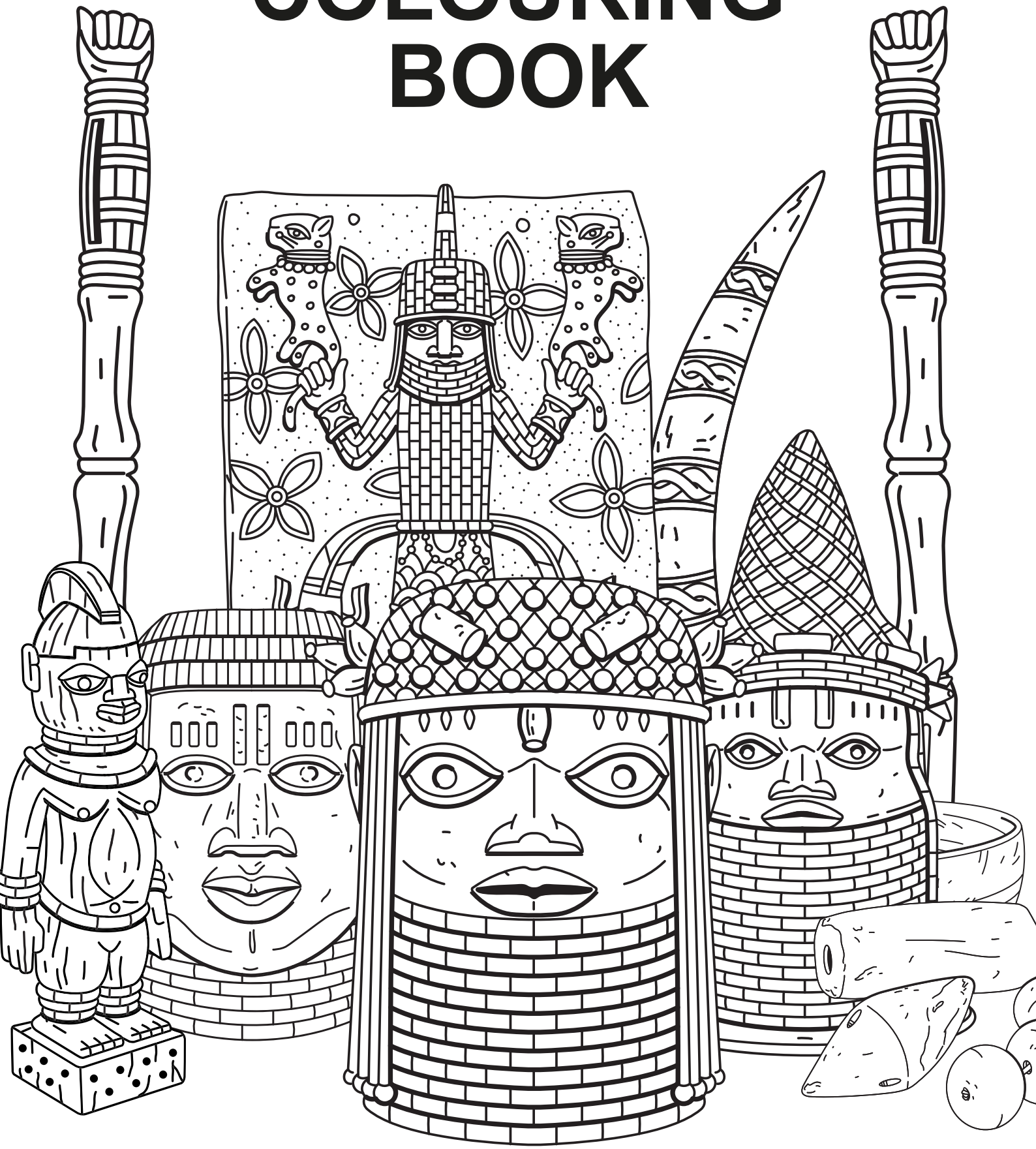
DIGITAL BENIN
COLOURING BOOK



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Digital Benin brings together photographs and rich documentation material from collections worldwide to provide a long-requested overview of the royal artefacts from the Kingdom of Benin looted in the 19th century. The historic Benin objects are an expression of Benin arts, culture and history, and were traditionally used to depict historical events, to communicate, and to worship and perform rituals. The digital platform introduces new scholarship which connects digital documentation about the translocated objects to oral histories, object research, historical context, a foundational Edo catalogue, provenance names, a map of the Benin Kingdom and the institutions worldwide. Digital Benin connects data from over 5000 objects across 131 institutions in 20 countries.

Digital Benin's scope focuses on objects looted by British forces from the Kingdom of Benin (now Edo State, Nigeria) in February 1897. Together, these events and processes led to the worldwide translocation of the objects shown on this platform. A small set of contextual objects are included in the catalogue to represent the broader context in which the artistic production of Benin guilds is situated: Benin-Portuguese Ivories, produced and circulated outside West Africa before 1897, objects produced in the areas surrounding the Kingdom, and objects produced by named artists after 1930.

With the support of the Ernst von Siemens Kunststiftung, the Museum am Rothenbaum (MARKK) in Hamburg opened an international project office to digitally connect the globally dispersed objects from the Kingdom of Benin from 2020-2022.

The drawings reference object groups that can be accessed on the website's Eyo Otọ, a foundational learning space about the historic Benin objects and their Edo designations. Scan the QR code below to listen, view and read about the objects' use, production and function.

ERNST VON SIEMENS KUNSTSTIFTUNG

MARKK
MUSEUM AM ROTHENBAUM
Kulturen und Künste der Welt

DIGITAL BENIN



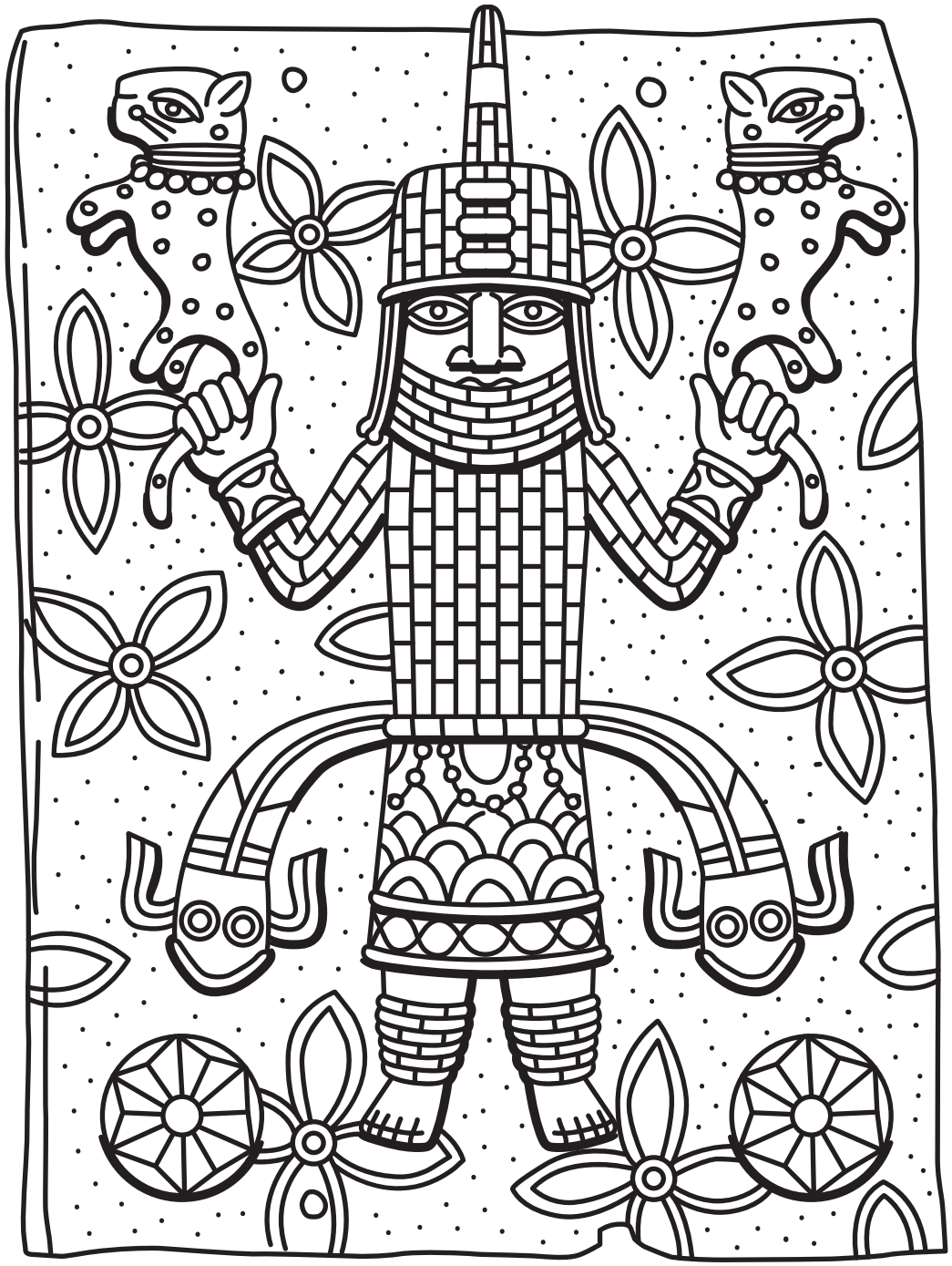
Sensitive Content

The QR codes in the colouring book and on the language cards lead to DigitalBenin.org, a digital platform that collates digital material about historical Benin objects from institutions worldwide and research about historical events. Some of the material on the platform is colonial and references violence and trauma or contains words, terms and phrases that are inaccurate, derogatory and harmful towards African and African diasporic communities. Catalogue transcriptions, book titles, exhibition titles and museum titles may contain harmful terms. We recognise the potential for the material to cause physical and mental distress as well as evoke strong emotions.

The material within the catalogue does not represent Digital Benin's views. Digital Benin maintains a strong anti-colonial, anti-racist position and affirms its support for centring the humanity of historically marginalised and disenfranchised communities.

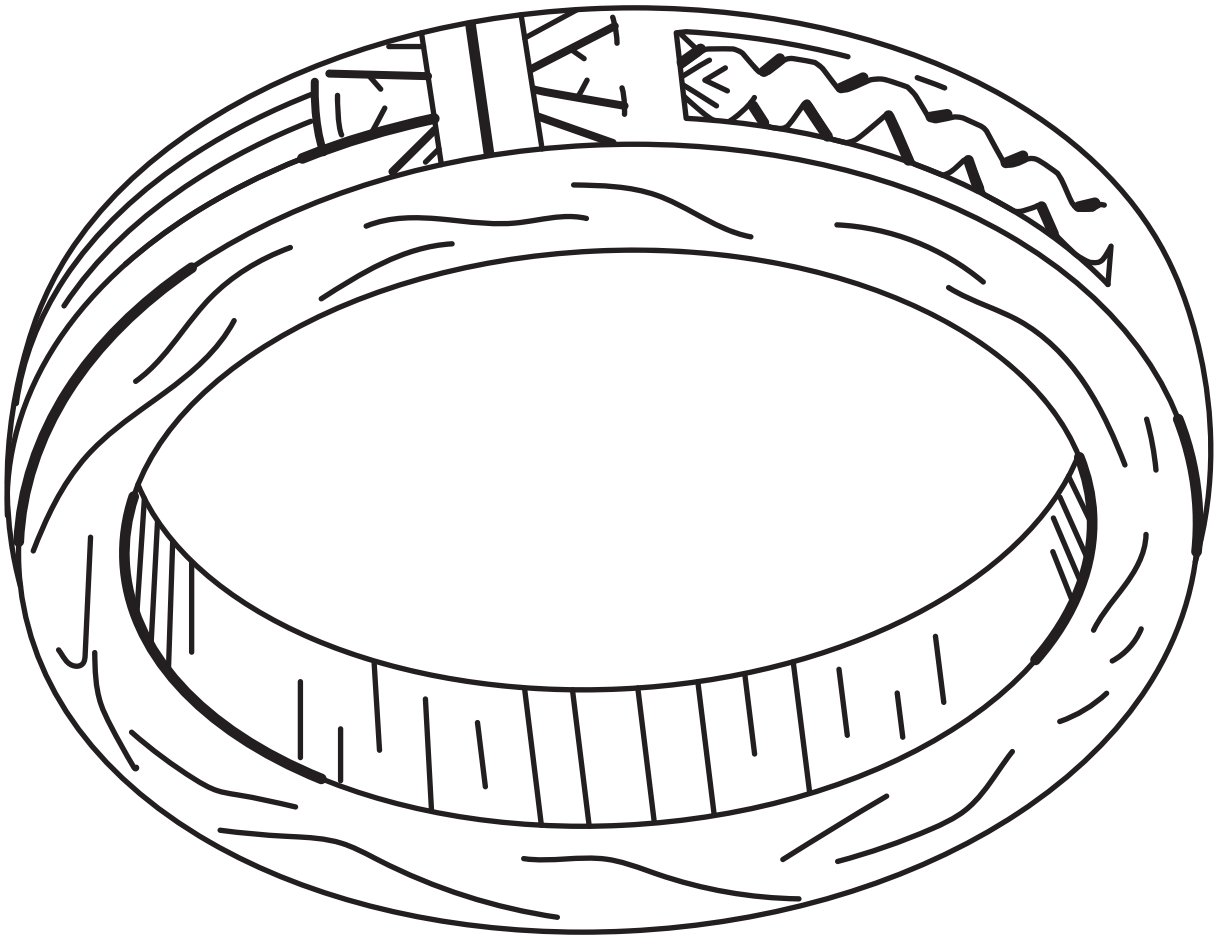
Please familiarise yourself with the material on the platform before giving children access to the colouring book and language cards.

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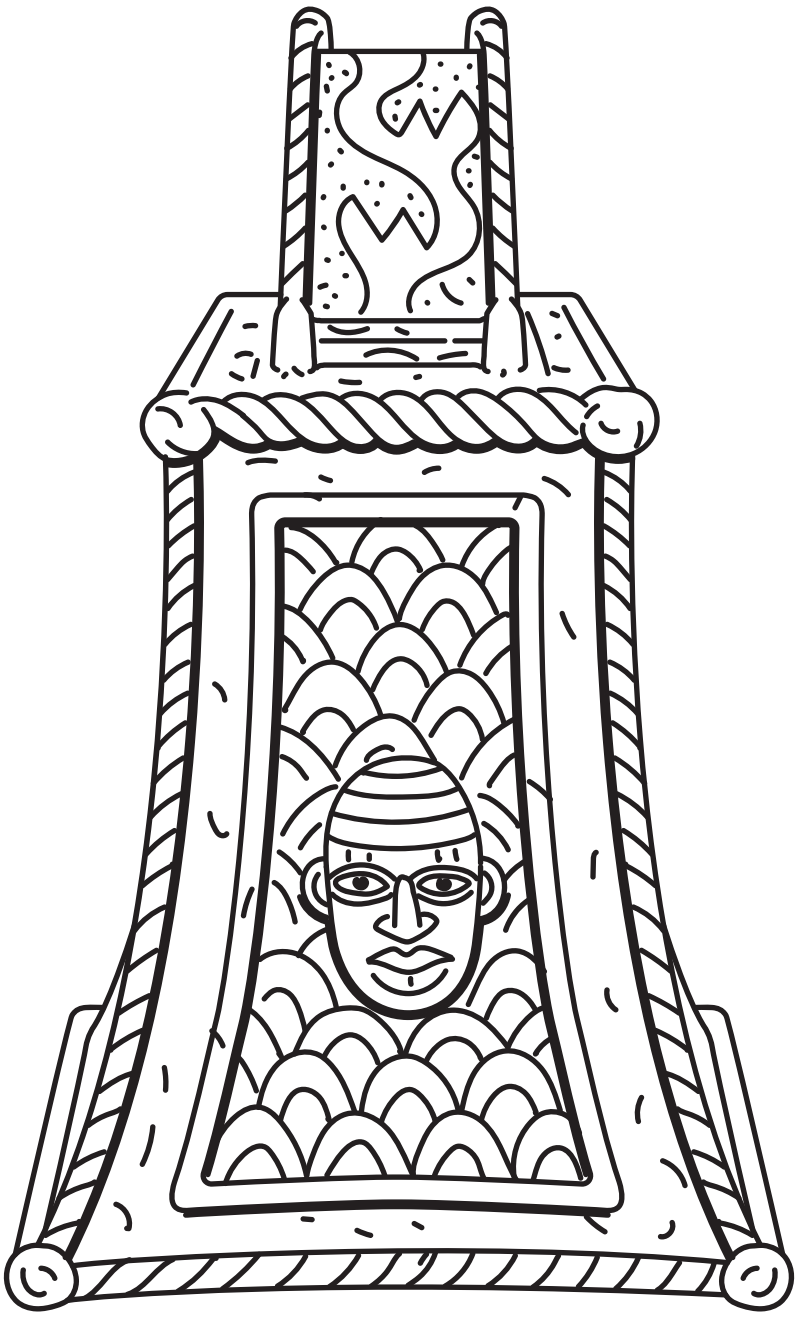
AMA

