


Betel nut cutter

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	56.100.1 
Type:	object for daily use; metalwork
Date of production:	19th – early 20th century
Place of production:	Bali, Indonesia, Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	iron and inlaid gold
Dimensions:	length: 21 cm width: 9.5 cm

Tool for cutting betel nut, in the form of a winged lion (Indonesian: kacip). The winged lion (Indonesian: singa bersayap) is a Balinese mythical animal, a common decorative element in ornamental betel (areca nut) cutters made on the island. It consists of two parts: a body covered with 'banji' motifs deriving from the swastika, and two handles: one with a curved tail and the other with the lion's foot and mouth, the two joined by a tiny wing.

