



## Earring

### Date

20th Century

### Primary Maker

Tibetan

### Medium

Silver, turquoise and glass

### Description

This is an earring style worn by both women and in some cases men in the eastern and central regions of Tibet. Aspects of the earrings, particularly the turquoise inlay, are possibly abstracted versions of the dharma wheel. These earrings are highly characteristic of Tibetan culture and are depicted in Tibetan bronzes as early as the 15th Century. Turquoise was historically very rare in Tibet and held an important role in holding spiritual significance and determining societal status.

### Dimensions

2019.15.40.1a-c:  $4 \frac{3}{8} \times 1 \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$  in. (11.1 × 4.4 × 1.9

cm) 2019.15.40.1a:  $3 \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4} \times 1 \frac{3}{4}$  in. (8.3 × 1.9 ×

4.4 cm) 2019.15.40.1b:  $\frac{11}{16} \times \frac{11}{16} \times \frac{11}{16}$  in. (1.7 ×

1.7 × 1.7 cm) 2019.15.40.1c:  $2 \times \frac{5}{8} \times \frac{5}{8}$  in. (5.1 × 1.6 × 1.6 cm)