Carved Wooden Panel/Relief Plaque



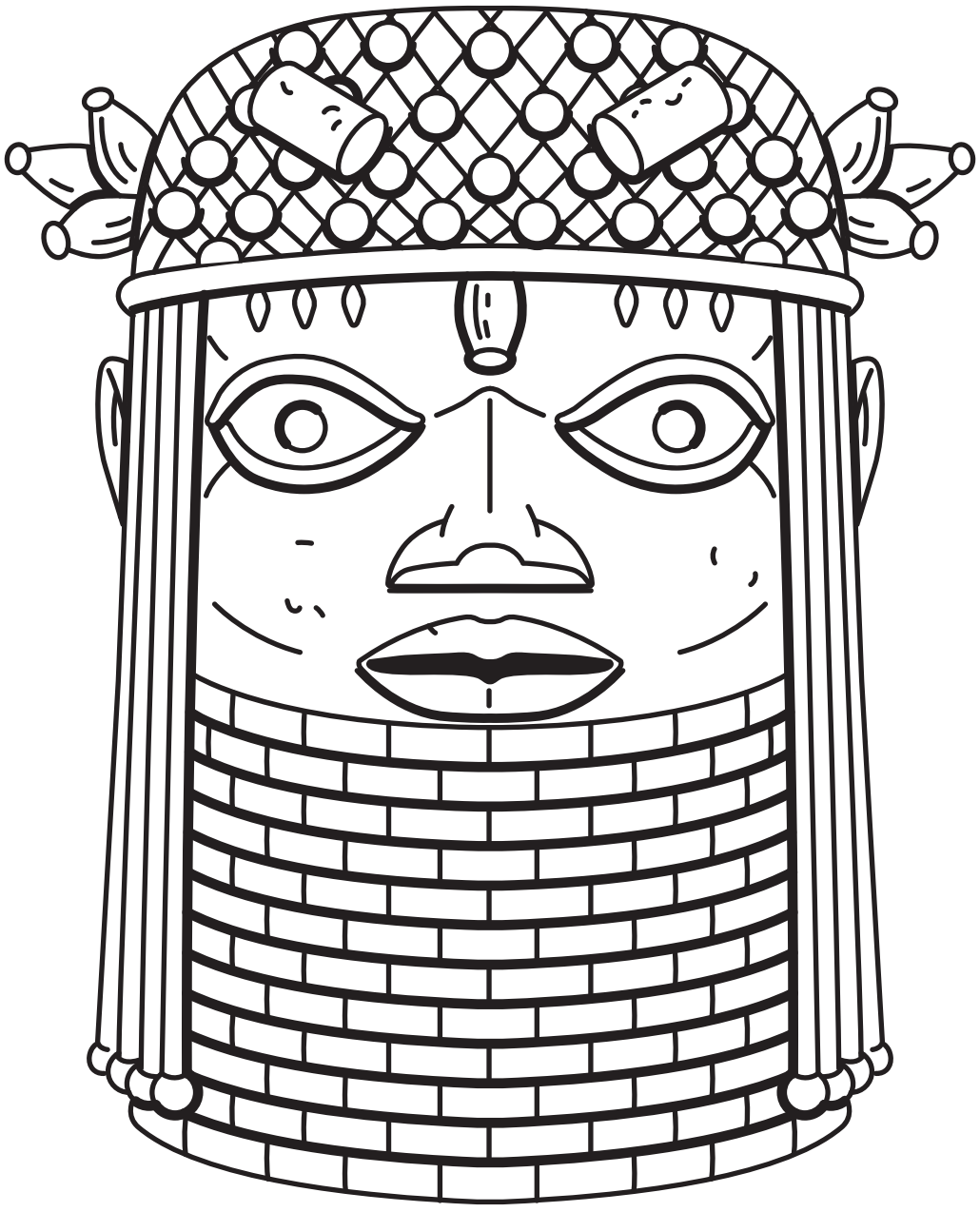
ẸGBA

Bracelet



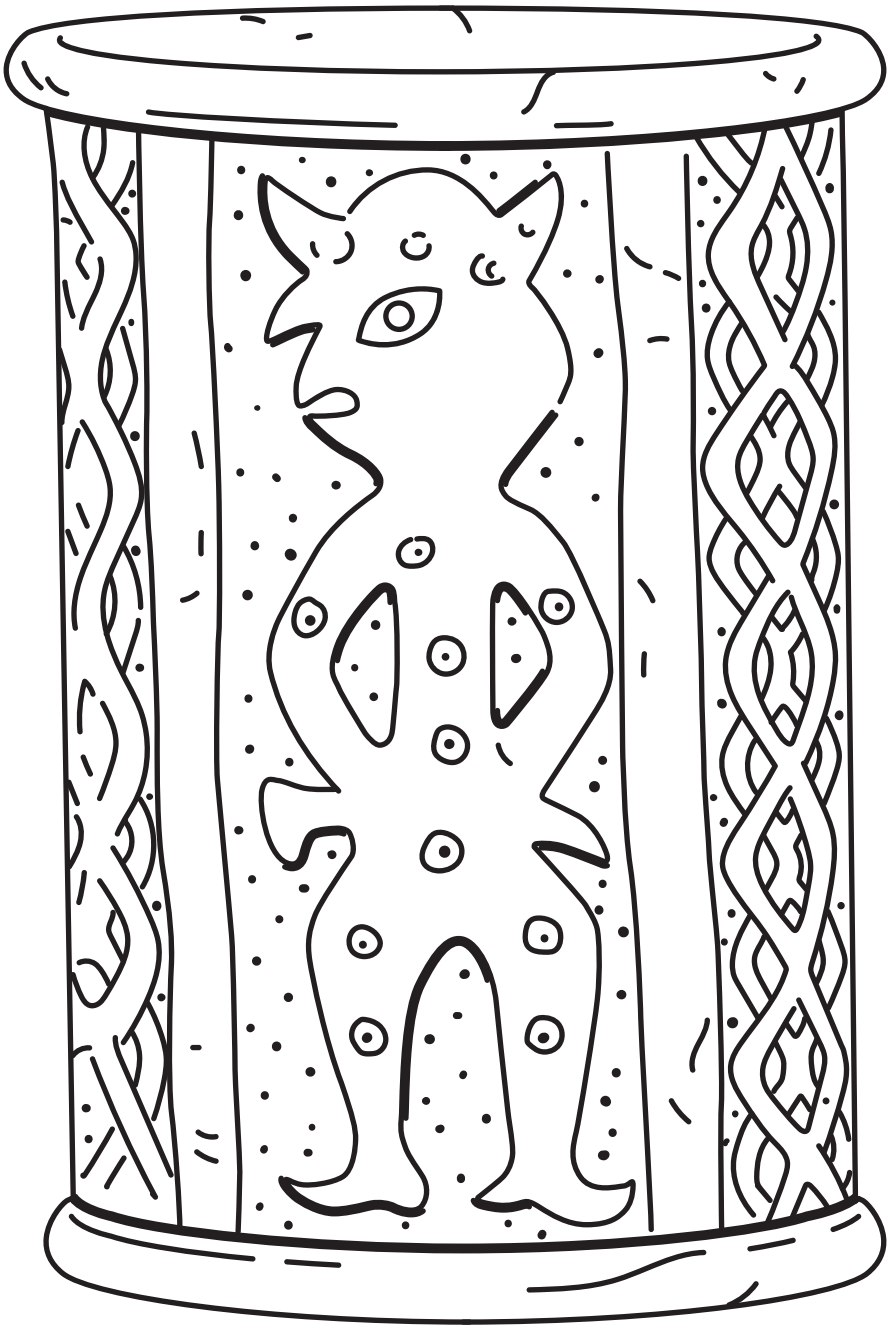
ẸRORO

Bell



UHUNMWU-ELAO

Commemorative Head/Udo-Style Head

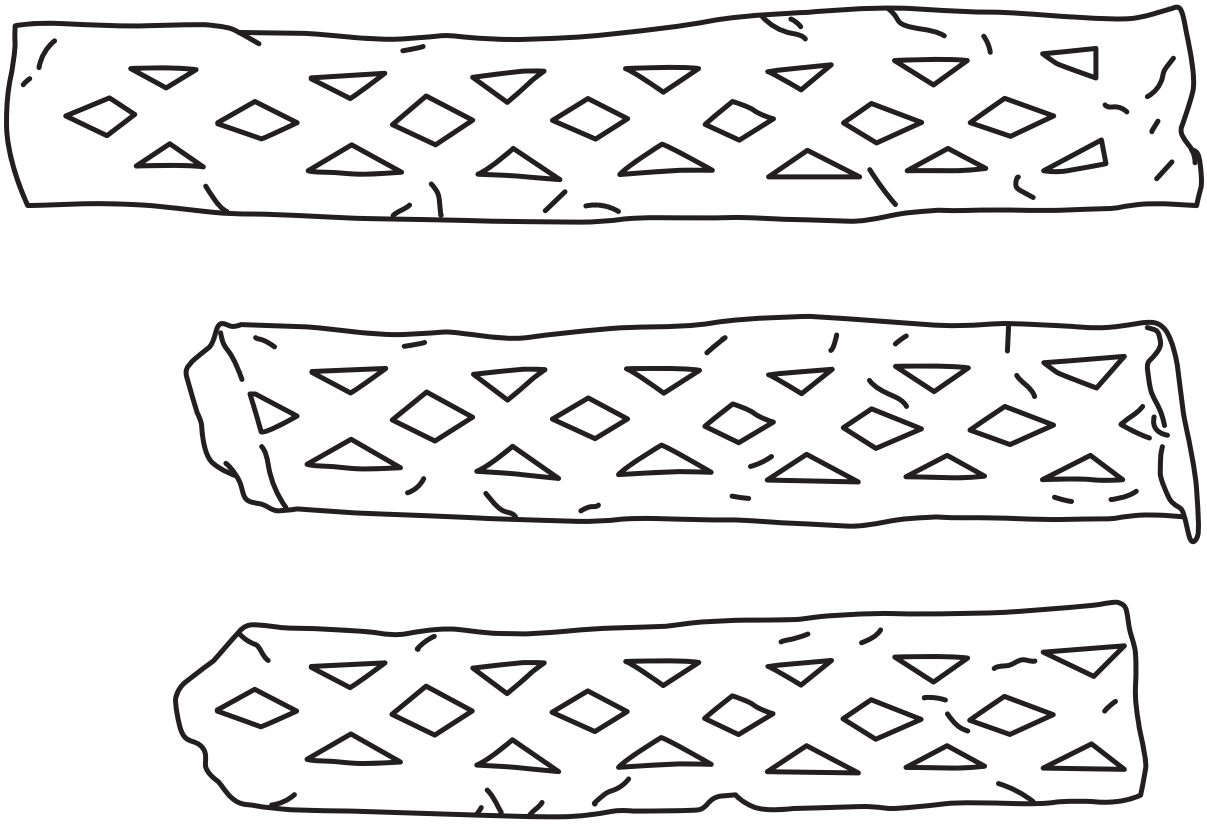


IKORO
Armcuff



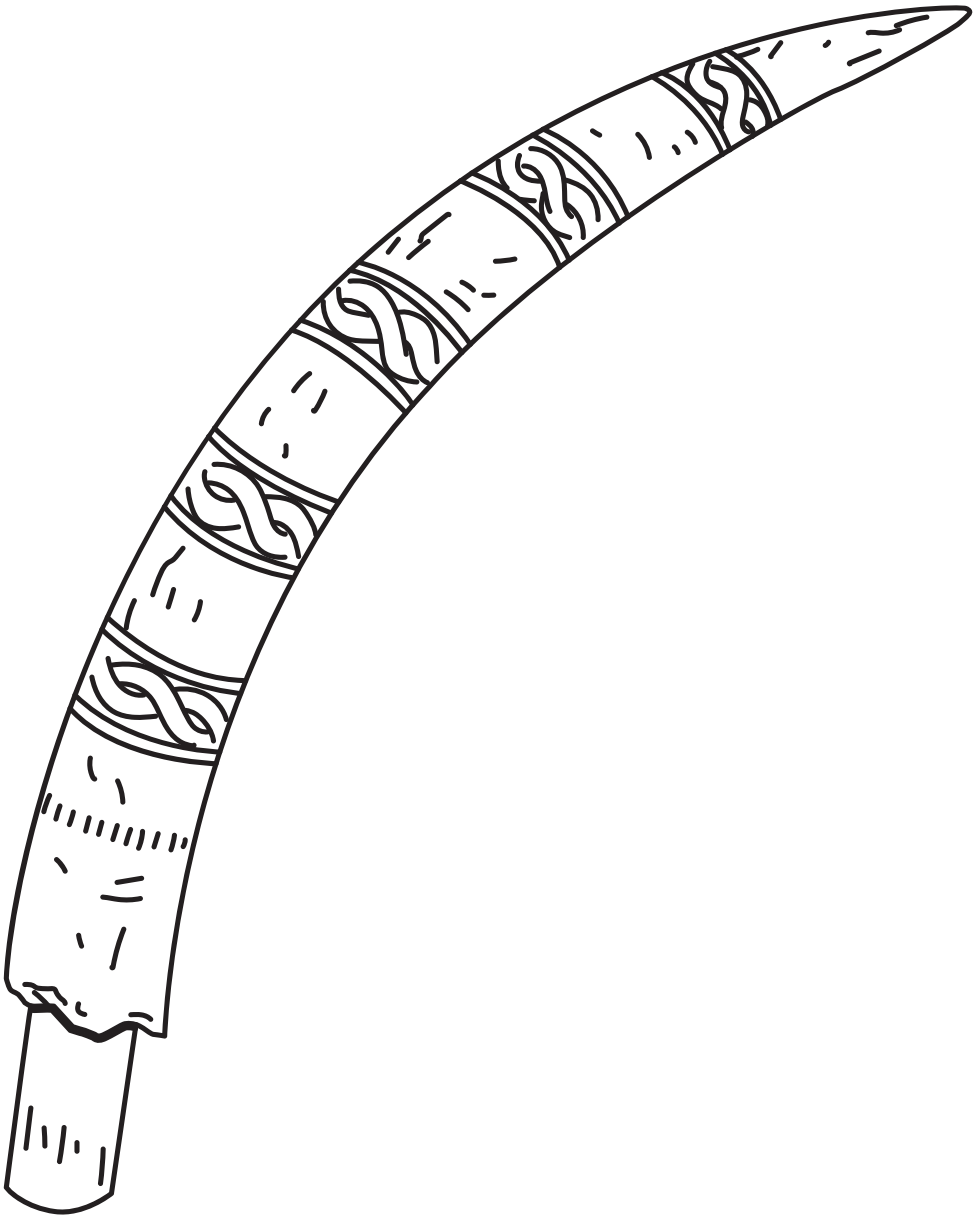
UHUNMWU-ẸKUẸ

Pendant Mask



EMWIEGBE

Charm/Ornament



AKEN'NI ELAO

Altar Tusk



OKPIA

Male Figure



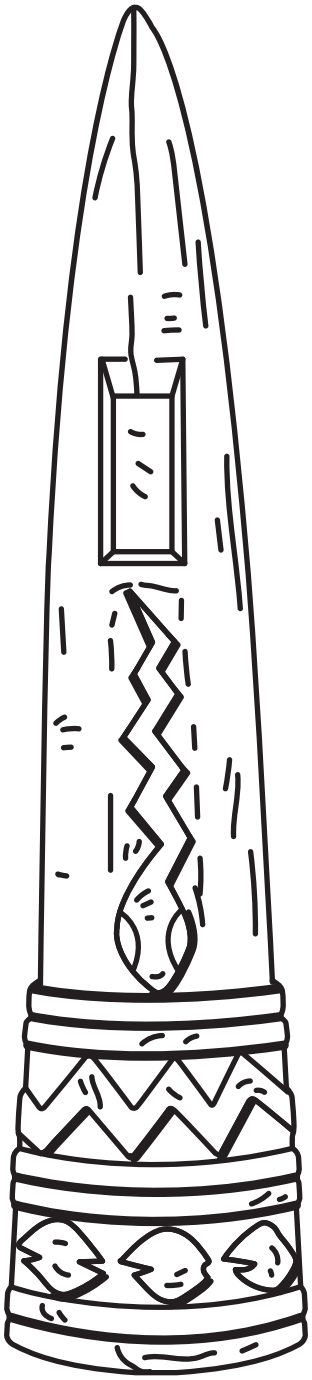
ĘKPĘTIN

Box



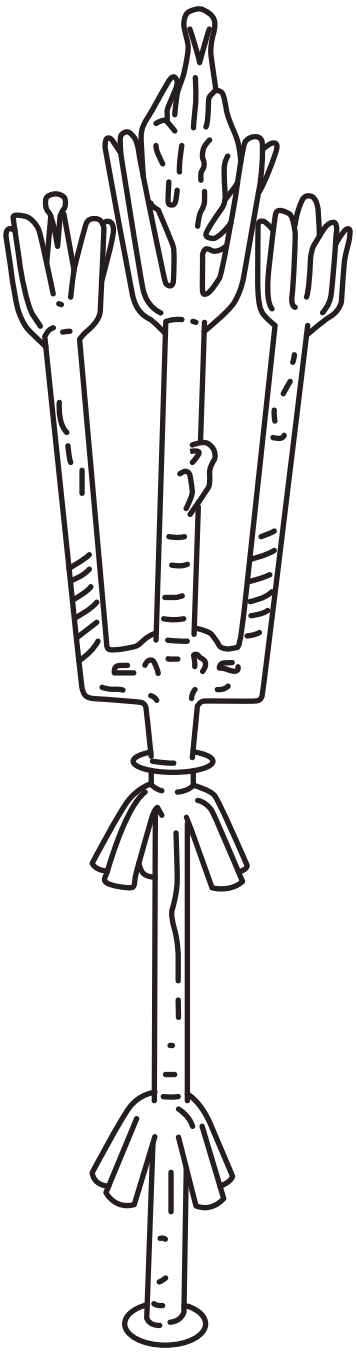
UKHURHẸ

Ancestral Staff



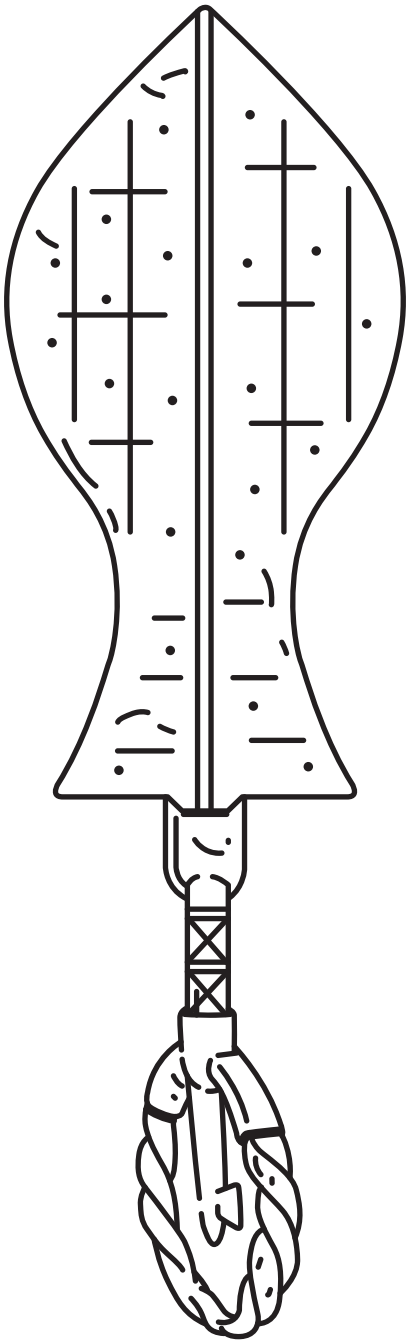
AKOHẸN/OKO

Horn or Flute



OSOGAN

Osun Staff



EBẸN

Ceremonial Sword



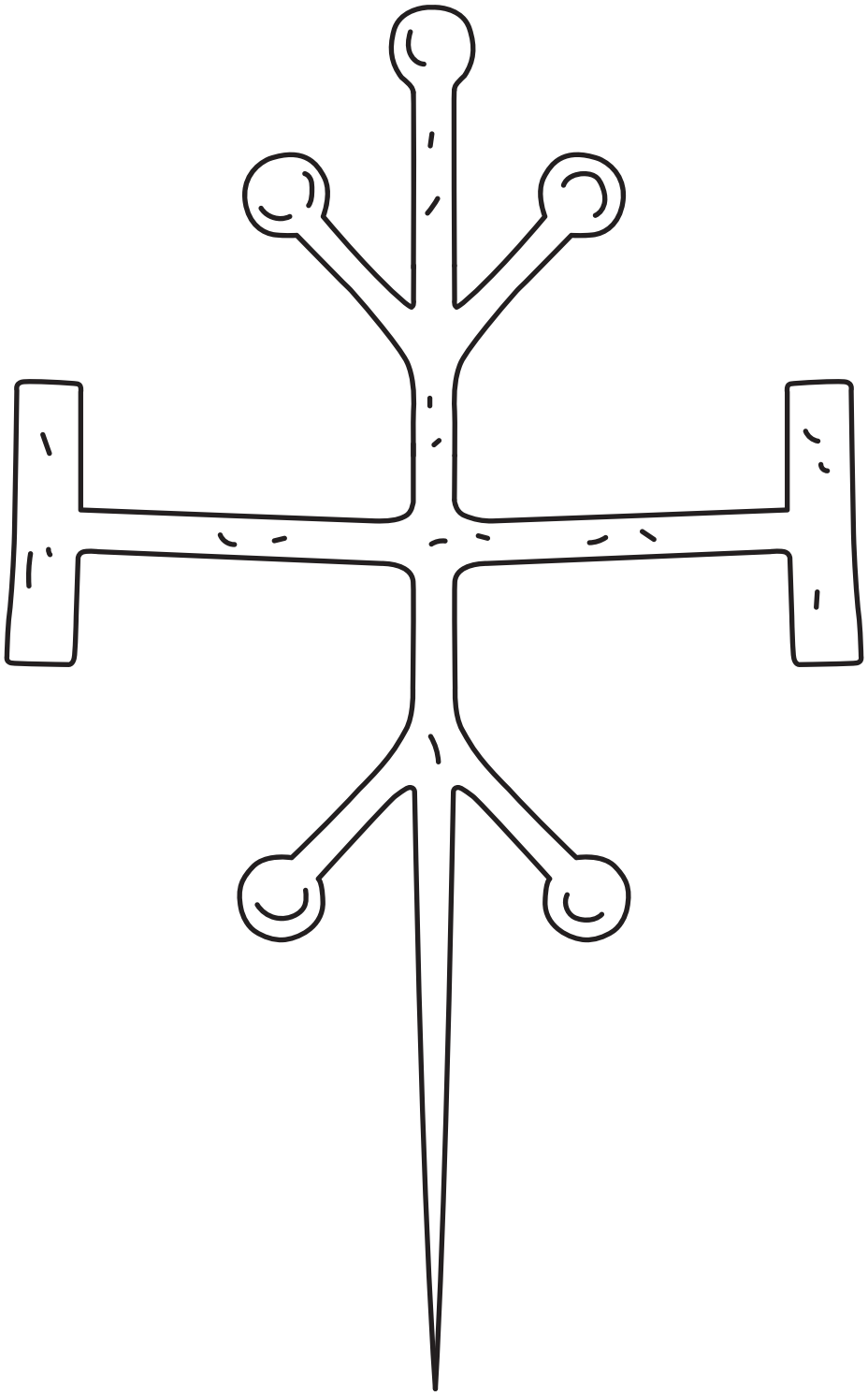
AHIANMWẸ́-ỌRỌ

Bird of Prophecy Staff and Bird of Prophecy Figure



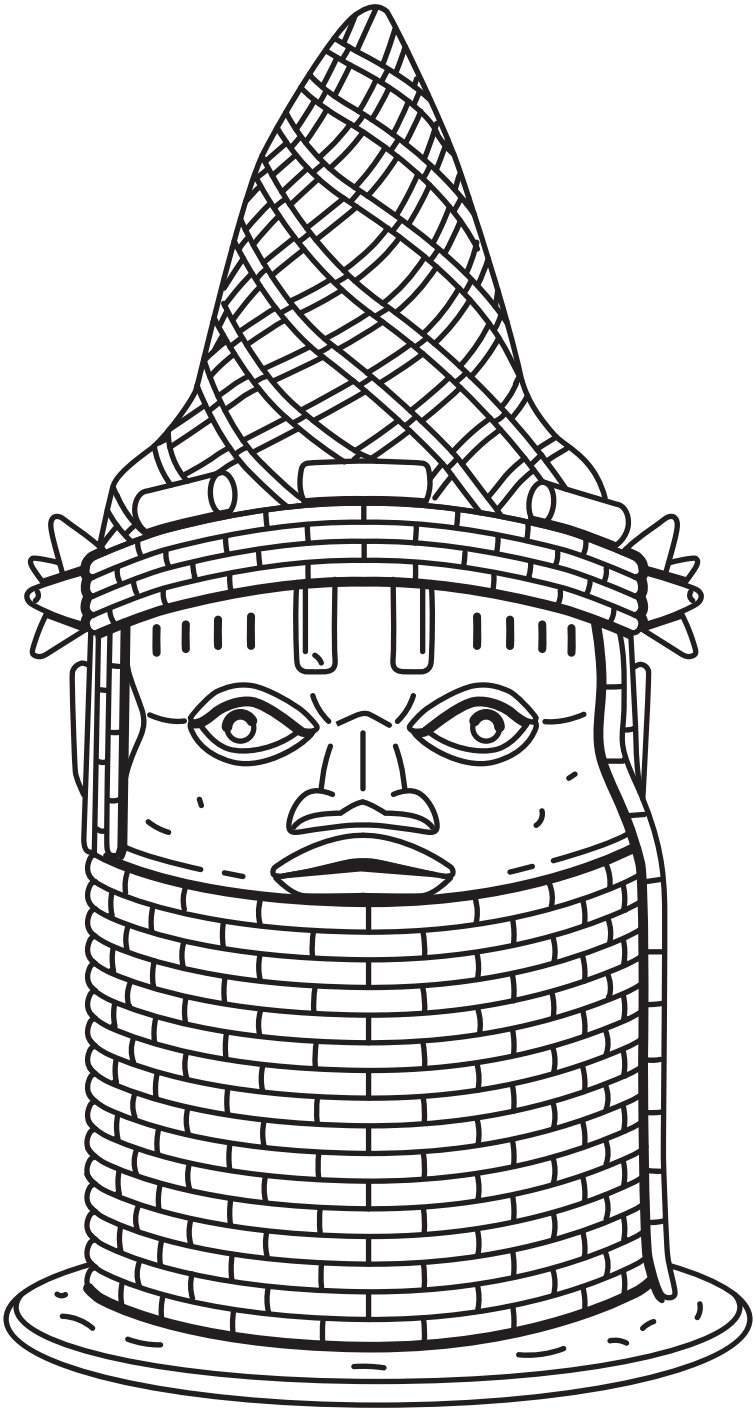
URHOTỌ

Altar Tableau



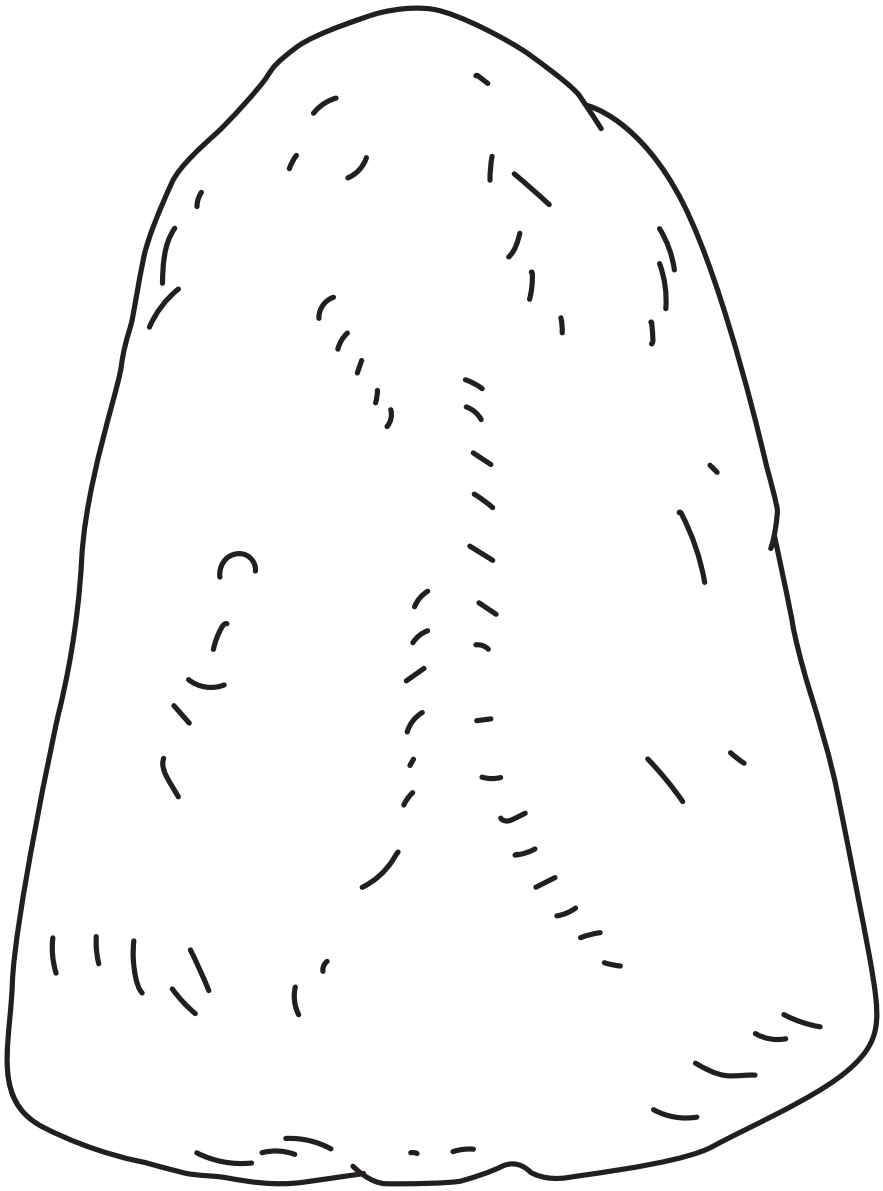
AZUWA

Hair Ornament



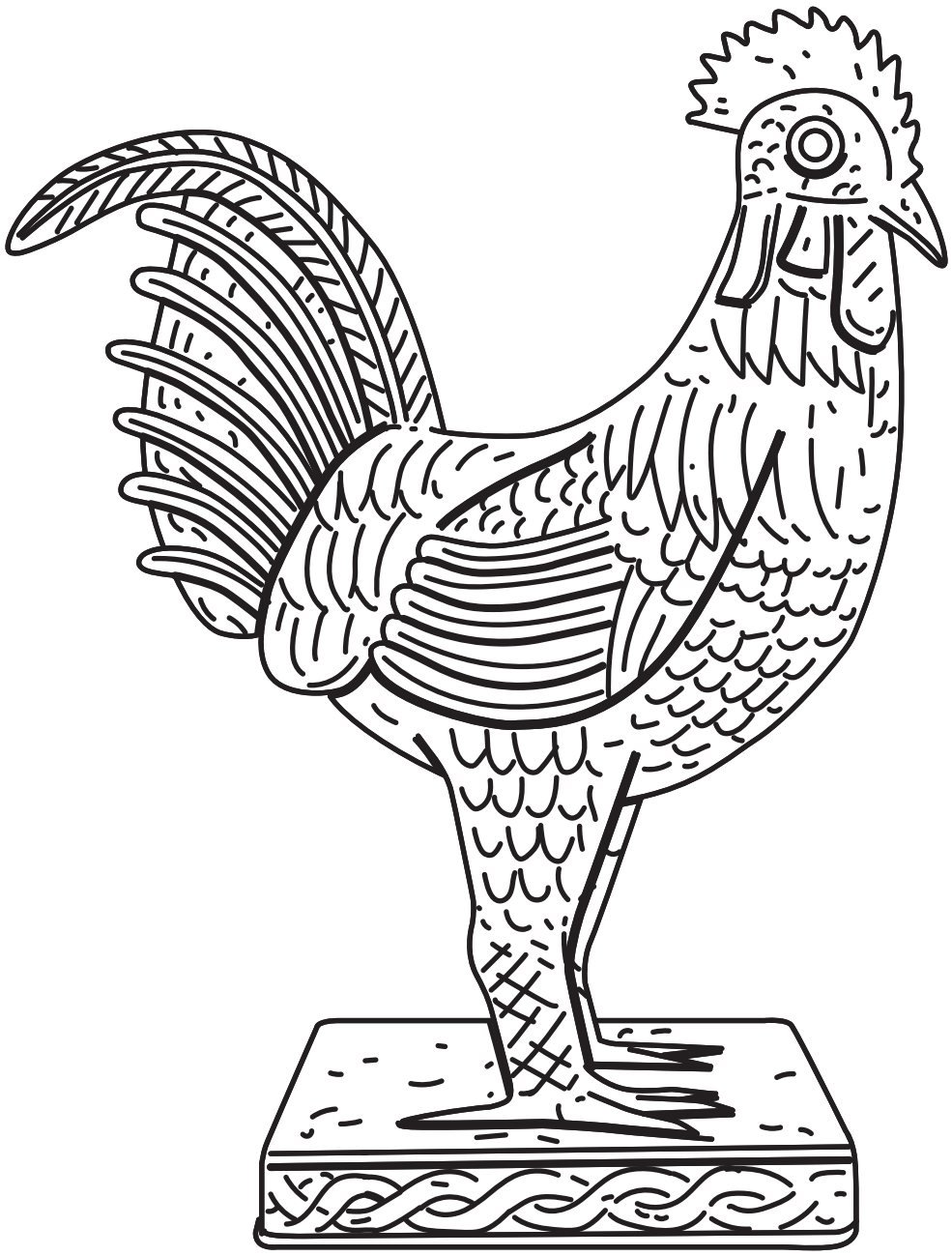
UHUNMWU ELAO ỌGHE IY’ỌBA

Commemorative Queen Mother Head



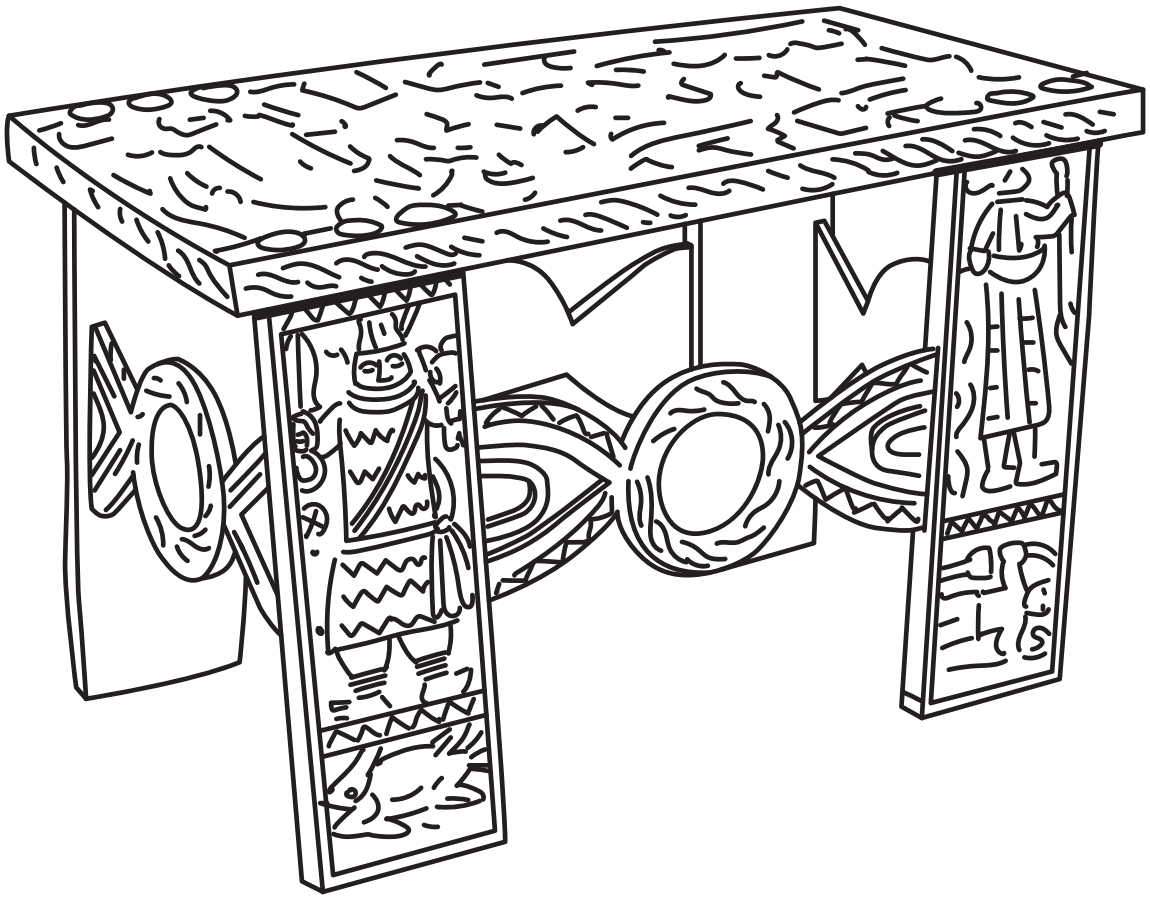
UGHAVAN

Celt (Thunderbolt/Thunderaxe)



