



Necklace

Date

20th Century

Primary Maker

Miao

Medium

Silver

Description

This Miao necklace is probably from the Guizhou Province of China. The symbols used in Miao silver adornments often relate to fertility and prosperity as they were commonly worn by unmarried women during festivals and other celebrations. While traditionally worn to ward off evil, silver came to be used as a show of wealth and health for families who could afford to wear the precious metal. Animals like fish, lions and horses depicted on necklaces served as charms to bring fertility and prosperity to their wearers. The necklaces also indicated

these virtues to potential romantic partners.

Dimensions

16 1/2 × 2 1/8 × 1/2 in. (41.9 × 5.4 × 1.3 cm)