

# Kris

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: **7141** 

Type: **weapons and armament; metalwork; carving**

Date of production: **late 18th – early 20th century (?)**

Place of production: **Java or Bali, Indonesia, Southeast Asia**

Materials/Technique  
s: **steel, bone, forged, carved**

Dimensions: **length: 50 cm  
width: 10 cm**

A sacred dagger (Indonesian: kris) with a meticulously carved human-shaped handle. Behind the spectacular headdress of a carved female figure, her long hair falling back is accented in front by an ornate ribbon/scarf. The left hand is damaged, the right has strikingly long, delicate fingers reminiscent of Balinese art deco figures. The kris is a sacred object, an important expression of Javanese and Balinese identity, and a status symbol. Missing scabbard.