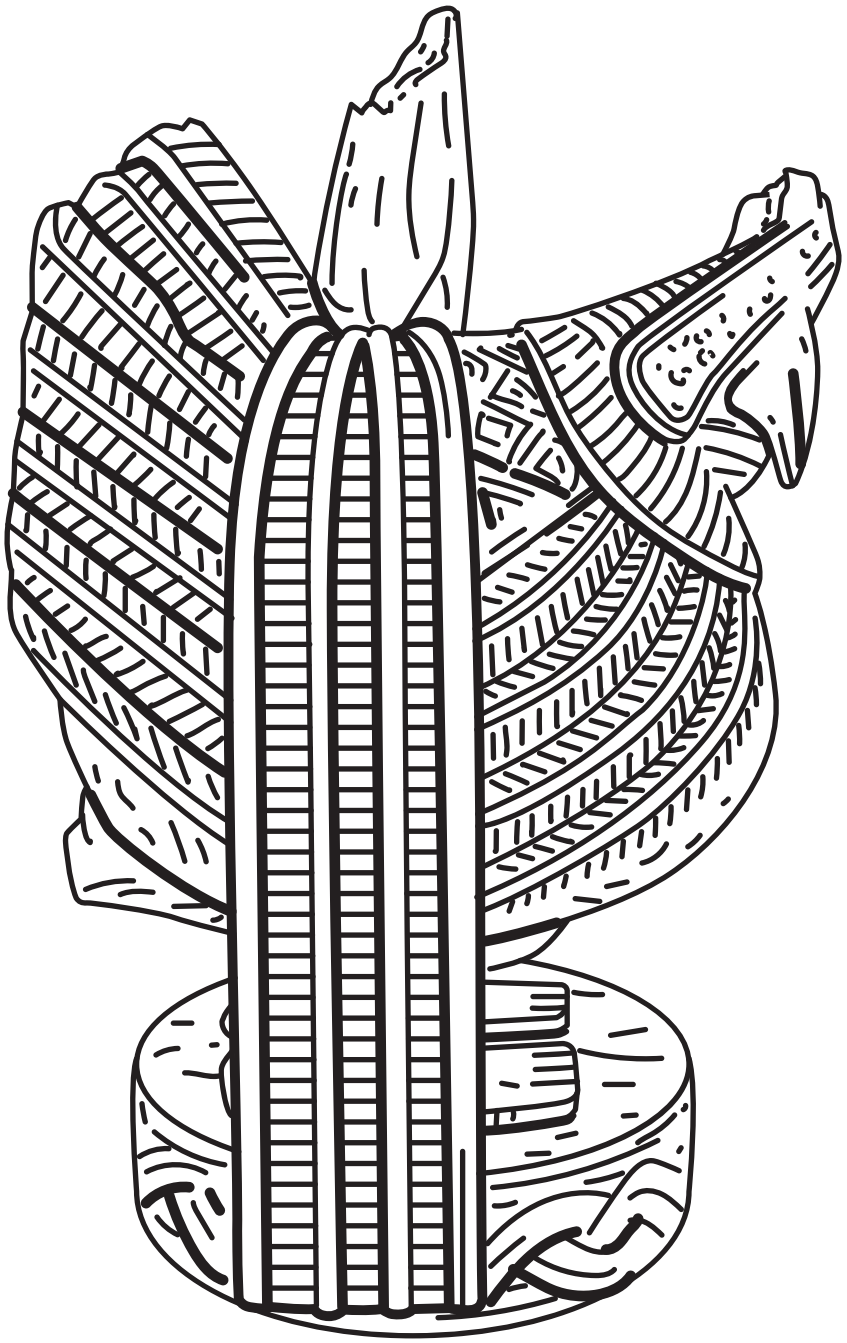
ỌKPORHU

Rooster Figure



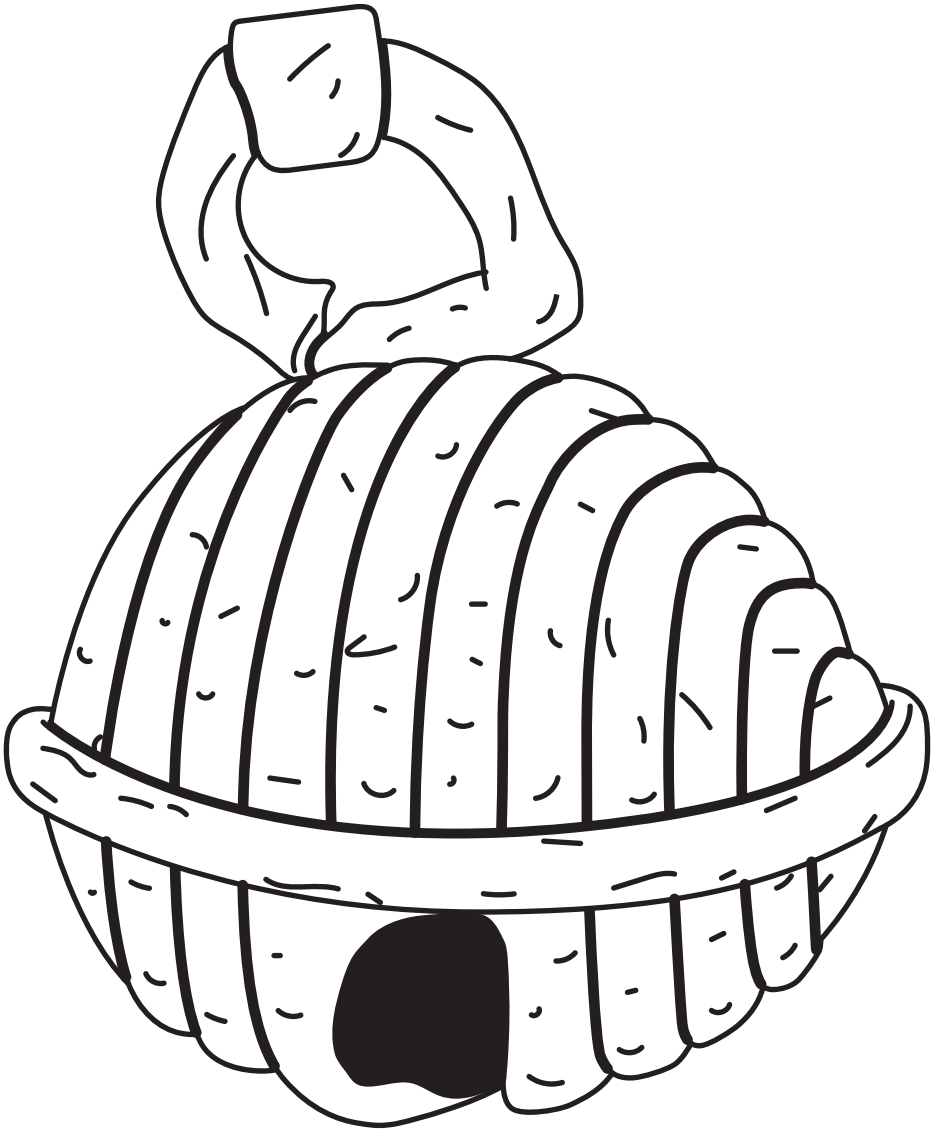
AGBA

Stool



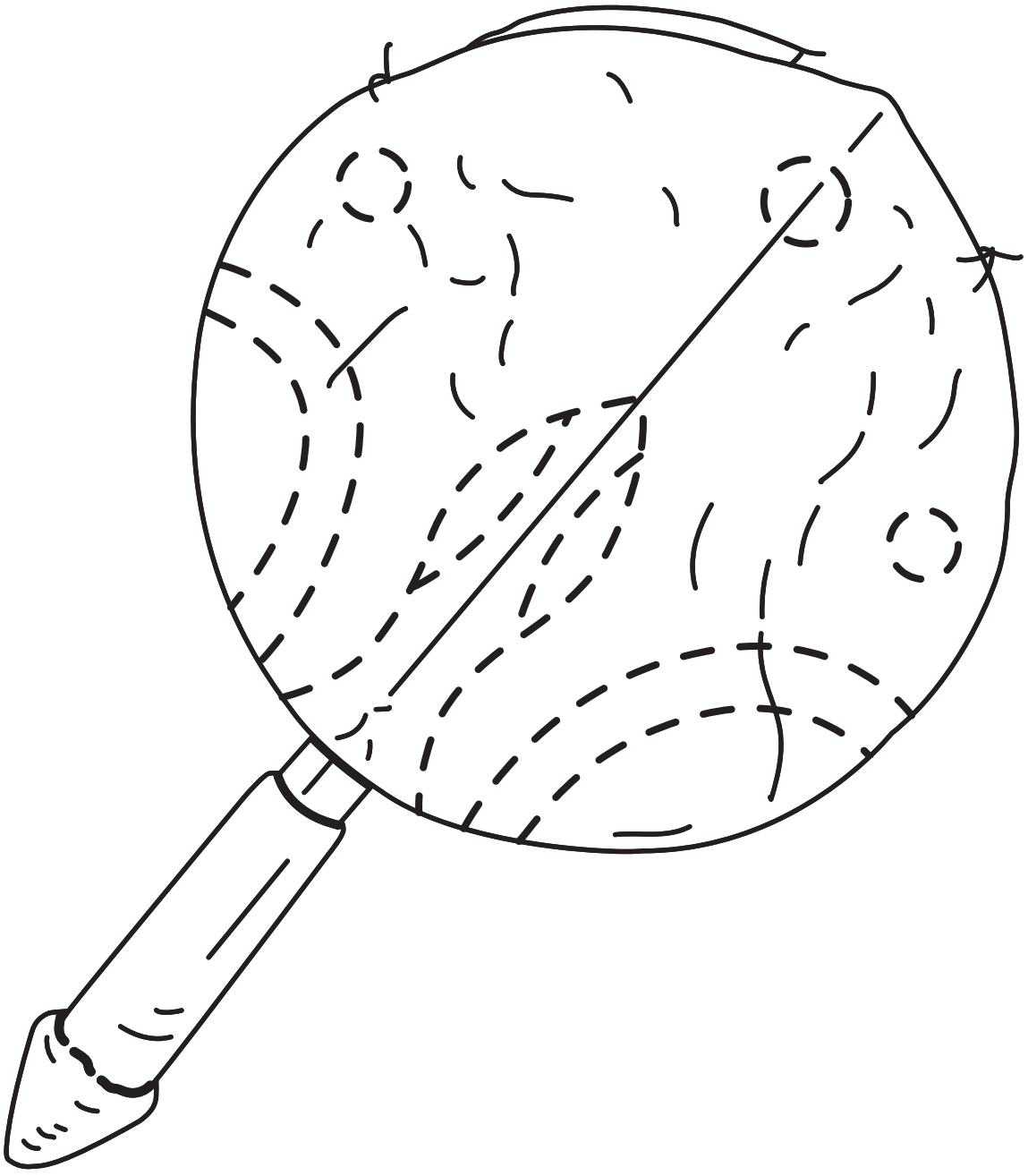
IYEỌKHỌKHỌ

Hen Figure



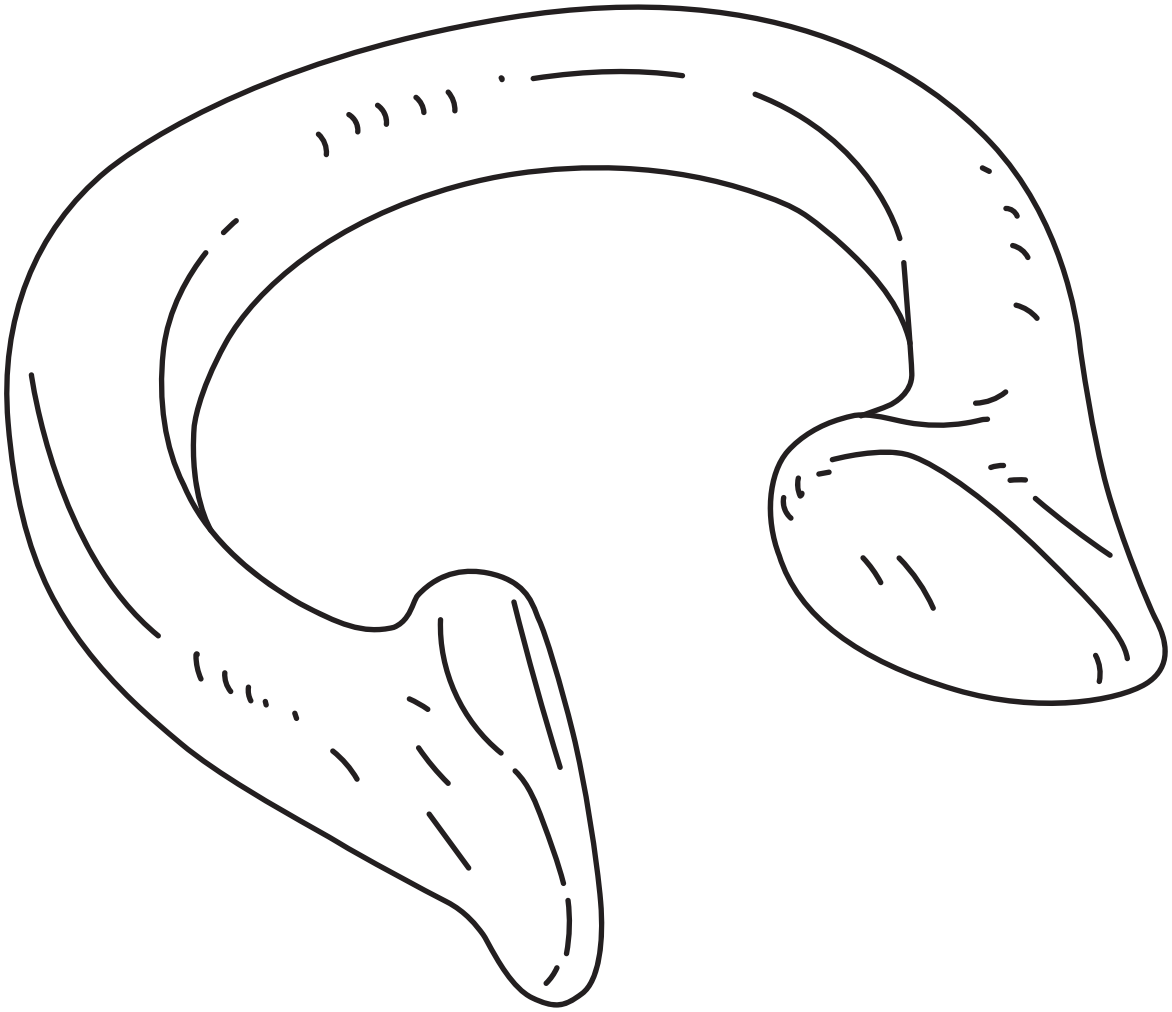
IGHẸGHAN

Crotal Bell



ẸZUZU

Fan



IGHO

Manilla



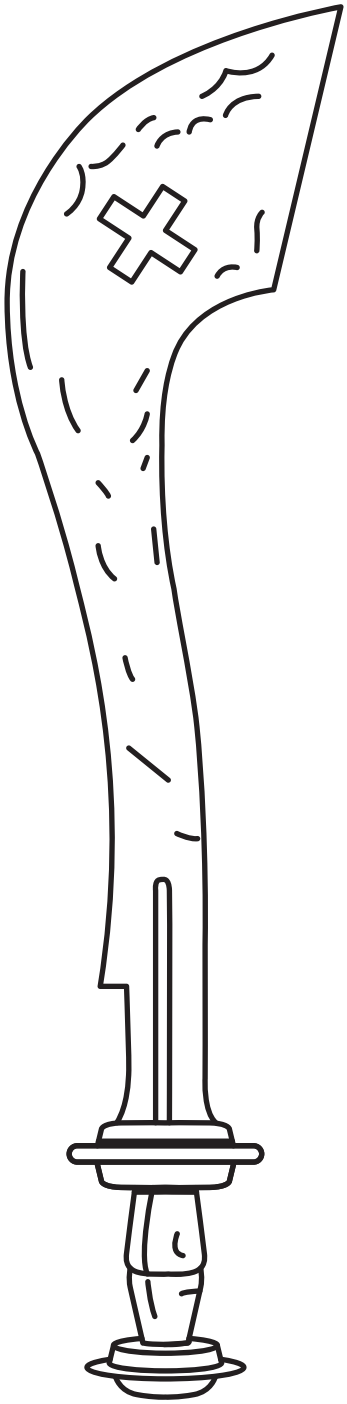
IVIN

Carved Coconut Vessel



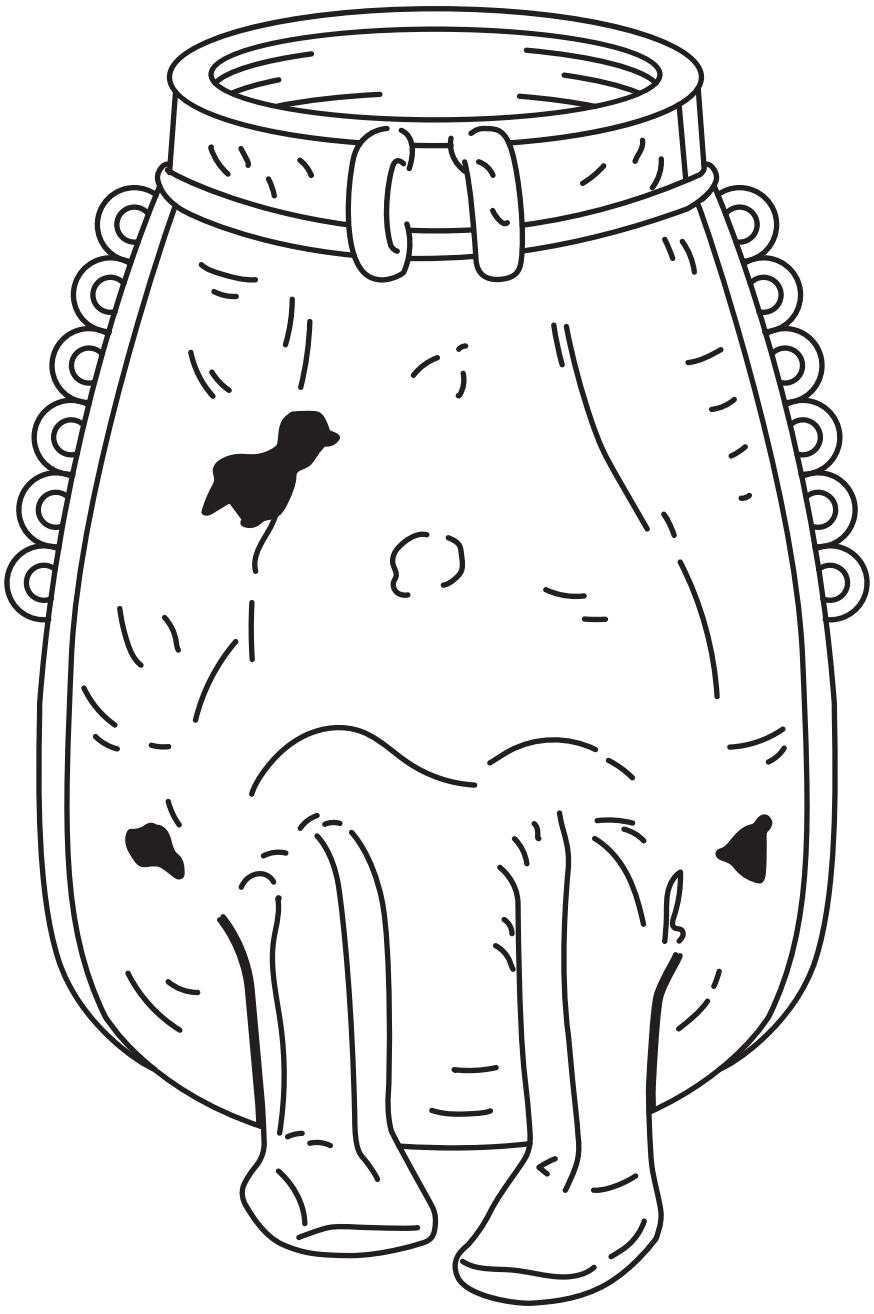
UZOKPO

Lidded Bowl



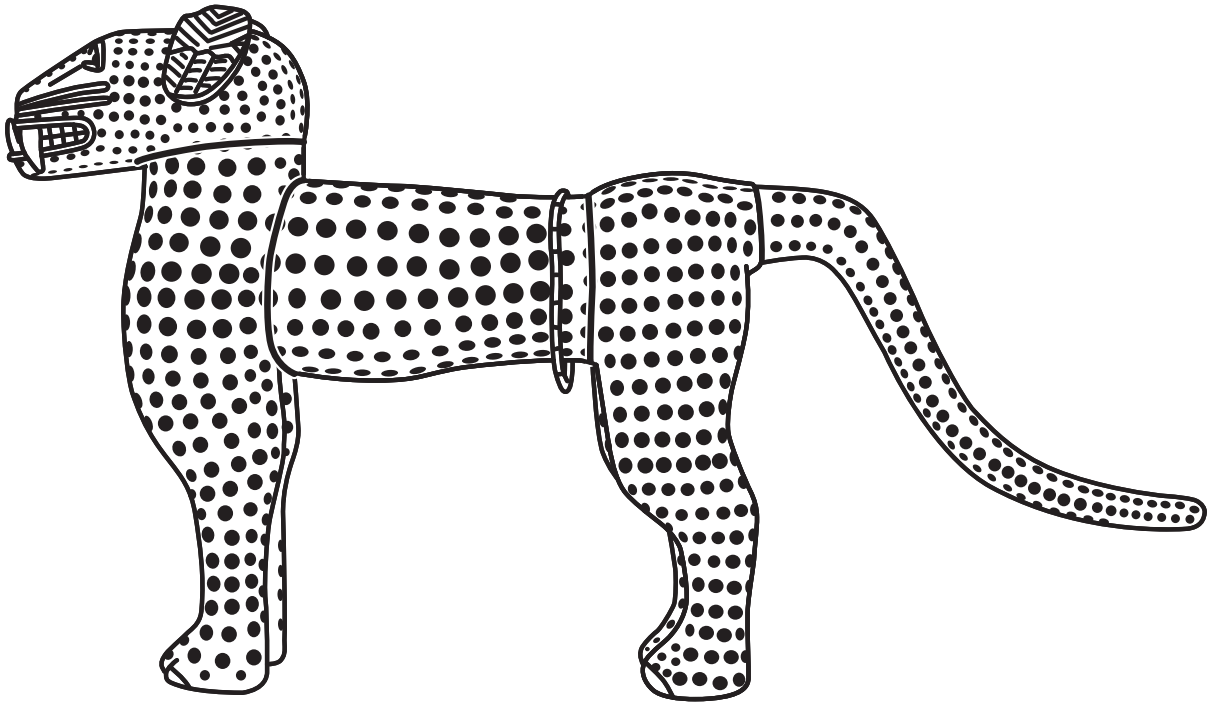
ADA

Ceremonial Sword



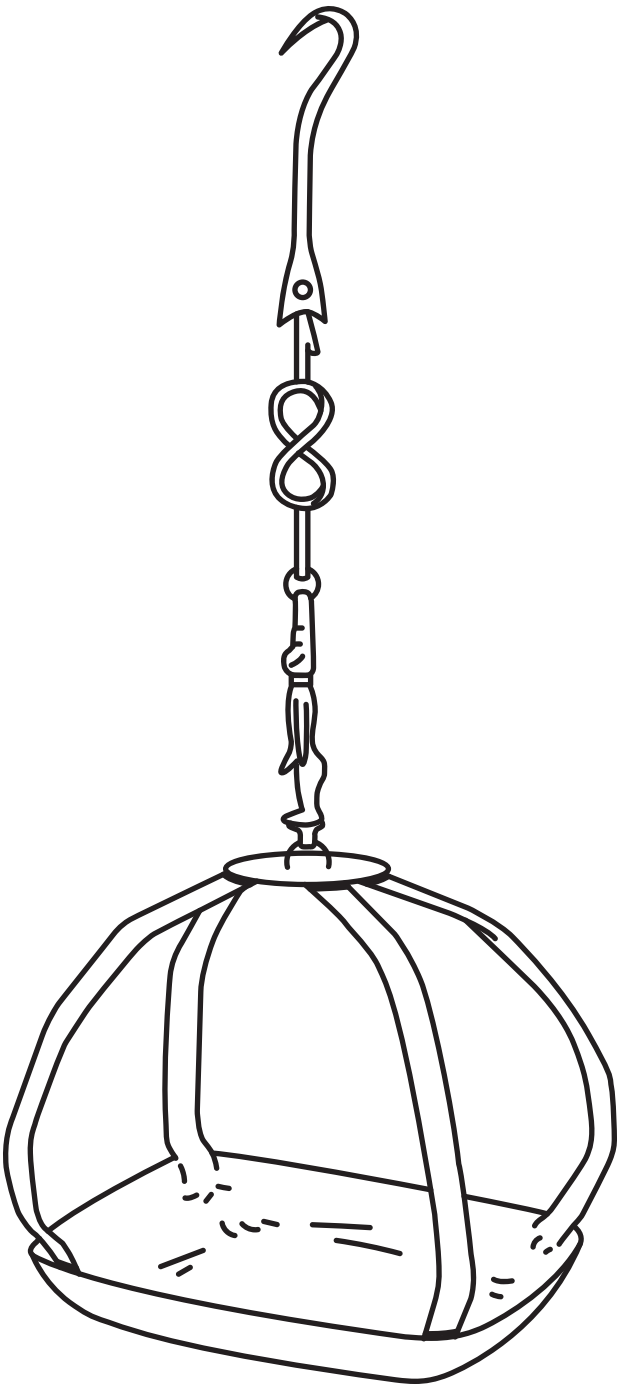
UKPU

Cup



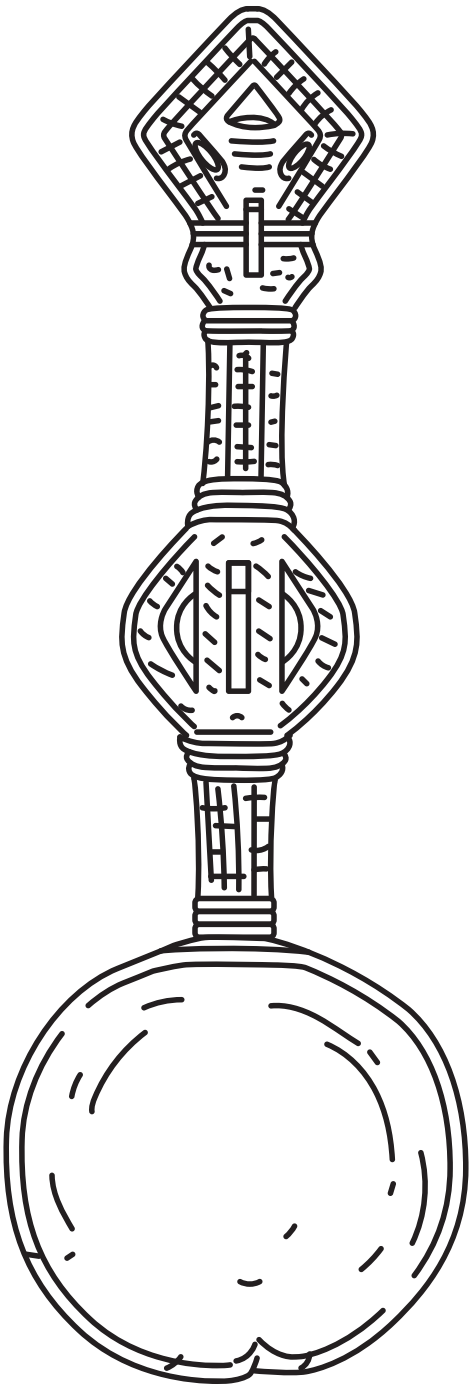
ẸKPẸN

Leopard Figure



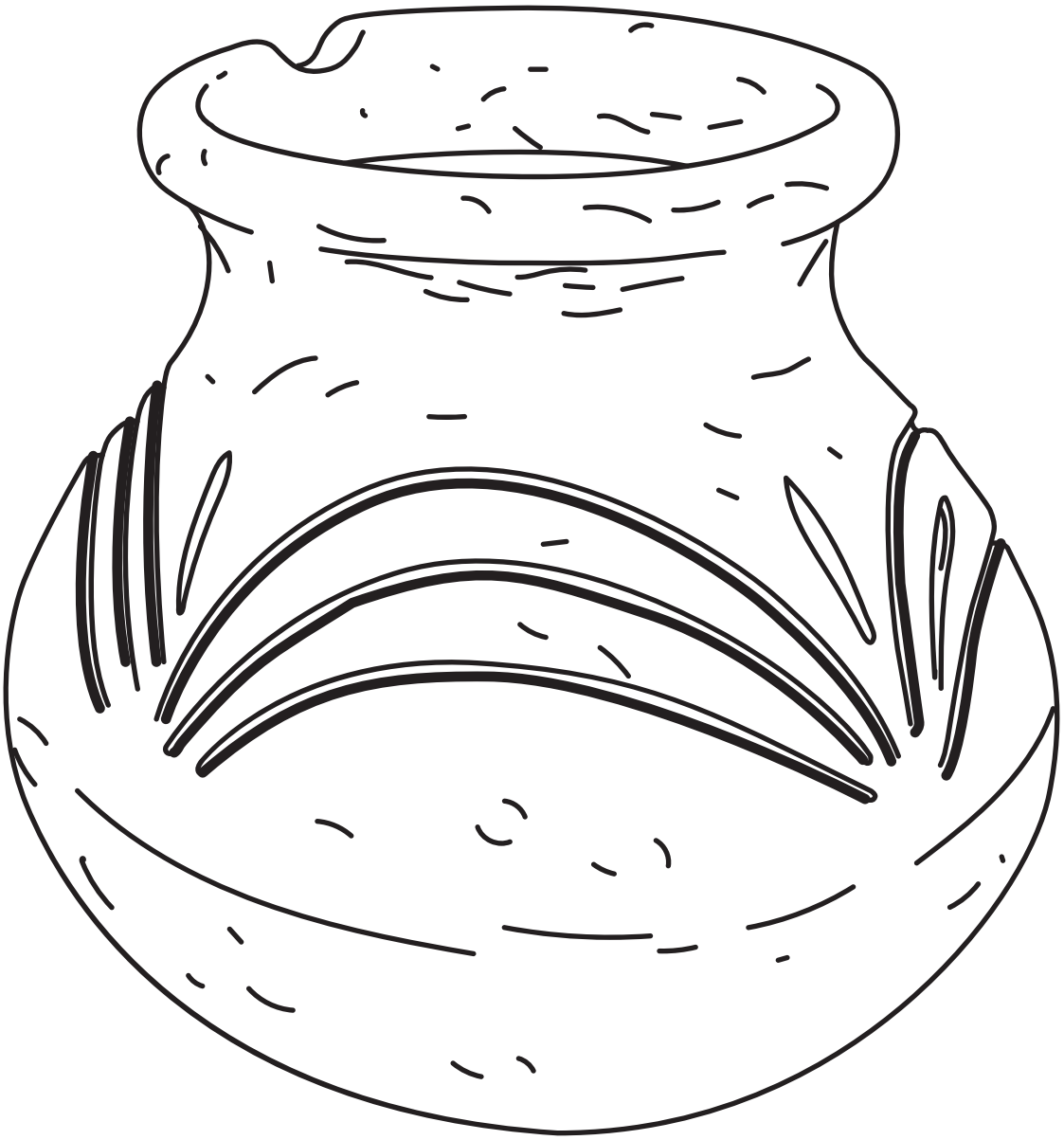
URHUKPA-ẸVBI

Lamp



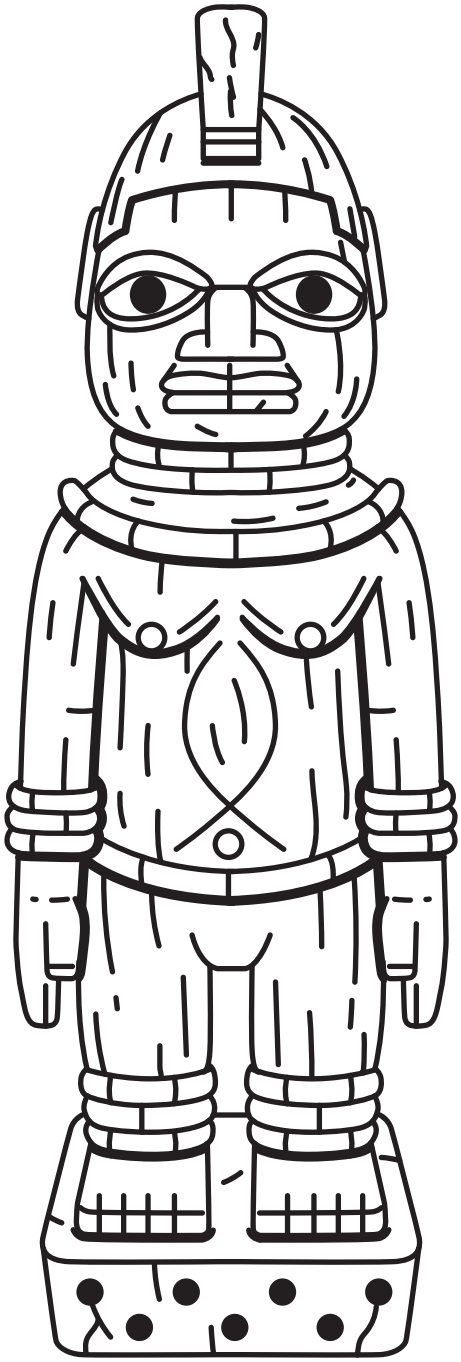
UHẸNHẸN/EKUYẸ

Spoon



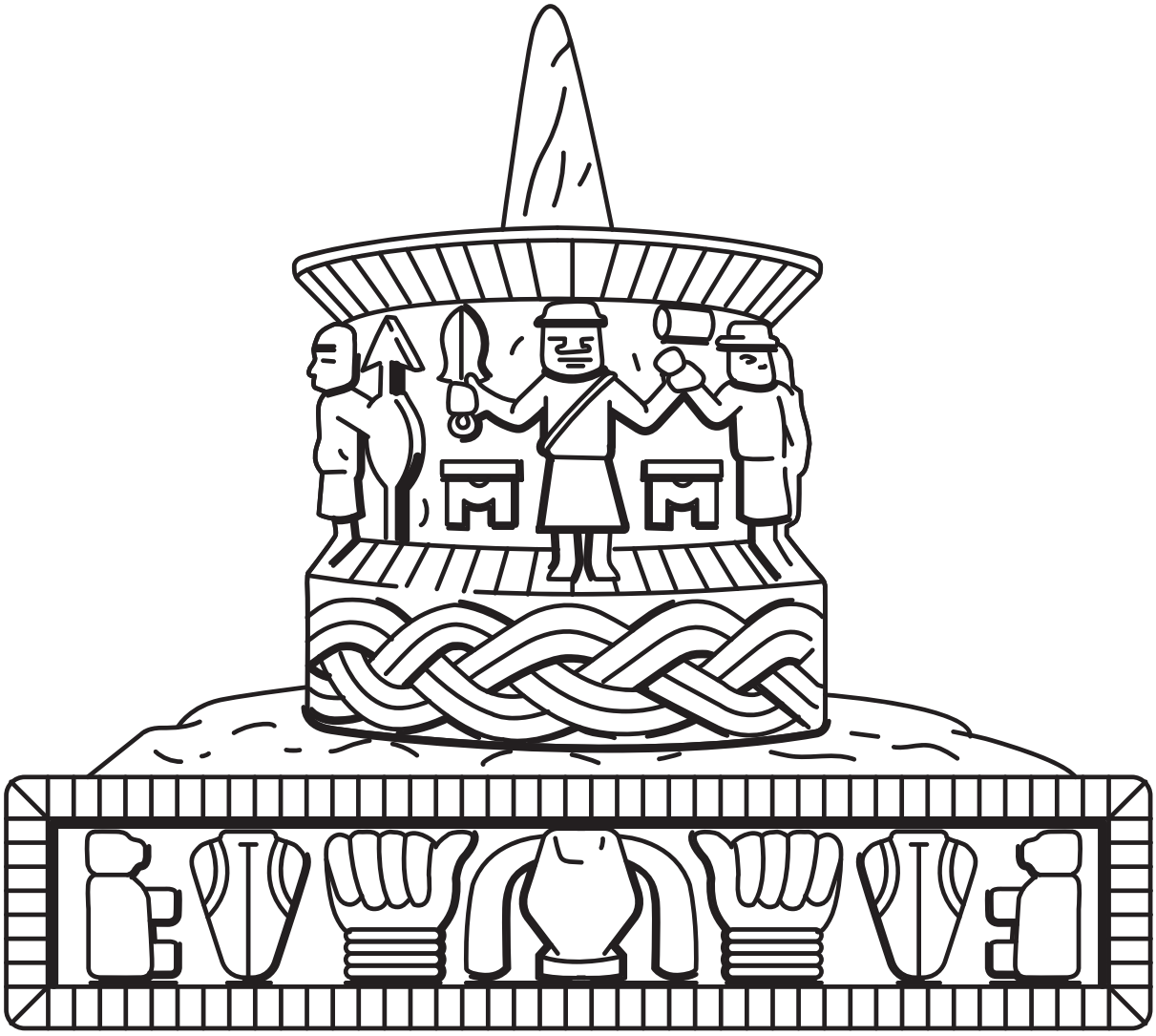
AKHẸ

