

Gold Work of Michael Winsten



MW-1

“Winter Sunburst Saturnalia”



MW-1

A necklace of 23k gold pendant discs of four different sizes, alternating with pairs of barrel shaped lapis lazuli beads. The central pendant is 5.15 cm in height (2 1/16 inches), and 3.7 cm in width (1 1/2 inches). A domed boss surrounded by a border of granulation is at the center from which radiate eight rays, constructed from flattened gold wires set on their edges. Between the rays at the edge are pairs of smaller gold bosses, sixteen in all. A border of two gold wires surrounds the circular disc. Above the disc on a flat sheet that has been attached to a gold tube, is a small pale turquoise set in a bezel surrounded by a border of small grains. Two small gold bosses are set to either side. There are four pendant discs set with lapis cabochons and bordered with a gold wire. The larger are 3.2 cm in height (1 1/2 inches) and 2.6 cm in width (1 1/16 inches). They are set with cabochons 1.3 cm in diameter (9 / 16 inches). The smaller disc pendants are 2.65 cm (1 1/8 inches) in height and 2 cm (13/16 inches) in width. They are set with cabochons of lapis that are 5.5 mm in diameter (3/8 inches). There are eight smaller disc pendants, 1.85 cm in height (7/16 inches) and 1.3 cm in width (1/2 inch). Each has a gold boss in the center and a concentric gold wire as well as a wire border. There is a pair of gold flared tube beads that face a tabular lapis lazuli at the back of each side of the necklace. A pair of gold beading tips provide the loops for a medallion clasp with two hooks. The medallion, like the central pendant, has a circular form with eight radiating points made from flattened gold wires placed on their edges. In the center is a pale turquoise set in a bezel and between each of the points are eight gold bosses. The lapis barrel beads in the necklace are 7 mm in length and 5 mm in diameter. The tabular lapis beads are 1.4 cm in length and 6.25 mm in width.

The necklace weighs 53.2 gm. It is 18 5/8 inches (46.8 cm) in length.

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\$10,000.





MW-1



MW-2

“Moon, Sun, Venus and Stars”

A necklace of five 23k gold pendant discs set with stones, four with turquoise and one with lapis lazuli. A medallion clasp at the back is also set with lapis lazuli. The pendants are faced with ten small gold bicone beads and ten gold granulated ring beads. There are four gold bicone beads with flared end caps and a set of gold beading tips. The gold pieces alternate with tapered barrel beads of lapis lazuli.

The central pendant is 2 3/16 inches (5.7 cm) in height and 1 3/8 inches (3.55 cm) in width. The lapis disc set in a bezel is 1 1/16 inches (2.7 cm) in diameter. The bezel is set at the top of a border of gold wire 1 3/8 inches in diameter, creating a crescent shape below the bezel that has been bordered with gold granulation. A gold boss is set at the bottom of the space. On a sheet of gold one inch wide that connects to a tube at the top is set a turquoise that is just over 1/4 in diameter (8 mm). The remaining four pendants are 1 3/4 inches (4.4 cm) in height and 1 1/8 inches (3 cm) in diameter and each set with a turquoise. The first is set with a turquoise 1 cm in diameter in a bezel bordered with gold grains. The wire border around the outside also has an inner border of granulation. Spaced around the bezel are sixteen gold bosses. The next pendant has a turquoise 1.25 cm in diameter set in a bezel surrounded by granulation. There are four triangles radiating out from the center; their bases are curved upwards and the granulation likewise follows this curve as it surrounds the bezel. Where the points of the bases touch there are four curving flattened gold wires set on their edges radiating out from the center. There is a border of gold wire around the outside of the disc with an inner border of granulation. On the other side of the central pendant is a similar pendant to the previous, however the star is eight pointed. The bases of the triangles forming each point are also raised and the granulated border of the bezel follows these curves. The turquoise set in the bezel is 7 /16 inch (1.2 cm) in diameter. There is likewise a border of gold wire surrounding the disc and it also has an inner border of granulation. The last pendant has a turquoise 3/8 inches (9 mm) in diameter set in a bezel with four large bosses set around it filling the space between the bezel and the bordered edge. Four pairs of flattened gold wires set on their edges and curved into “U” shapes fill the spaces between the bosses and radiate out from the bezel. There are four bicone beads made from a continuous gold wire spiraled around to make a tube and fused with the reduction welding technique. These are capped with flared gold tubes. The medallion for the clasp is 15/16 inches (2.9 cm) in diameter and has two hooks for attaching to the loops on the beading tips. It is set with a cabochon of lapis lazuli that is 5/16 inches (8 mm) in diameter. The disc is bordered with a somewhat thicker gold wire. Four large bosses fill the spaces between the bezel and the border. The ax shaped negative spaces between them have been bordered with gold grains. The lapis beads are 7 mm in diameter and 2 cm in length.

