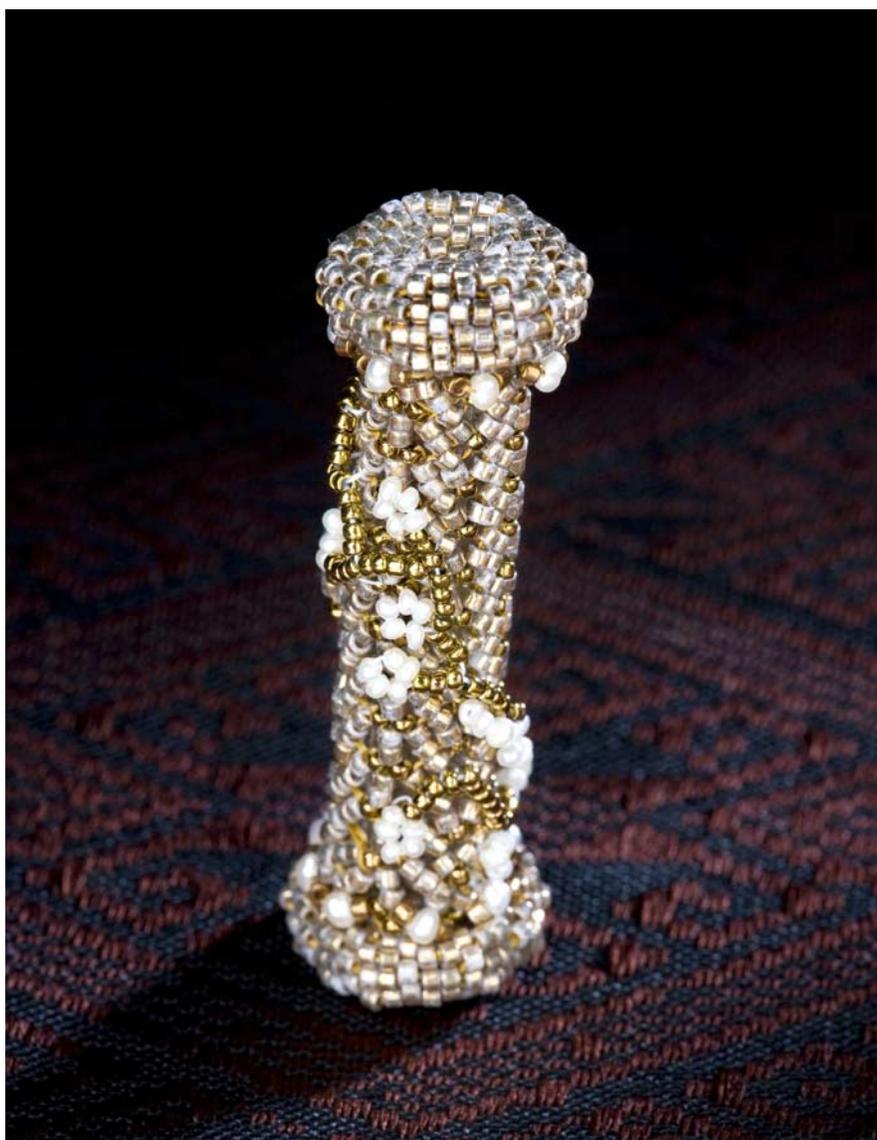


LITERNUM BROOCH

The ancient village of Liternum was located north of Cuma and Naples, and its ruins were visible from my former studio in Italy. The hamlet is best known for being the home of Africanus Scipio, who defeated Hannibal in the Punic Wars. As a frustrated historian/archeologist wannabe, I had the real treat of waking up every morning with what remains of the place in my sight.



SUPPLIES

Basic Beading Kit (page 000)

Size 11° antiqued gold cylinder beads, 7 g

Size 15° dark metallic gold round seed beads, 2 g

16 freshwater pearls, approximately 2 mm

About 44 small seed pearls, approximately 1 mm

Empty plastic round bead tube—
one that holds 7–10 g

1 earring post with a 10-mm pad

1 earring nut

FINISHED SIZE

2¼ inches (5.7 cm) long



Column Sections

The base of the brooch is made with two-sided St. Petersburg chain, which has a wonderful herringbone-style pattern that reminds me of many mosaic and column motifs.

1 Using 11° cylinder beads for the four-bead sections and 15°s on the edges, make a single St. Petersburg chain 11 units long.

2 To make the chain two-sided, string one 15° as a stopper bead and pick up four cylinder beads. Pass through two cylinder beads as normally done in St. Petersburg and anchor the 15° by weaving the tail back through two cylinder beads.

3 Position the four beads as shown in figure 1, pass through the first 15° at the bottom of the completed chain, and then pass through the two cylinder beads closest to the chain.

4 Pick up four cylinder beads and pass again through the first two cylinder beads as done previously. Pick up one 15° and pass back down through three cylinder beads (two of the beads just added and one from the previous unit). Pass up through the next 15° in the completed singular chain and then up through the two cylinder beads closest to the chain (figure 2).

5 Repeat step 4 until the second half of the chain is completed. Set aside.

Repeat steps 1 through 5 to finish two more sections of the chain.