Pot



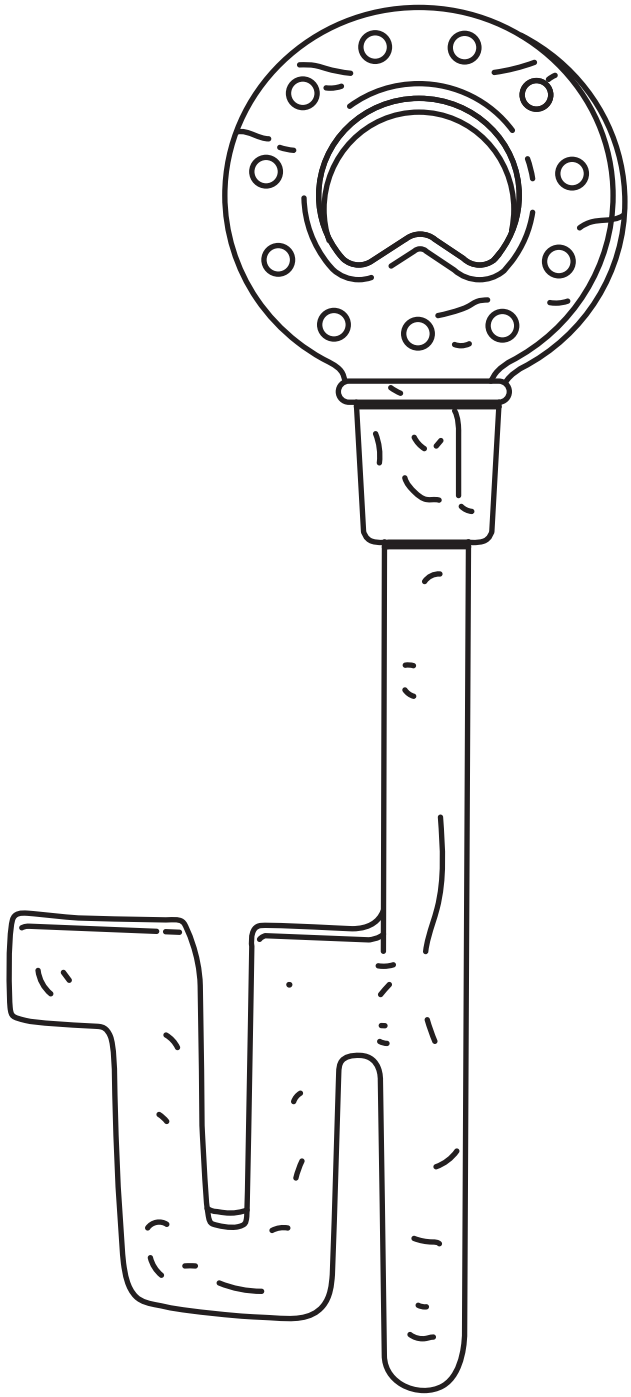
OKHUO

Female Figure



IKẸGOBỌ

Altar of the Hand



ISANRẸN

Key



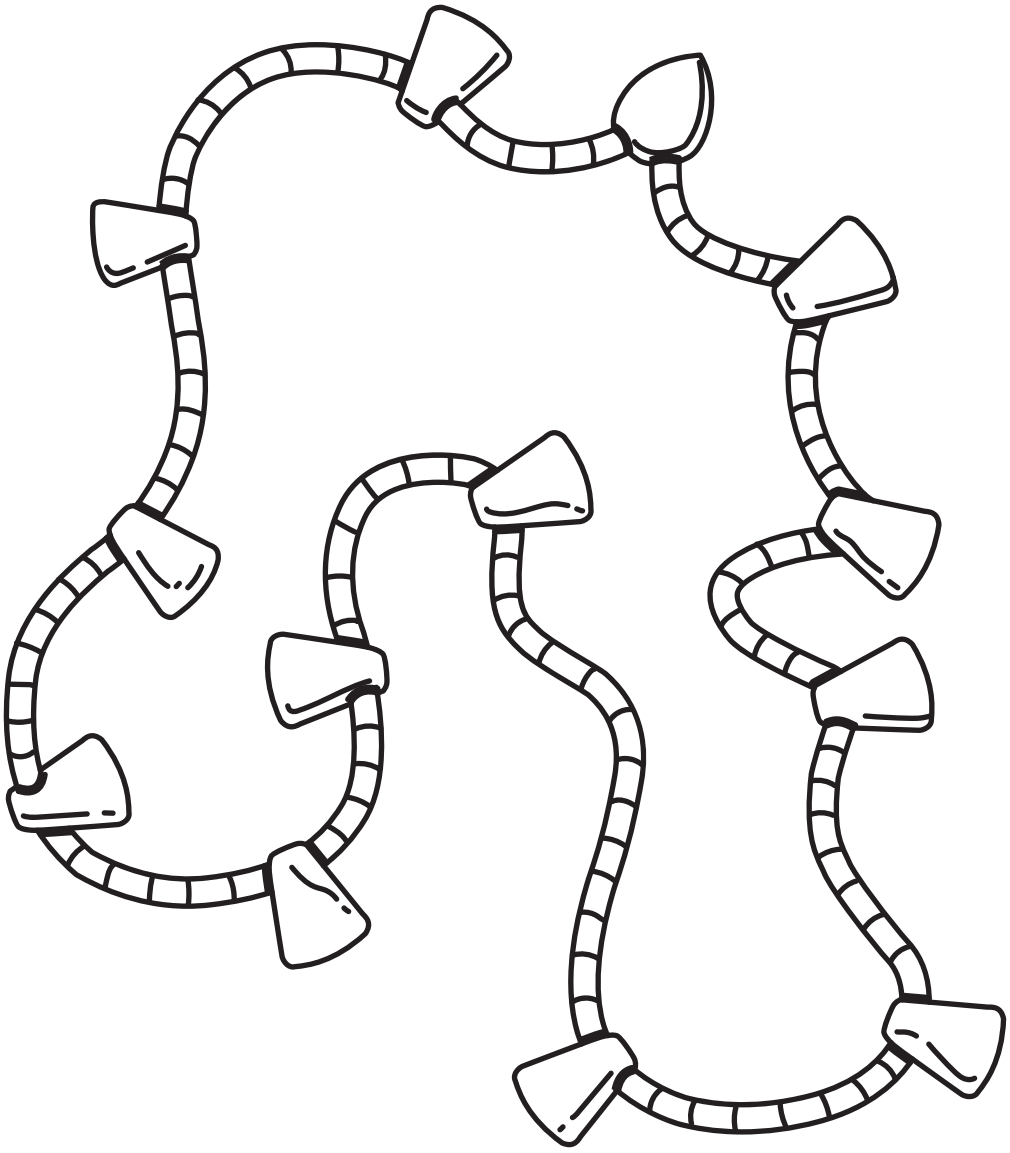
URU

Aquamanile/Ewer/Jug



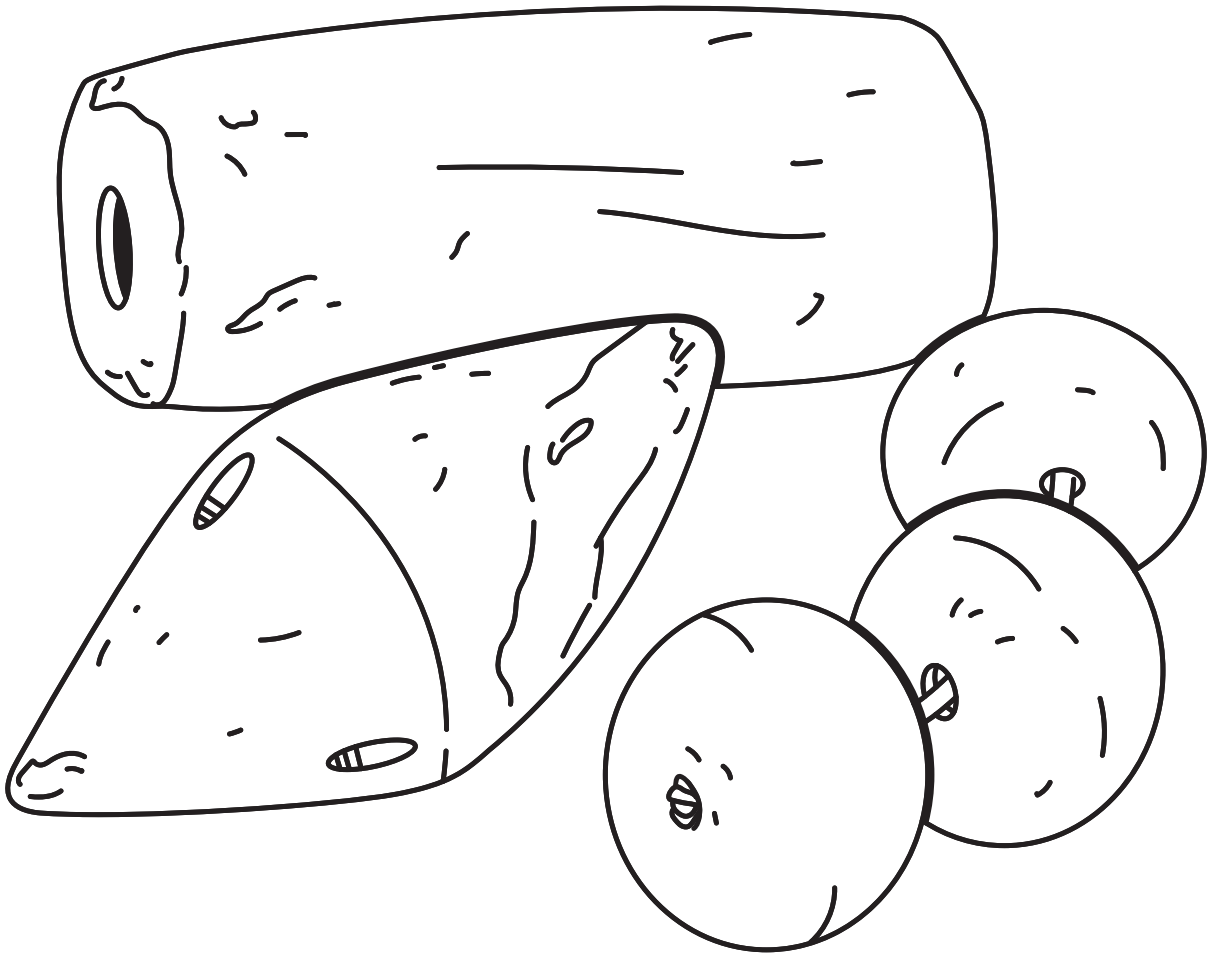
EWUA

Ewua Messenger Figure

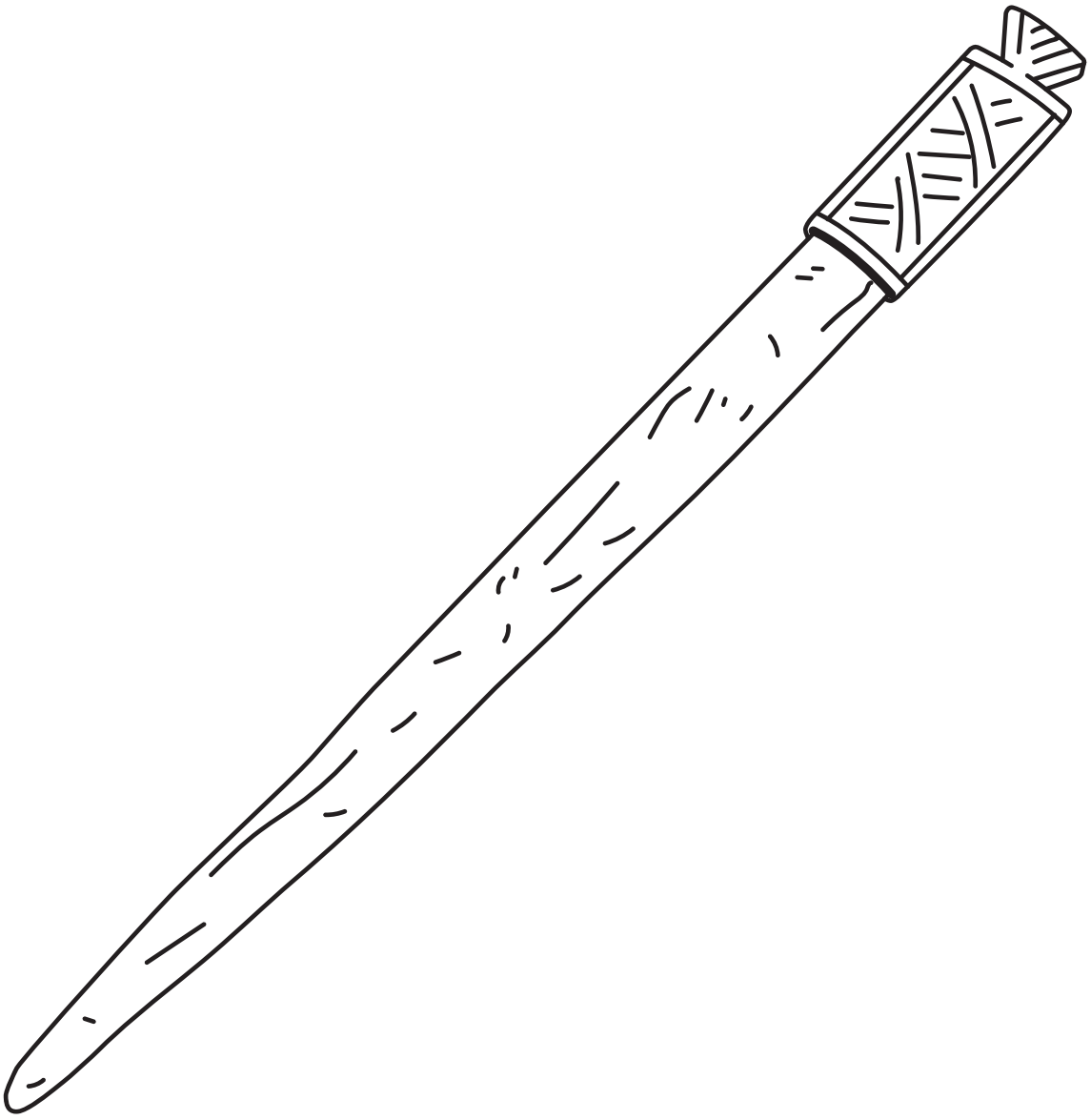


EMWIURHU

Neck Ornament

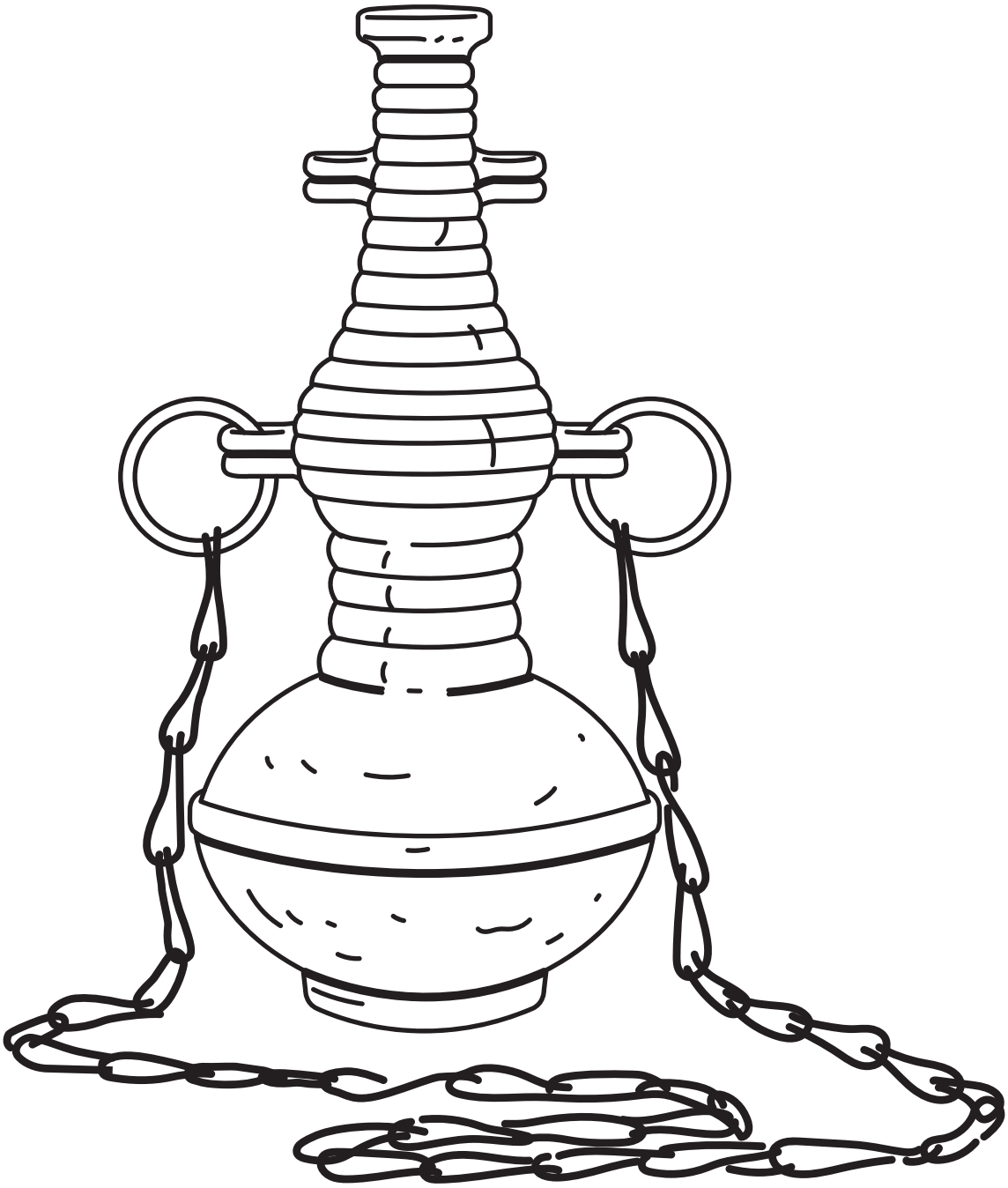


ẸKAN
Bead

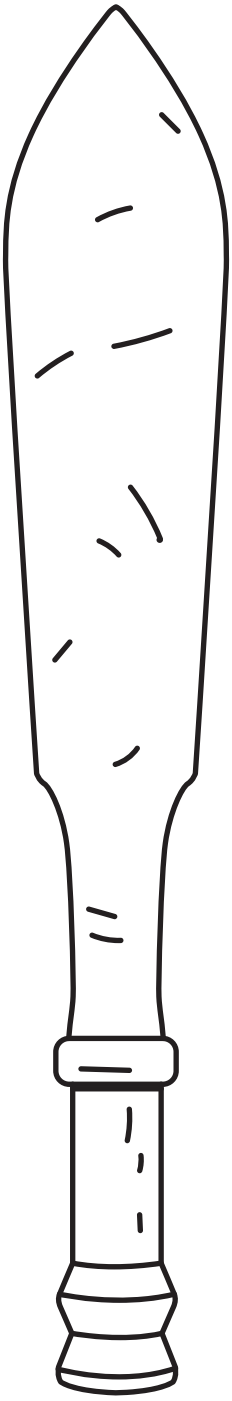


IDO

Weaving Accessory



UKO
Flask



IDẸNRHẸN

Knife



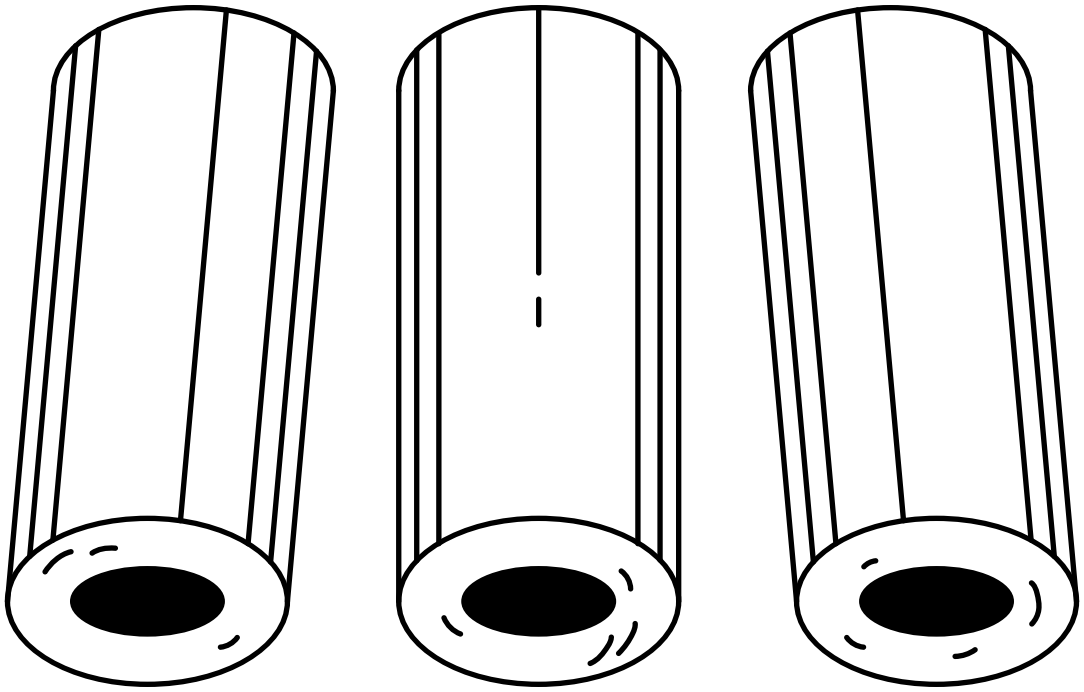
IVBIOTỌ

Trophy Head



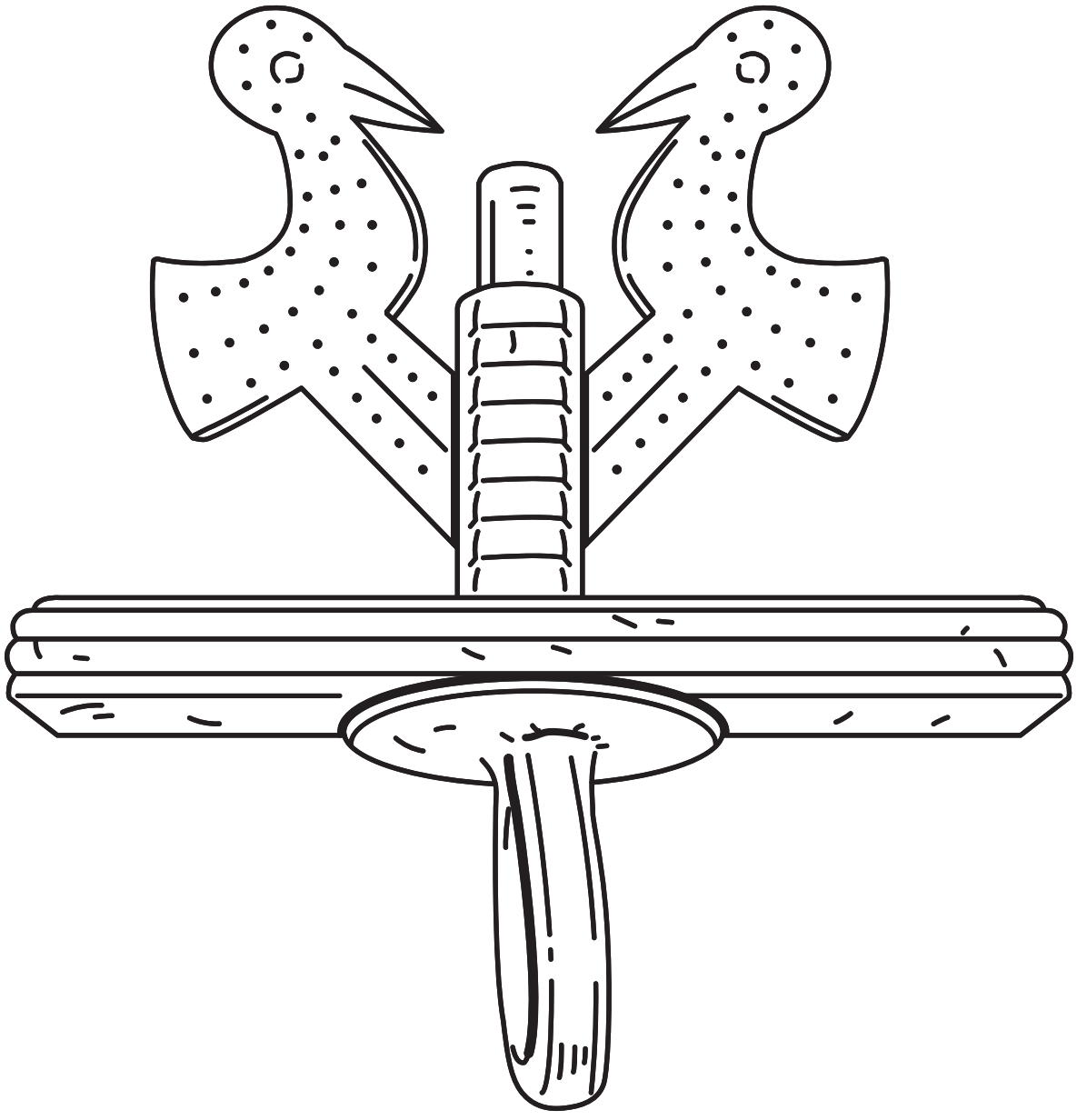
ASORO

Spear



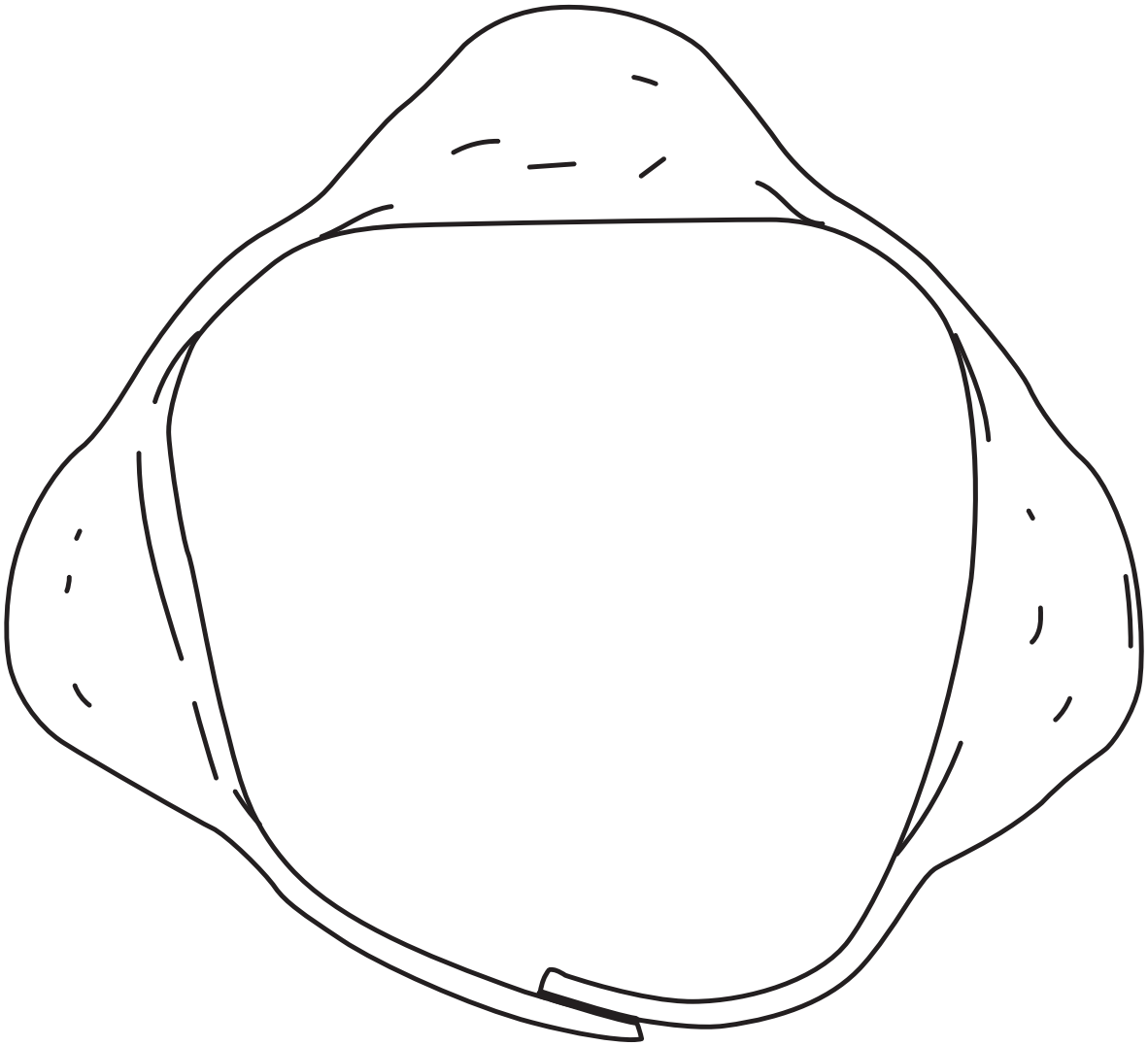
IVIE

Bead



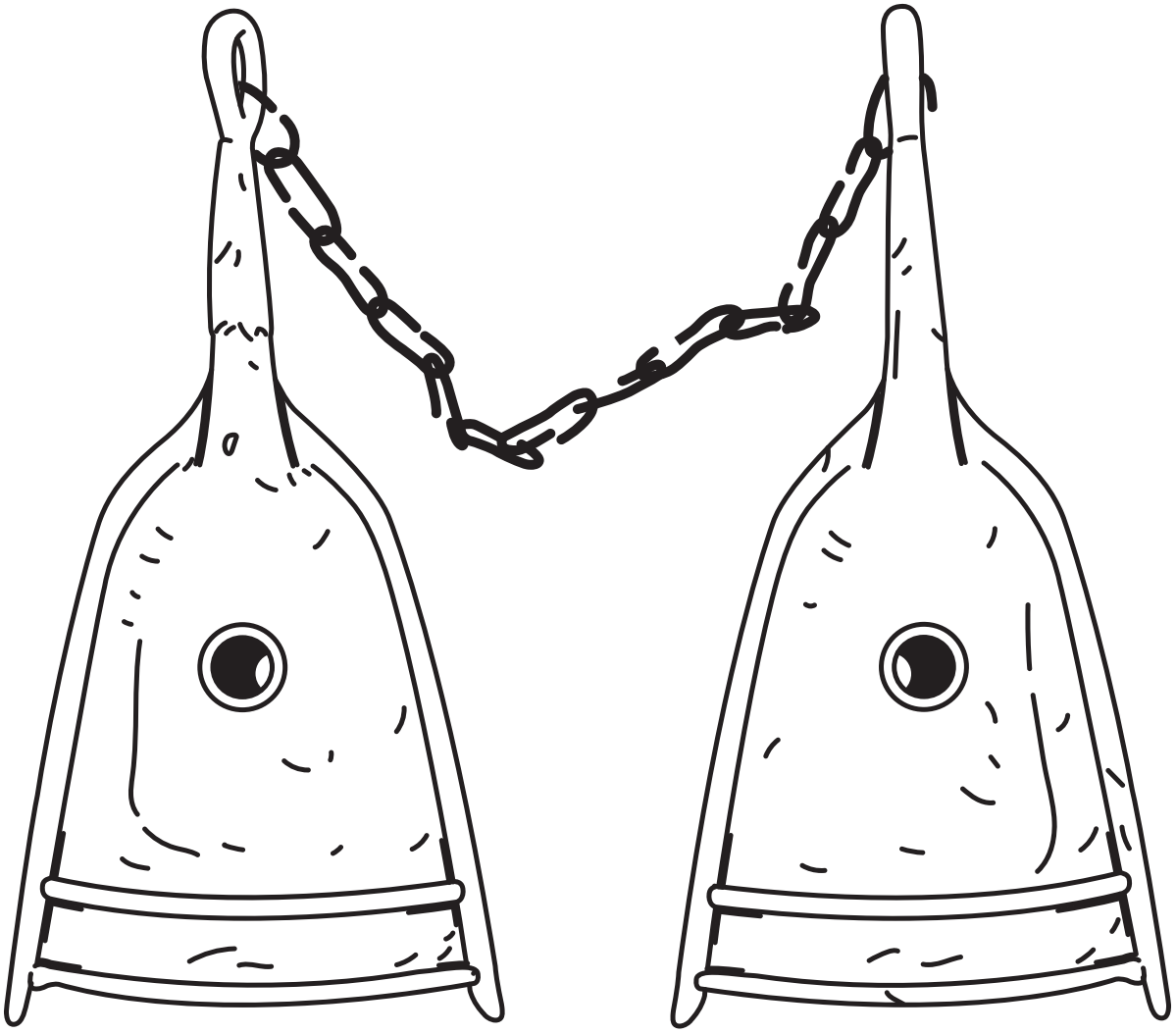
OROKA

Finger Ring



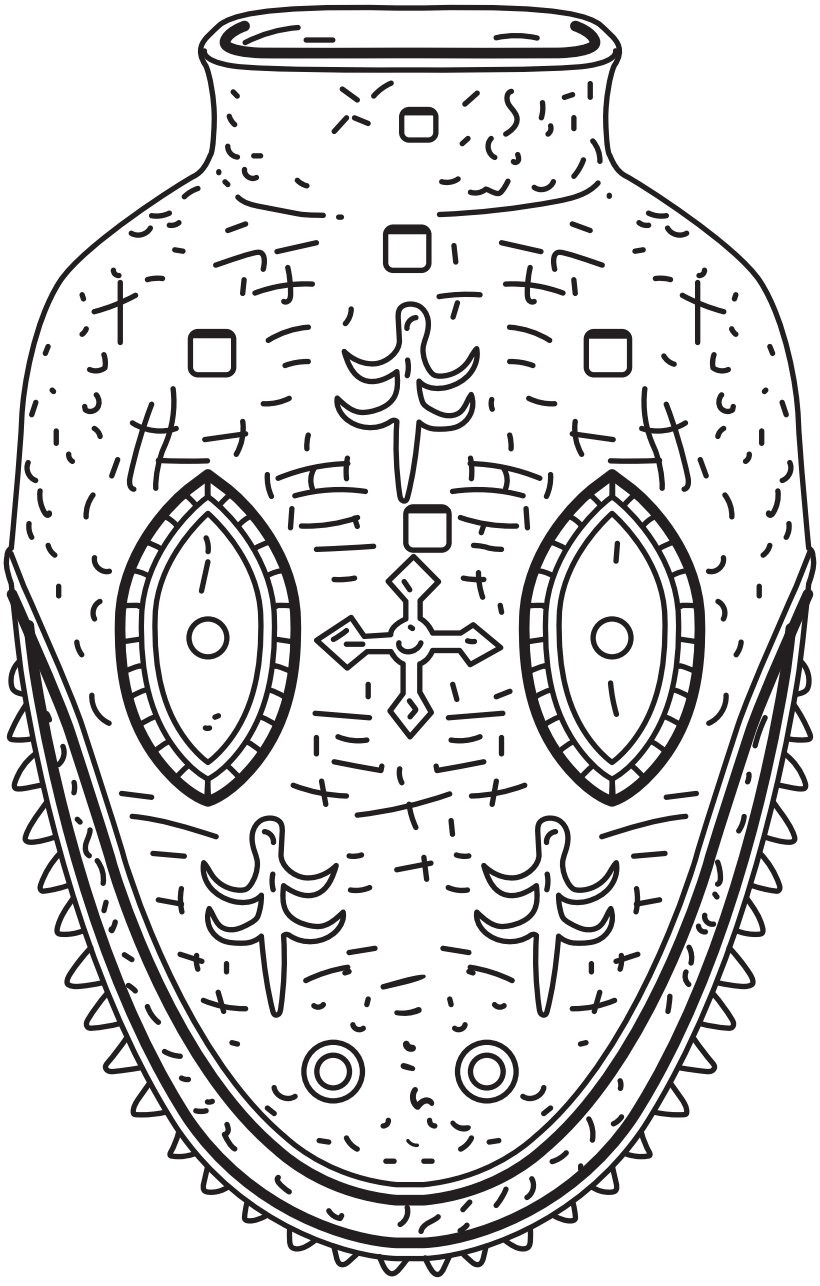
ELUBASẸ/ISEVBERE

