

# Basic Detail Report



# Basic Detail Report



## **Title Carved and Painted Wooden Mask of Jero Gede**

Date 19th century

Medium Wood, polychrome pigments, metal hardware

Description The characters of Jero Gede (61.21) and Jero Luh (61.26) are a married couple thought to represent ancestors of the Balinese people.

Jero Gede is of Malayo-Indian origin, while his wife Jero Luh is Chinese.

Their physical representation is that of opposites, refined and unrefined.

Jero Luh is portrayed with a pointed chin and forehead, small nose and perpetual smile. Jero Gede represent a human-like Barong portrayed with

fangs and large teeth to indicate his power while his rounded nose and cheeks imply a jolly disposition. When Barong Landung is performed, Jero

Luh and Jero Gede are the same height. These larger-than-life sized

masks appear in the Barong Landung ritual performed around certain

Balinese holy days or when an auspicious signal from priests determine

that their apotropaic (evil-averting) abilities are needed. These masks

would not be worn by a performer, but instead placed on the faces of

large puppets operated by an individual selected to articulate the bamboo

frame of the puppets. This causes Jero Gede and Jero Luh to tower as

giants above the crowd.

Dimensions Overall: 14 1/8 × 11 3/4 × 5 1/2 in. (35.9 × 29.8 × 14cm)