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## AFRICAN TRIBAL ART:CAPTIONS FOR SLIDES

1. Dance mask, Benin, Nigeria.
2. Warrior, brass, circa 1870, Benin, Nigeria.
3. Same as #2, side view.
4. Amommo, ancestor born when Amma, the creator, copulated with the newly formed earth. Upraised arms in the Tellum style. Dogon bribe, Mali.
5. The Queen, Choke, Angola. Rare to obtain anything from Angola because of Marxist government.
6. Same view.
7. Stool, Ashanti, Ghana. Note the unusual light green color made by rubbing herbs on the wood. The Ashanti believe that an individual's stool houses his spirit after death.
8. Same stool, with Dr. Benezra and his cat.
9. Divination Bowl, Dogon Tribe, Mali. This was Dr. Benezra's first purchase of African art. It was expensive. People of the tribe go to the religious leader to have their fate read from the magical and medicinal herbs kept inside the bowl. Pregnant women rub their abdomens with the contents of the bowl to protect their unborn fetuses.
10. Figure of Lwalwa, Zaire. An outstanding piece of African art. This is the zebra skin that Dr. Benezra brought back from his first trip to Africa ten years ago.
11. Same as #10.
12. Detail of head of figure shown in #10 and #11.
13. Bronze figure, Queen Bobo, Uptuwalta, West Africa.
14. Head dress, Ekoi Tribe, Nigeria. About 70 years old. Note realistic features. Has horns covered with antelope skin. The Ekoi were headhunters. It is believed that they danced with human heads and sprinkled blood on the soil to enhance fertility. Wooden carvings are probably a fairly recent replacement for human heads. Though antelope skins are used now, the skins of slaves and slain enemies supposedly were used until the end of the nineteenth century.
- 15, 16 These two are a pair and should be used together in one picture. Two ancestor figures are used at a harvest feast. From the Bamileke tribe, Funbarne, Northern Cameroon. In #15 the man is holding a pipe. In #16 a woman holds a rifle in one hand and gun powder in the other.

17. Bronze head, sixteenth century, commemorative head of a king, Benin, Nigeria.
18. Terra-cotta figures. Bamileke, Cameroon. 19. Maternity figure. The spirit of the bird protects the pregnant woman from evil spirits. This is a beautiful wood sculpture with good art work. Dr. Benezra bought this as one of his early acquisitions at a modest price. Now it has appreciated to the price of a good condominium. In traditional Senefu symbolism, the woman and bird together represent a fundamental view of existence.
20. Side detail of face of #19.
21. Mask, origin as yet unknown.
22. Mask, Idoma, Nigeria. Made of wood. See the prominence of the forehead. That signifies power, both intellectual and spiritual. 23. Mask. Dr. Benezra's most recent purchase. Hangs in hall, no more room in the African room.
24. Dr. Benezra with mask shown in #23.
25. Mask, Senefu, Ivory Coast.
26. Mask, Yaure, Liberia.
27. Mask, Yaori, Ivory Coast.
28. Mask, copper. A similar shape is seen in a Picasso painting.
29. Mask, Kuba tribe, Mmombo, Zaire.
30. Mask, Senefu, Ivory Coast. Made of wood and animal hide, decorated with beads, seeds, and animal hair. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, similar "mashambo" or "mokenge" masks were traditionally used by a chief to frighten the women into submission.
- 31, 32, 33. All of Dr. Benezra wearing mask from #30. Mask could be worn during dance ceremonies.
34. Dr. Benezra reading in his study, the African Room. Three masks hang above him on the wall with a curved pipe from the Bamun tribe, Cameroon. Dr. Benezra holds the pipe in some of the other slides.
35. Dr. Benezra sitting on the floor in front of a low table on which many of his African sculptures are displayed. The macrame window hanging was made to order by a Chicago craftsman to blend with the collection.
- 36, 37, 38. Dr. Benezra with his first acquisition, the Divination Bowl from #9.
- 40, 41. Dr. Benezra in African Room sitting in front of the low table on which are displayed many of the sculptures in his collection. He is holding a small figure carved of wood, given to him as a gift. Although he knows that it is

African art, he has not yet confirmed its background nor has he discovered the significance of the representation that the face and buttocks are both on the same plane.

42, 43, 44. Same as above, but without the figure.

45, 46, 47, 48. This is Dr. Benezra's favorite piece of African art. The "Cavalier Du Roi" or the King's Horseman. He calls him "The Dude." Dr. Benezra says, "It is significant that he really enjoys smoking his pipe. He doesn't look like much of a warrior. This is a very good piece, very elaborate, detailed work not usually found in the average sculpture. Bambara tribe, Mali, West Africa, about 70-80 years old.

47. In this slide, Dr. Benezra is mimicking the warrior by holding his pipe from the Banum tribe, Cameroon.

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