Anklet



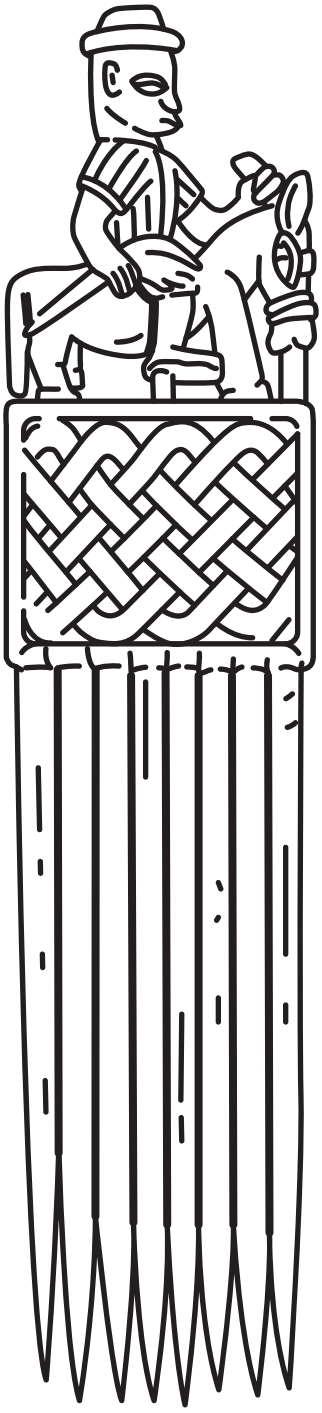
ẸGOGO

Gong



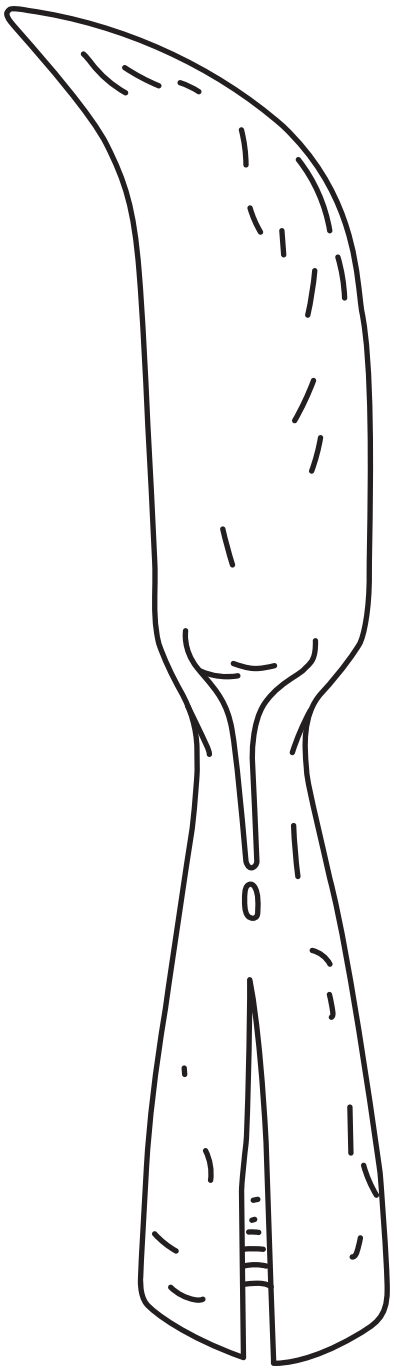
IKPIN

Snake Figure



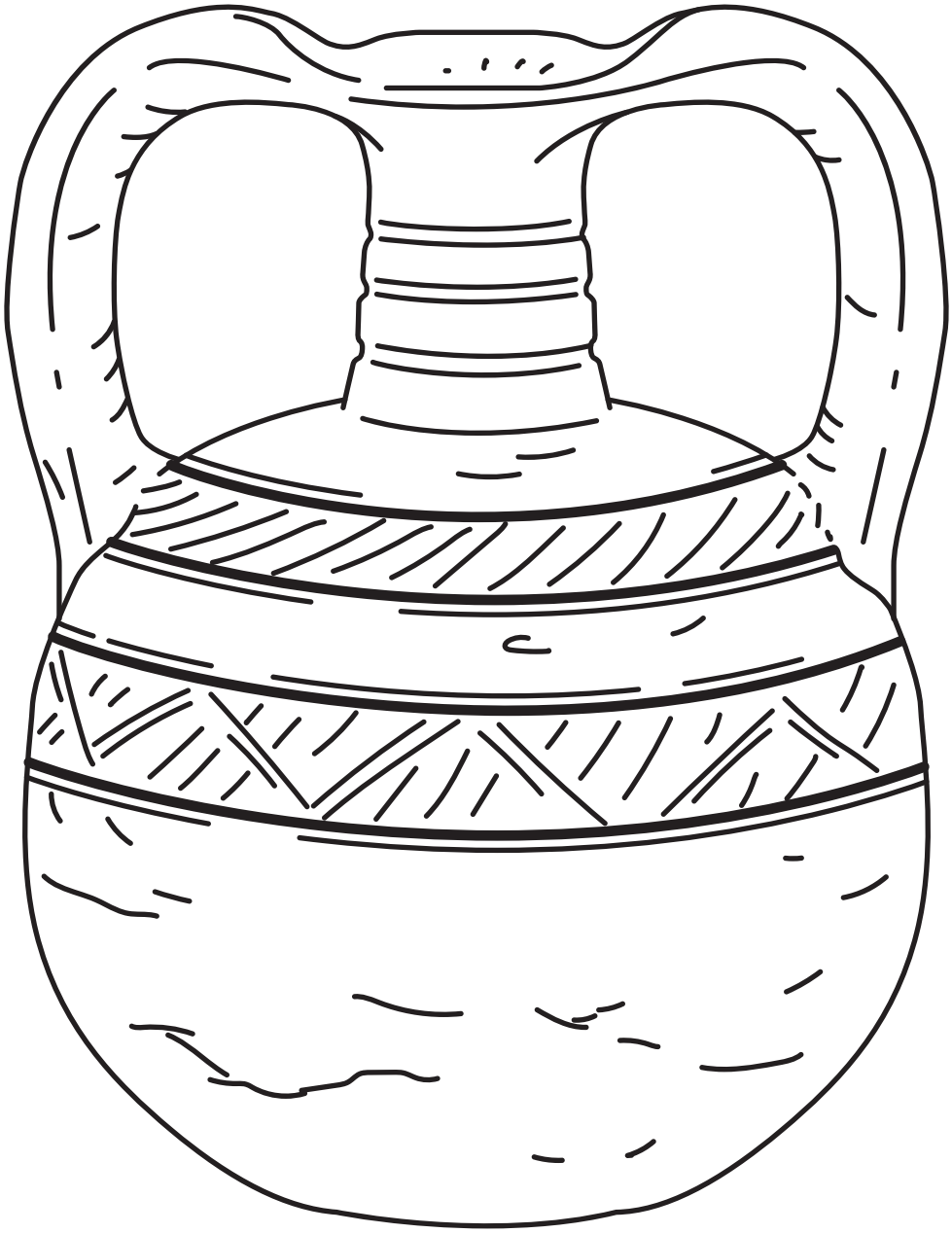
OYIYA

Comb



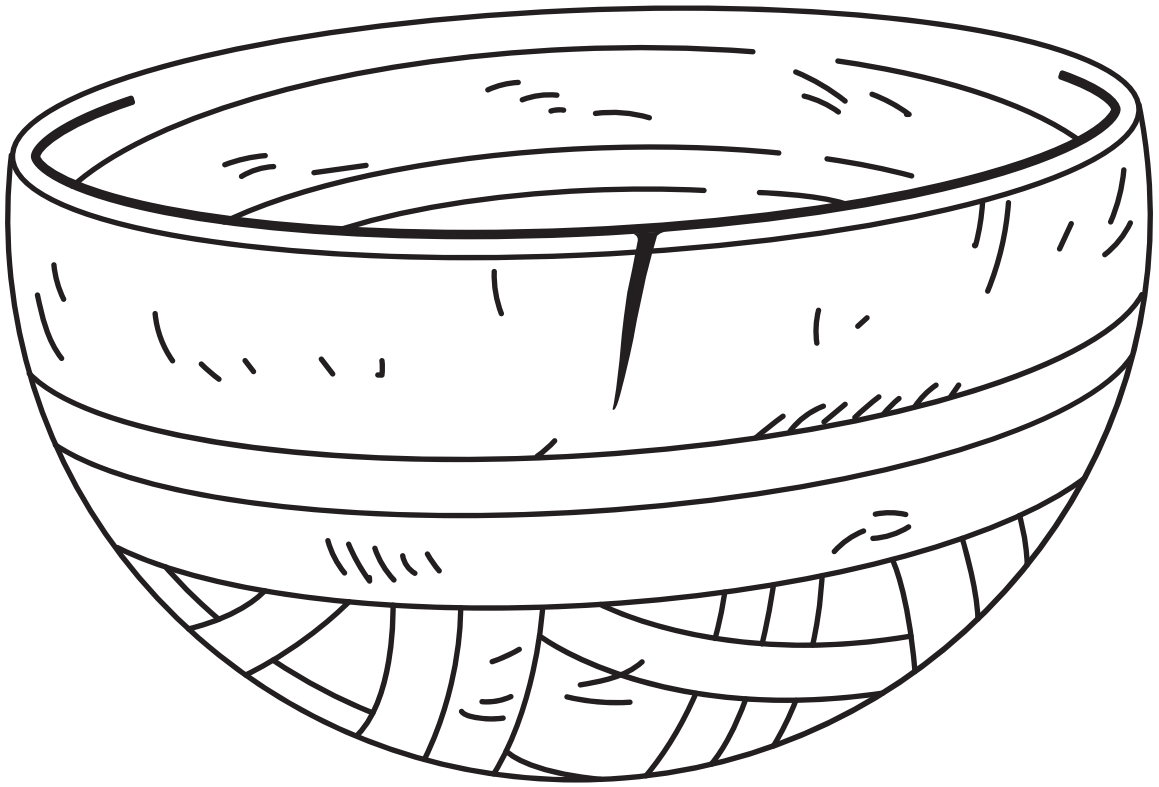
AZA

Bell



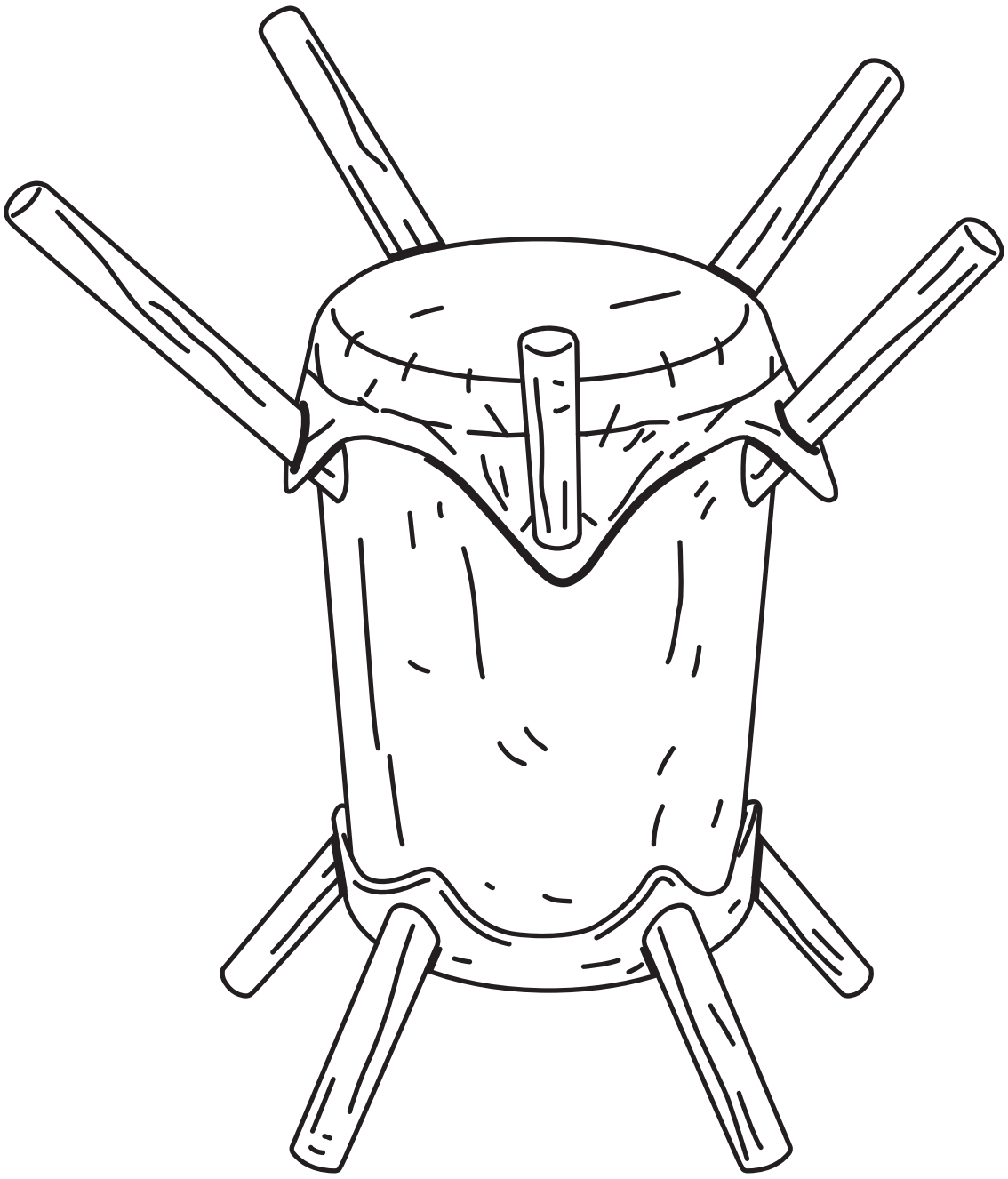
AKHẸ AMẸ

Pot



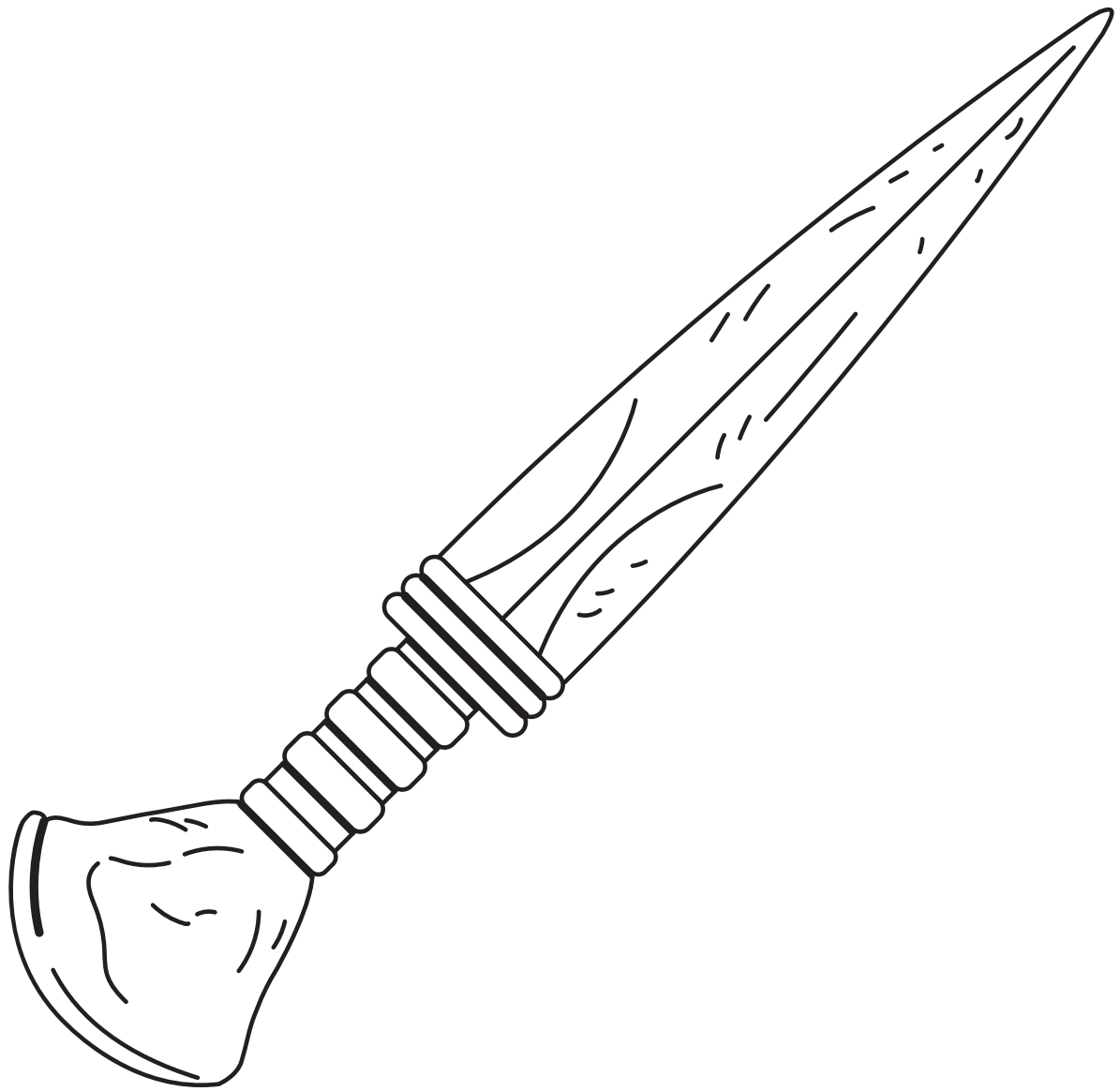
ỌKPAN

Bowl/Plate



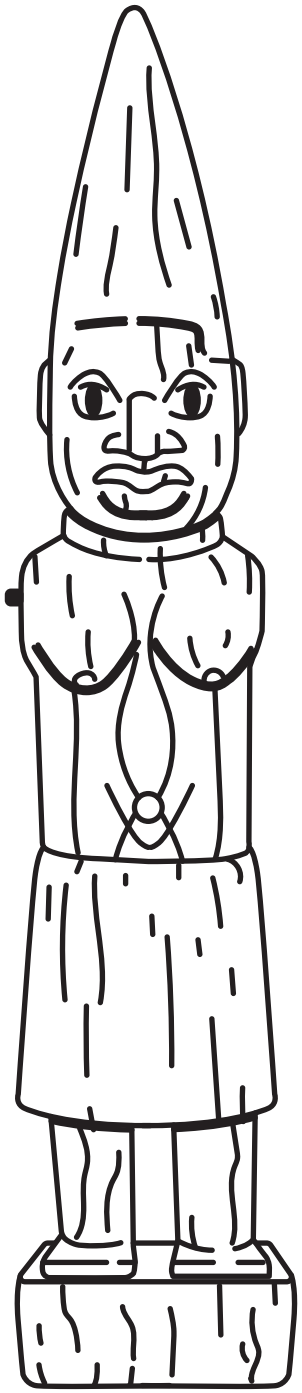
EMA

Drum



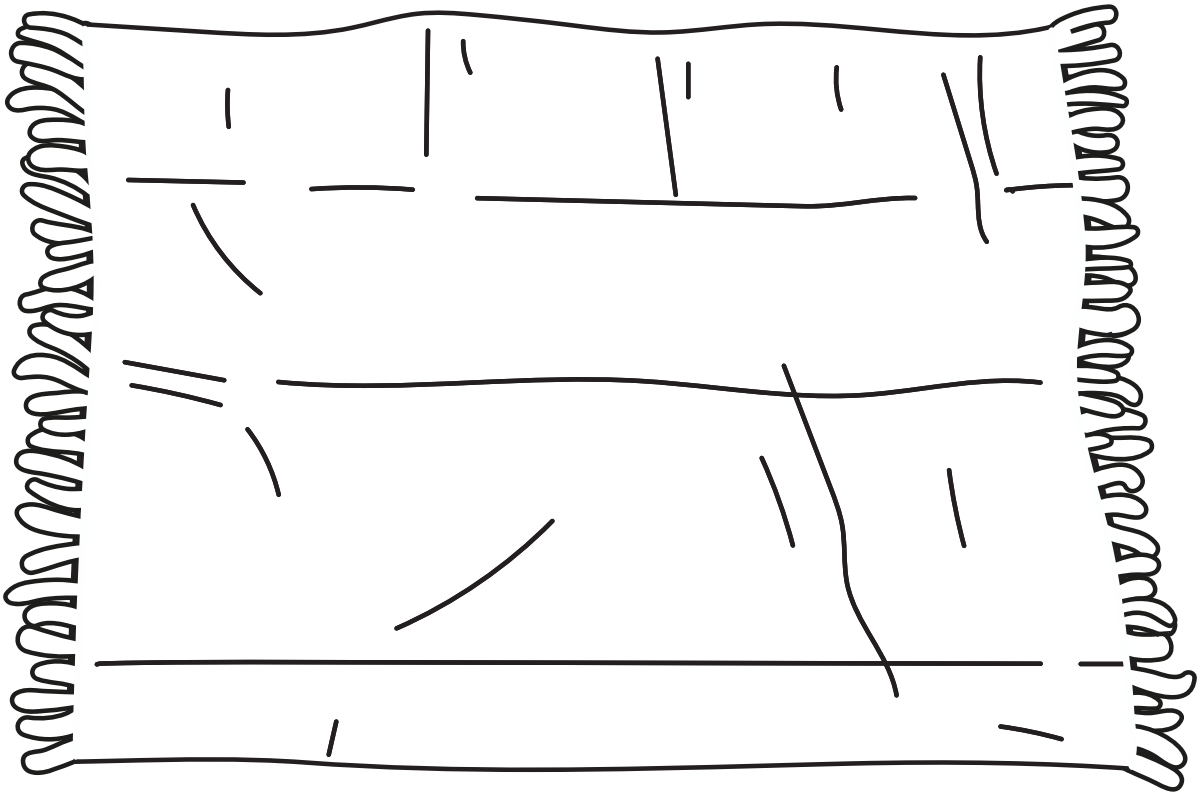
AGBADA

Dagger

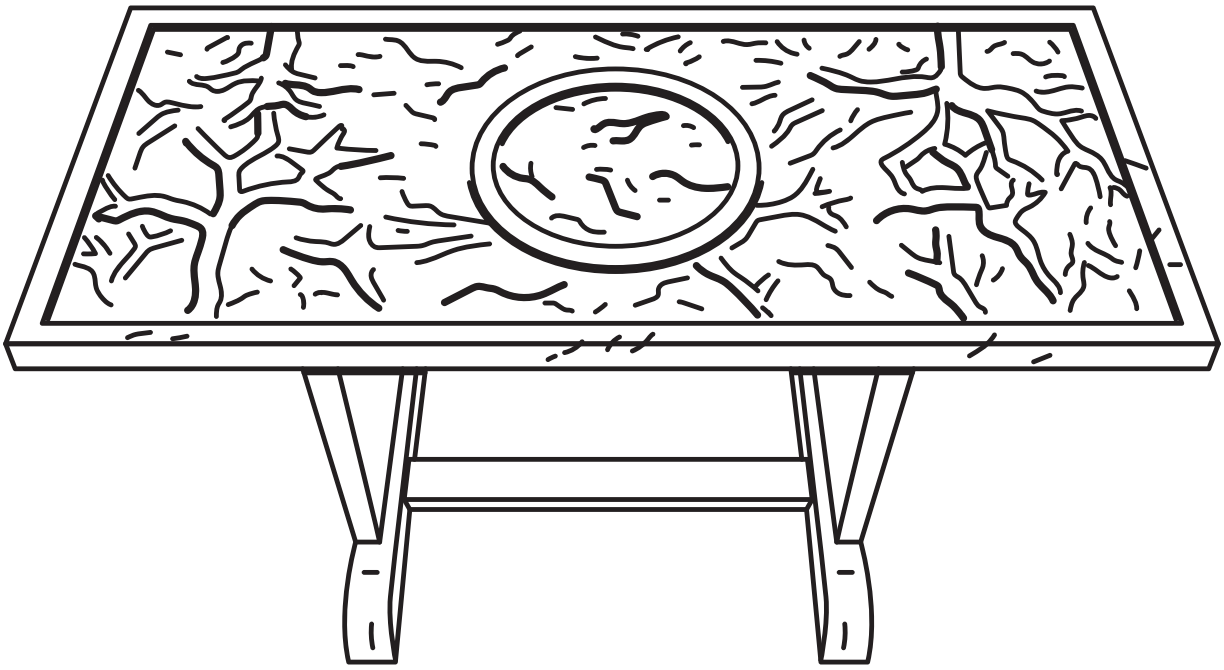


IY'ỌBA

Queen Mother Figure

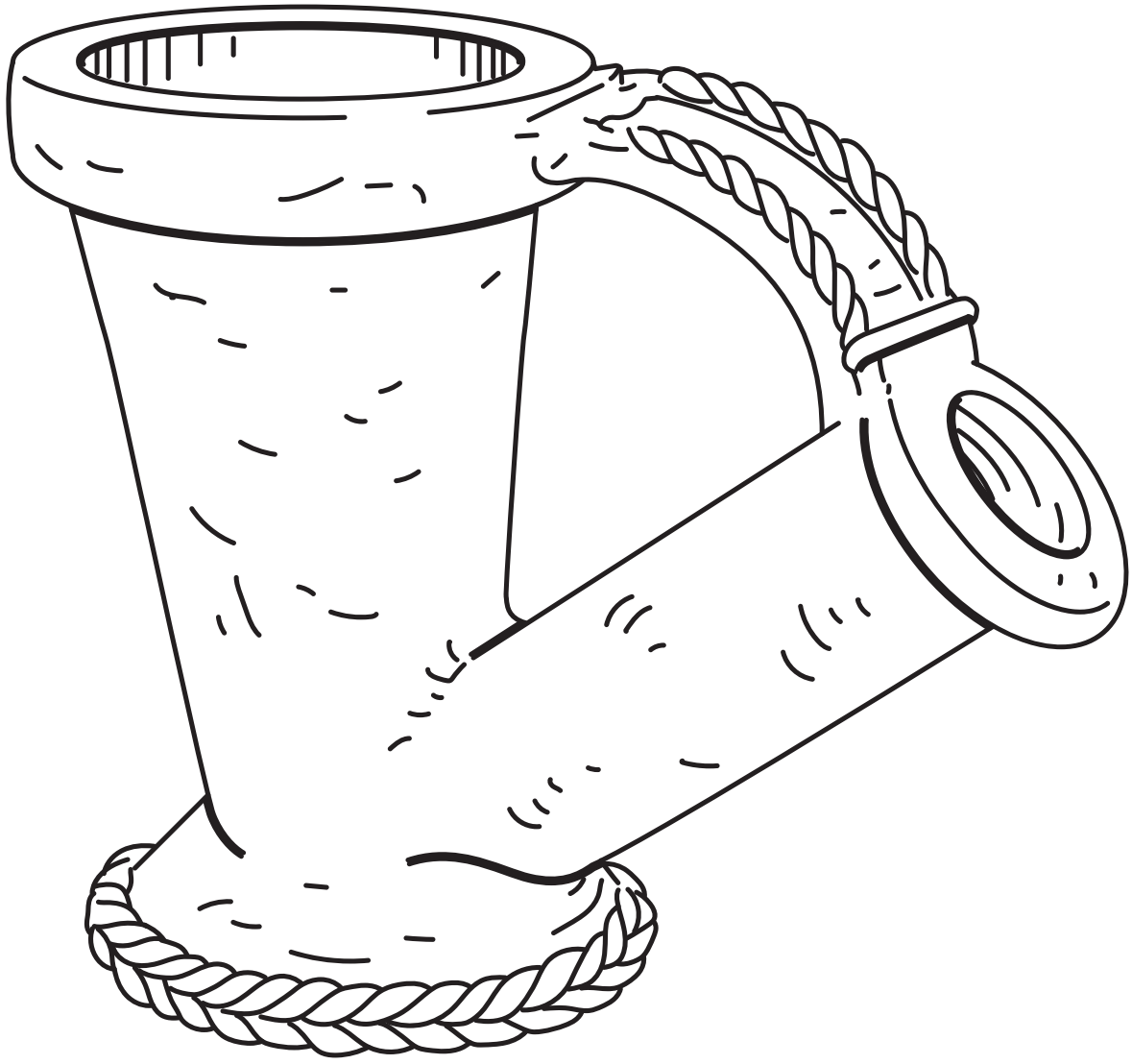


UKPỌN
Clothing



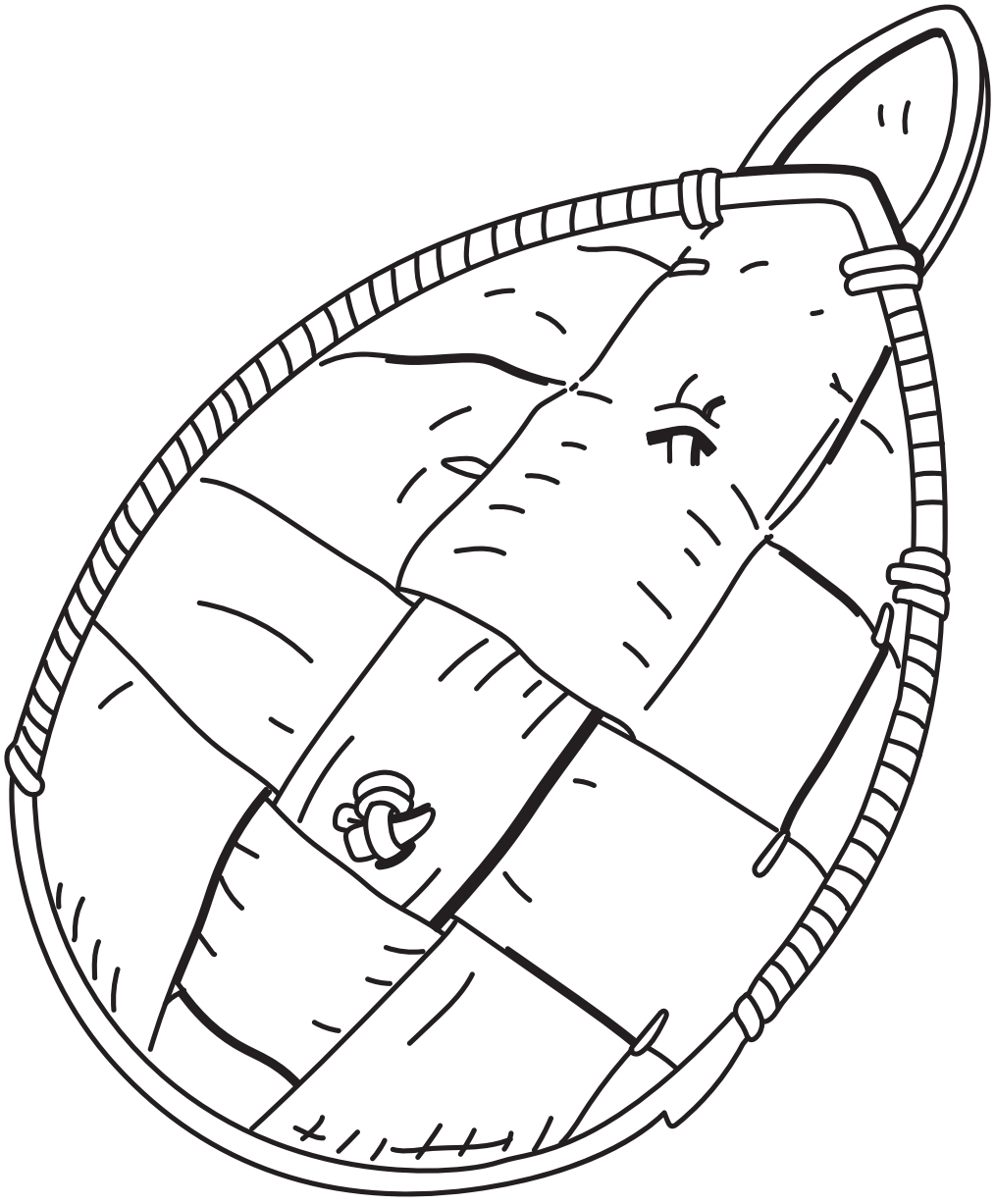
UKHUERHE

Table



AKHIỌN/UKOKO

Smoking Pipe



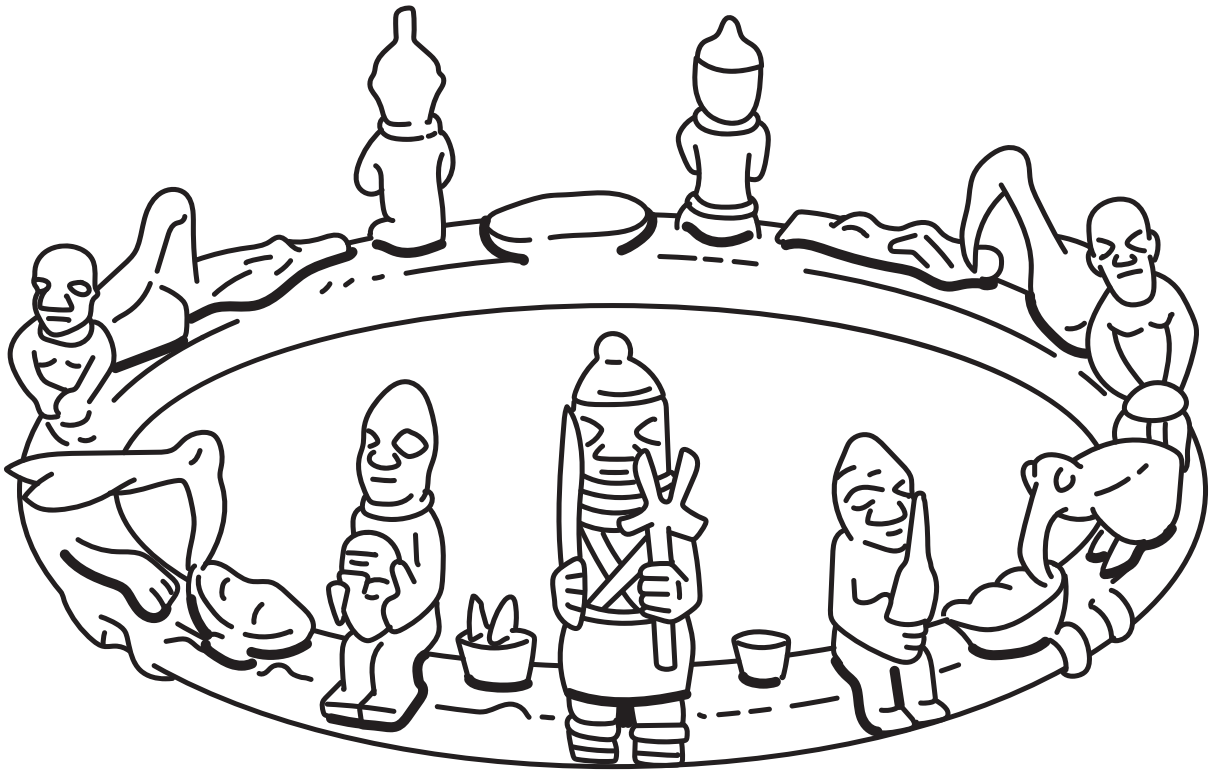
ASA

Shield



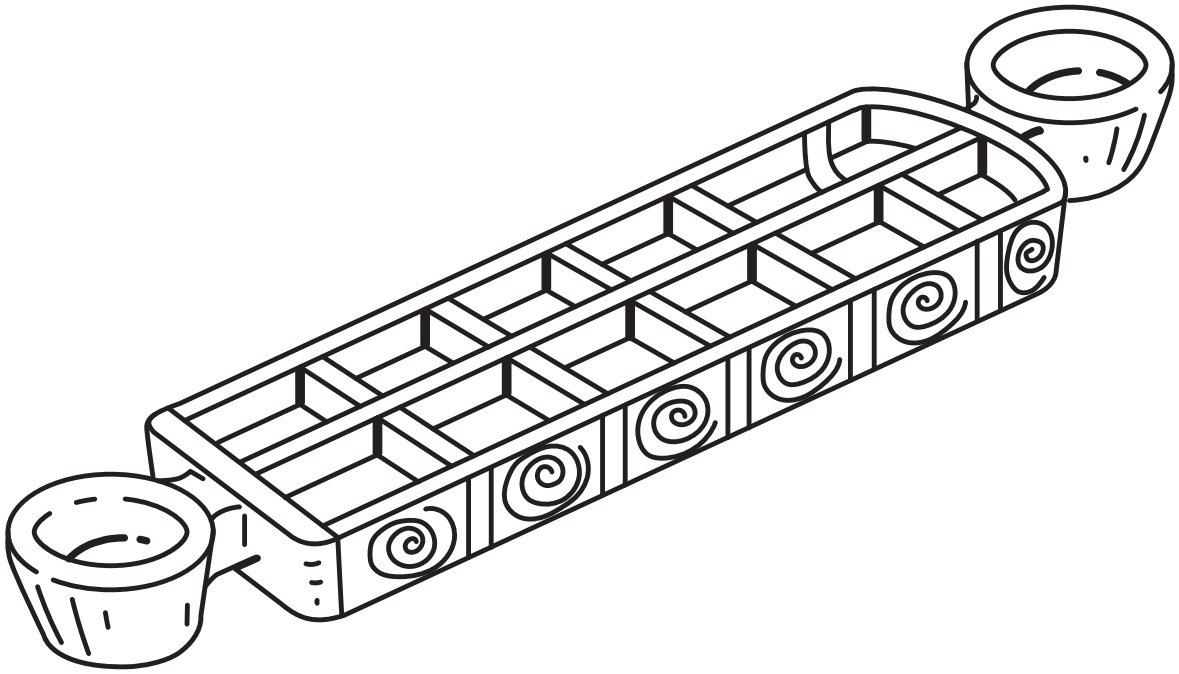
