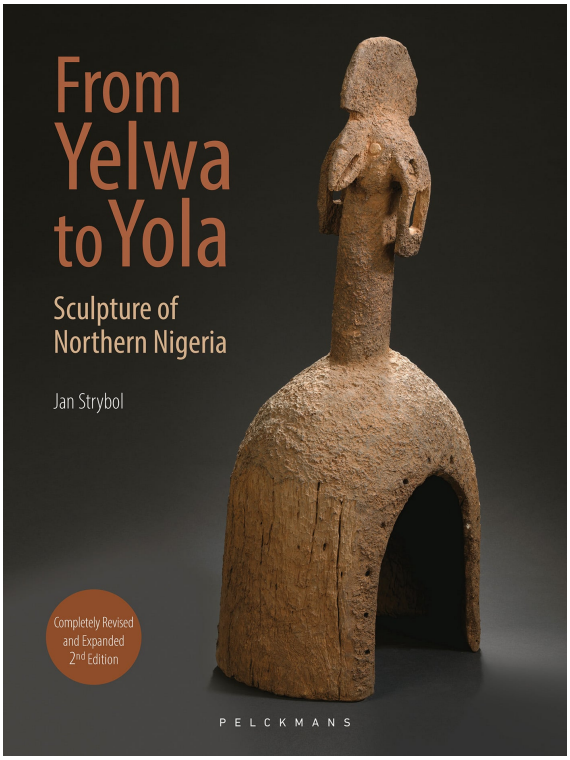
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# From Yelwa to Yola

## Sculpture of Northern Nigeria

### Jan Strybol

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- Brings attention to art from regions long considered a *terra incognita*, from the Yelwa in the northwest to Yola in the southeast of northern Nigeria
- Revised and expanded edition of the sold out first edition
- New perspectives on Nigerian art: expands the story beyond the better-known traditions of Ife, Benin and the Yoruba

For much of the first half of the 20th century, ethnographic literature paid little attention to the sculptural traditions of Nigeria's many ethnic groups. The study of Nigerian art gained momentum in the 1950s through the pioneering work of William Fagg, whose books and exhibition catalogs focused primarily on the ancient art of Ife and Benin and on the Yoruba of the southwest.

In the late 1960s, numerous wooden sculptures from the Benue Valley emerged, bringing the art of the Igala, Idoma, Jukun, Mumuye and other peoples to international attention. Yet northern Nigeria remained largely unexplored. It was widely assumed that little or no wooden sculpture had survived in its Islamised regions.

This completely revised and expanded second edition presents sculptures in wood, bronze, stone and terracotta, revealing the rich and diverse artistic traditions of Northern Nigeria, from Yelwa in the northwest to Yola in the southeast.

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After studying Ancient History and Semitic Linguistics, **Jan Strybol** completed his studies in Art History with a master's thesis on Chadian pottery in the collections of the Royal Museum of Central Africa at Tervuren. He conducted ethnographical research in Northern Nigeria and Cameroonian Adamawa. He was a member of a team of Flemish scholars (Professor Albert Maesen, Jan Moeyersons, Johnny De Meulemeester and others) who carried out research in the Benue Valley (Nigeria) between 1970 and 1972. The author is honorary librarian of the Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels. His publications mainly discuss various aspects of Mumuye society and related ethnic groups as well as Northern Nigerian sculpture.

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