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About the Artisans

Manos Amigas - Peru

Peru, a country with over 5,000 years of recorded history, is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world, boasting 43 native languages! But despite this complicated array of cultural influences, Manos Amigas, which means "hands joined in friendship," hunts high and low to find talented artisans who make a variety of handicrafts in impoverished areas of Lima and in the Andean highlands. Think ceramics, jewelry, wind chimes, gourds, retablos, and textiles. Manos Amigas even offers tourist packages to different cities and towns to teach Peruvian culture to visitors and show off the artisans' excellent craftsmanship.

Today, the organization hosts training in Lima for all its artisans across Peru every two years, providing transportation and housing. Meanwhile, 20 per cent of profits are directed to social work efforts such as helping a feeding program for poor children by providing warm meals, school uniforms and school supplies.

Silvertree Necklace

A beautiful silver tree arches its branches across a polished diamond square sterling silver frame. Silver artistry from the Peruvian artisans of Manos Amigas. Wire chain clasps closed.

Special Details:

Hand fabrication is in some ways the most basic of all jewellery production techniques. The essential elements are wire, sheet, and solder, which are used to construct and assemble jewellery components. Hand fabrication is labourious and requires greater skill than other methods of jewellery production. It results in beautifully made, truly individual pieces of jewellery. Many of the skilled artisans who specialize in hand fabrication also create the necessary jewellery findings (clasps, earwires, chain) by hand, yielding finished pieces in which every component is crafted without the assistance of mechanization or casting.

Materials:

sterling silver



Travel the world with each visit to Ten Thousand Villages.

Learn how Fair Trade really makes a difference. Our goal is to provide vital, fair income to artisans by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. Ten Thousand Villages sells product from more than 30 countries, providing work for nearly 60,000 people around the world.

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