

# Object Summary



## **Silver-Inlaid Betel Box with Scroll Motifs**

19th - 20th century

Philippines (Mindanao)

Copper alloy, silver

Overall: 3 3/4 x 7 7/8 x 3 1/8 in. (9.5 x 20 x 7.9cm)

The silver-inlaid scroll designs seen on this betel box are commonly found on both wood and metal in the predominantly Muslim region of Mindanao, in the highlands of the southern Philippines. The motif repeats in the box's interior that houses the four ingredients of betel chew (a combination of areca nut, fresh pepper leaves, lime powder, and damp tobacco leaves).

This piece would be used in special presentations for honored visitors.

This box represents the intersection of shared faith with local tradition, emphasizing the importance of secular (non-religious) artworks as key

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aspects of all Islamic art collections. It is also emblematic of the geographic and cultural diversity of the people of the Islamic world and the significance of the greater Asia-Pacific region to the global community of Muslims.