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Masking is a universal cultural **technique**.

In ever new ways people cover their faces, depending on time, community, **world**

template and occasion. Ethnographic museums

preserve masks from all over the world, and they have

already incorporated face **masks** from the current

Covid-19 pandemic into their collections. Even their cultural **meaning**

follows the basic principles of ritual masks: it is

about **protection** and defence, about aesthetics

and **message** and about **transformation**.



The Ethnographic Museum at the University of Zurich wishes you a healthy, **joyful** and successful New Year. We **thank you** for your interest and look forward to your **visit**.

**ethnographic
museum**

University of Zurich

Tupilaq figures are created since the 20th century among Inuit in Eastern Greenland. Until today, Inuit carvers therewith equally draw from the pool of their ritual arts and eventually add elements out of it, as in this case to the figure of the former ghost Tupilaq of the shaman: a mask.
Tupilaq figure with mask. Artist: unknown. Material: walrus tusk. 7.7 x 5.3 x 4.8 cm.