

Basic Detail Report



Earring

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Li

Medium

Silver

Description

This is an earring from the Li culture of Hainan Island. Like mainland Chinese minority groups, Li women wear complex arrangements of silver ornaments for festivals and other social occasions. Though many of these objects, and even specific designs, were pervasive enough to be found across various Chinese minority cultures, this distinctive style of earring with nine hanging rings was only worn by the Li. Given the immense size of this

earring and relative weight it only would have been worn by older women. Some of the rings are also decorated with designs characteristic to these earrings: koi fish, dragons, and floral motifs.

Dimensions

8 1/4 × 5 1/2 × 1/4 in. (21 × 14 × 0.6 cm)