AKHẸ OSUN

Pot



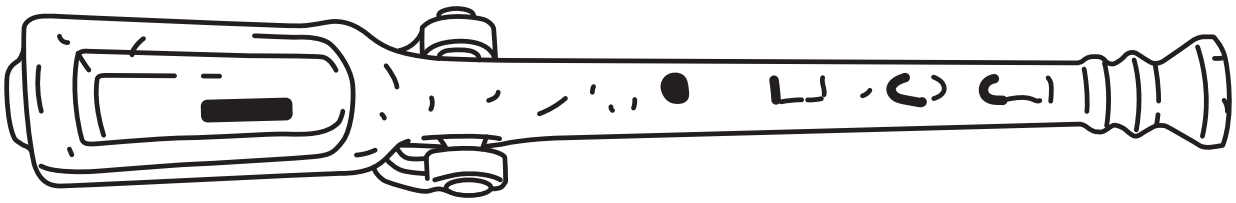
ASẸBẸRHIA

Altar Ring



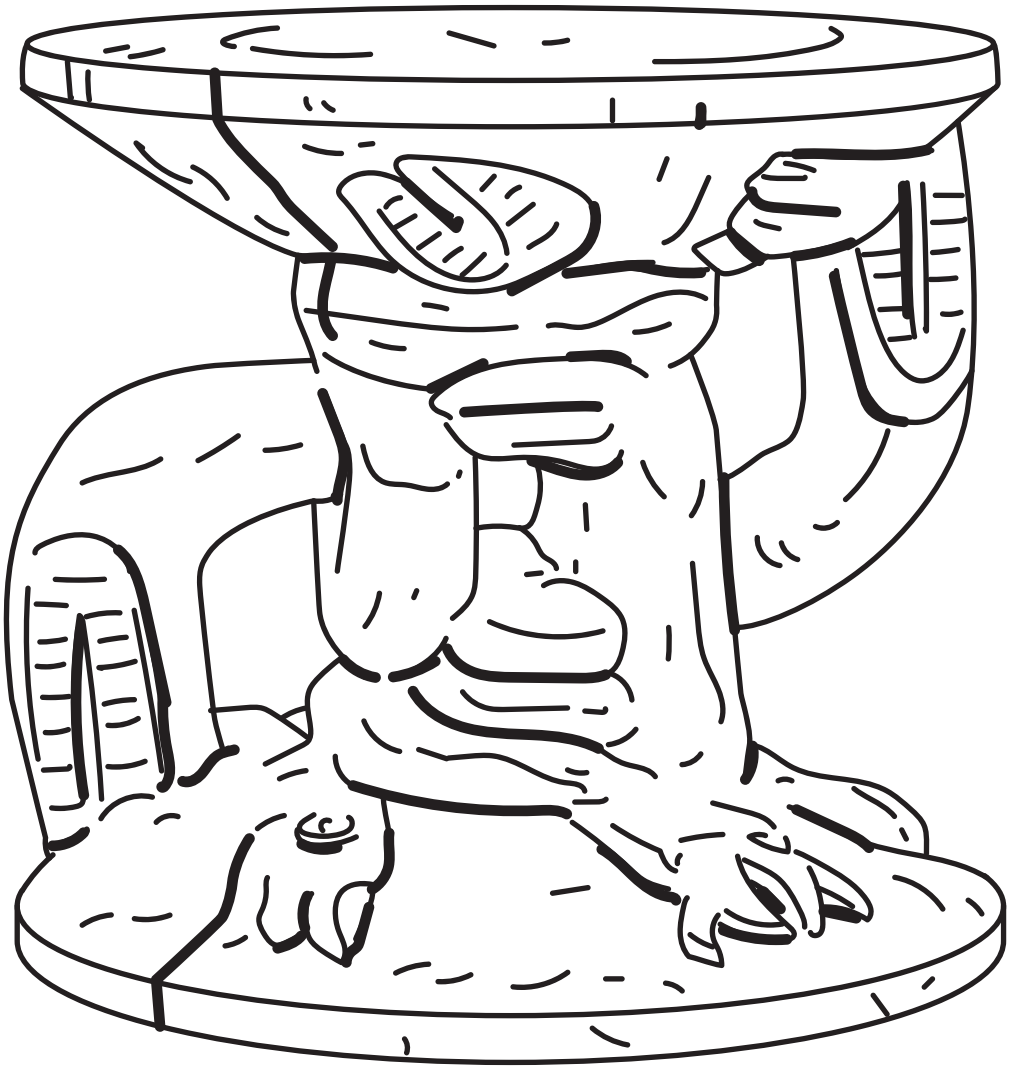
ISẸ

Game

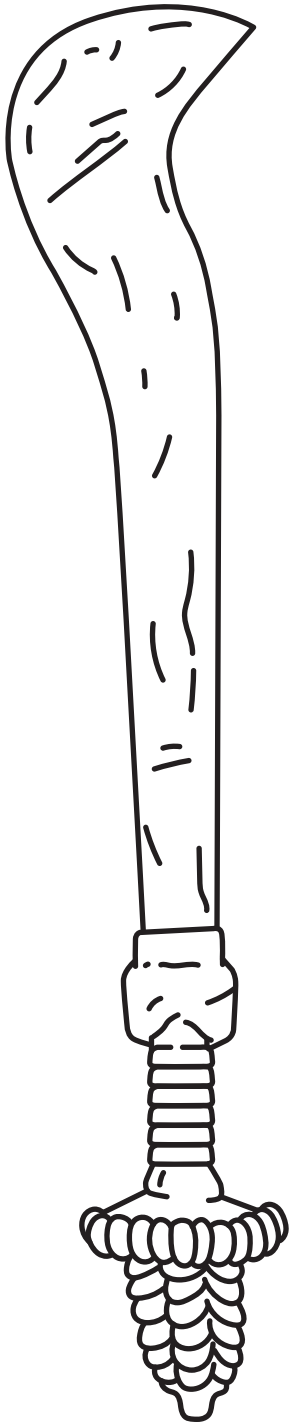


OSISI/ETU

Firearm



ẸRHẸ
Stool



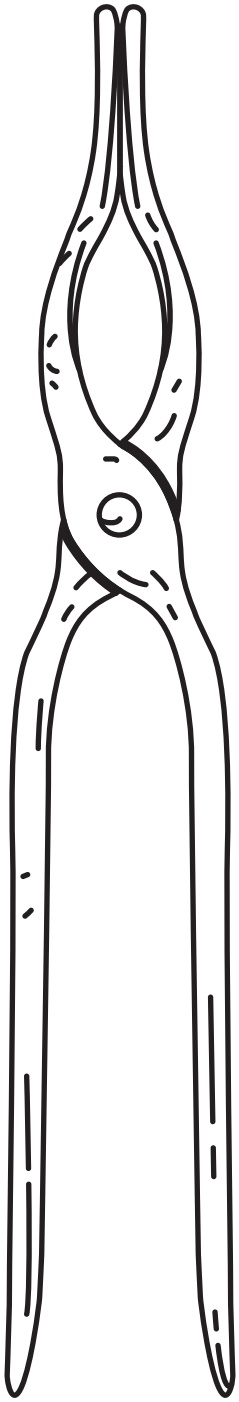
UMOZO/ỌHỌ

Executioners or Warfare Sword



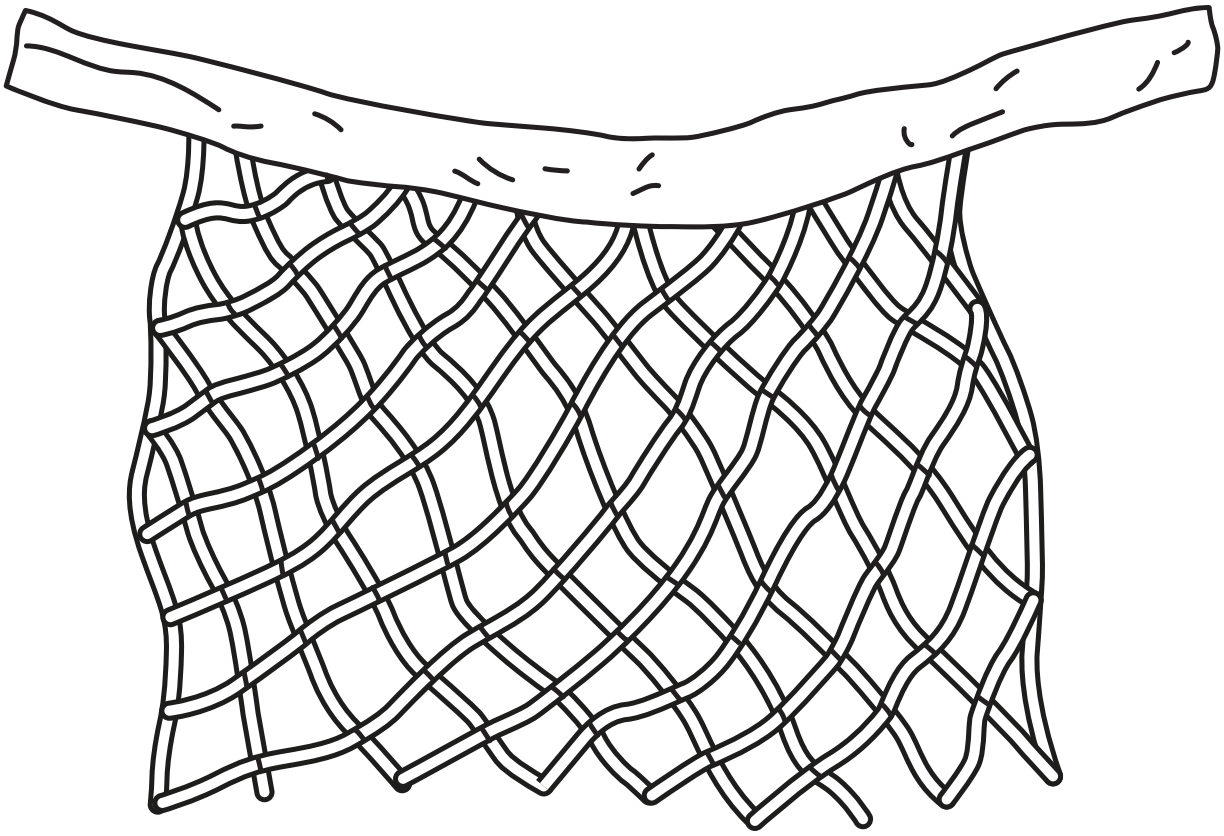
IKPOTOKI

Portuguese Figure



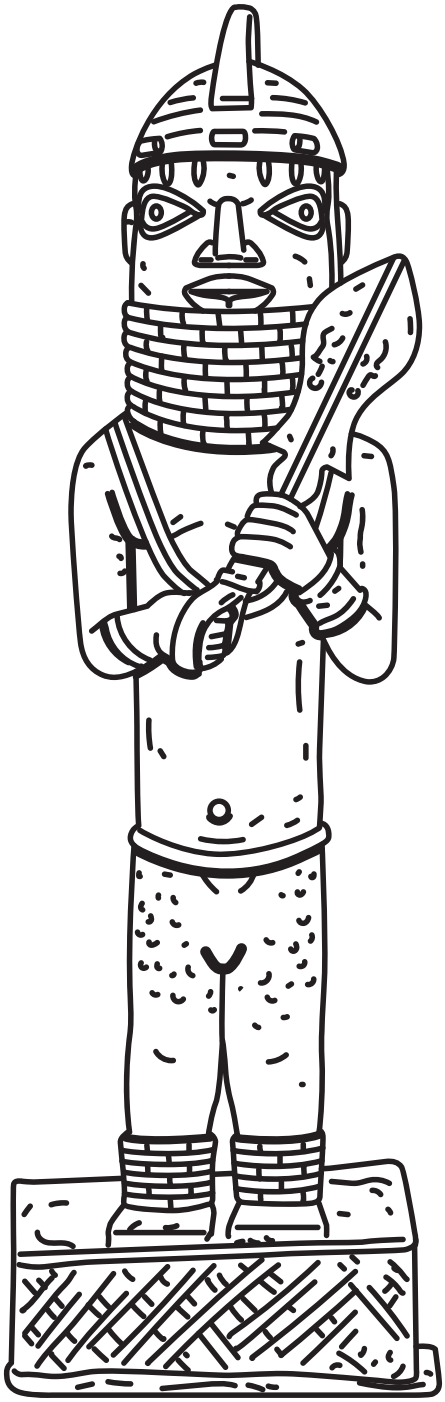
ANWA/AKPOKA

Tong



UGBĘKUN

Girdle



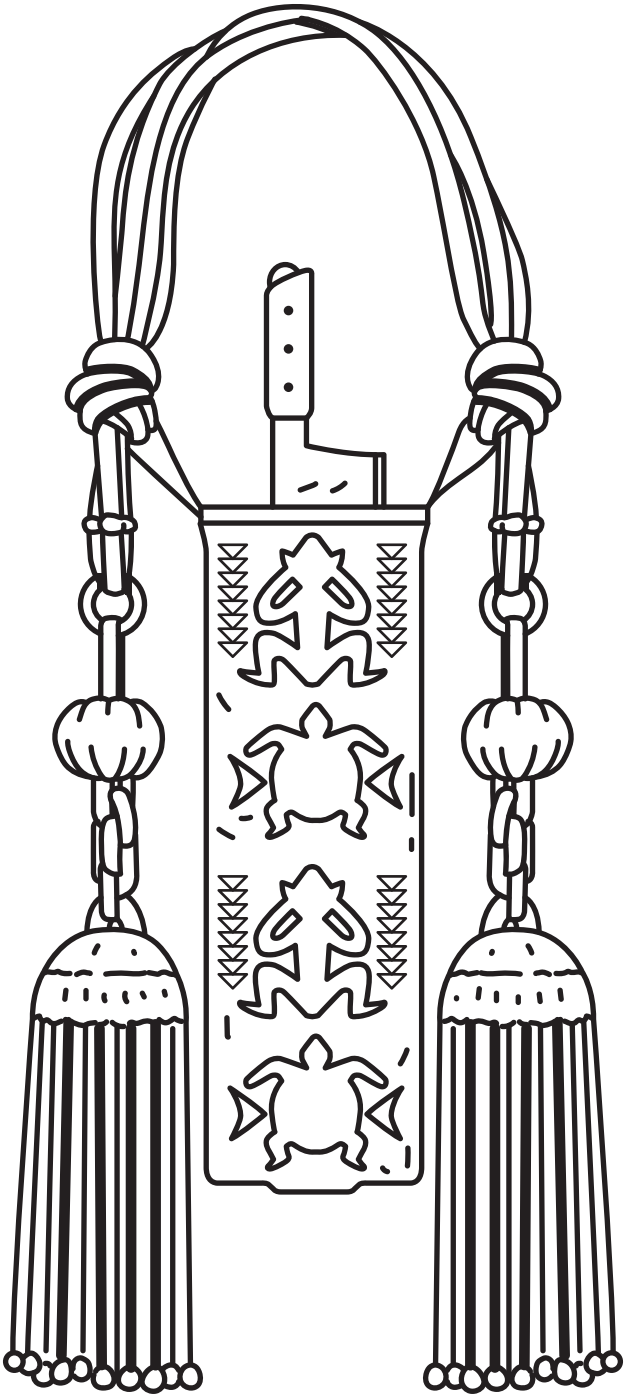
IBIERUGHA

Attendant Figure



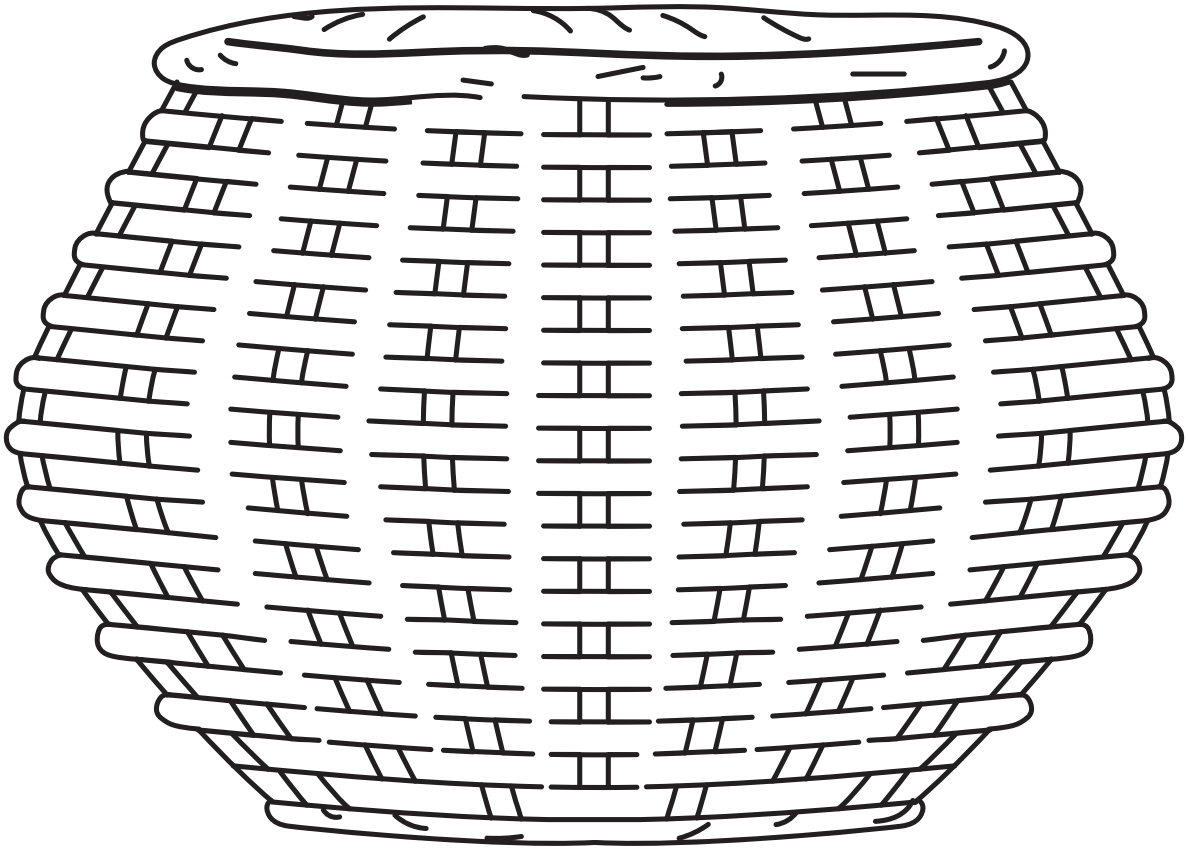
ĘKPO

Bag



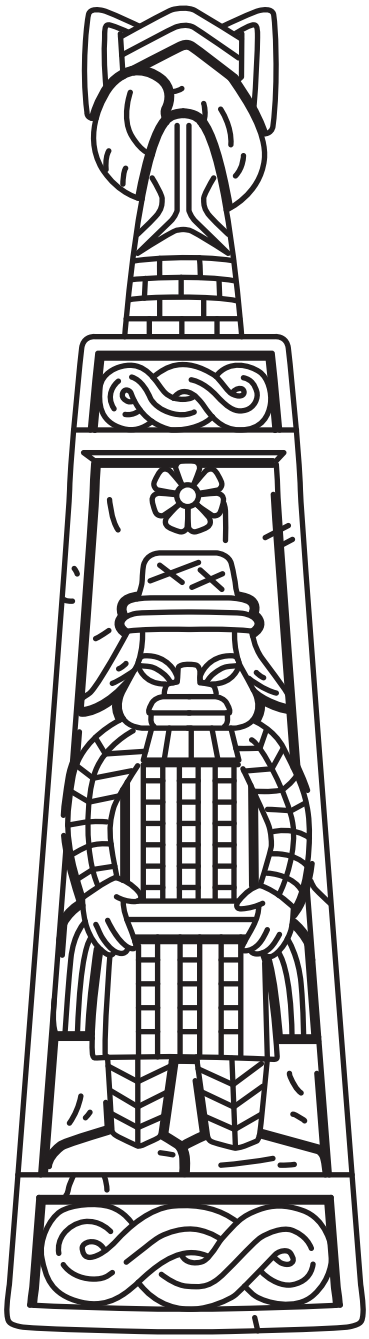
AKO-ỌPIA

Sheath



OKHUA'Ẹ

Basket



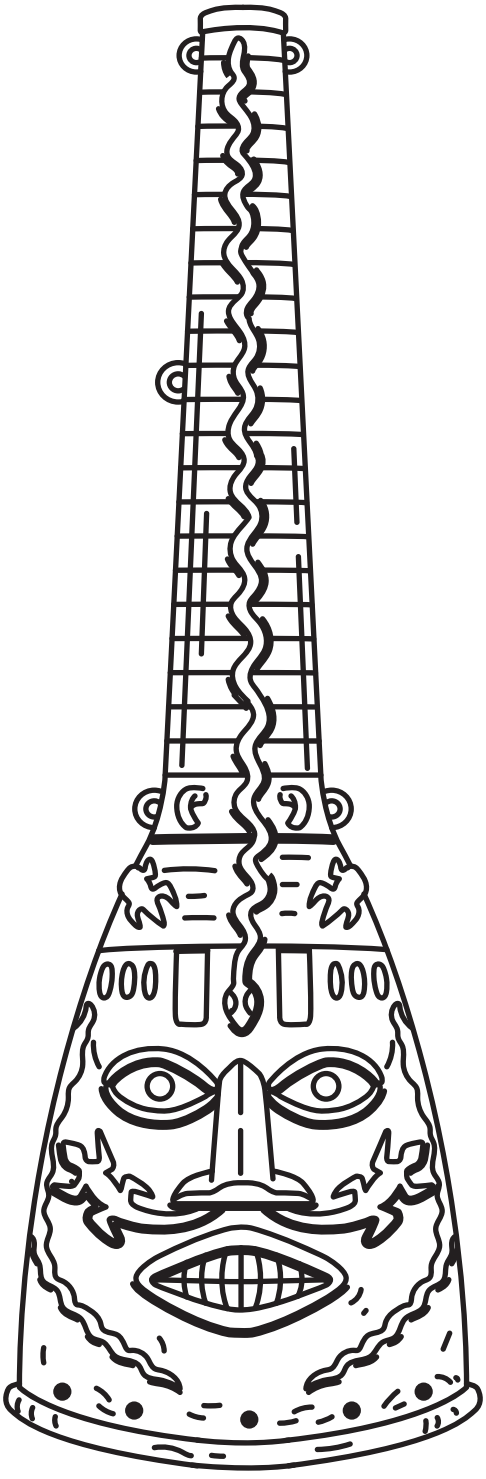
ASIGBE

Bolt



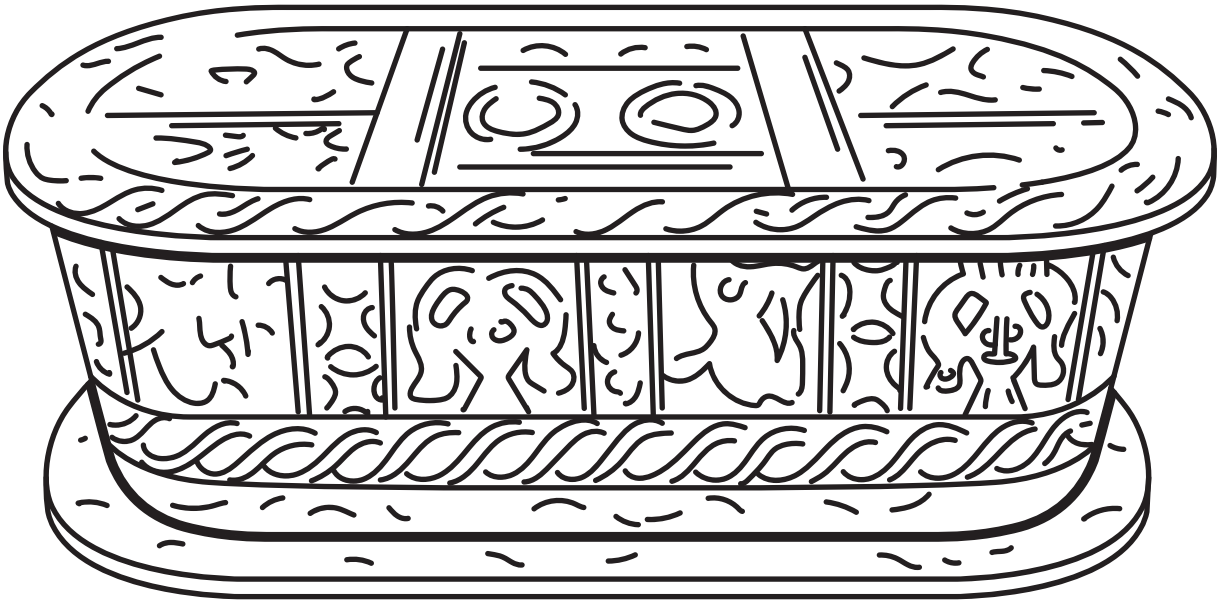
ỌBA

King Figure



