

# Mother-of-pearl inlaid box

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: **61.382.1-3** 

Type: **object for daily use; lacquers; carving**

Date of production: 19th century – first half of the 20th century

Place of production: **North-Vietnam, Southeast Asia**

Materials/Technique  
s: **wood, lacquer, mother-of-pearl, metal; inlaid**

Dimensions: height: 5. 5 cm  
diameter: 17 cm

Round wooden box with five compartments. The rich mother-of-pearl decoration on both the sides and the lid depicts butterflies and flowers around and at the bottom of the box. In the centre of the lid we can admire a house under a tree, a boat gliding on water and two fishermen. The metal bands are an afterthought. The box was presumably used to store the ingredients of the betel, a popular passtime in Southeast Asia.

