


Gatotkaca

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.:	91.28.1 
Type:	puppetry and shadow play; carving; textile arts
Date of production:	late 20th century
Place of production:	West Java, Indonesia, Southeast Asia
Materials/Techniques:	wood, carved, painted, batik textile, decorated with beads and pompoms
Dimensions:	height: 70 cm

Gatotkaca (also known as Bimaputra), one of the most important characters in the wayang golek purwa stories, is the child of Pandawa Bima and the giantess Arimbi. A brave and courteous warrior, his special ability includes the ability to fly. This puppet usually appears on the wayang stage around midnight.

This relatively new puppet of excellent condition was presumably made as a souvenir, so it is possible that it was never used in wayang performances.

