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PERFECT HUE



Colored gems are shifting toward vivid COLORED STONE JEWELRY the Retro trend. As this fashion

movement rolls back the decades, modest deep colors will be combined with flamboyant coral, turquoise, tourmaline, tanzanite or zircon to give old looks a modern spin for spring 2008.

- PAUL HOLEWA

THE ENSEMBLE

This suite of AGTA Spectrum Award jewelry includes Robert Wander's (Winc Creations) 18K-yellow-gold lizard brooch set with sapphires, garnets chocolate diamonds and coral; Shant Dakessian's (Simone & Son) platinum and 18K-yellowgold cufflinks set with green tourmalines and natural vellow diamonds; and 18K-yellow-and-whitegold earrings from Yanke Designs set with removable gold zircons, gold tourmalines, chrome tourmalines and diamonds.

CUFFLINKS BROOCH \$12,000* \$10,000 EARRINGS \$5,150

* Except where noted, all prices listed are suggested retail prices

MODEL'S NAME JESSICA ROFFEY MODEL'S AGENCY: WILHELMINA MODELS PHOTOGRAPHER: JACK DEUTSCH IMAGE COURTESY OF AMERICAN GEM TRADE ASSOCIATION





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ACLEONI DESIGNS

The **Opal Diamonds Collection** features opal triplets made by fusing opal and natural quartz, such as this 12mm round sample fused with faceted rose quartz.

\$299 (800) 654-3424







JUDITH BRIGHT

From the RockLess Collection, this 14Kyellow-gold Lots O' Rocks Nest Ring is set with prasiolite ("green amethyst").

\$178 (615) 269-5600

SIMON GOLUB & SONS

This 7-inch sterling silver bracelet features an 18K-yellow-gold setting for a 10mm by 8mm oval peridot.

\$395

(206) 762-4800







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A 38-carat radiant square citrine set in 14K white gold and worn on a multistrand stainless steel wire necklace.

\$5,000

(323) 225-5924



PARLÉ

From the **Stones That Speak! Memories by Parlé** collection comes this 14K-white-gold necklace with a pendant set with sapphires, tsavorite garnets and diamonds.

\$1,149

(800) 635-9800



SUSAN BLOND

The center stone for this 14K-white-gold ring is a 19mm by 15mm oval chocolate quartz done in a checkerboard cut. The ring is set with chocolate and white diamonds.

\$2,799

(212) 333-7728



JULIE BAKER DESIGNS

This **Tuscan Lace** 18K-yellow-gold bangle bracelet is set with a large piece of blue chalcedony.

\$5,250

(212) 966-6771

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COLORED STONE JEWELRY

LENA SKLYUT

A 200-carat rutilated quartz and sapphire accents (4.0 TCW) are set in an 18K-yellow-gold and 925 sterling silver bracelet.

\$12,000 (718) 840-9775



GUMUCHIAN

The **Bubble** ring is crafted in 18K white gold and set with a 6.40-carat aquamarine center stone, and features diamond and aquamarine accent stones.

\$10,000 (212) 593-9888



MAHLIA COLLECTION

The **Daphne** ring is made of 18K yellow and white gold and is set with an oval black opal and diamonds.

\$10,800

(520) 791-3081

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LATA K DESIGNS

From the **Taj Collection** come these 18K-yellowgold drop earrings set with rubies, sapphires, emeralds and diamonds.

\$12,125

(917) 405-5202

GURHAN

Known for his 24K-yellowgold pieces, this **Sleeping Beauty** turquoise necklace from the Turkish-born designer features large samples of fine turquoise.

\$18,000

(877) 447-4692



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BRIDESMAID/ GROOMSMAN SPECIAL SECTION



A men's pendant and necklace design featuring a 925 silver pendant set with a black diamond (1.0 TCW) on a Greek leather cord.

\$450 (480) 988-2129

DELAFÉE INTERNATIONAL SARL

DeLafée offers a hand-rolled Dominican cigar wrapped in 24K gold leaf and presented in an engraved stainless-steel tube.

\$79 contact@delafee.com

KELLY WATERS

\$55 (800) 647-7017

This stainless-steel money clip

is done in a brushed finish and features gold highlights.



features a 45-layer patterned Damascus steel blade, shakudo gold mokume, snake wood, carved silver and more.

\$350 (888) 563-4500

THISTLE & BEE The Enamel

Collection includes hand-enameled sterling silver designs inspired by nature and the spirit of the great outdoors (pictured here is a pointer hunting dog).

\$250 (212) 594-0418



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From KC Design come these 14Kyellow-gold **Diamond Disc** initial pendants set with diamonds (.09 TCW).

\$610 (800) 552-3790

EK DESIGNS

This sterling silver bridesmaid bracelet features black Swarovski crystals (other colors available), white pearls, sterling silver beads and a bridesmaid charm.

\$120 (781) 383-6878

REMBRANDT CHARMS

Rembrandt's **Catching the Bouquet** bracelet features eight wedding-day charms (available in silver, gold plated, 10K and 14K yellow and white gold).

Jur

STERLING SILVER \$200 (800) 242-7699



From **Sarena Traver's JeTalia Collection** come these Synchro hairpins in 18K yellow and white gold set with small round brilliant diamonds.

