

A **ENT**

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY—ETHNOLOGY

22-5

278009

Field No.

9

**Provenience:** West Africa, Guinea-Bissau, Soga Island,  
Ebe Village

**People or Culture:** Bidjagó

**Object:** FEMALE FIGURE (IRA)

**Material:** Wood, trade cloths, brass nails, cotton,  
raffia, gourd, eggshell, various unknown materials\*

**Description:** Rare female figure (Irā) used on altar in  
women's shrine. Body hollowed out in front with wood  
crossbar near top from which small, broken gourd is  
suspended by cord. Figure cloaked in plaid trade cloth;  
base of figure wrapped in beige cloth with faded orange  
stripes. Plant fiber cord tied round middle of figure.  
Head on elongated neck with carved coil necklaces nailed  
in back of body. Head has brass nail eyes, (over)

Neg. No.

**Dimensions:** H: 63.5 W: 21.0 D: 19.2  
(in cm.)

Acc.

3330

**Collection:** Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Strotz, 12/15/76.  
Collector, Michael J. Strotz, 1972-1976.

carved braided hair and raffia necklace.

Loose magical substances in body\*.

(Collected by Michael Strotz, donor's  
son, September 1973.) (See Cat. ref.  
and Coll. notes)

CAT. #278009.