

ILIAS LALAOUNIS (Athens, Greece 1920 - Athens, Greece 2013)

Ilias Lalaounis. A pair of gold and sodalite earrings.

Circa: 1980s

18k gold and sodalite

Hallmarks: 750, A21 (Greece-Lalaounis)

H. 3 cm (1 $^{1}/_{8}$ inches) ; 17,9 gr

1980-1990s

Formed by two beautiful almond-shaped cabochon sodalite and open-worked gold applique. With clip fittings.

The appearance of sodalite can resemble a starry sky: this is one of the reasons why the stone has always been used as a talisman in many cultures. Always associated with a magical and spiritual dimension.

Ilias Lalaounis (Athens 1920 − 2013) was a pioneer of Greek jewelry and an internationally renowned goldsmith. He is especially known for his collections inspired by Greek history.

In 1990 he became the only jeweler ever to be inducted into the Académie des Beaux-Arts.

Lalaounis started his career working for the jewelry business of his uncle, Xenophon Zolotas. In 1940 he took over the family firm and managed and designed all jewelry for until 1968. Founder of the Greek Jewelers' Association, he exhibited his first collection inspired by Ancient Greek and Egean art, 'the Archaeological Collection', at the Thessaloniki International Fair in 1957.

Artist description:

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