



Deer Dancer

Date

c. 1980 - 1997

Primary Maker

Louis Naranjo

Medium

Terracotta with paint, wood, and feathers

Description

"Animal dances at the pueblos are a plea for rain and for bountiful crops as well as an abundance of animals for food. Generally, buffalo, deer, antelope, and rams are portrayed together at a dance in the plaza. This likeness of a male Deer Dancer is leaning forward resting on the two wood sticks that simulate the front legs of the deer. This is the position in which the dancer moves about. He wears the headdress with horns and a sun shield over his forehead. On the back of his head is a spread of real feathers. The figure is illustrated with mesh stockings and traditional pueblo moccasins. His kilt is painted with three stacked black triangles outlined in red. His white shirt is unadorned except for the red cuffs. A simulated shell necklace is hung around his neck and a fox tail hangs from his waist on the back." (SOURCE: Adobe Gallery, Santa Fe, NM)

Dimensions

Overall: 12 15/16 × 5 1/2 × 6 1/2 in. (32.9 × 14 × 16.5 cm)