



## Whistle

**Date**

1775-1825

**Medium**

Gourd, shell

**Description**

Maori Nguru (nose flute) made from the neck of a gourd and intricately carved. Open at each end with three finger holes bordered with haliotis shell rings. Played using one nostril and known for its haunting sound. Possibly late 18th century, it is a very early example of its type. Contemporary Response to the nguru by Che Wilson, Maori Martial Arts Expert, ex-Southwark Council employee, now working in New Zealand: I have a sweet voice Able to enchant, able to mystify Able to woo a perfect suitor. However, locked away, strangled, I have no voice! Muffled while onlookers gaze at me. "How quaint, a native instrument!" Alas, I am the voice of nobility The voice of Hinraukatauri The voice of the Gods. He nguru, ngunguru ana e. Che Wilson, 2006.

**Dimensions**

Object/Work: 100 x 100 mm