suggested that the masks of the Sukuma might also have been used during the same events as the large puppets, e.g. in dance competitions, where two groups perform simultaneously for a larger audience.
H: 27.5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 1.300 €

TANZANIA, ZIGUA
278  Face mask
wood, black patina, of oval hollowed form, rectangular pierced eyes and mouth, incised arrow-shaped scarification marks on the cheeks, metal tags, originally inserted teeth now missing, slightly dam., missing part backside at the rim;
the Zigua, or Zigula, live at the northeastern shore of Tanzania, opposite to the isle of Zanzibar, north of the Kwere.
H: 35 cm
Provenience: German Private Collection
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €
TANZANIA, ZIGUA

279  Standing figure
terracotta, dark brown patina, stylized forms, the lower part of the body wrapped in cloth, the eyes inset with seed vessels, circular cavities in forehead and belly, min. dam., slight traces of abrasion, base
H: 18,5 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 1.000 €

SAMBIA

280  Pair of masks "chindele"
wood, different colouring, one mask reddish brown with traces of black, the other one dark brown with kaolin, apart from that nearly identical formed: comparatively flat, the cheeks vaulted, enclosed by a diadem-like coiffure and framing beard, eyebrows and forehead tattoos in concentric lines, drilled holes in the corners of the mouth originally provided with plant fibres, completed by a plant fibre beard at the chin, slightly dam., crack (dark brown mask), drilling partly broken (reddish mask); the function of this mask is unknown. It was fixed to a big wickerwork basket coated with plant fibres and worn on the head, instead in front of the face. "Chindele" is a general term for a white person. The 'chindele' mask type probably a creation of the Mbunda.
H: 20,5 cm/ 21 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 600 €, estimate: 3.500 €

SAMBIA, MBUNDA

281  Face mask "sachihongo"
wood, reddish brown patina, camwood powder, large-sized and voluminous forms: the oval face marked by accentuated cheeks and a bulging forehead coated with deep concentrical grooves, wooden splinters marking the teeth, a plant fibre bonnet hoisted on a cane frame backside, a roof-like protruding headcrest with monkey fur above the forehead, slightly dam., minor missing parts, small traces of insect caused damage, base; presumably belonging to the type of "sachihongo" masks. "Sachihongo" is the incarnation of a hunter, but is depicted as chief and sooth-sayer as well. The masks ("makisi") represent ancestor spirits. They appear after the circumcision of young boys, during times of convalescence in the bush camps, where they dance, accompanied by the songs of the male and female audience. The mask is completed by a crown of feathers, fiber beard and a net suit, made of the fibers of the "mushamba" tree.
H: 38 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 750 €, estimate: 5.000 €

SAMBIA, MBUNDA

282  Mask "mwana phwevo"
wood, shiny blackish brown patina, small slit eyes and mouth, various facial scarifications, min. dam., small missing parts, base
H: 22,5 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 100 €, estimate: 600 €
MOZAMBIQUE, MAKONDE
283  Mask 'lipiko'
light brown wood, brown patina, remains of black paint, realistic facial features,
moustache, eye brows and coiffure made from real hair, min. dam., slight traces of
abrasion, base;
"lipiko" masks appeared at initiation celebrations. They were worn by the young initiates
"vaali" at the 'mapiko' masquerade. They depict women rather than men and were kept in
special sacred mask houses outside the village. Women were not allowed to see them.
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Peter Loebarth, Hameln, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

MOZAMBIQUE, MAKONDE
284  Helmet mask 'lipiko'
light-weighted wood, mat black patina, white paint, real hair, nearly naturalistic features,
vaulted lids with painted pupils flanking a flat nose with a diamond-shaped mouth
underneath, min. dam., fine cracks, small missing parts, slight signs of abrasion, base;
"lipiko" masks appeared at initiation celebrations. They were worn by the young initiates
"vaali" at the 'mapiko' masquerade. They depict woman rather than men and were kept in
special sacred mask houses outside the village. Women were not allowed to see them.
H: 27 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 400 €, estimate: 2.000 €

MOZAMBIQUE, MAKUA
285  Face mask
wood, light brown patina, coiffure and beard with black paint, expressive forms: a bulging
forehead, the big heart-shaped mouth opening embedded between vaulted cheeks, the
chin elongated and tapering to a point, the beard marked by incised lines and animal hair,
eyes and nose showing naturalistic appeal, slightly dam. (nose tip, ears), paint rubbed off,
rep. (backside on the upper rim), base
H: 23 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 300 €, estimate: 2.000 €

MOZAMBIQUE, MAKUA
286  Anthropomorphic face mask
wood, greyish brown patina, camwood powder, the eyes arranged close to each other,
mouth with curved lips, inserted metal teeth in one row (one missing), slightly dam.,
missing parts (ears, the rim backside);
the Makua live in the north-eastern part of Mozambique, together with the Lomwe they
make about half of the population of Mozambique.
H: 23 cm
Provenience: Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 200 €, estimate: 2.000 €

MOZAMBIQUE, MAKUA/MAKONDE
287  Mask
light-coloured and -weighted wood, dark red paint, both cheeks and the chin spread
with blackish mass, coiffure of animal hair, narrow nose with curved bridge, naturalistic
formed eyelids, separate carved teeth, slightly dam., missing parts (mouth, eyelids, rim
backside)
H: 21 cm
Provenience: Ingo Evers, Bonn, Germany
Vera und Wolfgang Nerlich, Munich, Germany
Start bid: 150 €, estimate: 1.000 €