

SANTOS

Christian deities largely replaced indigenous religious figures as Christianity was spread by the Spanish throughout the islands. Muslims in the South and animists in remote areas of the islands retained traditional religious and cultural practices, but these represented just 10% of the total population.

The term "Santos" originally referred only to sculptures depicting Christian saints, but also has come to loosely include figures of Christ, the Christ child, the Virgin Mother, angels, and other church-related art in two- or three-dimensional form. Although paintings depicting *santos* occupied a prominent place in church furnishings, only a relatively small number of older examples have survived. Sculpture in the round and in relief are far more common. Largely carved from wood, some examples located on facades as well as in church interiors are fashioned from stone and a large number of smaller images are carved solely from ivory or have hands and heads fashioned from this material. Most were originally painted and many were fully dressed, with hair and other accessories added.

Santos were placed in churches and in small shrines in the home. Large sculptures usually indicate that the image is from a church, and small-scale images from a home, but this distinction does not always hold true. Those located in churches are also paraded through the town during important church festivals and sometimes by boat.

The earlier *santos* in the Philippines were shipped from various locations worldwide, including Indonesia, Macau, Goa, Mexico, and Spain. These images were sent primarily to the largest and most prosperous churches. As the need for sculptures increased, local professionally-trained carvers began to meet demand. In more remote areas and poorer parishes, carvers not formally trained created works of great impact and presence that are magnificent reflections of the artist's religious conviction and ardor. Many sculptures produced for home altars were carved by these artists and some by the owners themselves.

In addition to local Filipino carvers, scholars believe that Chinese sculptors also produced a considerable body of work. Full figures and the hands and heads of other figures carved in ivory are frequently attributed to Chinese artists.

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Spanish Colonial period, 19th century
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rogers
(L31,035)

CASE WITH COLONIAL PERIOD SANTOS

on left vertical side panel

TWO IVORY HEADS OF PURISIMA CONCEPCION

(Virgin Mary)

possibly carved in Macao, of the type exported to the Philippines

Gift of Virginia B. Randolph, 2002 (12,314.1 & 12,315.1)

on case floor, left to right

HEAD OF SAN DOMINGO DE GUZMAN (St. Dominic)

carved hardwood with traces of gesso and pigment
Spanish Colonial period, n.d.

Gift of Robert and Chieko Sueoka, 1986 (5481.1)

on the back wall panel, left to right

HEAD OF MATER DOLOROSA (Virgin of Sorrow)

carved wood

Spanish Colonial period, n.d.

Gift of Patricia Salmon, 1988 (5685.1)

SANTO CRISTO [MORIBUNDO] (Christ Interred)

carved wood with traces of gesso and pigment, silver crown of thorns

Spanish Colonial period, 17th - 18th century

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Clark, Jr., 1982
(5026.1)

IMMACULADA CONCEPCION (Immaculate Conception)

carved and painted wood

Spanish Colonial period, n.d.

Gift of John Haws, 2003

HEAD OF SAN PEDRO APOSTOL (St. Peter)

carved with traces of pigment

Spanish Colonial period, 19th century

Gift of John Haws, 2003

SANTO CRISTO (Crucified Christ)

carved hardwood with traces of gesso and pigment

Spanish Colonial period, n.d.

Gift of Robert and Chieko Sueoka, 1986 (2.990)

LA SAGRADA FAMILIA (The Holy Family)

carved and painted wood

Spanish Colonial Period, Philippines, 19th century

Gift of John Haws, 2003

HEAD OF SAN PABLO (St. Paul)

carved wood

OUR LADY OF LIGHT

with two cherubs holding a crown over her head and

an angel holding
a vessel of flaming hearts
carved, painted wood and sheet metal cut outs
Spanish Colonial Period, Philippines, n.d.
Gift of Carl and Jovita Zimmerman, 2002, (12,244.1)

on back wall panel:
UNKNOWN SANTO
with skirt but no arms, no hair or headdress, to facilitate
dressing
this figure
with clothing associated with the attributes of a female saint or
Madonna or Santo Nino
Spanish Colonial Period, Philippines, n.d.
Purchase, John Haws Collection, 2003

NUESTRA SENORA DE ANTIPOLLO
with an aureole of 12 stars representing the 12 tribes of Israel,
carved and painted wood, metal halo
Spanish Colonial Period, Philippines, n.d.
Purchase, John Haws collection, 2003

DOLOROSA (Our Lady of Sorrow)
carved and painted wood
Spanish Colonial Period, Philippines, n.d.
Gift of John Haws, 2003

CASE WITH SPANISH COLONIAL PERIOD SANTOS AND FURNISHINGS

GUIDON FIGURE
Pedestal for ceriales or processional candlesticks or for guion,
processional banner
carved wood with traces of gesso
Spanish Colonial Period, 19th century
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rogers (L31,028)

NUESTRA SENORA DE LA PURISIMA CONCEPCION
(Madonna and Child)
carved wood
Spanish Colonial Period, 19th century
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rogers (L31,029)

SAN PEDRO APOSTOL (St. Peter)
carved and polychromed wood
Spanish Colonial Period, 19th century
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rogers (L31,021)

large chest acting as support for two images

BANDUYO, OFFERING ALTAR FROM BATANGAS
carved wood with wood inlays, brass fittings
Spanish Colonial Period, 19th century

Gift of Carl and Jovita Zimmerman, 2002 (12,238.1)

SAN MIGUEL (St. Michael, the Archangel, stepping
on the devil)
carved and polychromed wood
Spanish Colonial Period
Purchase, 2002 (12,255.1)

RETABLO: LA SANTISIMA TRINIDAD (The Holy
Trinity)
'The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Ghost
is God,
and yet they are not three Gods but One God'
portable miniature altarpiece of carved wood, gesso
polychrome
Spanish Colonial Period, 19th century
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rogers
(L31,034)

ON LARGE DIVIDER PANEL NEAR ENTRANCE

SANTO TOMAS DE AQUINO (St. Thomas Aquinas)
carved wood Spanish Colonial Period, late 18th century
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Clark, Jr., 1983 (5112.1)

SIX RETABLOS, set in pairs,

LA SAGRADA FAMILIA Y LA SANTISIMA
TRINIDAD
The Holy Family and the Holy Trinity
enshrined in a portable miniature altarpiece
embellished with rocaille
decoration
carved wood, gesso, polychrome
Spanish Colonial Period, circa 1780-1910
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rogers
(L31,021)

LA SAGRADA FAMILIA (The Holy Family in the
Carpenter's Shop)
carved and polished wood
Colonial Period
Purchase, Haws Collection, 2003

THE CORONATION OF THE VIRGIN
carved and polished wood
20th century
Purchase, Haws Collection, 2003

RETABLO OF ST. CECILIA PLAYING AN ORGAN
carved and plished wood
20th century
Purchase, Haws Collection, 2003