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Mexican Style Art History and Activities

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Bead Bottles

Beads have forever been popular for jewelry and personal adornment for the wealthy. The most colorful and intricate form of beading is currently created by the Huichol people, who live in the Sierra Madre mountains of Central Mexico. This tribe of less than 20,000 values the healing power of love and the simple agricultural life.

Bead bottles are the result of studying Huichol beaded gourds.



Character Nichos

In Mexican and South American cultures, small, decorated boxes called "Nichos" are commonly found in homes and public places, displayed on walls or pedestals. Made from wood or tin and often painted with bright colors, they provide a stage-like setting for an object or collection of objects that have great significance. Most commonly functioning as an altar for a religious icon, a Nicho can also serve as a memorial to a loved one or as a reminder of an important event.