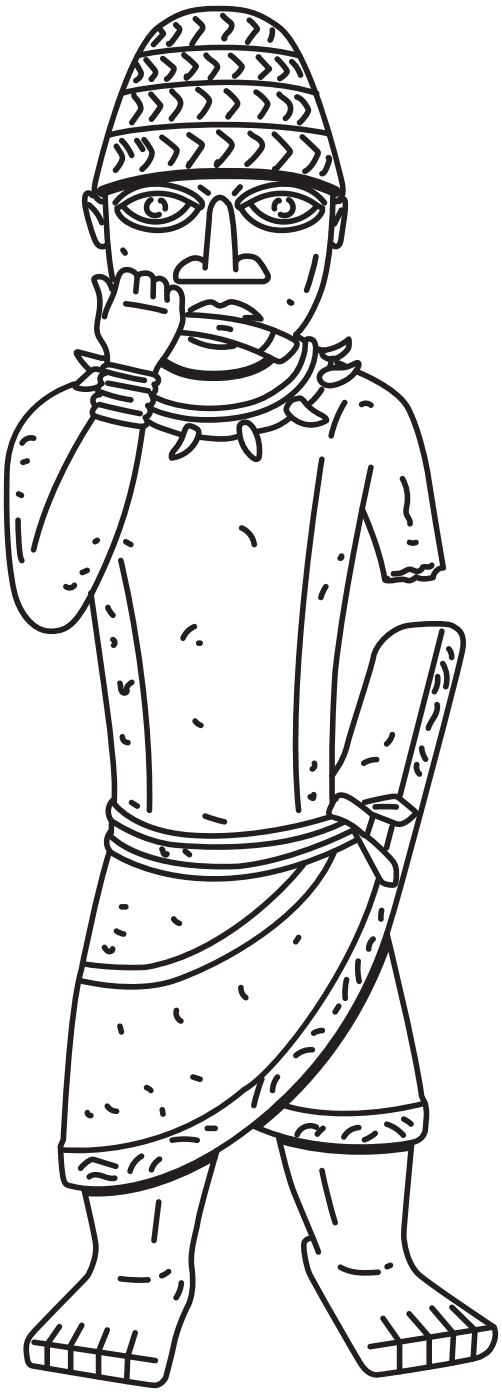
ARO ODODUA

Ododua Mask



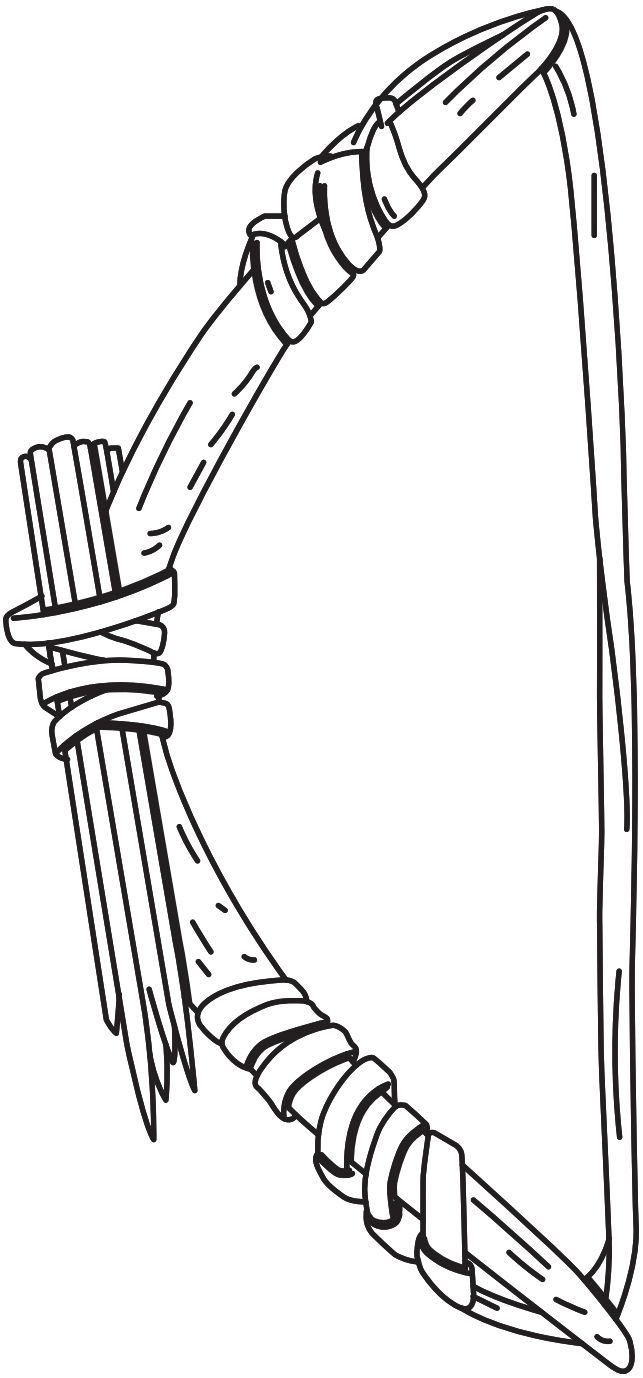
ĘKPOKI

Box



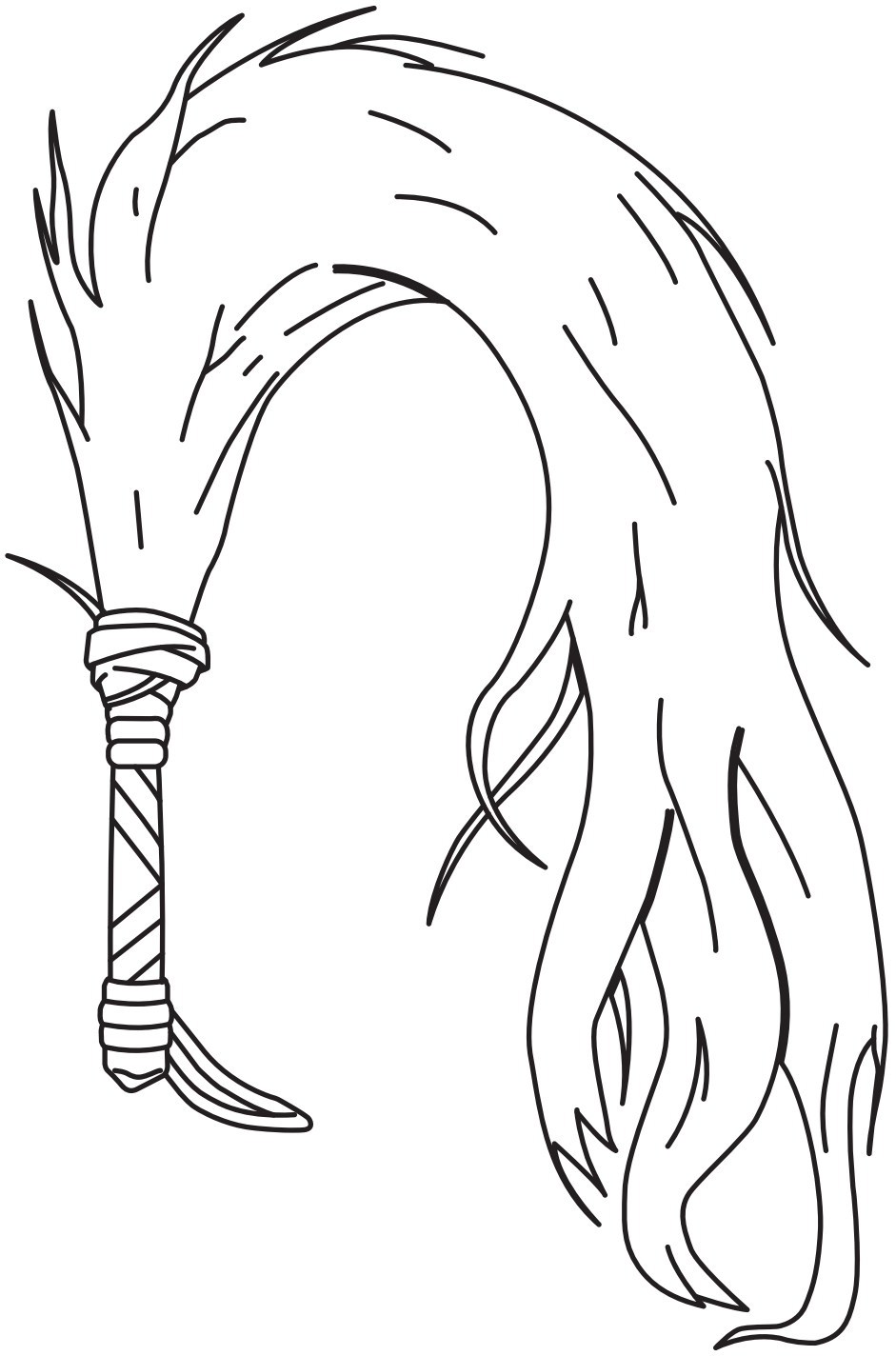
IKPAKOHEN

Hornblower or Fluteplayer Figure



UHANBỌ

Bow



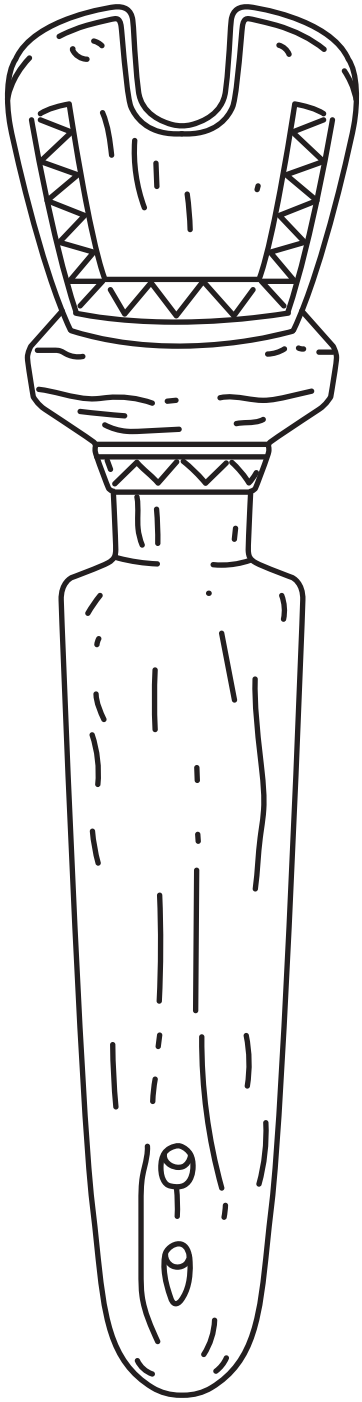
UGBUDIAN

Flywhisk



ONWỌ

Wax Model

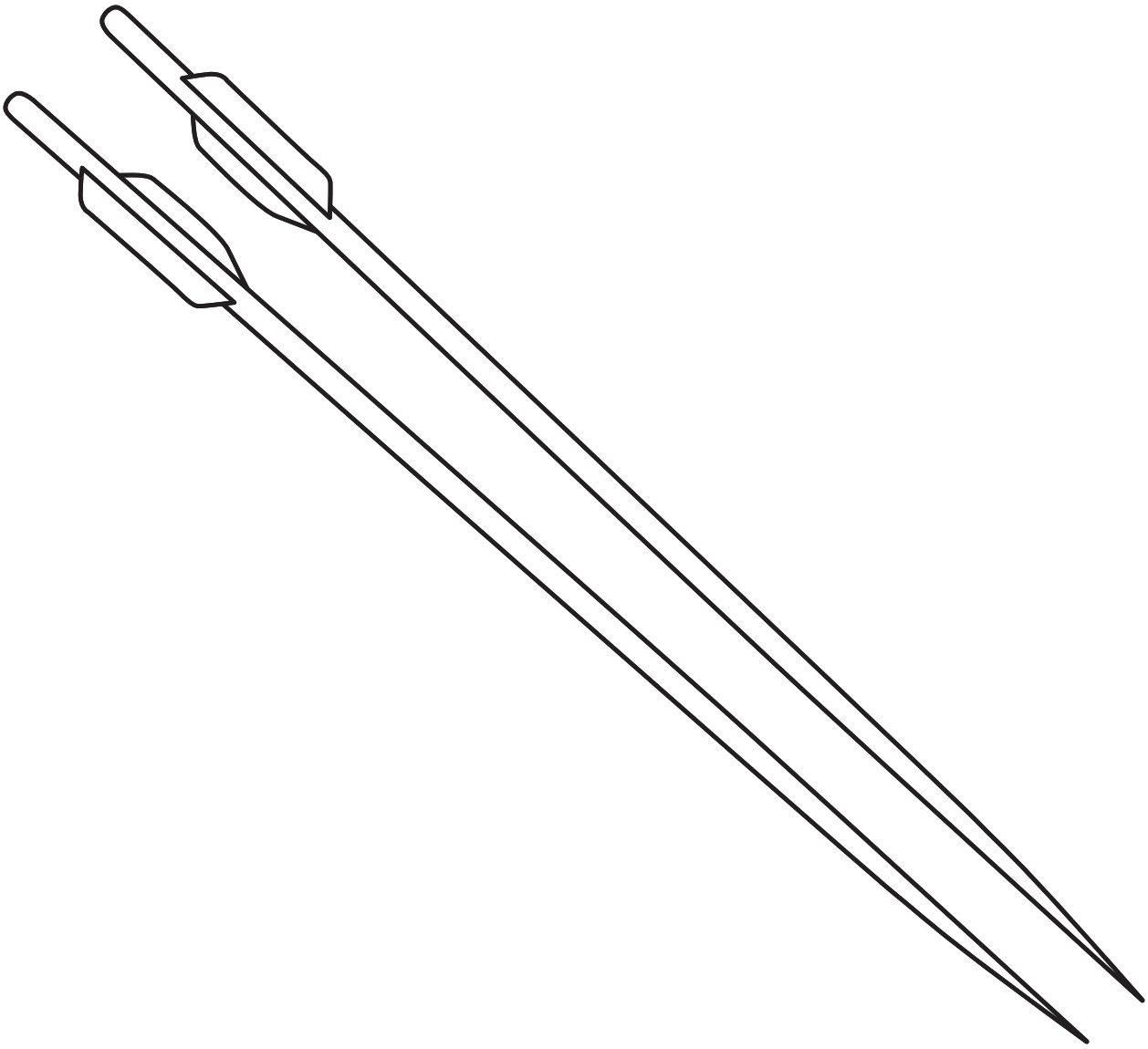


UFERE
Whistle



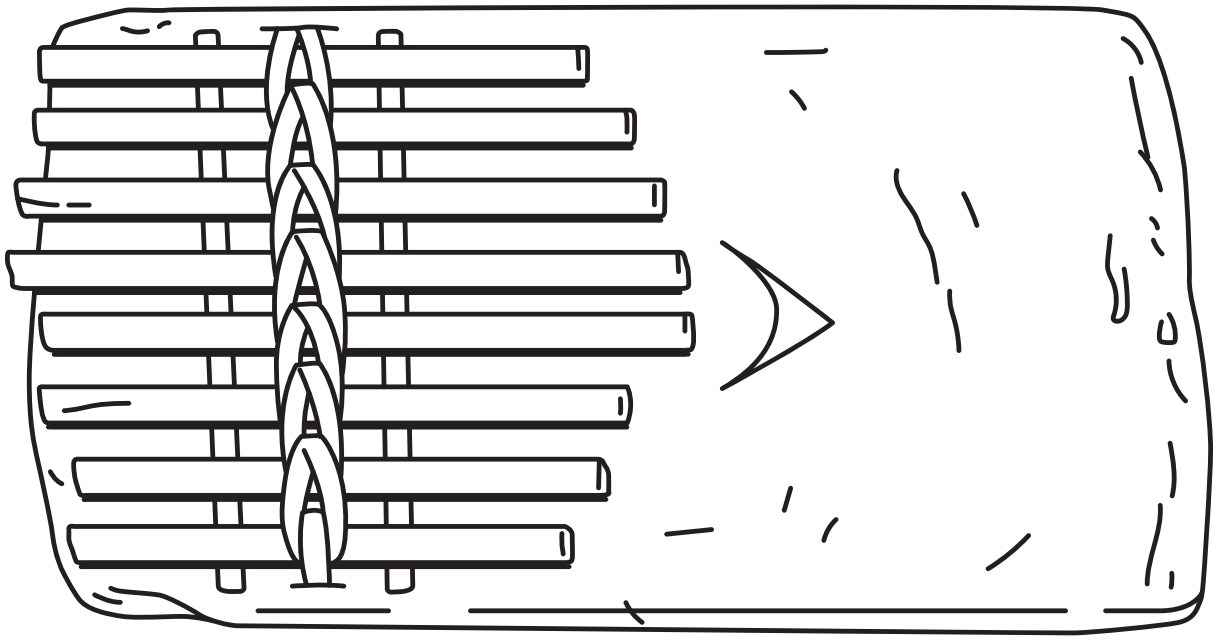
EMWIOKỌ

Plant Specimen



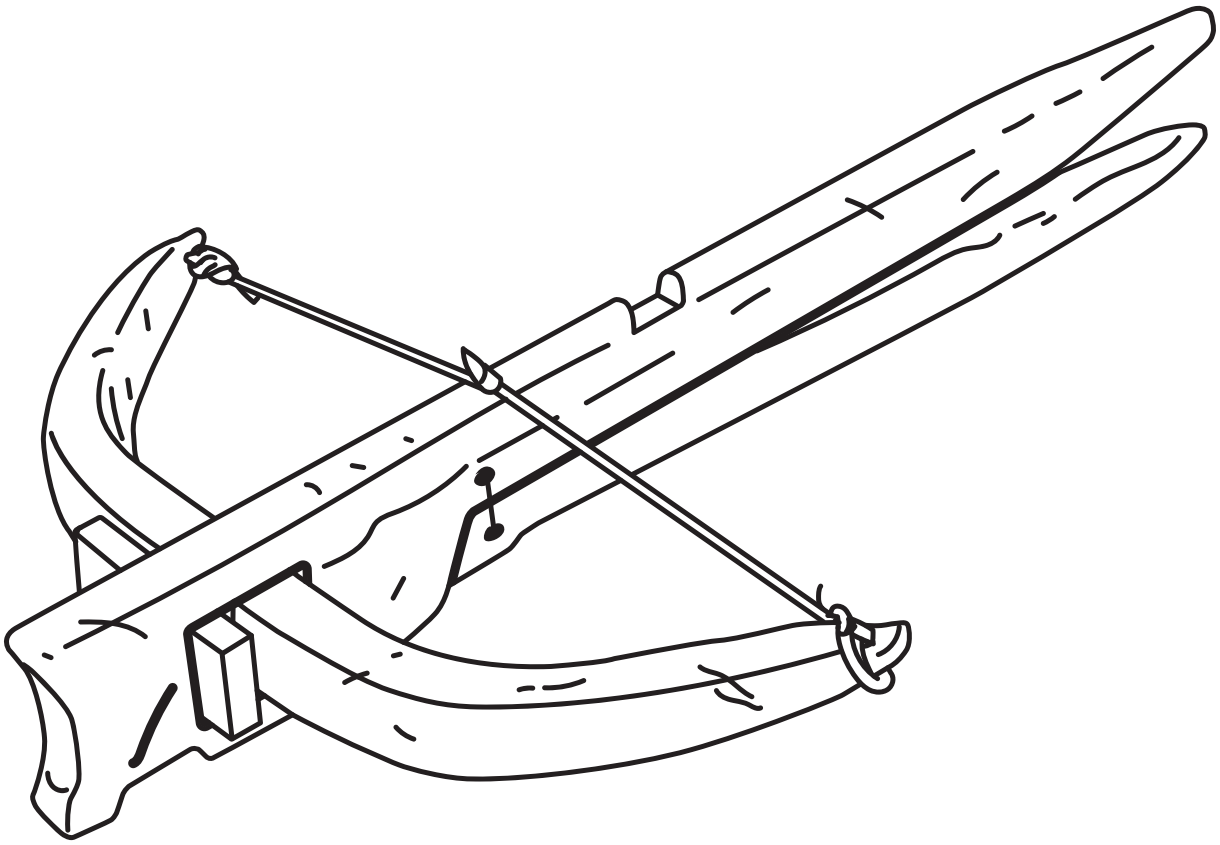
IFẸNMWẸ

Arrow



ASOLOGUN

Lamellophone

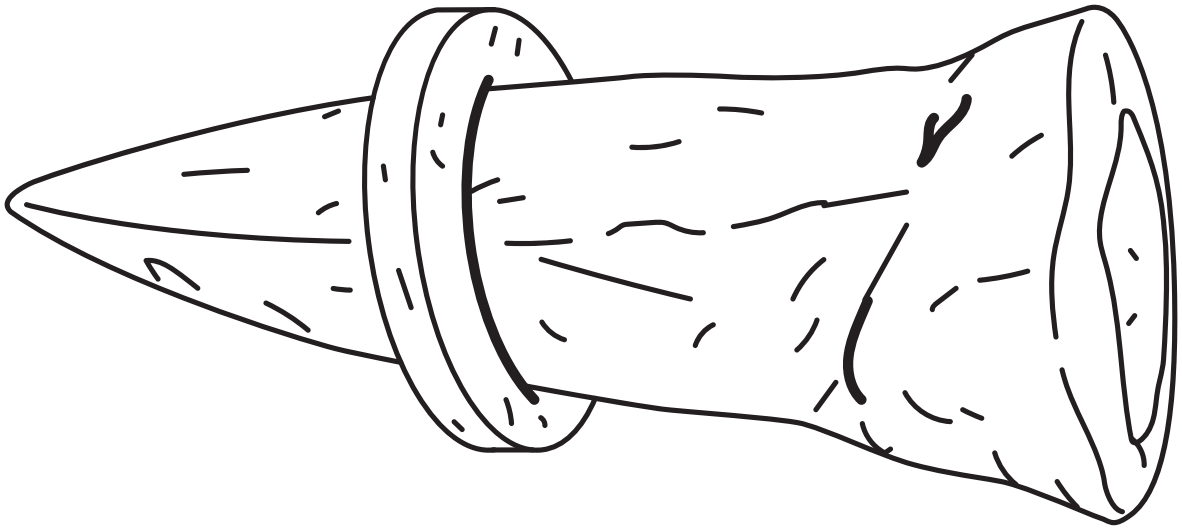


ẸKPẸDE
Crossbow



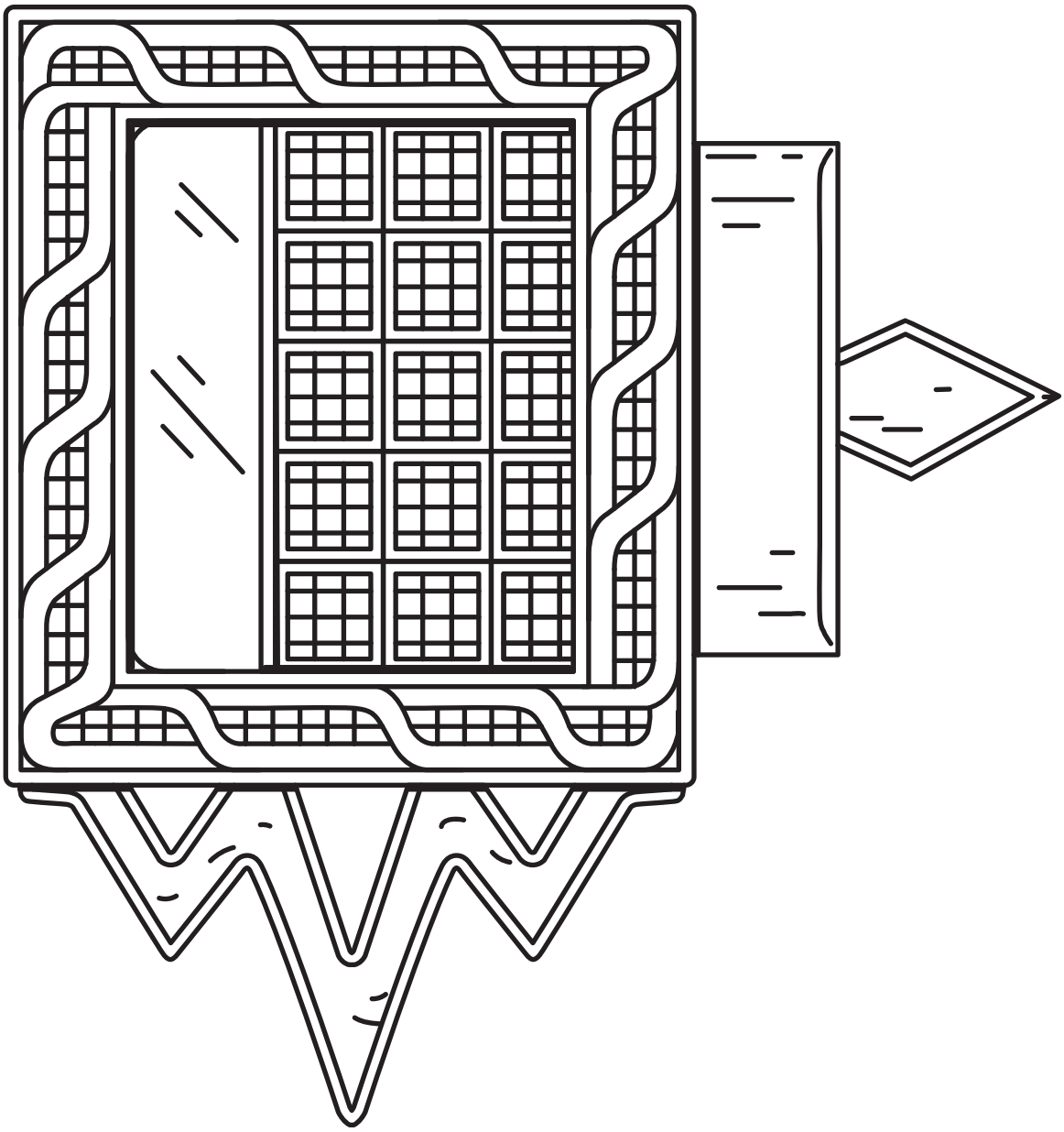
ẸRHU

Headwear



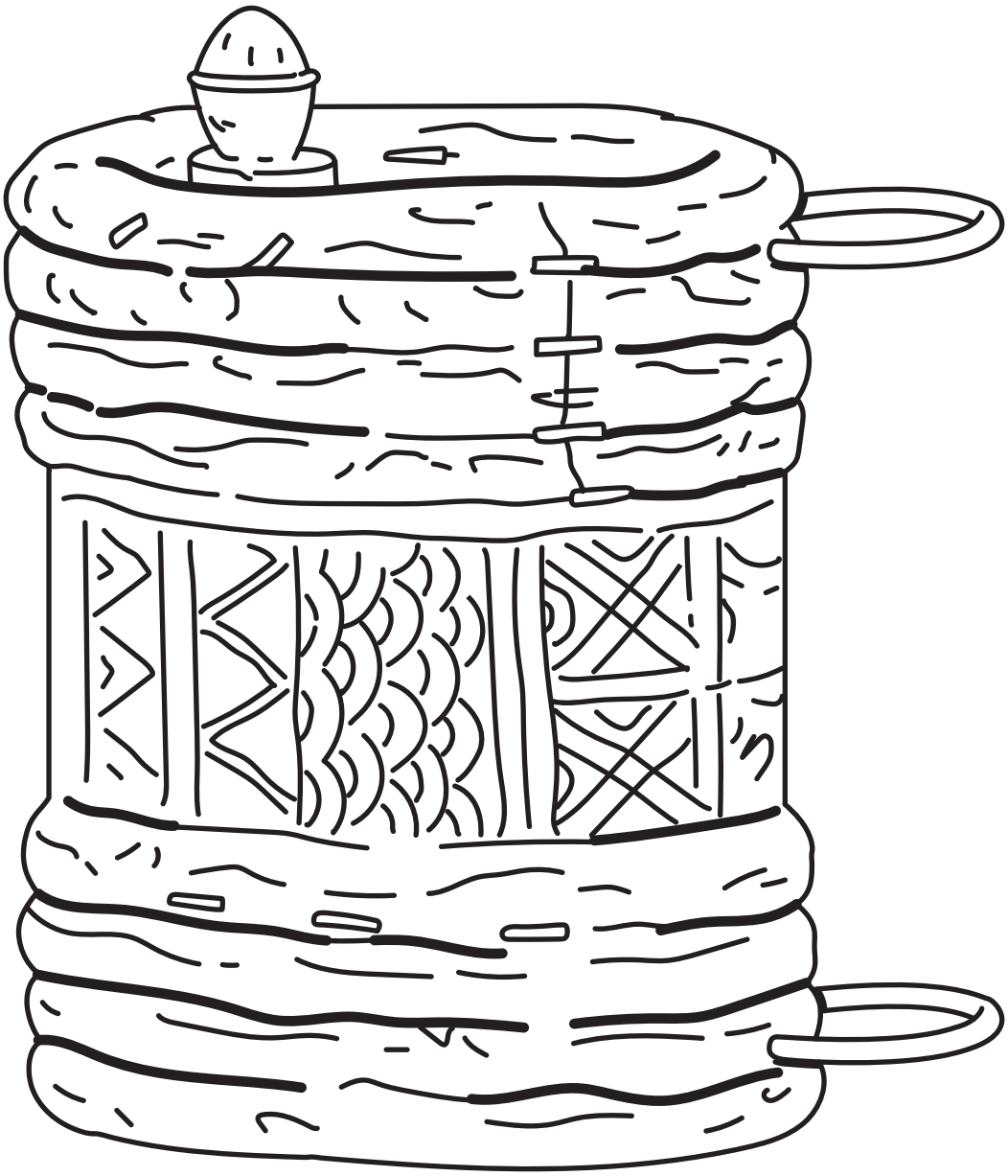
OVAZĘ

Anvil



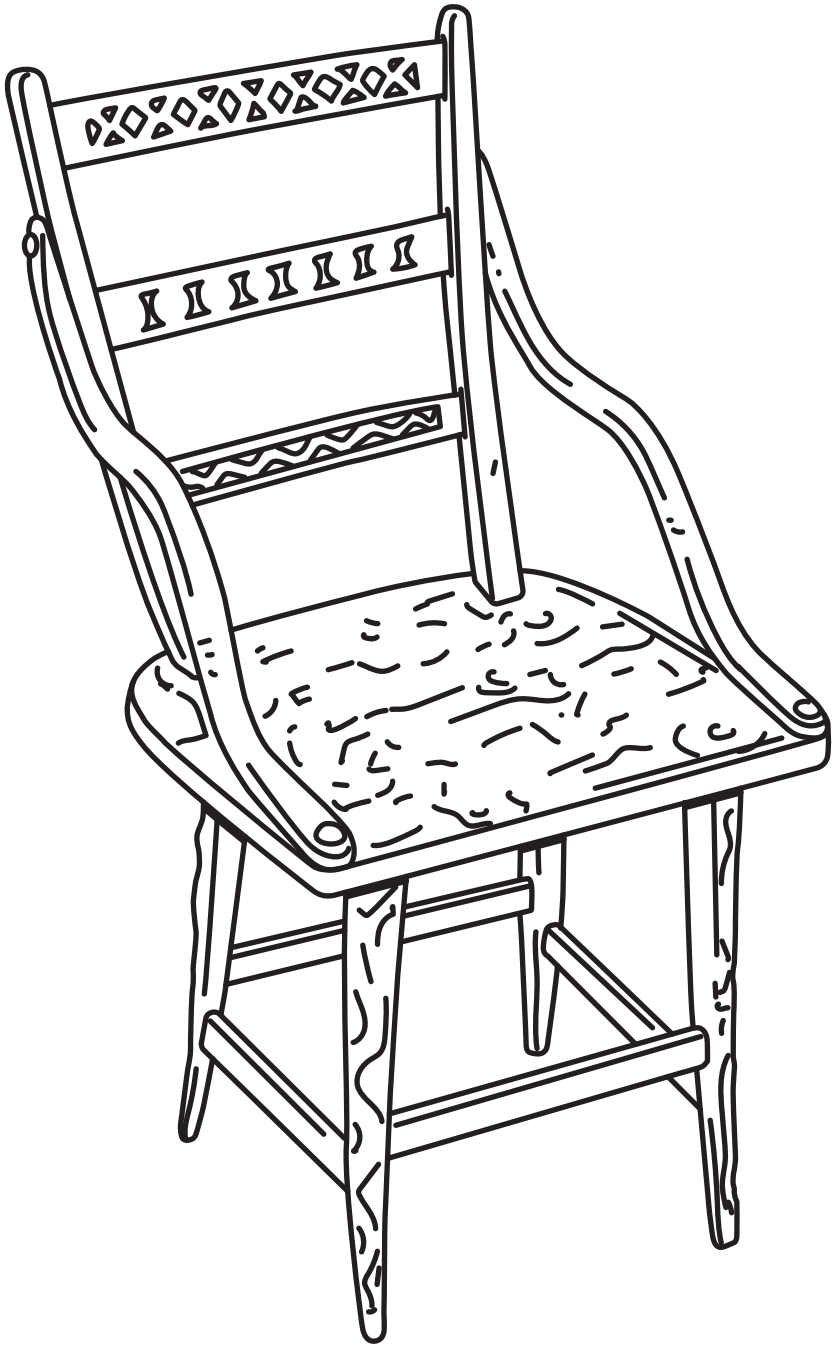
UGHEGBE

Mirror



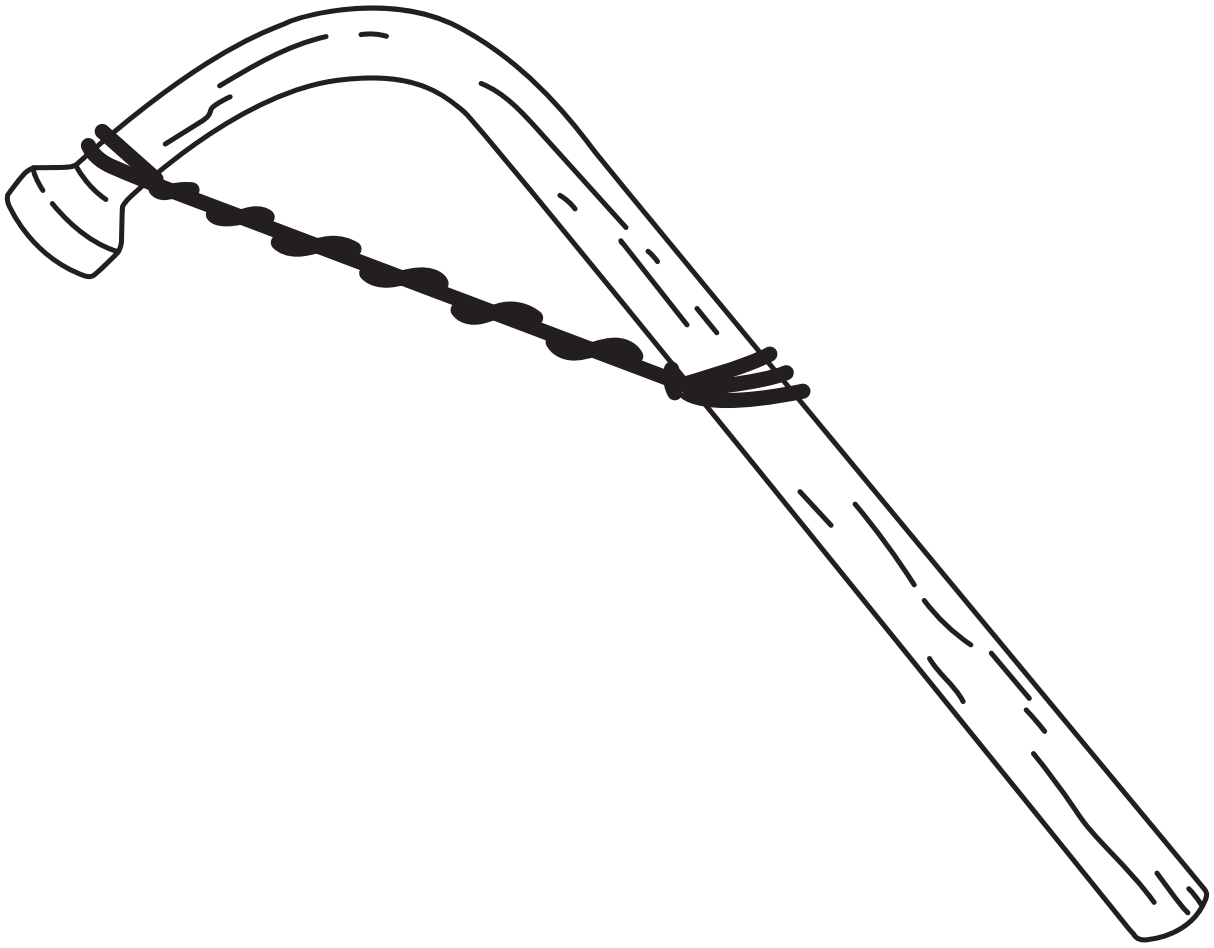
