

# COLNAGHI



*BAULE ARTIST  
Seated Figure (bolo-bian)*

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## BAULE ARTIST

Ivory Coast, late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century

*Seated Figure (bolo-bian)*

Wood

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### Provenance

Pierre Verite Collection, Paris;  
Galerie Olivier Le Corneur-Jean Roudillon, Paris;  
Jean Besnard Collection, Paris, France;  
Private Collection, Belgium.

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A Baule Seated figure from the Ivory Coast:

A superb male seated figure, identified as a *bolo-bian*, or spirit husband, intended as a receptacle for a nature spirit summoned by a trance diviner.

Sculpted with great skill and attention to detail by the Baule people of the Ivory Coast, these figures allowed a powerful and unruly spirit to be honored and appeased by diviners during healing ceremonies and divining rituals.

These figures are characterized by harmonious elongated volumes, spiritual facial expressions, smooth surfaces and detailed scarifications representing ideals of beauty.

The seated posture conveys wisdom, leadership, dignity and composure.

This figure has a distinguished provenance as it belonged to famous collectors and dealers Pierre Verite, Olivier Le Corneur and Jean Roudillon in Paris

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