

Montagut Gallery

BRAFA 2025

Stand 103

Two Thematic Exhibitions

This year's exhibitions offer a rare opportunity to explore two contrasting yet equally fascinating aspects of African art: the commanding presence of **Ngon masks** and the refined elegance of **Baule gold ornaments**. Together, they reflect the diversity and richness of Africa's cultural heritage.

1. Five Exceptional Ngon Masks from Cameroon

This year, we present an extraordinary selection of five Ngon masks, each representing the rich cultural heritage of Cameroon. These masks stand out not only for their aesthetic composition but also for their historical value. It is rare to gather Ngon masks of such quality and significance, making this exhibition a truly exceptional and unique event.

Ngon masks, often carved with remarkable detail, are emblematic of the cultural and spiritual practices of the Grassfields region. Traditionally used in ceremonies, these masks symbolize power, protection, and identity within their communities.



Fig.1. Ngon mask. Didier Claes. © Fotos Gasull

2. Gold Ornaments of the Baule Culture

In a complementary thematic exhibition, we present a carefully curated selection of gold ornaments from the Baule culture of Côte d'Ivoire. Each piece reflects the Baule people's artistic mastery and cultural significance, showcasing their exceptional craftsmanship in goldsmithing and their deep connection to tradition.

All the ornaments in this collection come from a single Italian collection, making their provenance as remarkable as their craftsmanship. These works highlight the symbolic use of gold in Baule rituals and adornments, celebrating themes such as beauty, prestige, and spiritual power.



Fig.2. Baule pendant. Scanzi collection. © Artwork photo