The necklace weighs 92 gm. It is 18 1/2 inches (47.5cm) in length.

MW-2

\$14,725.00



MW-2



MW-2



MW-2



MW-3

“Sky and Waters”



MW-3

A necklace of ten discs of electrum set with cabochons of lapis lazuli and decorated with 23k gold granulation, raised bosses and in the central disc, sixteen raised triangles of gold forming a star, all strung on four strands of small cylindrical beads of lapis lazuli. The tenth medallion at the back of the necklace has two hooks which attach to loops on the beading tips, allowing the necklace to be fastened. The base plates of all the discs are electrum, an alloy of silver and gold. The discs are heavily granulated with small grains of 23k gold. The four smallest discs are $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (1.9 cm) in diameter and are bordered around the outside with a gold wire. Along the inside edge of this is a border of small grains. Four raised bosses are arrayed around a lapis lazuli cabochon set in a bezel $\frac{5}{16}$ inch (8 mm) in diameter. A border of granulation surrounds the bosses; the negative space between these elements outlined in granulation is in the shape of an ax head. The four middle sized medallions are $1 \frac{1}{16}$ inch (2.7 cm) in diameter. Four lapis cabochons $\frac{3}{8}$ inches (1 cm) in diameter are set in bezels surrounded by a border of granulation. One pair has a six pointed star and the other pair has an eight pointed star that has been created by building out rows of grains from the border which decrease by one grain in each row. The outside edges of the discs are bordered by two gold wires; a border of granulation is along the inside edge of the borders. The central disc is $2 \frac{3}{8}$ inches (3.45 cm) in diameter with a lapis cabochon that is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.15 cm) in diameter. Sixteen raised triangles of gold radiate out from the bezel; a pair of granules sit at either side of the tips of these triangles at the inside edge of the double wire border. An undulating border of grains follows the junctures of the bases around the outside of the bezel. The clasp medallion is one inch (2.6 cm) in diameter and is set with a cabochon of lapis lazuli that is $\frac{5}{8}$ inch (1.55 cm) in diameter. A single wire borders the disc. A row of grains borders the bezel as well as the inside edge of the outside border. The lapis lazuli cylinder beads are 2 mm in length and 2 mm in diameter. Four lapis beads at the back gather two strands together before the four strands are fed into a single lapis bead at the beading tips.



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One of the most unusual aspects of this necklace is the use of electrum. This is an alloy of pure gold and silver and was used for the base plates of the medallions. Pure gold was applied over this in the form of various decorations in a striking contrast. In addition, a slightly uneven patina was produced on the electrum, giving the appearance of great antiquity, as if the piece had laid in a tomb for many centuries. A final irony is that the clasp medallion has the largest diameter lapis lazuli stone in the necklace. It can be said that this necklace is a masterpiece in both design and execution and is the pinnacle of Michael Winsten's artistic production.

The necklace is 18 ½ inches (47 cm) in length.

The necklace weighs 78.3 gm.

\$22,500.00



MW-4

“Rising Sun”

MW-4

A necklace of nine gold discs suspended from gold tube beads by links which allow them to move freely. Three small cylindrical tube beads of lapis lazuli spaced by two gold tube beads separate the longer gold tube beads. Four more long tube beads, without the pendant discs and spaced by the triplets of lapis beads finish out the necklace. A set of gold beading tips and a hook and eye clasp allow the necklace to be fastened.

The gold discs are slightly convex and have a gold grain attached to the bottom. The largest is $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (1.9 cm) in diameter and the smallest is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (1.25 cm). A gold wire is attached to the top; it bends back around itself to form a loop to attach to the double loop of gold wire that is wound around the center of the gold tube bead above it. The small gold beads separating the lapis lazuli beads are spirals of gold wire that have been fused using the reduction welding technique. They and the lapis beads are 2mm in diameter; the gold beads are 3.5 mm in length and the lapis beads are 3 mm. The long gold tubes are 1.5 cm in length.

The necklace weighs 20 gm. The necklace is $17\frac{3}{4}$ inches (45.2 cm) in length.

MW-4

\$2,400.00



Ghetti Collection



Ghetti Collection



Ghetti Collection



Ghetti Collection





Ghetti Collection



Ghetti Collection



Clasp (detail)

Ghetti Collection



Collection Jill Replogle



