

EARRINGS

“Piyalə-zəng”

EARRINGS “PIYALƏ-ZƏNG”,
GOLD, ENAMEL,
19TH CENTURY

Among the jewelry items of Azerbaijani masters the traditional earrings “piyalə-zəng” (translated as “a ringing bowl” or “a bell bowl”) are worthy of note. The name explains the structure: the pendants reminiscent of bells and arranged in a single row or a cascade of pendants arranged vertically. These earrings are noted for a filigree technique and sometimes for

enamel. They have an interesting sound effect, which is achieved through the collision of bowls with each other and the chime of sheet-like small rosettes and pearls. “Ringing” ornaments were used in Azerbaijan back in the Bronze Age and, according to experts, had not only an aesthetic but also a magical meaning. It was believed that the sound effect is a talisman. ✦



