

LIVE SMART, Wear Green

BY KELLY & LESLIE TIANO



Upcycling locally encourages an innovative fashion of thinking.

While recycling programs are necessary, the cost and the amount of energy to process daily waste creates a large carbon footprint. We try to decrease that footprint with our upcycled jewelry, accessories, and home décor through our company, reVetro (meaning re-glass in Italian).

We are a daughter and mother-in-law team who have been working together for nearly 14 years. Our journey of creating jewelry together began after we met. Leslie introduced me to the basics of jewelry fabrication, and over the years we have incorporated recycled materials into our creations. Integrating repurposed items into jewelry started simply by using unwanted yet unique buttons as closures for brick-stitched bracelets we beaded and sold. We collected discarded items such as buttons and metal washers in old yogurt containers and glass jars to incorporate in future jewelry designs. This was just the beginning of our journey into repurposed jewelry.

The use of empty glass bottles as the main medium for jewelry was an idea inspired by Leslie, which stemmed from her lifelong collection of unique bottles. It did not take me long to acquire the same glass fetish as my mother-in-law. As our personal collections of sentimental and exquisite glass bottles grew, the idea of finding new purposes for them was inevitably born. We found natural beauty in the sensational sapphire blue coloring of the Bombay Gin bottle and awed over the extraordinary shape of the St. Germain Liqueur bottle made in France. We knew these bottles could serve a greater purpose, repurposed.

We started with a simplistic necklace design using an upcycled, annular glass bottle bead and wrapping it with Greek leather. Over the years, this simple piece evolved into square glass tiles set in our signature recycled pewter designs. →



With the growth of reVetro we have expanded our sources for receiving empty bottles through relationships with local bars, restaurants, and recyclers within our community. Thanks to our strong roots and the generosity of our fellow San Diegans, we receive a variety of bottles allowing us to add new and unusual jewelry to our collection.

Natural Inspiration

As hands-on makers, we are motivated daily. From new bottles we discover on display at local bars to other recycled materials, the two of us incorporate sustainable materials into aesthetically pleasing designs. We pay attention to drink and fashion trends as inspiration for new concepts. The feedback from our customers and friends on social media has been the catalyst behind many of our products.



The allure of reVetro jewelry is that it is not only upcycled, but each piece of glass is uniquely handcrafted. Although many of our glass beads may look identical, they are not. During repurposing, every glass bead takes on its own characteristics in shape, size, and hue. The individuality and quality of the handcrafted glass is the essence of our jewelry.

We offer repurposed glass in both a natural and sea glass finish. The finish of the glass is determined by various factors ranging from its quality to how it will be used in our finished product. Once glass has been fired, we hand-select which glass will remain its natural state and which glass will take on the luminous sea glass finish.

We have incorporated our upcycled glass into an extensive collection of necklace styles from a single glass bead hanging loosely on a chain to a lariat-style necklace featuring three upcycled glass beads. Most of the repurposed glass pieces are handcrafted into many of our signature designs. We offer a line of jewelry appealing to all ages, genders, and fashion styles, and we create custom orders. We like to think that we have a treasure for everyone. From casual vegan hemp necklaces for \$15 to a more sophisticated set of recycled pewter cuff links for \$60. The combination of glass colors and finishes paired with the style of jewelry is endless. We always have something on the drawing board for new and unusual designs. ♦

Kelly and Leslie Tiano reside in San Diego, California. Their jewelry and other handcrafted, eco-friendly products are available to purchase online at revetroglass.com. The website showcases products to both retail customers and wholesale buyers. Their Etsy shop, revetro.etsy.com, has all the items displayed on their website plus pages of unique, one-of-a-kind pieces that cannot be found or purchased anywhere else. Original designs are added to the Etsy shop weekly and the debuts of these pieces are announced on reVetro's Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Pinterest pages (reVetro). Follow reVetro on all of their social media pages to see new items, get coupon codes, and to enter monthly giveaways and contests. For more information, please contact them at info@revetroglass.com.