Connect the Units

Join the three pieces of St. Petersburg into a tube with 2-drop peyote stitch as follows. The 15°s on the edges become the up beads for peyote stitch.

1 With the thread exiting the first 15° on the edge of one chain, pick up two cylinder beads and pass through the next 15°. Continue adding two cylinders between the 15° up beads to complete the row (figure 3).

2 Use the cylinder beads added in step 1 to zip two chains together with peyote stitch.

3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 to join the three chain sections into a tube.

4 Trim the plastic tube to match the length of the beaded tube (approximately 1¼ inches [4.5 cm] long). Slit the tube down one side, roll it into a smaller tube, and slide it inside the beadwork.

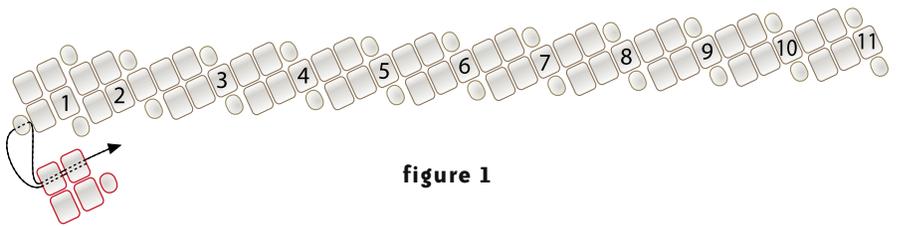


figure 1

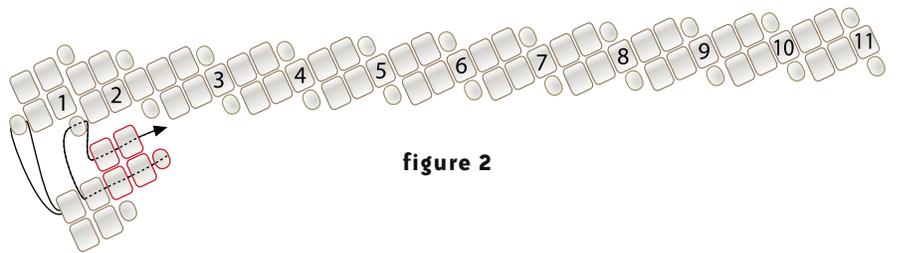


figure 2



figure 3

Column Capitals

Make the column capitals with circular peyote stitch.

Rows 1–6 Using cylinder beads, complete rows 1 through 6 for circular peyote stitch to make a disc.

Rows 7 and 8 Complete two rows of regular peyote, adding a total of 12 beads in each row. Step up at the end of each row.

Row 9 Pick up two beads and pass through the next up bead in the previous row. Continue until the row is completed, adding a total of 24 beads (12 sets of two). At the end of the row, step up through the first two beads added (treating two beads as one).

Row 10 Add one bead between each set of two. At the end of the row, step up through the first bead added. The piece should cup slightly.

Row 11 Add two beads between each up bead as you did in row 9 (figure 4).

Repeat rows 1 through 10 to make a second disc and zip this piece to the first disc, passing through the beads in row 11.

Repeat the above steps to create a second column capital.

Assemble

1 Center the disc on one of the tube ends. With the thread exiting a bead in row 7 on either side of a disc, pass through a 15° on the top of the tube. Zip the disc to the tube with peyote stitch. Repeat on the other end.

2 With the thread exiting an up bead on one end where the tube meets the disc, *pick up one 15°, one 2-mm pearl, and one 15°, and pass through the next up bead; repeat from * around to hide the join. Repeat on the other end of the column.

Attach the Post

1 Use cylinder beads to make a disc of circular peyote stitch, following instructions for rows 1 through 6 of Column Capitals.

2 Pass the post through the center of the disc so that the pad lies flat again the beadwork.

3 Attach the up beads of the disc to the center of the tube by either catching threads or passing through beads on the tube. Reinforce and, if necessary, add 15°s around the edge of the disc to make a clean join.

Embellish

1 Add freeform “vines” around the tube using 15°. **Tip:** Use a Sharps instead of a beading needle at this point so you can pass through tight spaces without breaking a needle. With the thread exiting a bead on the column, pick up five or six beads and lay them on the column to form a gentle curve. Tack the beads to the column either by catching threads or passing through beads in the column. Repeat to add vines and branches in the desired pattern.

2 With the thread exiting the end bead of a vine, pick up five seed pearls and pass back through the 15°s. Repeat for all vines.

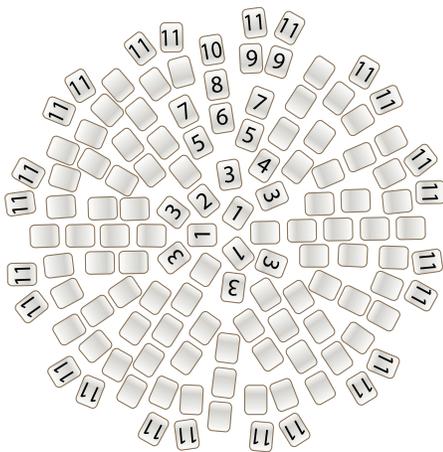


figure 4

