

Finger rattle

Dogon or Mossi / Mali 1850-1880

Iron



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This bell forms part of a musical instrument called a finger clapper. It was struck with a thumb ring worn on the same hand.

The German linguistic Gottlieb A. Krause (1850-1938) was the first European to visit the Dogon region. In 1886 he set off from Accra to Tombouctou. In Bandiagara, the then capital of the Dogon region, Taina, the ruler of the Toucouleur, refused him permission to travel on to Tombouctou. He did acquire a number of objects which are the only testimonies to this important expedition.



Thumb ring

Dogon or Fulani-Borgu / Mali 1850-1880

Iron; leather



ライデン民族博物館での展示 いずれもセットで置かれていた

This ring forms part of a musical instrument called a finger clapper. The ring was worn on the thumb and used to strike a bell worn on the middle finger of the same hand. The thumb ring is decorated with incised geometric patterns.

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Earrings

Fulani / Mali 1993

Brass



These traditional Fulani earrings are made of brass. Fulani women often wear gold or gilded earrings based on this model, ranging in size from very small to really large and heavy.

Most of the goldsmiths of Djenné belong to the upper class, the Arma. A Djenné goldsmith pursues his craft in the vestibule of his own home. Goldsmiths also work in silver, copper and various alloys, as well as gold. They use a variety of techniques such as casting in clay moulds, and embossing with hammers and chisels. They make extremely fine filigree, but also the solid, half-moon-shaped golden earrings worn by Fulani women.

Besides the Arma goldsmiths there are other groups of professional blacksmiths. These produce all kinds of useful articles, from agricultural implements to hairpins. Most of the blacksmiths of Djenné belong to the Somono people.