

Object Summary



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Gem-Inset Earrings with Confronted Birds and Floral Motifs with Enamelled Gold Addorsed Peacocks and Floral Ornamentation on Reverse

20th century

India (Jaipur)

Enameled gold, colored gemstones, seed pearls, green glass beads

Length: 3 1/8 in. (7.9cm)

These earrings are inlaid with colorful gemstones and fringed with clusters of tiny seed pearls and green glass beads. The central element is decorated with two peacocks sitting addorsed (back-to-back). Flora and fauna provided inspiration for traditional Indian jewelry, and observations from the natural world even contributed to the naming of hues of gemstones and enamels. For example, the ideal hue for a deep blue sapphire was compared to the color of a peacock's neck (gardan-e-taus).