


Damaru, two-headed ritual hand drum

Mongolian Collection

Accession Nr.:	2001.11.1 
Type:	religious or cult object; musical instruments
Date of production:	early 2th century
Place of production:	Mongolia
Materials:	leather; silk; wood
Dimensions:	height: 9 cm diameter: 9.6 cm length: 42 cm

The damaru was originally a double-sided percussion instrument made of human skull and covered with leather, which was used in funeral ceremonies. This drum is made of two hemispherical pieces of dark brown wood with a green dyed leather cover. In the middle of the drum body, there are metal overlays with a vajra pattern. Its double silk ribbon is decorated with metallic thread embroidery depicting floral motifs, pearls and tassels.