UKO ẸKHAẸ

Powder Keg



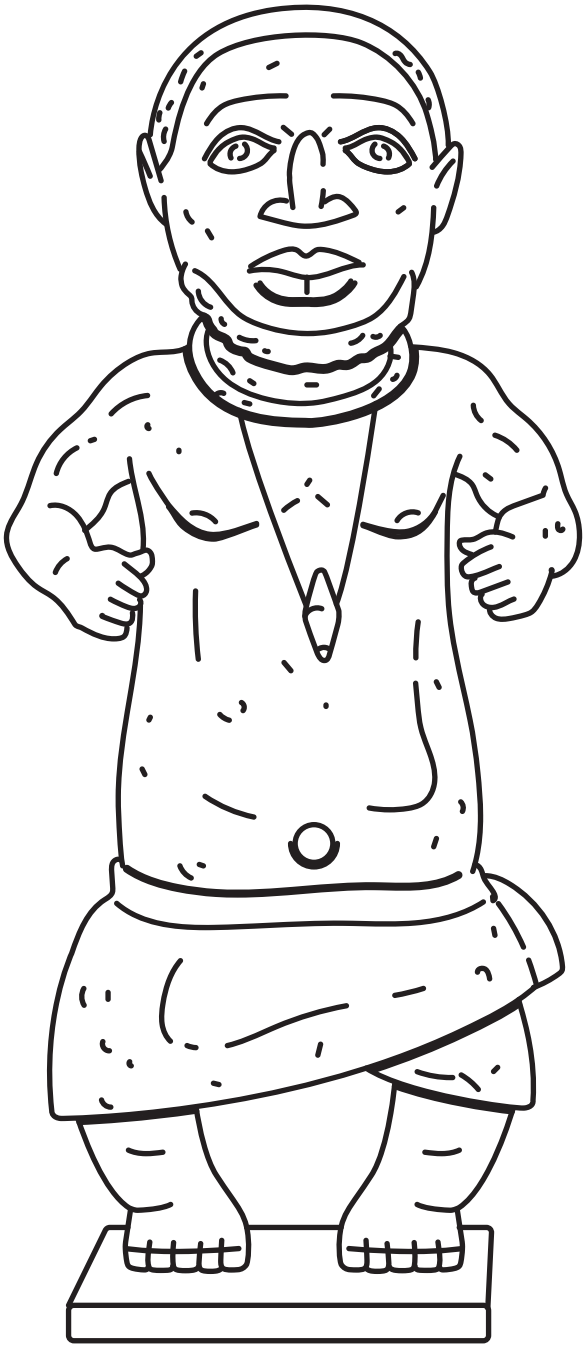
AGA

Chair



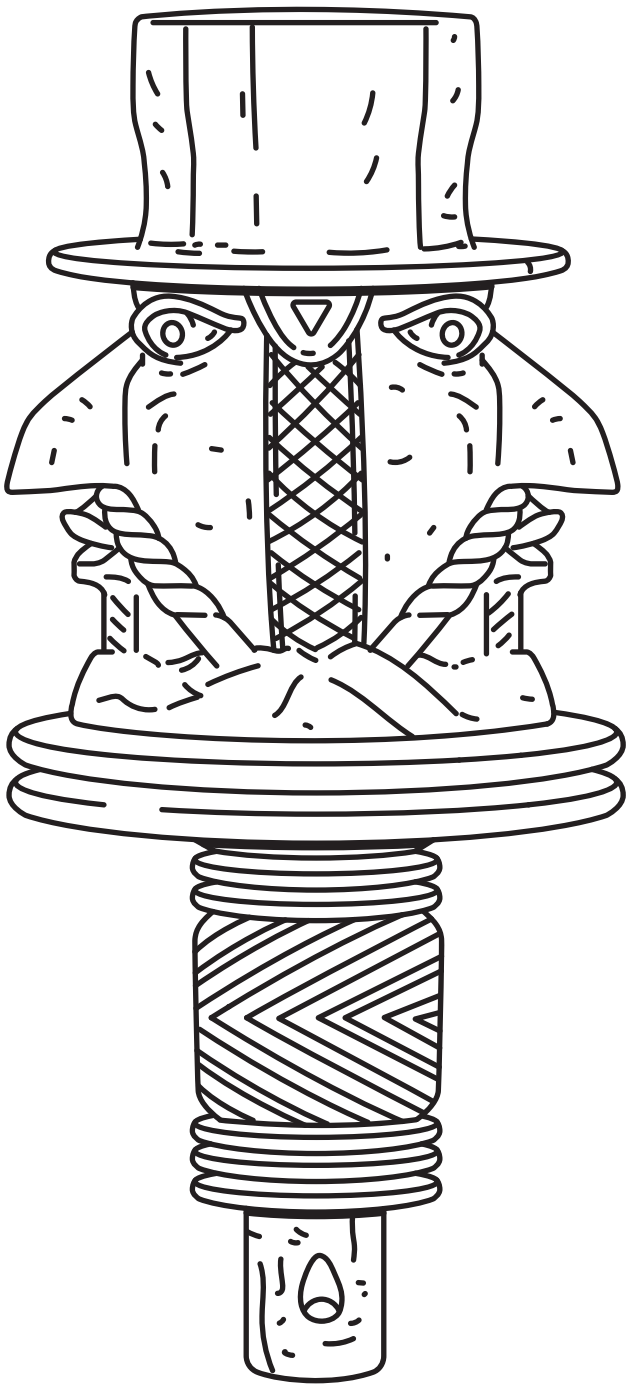
UKEKE

Striker

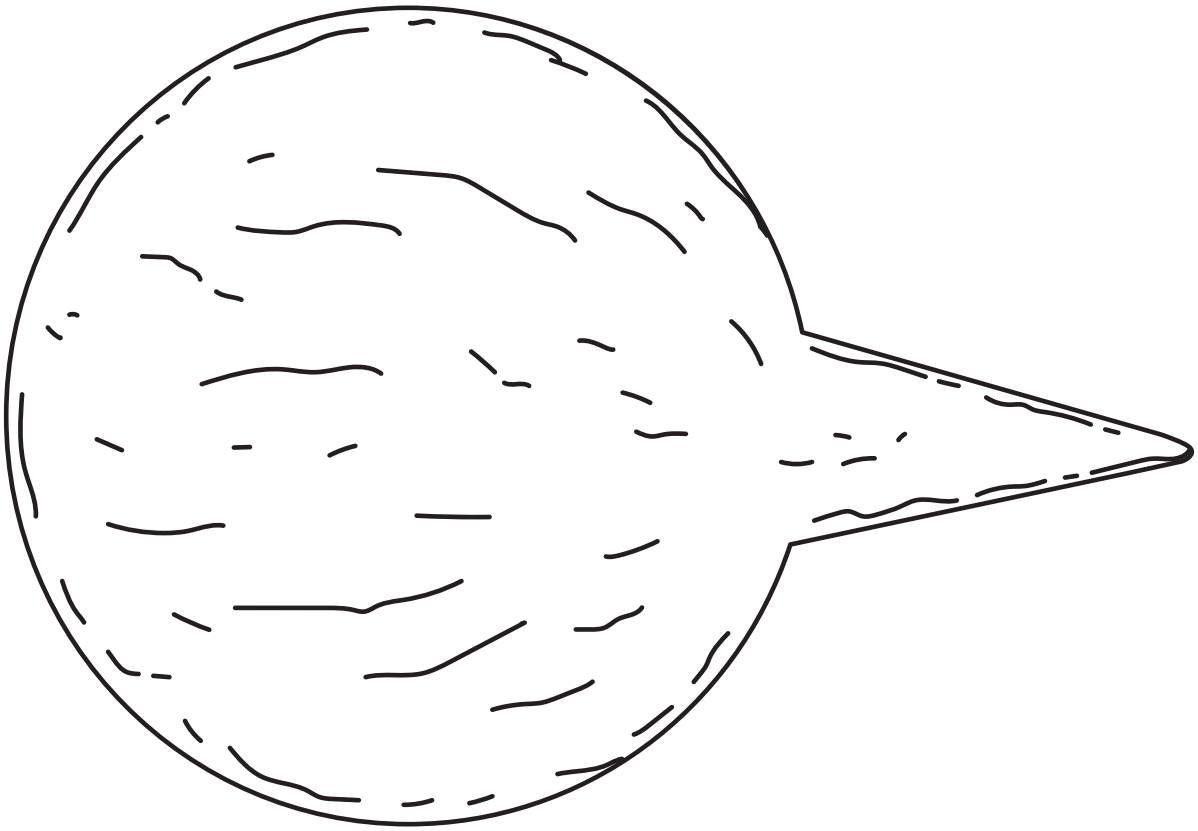


ESEIKU

Eseiku Figure

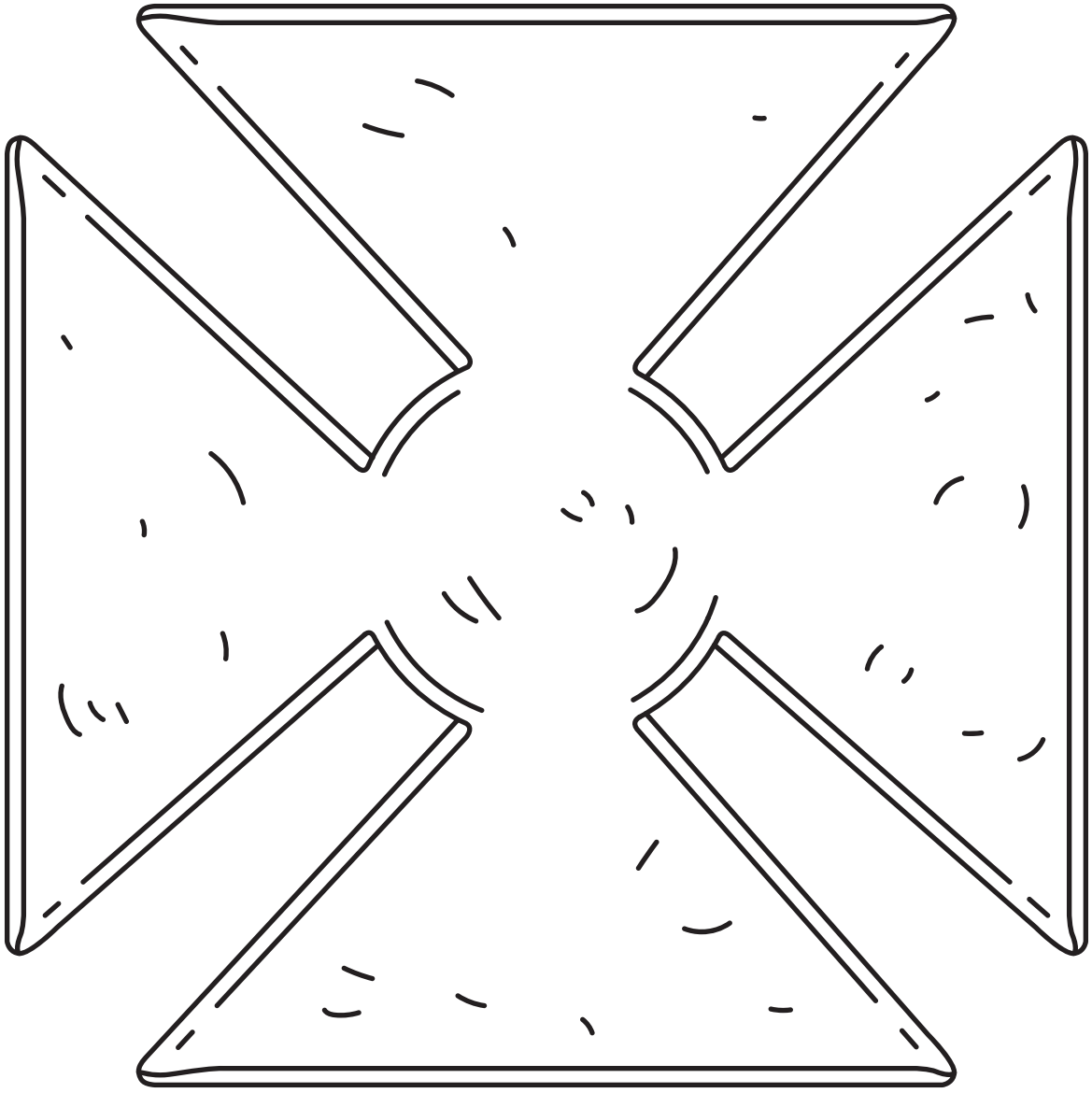


OKHIẸ
Stopper



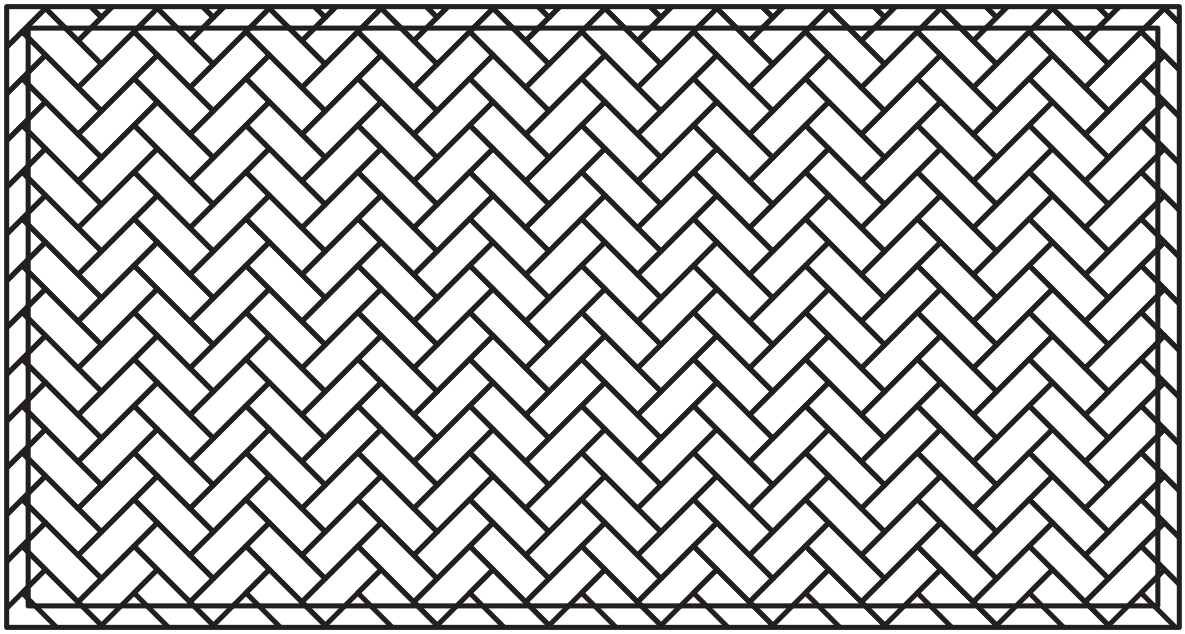
EGUẸ

Hoe Blade



UMAN-AGUE/UGBUGBE

Cross



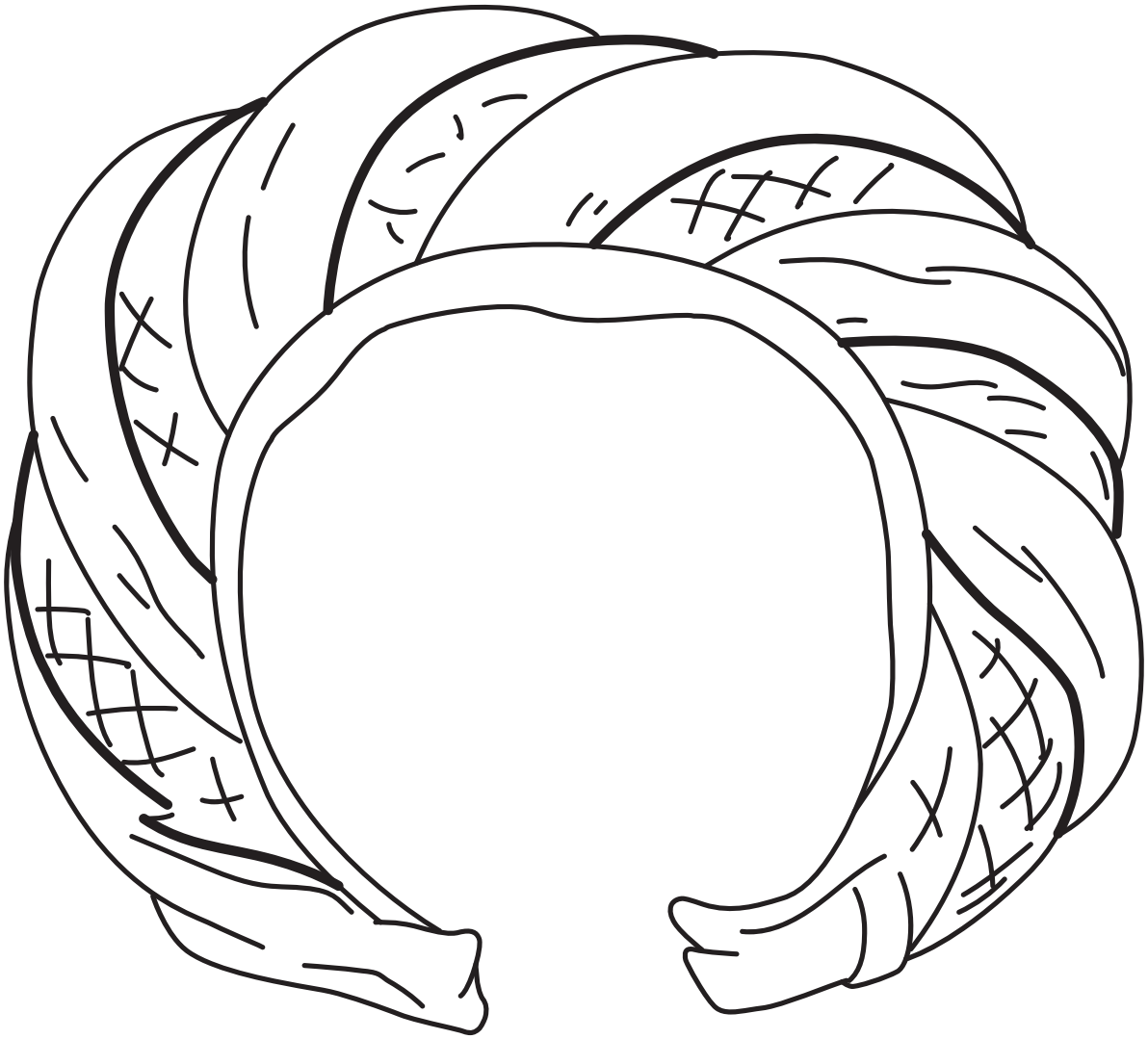
AGHẸN

Mat

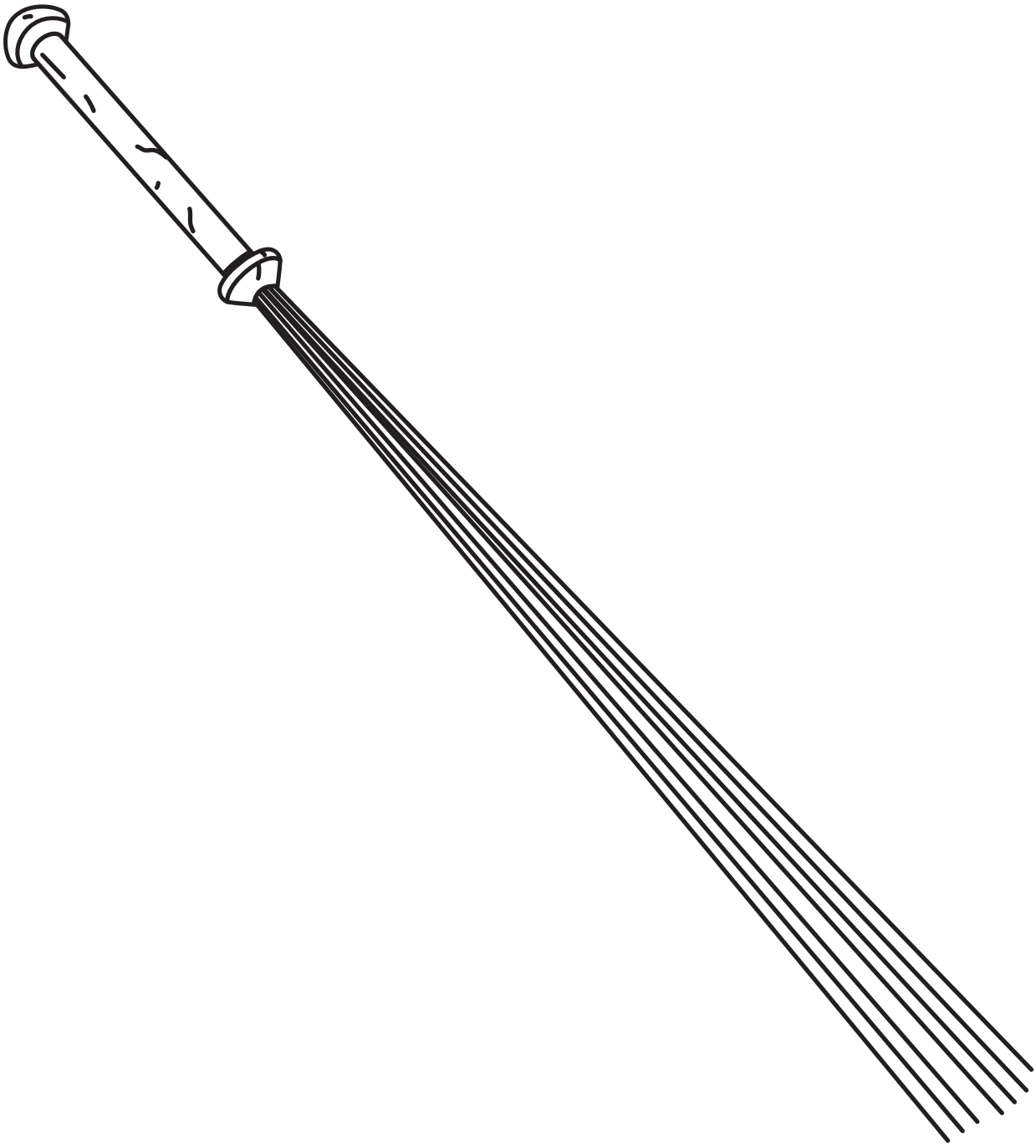


ẸKHU

Door

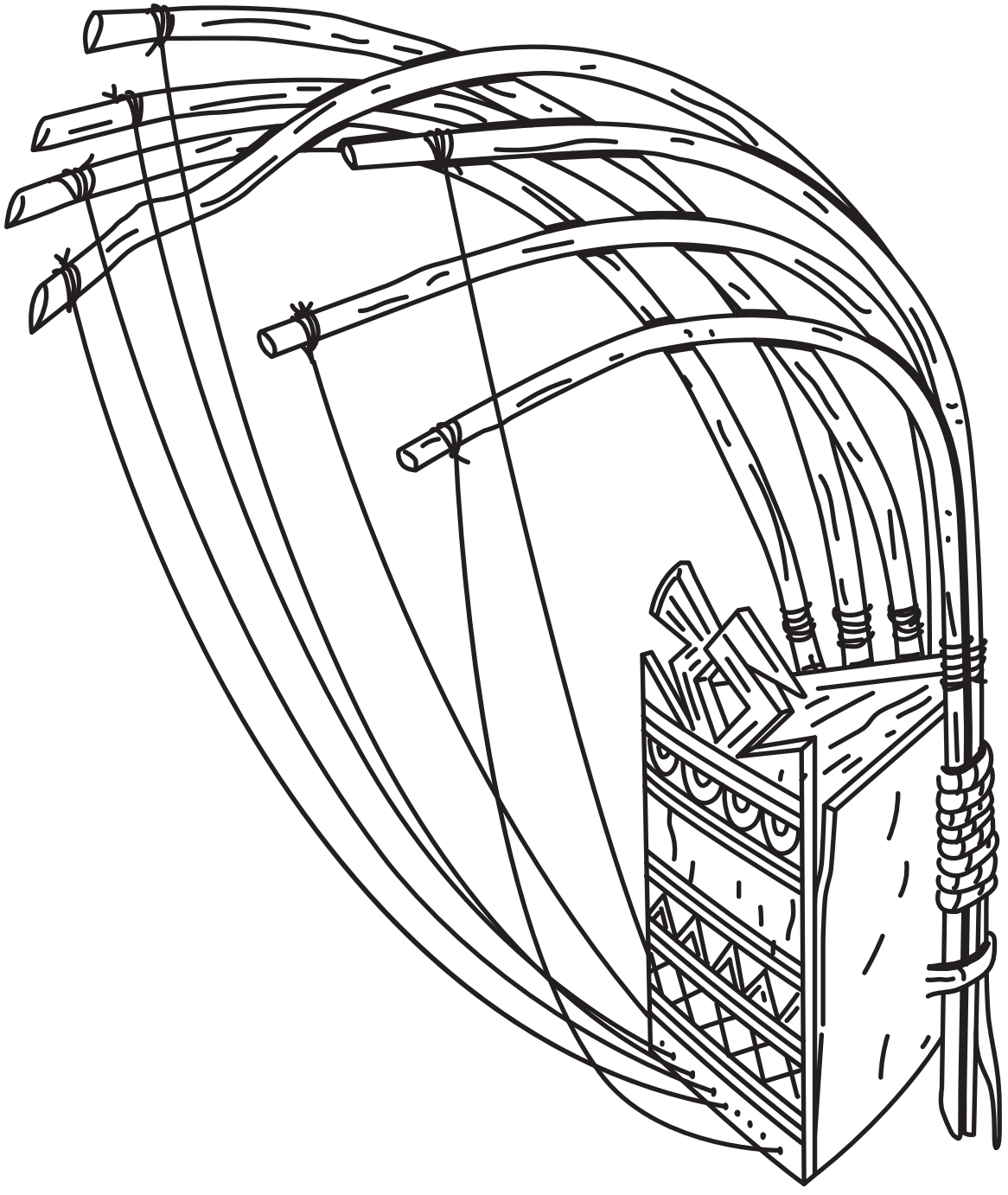


ẸGUẸN
Anklet



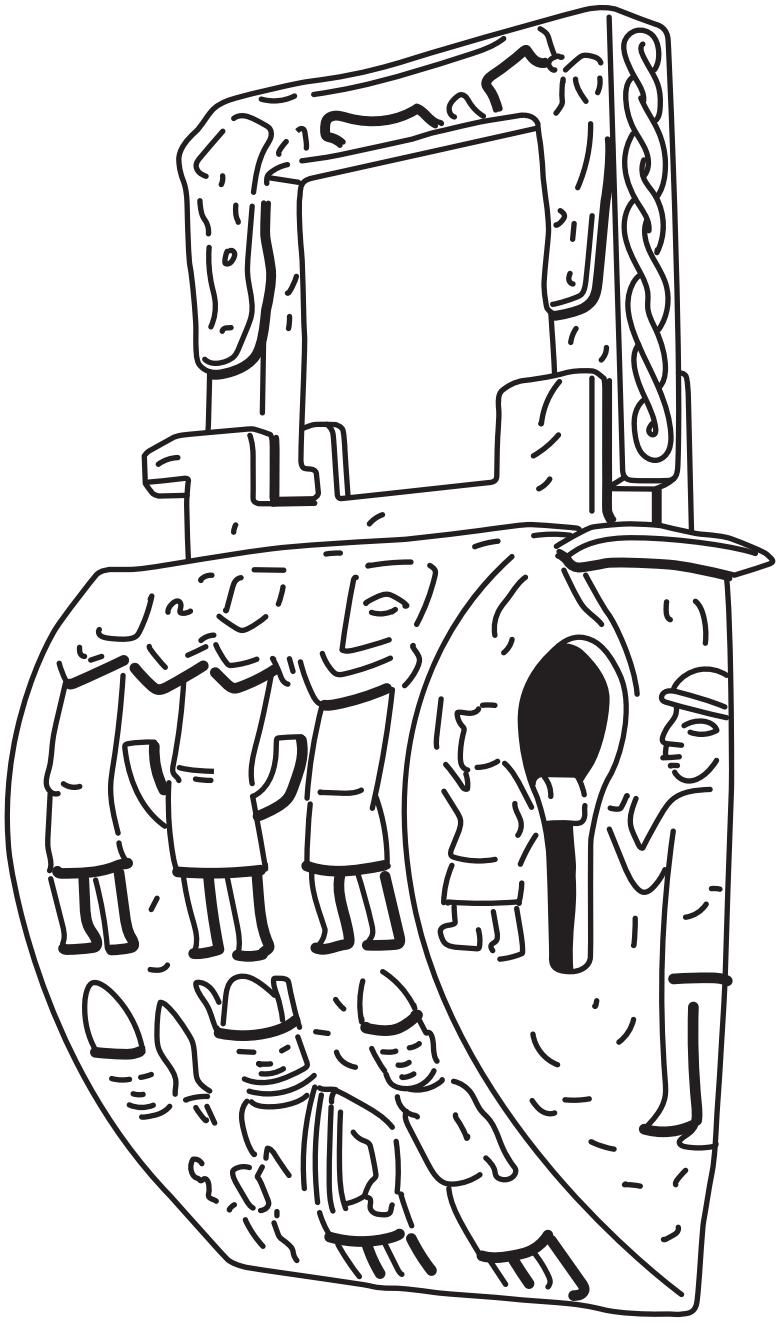
UNWẸNRHIẸN/UNWẸNRHIẸNỌTAN

Whip



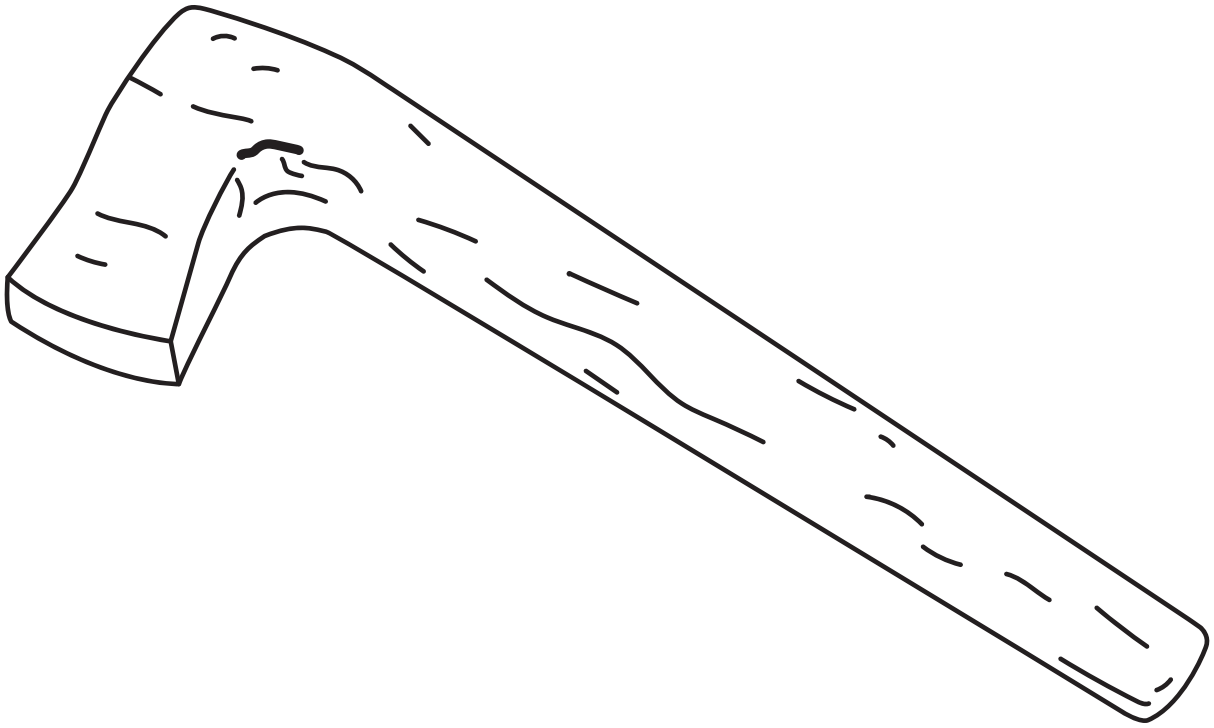
AKPATA

Bow-lute



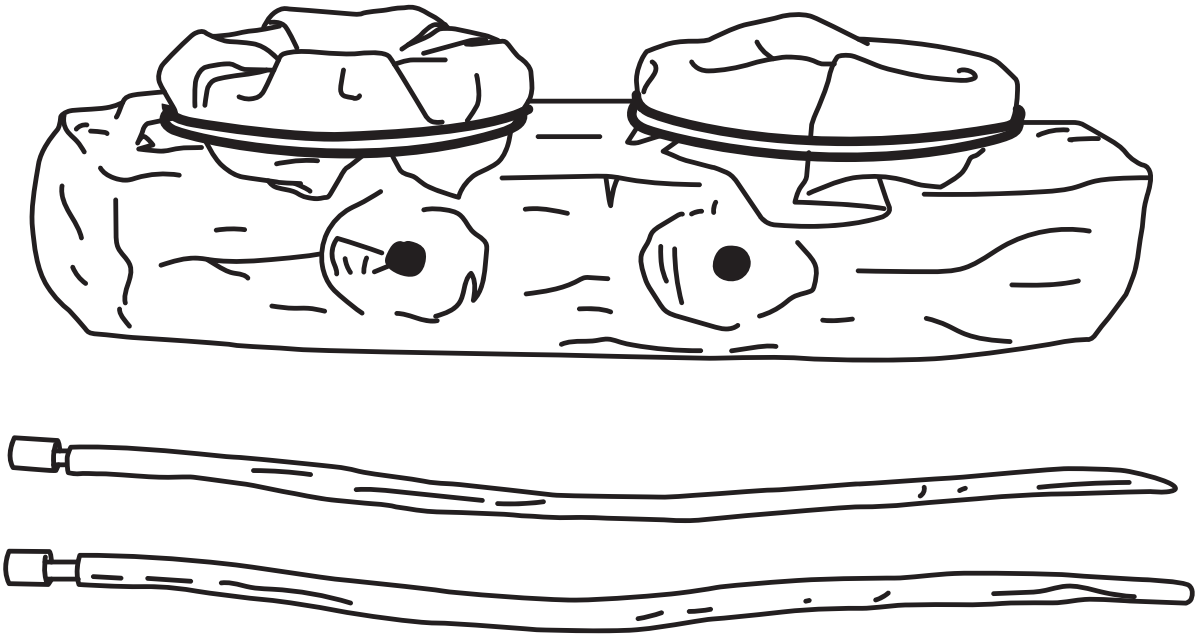
EKỌRỌKỌRỌ

Padlock



UMỌMỌ

Hammer



EKUẸ

Bellows



AFIAN
Chisel