

Kaitlind Marek
Re-Purposed Treasures

Artist Statement

The original object used in this piece is an intricately beaded necklace. The story given to me with this necklace said that a traveling engineer, who bought it in Africa, gave it to its previous owner. The story also said that the engineer loved that wide-open country. When gathering more objects to add to this piece, I thought about the style of the African necklace. I wanted to make a new piece of jewelry reminiscent of the old one. I added metal elements and beading to expand the necklace and enhance the design of the original object. The



final product reflects the story given to me, using a tale from the past to create a new narrative. The necklace's embellishment becomes the unseen narrative that is created when the woman imagines this faraway place.

Christine Ludwig
Re-Purposed Treasures

The Story

For the Beaded Choker Necklace –

This is an original hand beaded necklace from Africa. It was given as a gift from a young traveling engineer (?) in 1993. He loved the open space and wilderness in that beautiful country.