

Basic Detail Report



Necklace

Date

ca. 1000-1550

Primary Maker

Greater Nicoya

Medium

greenstone and jade

Description

Stone beads ranging in size and shape set off a large pendant of an abstracted avian axe-god. The power of birds as spirit companions and symbols of life force

continued for millennia throughout Mesoamerica, but especially in the Greater Nicoya region. Greenstone and jade were used interchangeably for decorative items, demonstrating that the significance was in the color and form, not necessarily the geology.

Dimensions

Overall: 10 3/8 x 1 7/8 x 3/8 in. (26.4 x 4.8 x 1 cm)