\$1,300 WHITE GOLD \$1,400

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IN SEASON: MOTHER'S DAY

MOTHER LOVE

A gift of jewelry is always near mom's heart.

IT'S A \$16 BILLION pie of which flowers and "a special meal" take the biggest slices. But not far behind — at a little over \$2 billion — comes jewelry, making Mother's Day a significant event on any jeweler's calendar, whether they be moms or not. "Mama" or some variant is usually the first word a baby learns to say, making it a good start for a piece of jewelry that says much more. For the more linguistically precocious child (or father, who is likely to be picking up the bill), the word "Mother" fashioned in an edgy font set with diamonds could do the trick. Another option is photo pendants, which can be customized in gold and set with gemstones. And finally for the mother who can't stop worrying about Junior's grazing and hiding habits, non-toxic, lead-free silicone jewelry that can survive a round with the dishwasher. Whatever the gift, it's from the heart, and that's all any mother can ask for.

CATHERINE ANGIEL PENDANT & NECKLACE

PRODUCT: The "MOTH-ER" necklace is from the graffiti-inspired "Renegade" Collection. SALES PITCH: The necklace is done in 14K white gold with a black rhodium finish set with diamonds (.60 TCW).

TELL 'EM THIS: Ancient Hindus believed diamonds were created by bolts of lightning. SUGG. RETAIL PRICE:

\$2,500

CONTACT: (212) 924-4314

2 BARRY KRONEN DESIGNS CHARM PENDANT

PRODUCT: 18K-gold photo charms from the designer's Babylicious Collection.

SALES PITCH: This unique line uses individual baby photos to create a personalized, 3D one-of-a-kind charm.

TELL 'EM THIS: The pendant can be sold with a 16-inch 18K yellow gold and pearl chain for an additional \$705

SUGG. RETAIL PRICE: \$2,200

CONTACT: (800) 440-1243

SENTIMENTAL SILVER PENDANT & NECKLACE

PRODUCT: Sparkle Petite pendants set with CZs. **SALES PITCH:** CZs are

available in light pink, pale blue, crystal clear and synthetic dark blue sapphire.

TELL 'EM THIS: Each pure silver (.999%) pendant is made completely by hand using recycled silver. SUGG. RETAIL PRICE: \$75 **CONTACT:** (602) 317-7796

4 KIM FRACZEK EARRINGS

PRODUCT: Hand-blown glass earrings featuring natural rubies and worn with an 18K yellow gold wire.

SALES PITCH: Ruby is July's birthstone.

TELL 'EM THIS: Ruby was deemed to be the most precious of gemstones by the Bible and ancient Sanskrit writings.

SUGG. RETAIL PRICE: \$1,000

CONTACT: (646) 387-3180

SMART MOM

PRODUCT: Silicone teething pendants, measuring 2 inches by 2 inches.

SALES PITCH: Available in eight colors: amethyst, rose quartz, pearl, onyx, moonstone, turquoise, jade and coral.

TELL 'EM THIS: The products are made from a food-safe, non-toxic, nonlatex, phthalate-free, dishwasher-safe, federally-approved silicone. SUGG. RETAIL PRICE: \$18.90 CONTACT: (866) 521-9680

MA-STYLE PENDANT & NECKLACE

PRODUCT: 14K-gold pendant and necklace design. **SALES PITCH**: The "Mama" pendant's brushed finish gives it a delicate yet edgy look.

TELL 'EM THIS: The price includes a 16-inch cable chain with lobster clasp. SUGG. RETAIL PRICE: \$223 CONTACT: (917) 208-9433

CATEGORY FOCUS

GEM LABS

TESTED LABS

MANY GEM LABS are adept at issuing quality reports of a diamond's color and clarity. So how do you choose one? It's service, marketing and education that set the best laboratories apart, says Randy Wagner, president of Gem-Ex, which specializes in laboratory reports based on light performance. "Look beyond the report," he says. They also have a responsibility to the consumer to explain what they are doing and why. "You're looking for a partner. You're not looking for a supplier."

POINTS TO REMEMBER

• Stringency. Sometimes a diamond's grade may be borderline. "When that is the case, we grade more conservatively, which means that any consumer buying a diamond with our grading reports can be assured that the quality stated in the report matches the quality of the diamond." – American Gem Society Laboratories

• *Objectivity.* Is the grading report from an independent laboratory, unaffiliated with a manufacturer or sightholder? – *AGS Laboratories*

• *Speed.* How fast does it get through the lab? – *Jerry Ehrenwald, president of International Gem Institute*

▶ *Reputation.* "The retailer wants to issue a document that's well recognized, easy to understand and one that guarantees the grading." — *Ehrenwald, IGI*

● *Innovation.* GIA created the Four Cs — color, carat weight, clarity and cut, universally recognized as the factors determining diamond quality. In the case of standard round brilliant cut diamonds, GIA created a new cut grading system based on the relationship of the proportions of the diamond to its face-up appearance. — *Gemological Institute of America*

● Colored stones. Look for authentication reports that confirm the stone is a genuine ruby, emerald or sapphire and determine whether and how it has been treated. A more comprehensive option is an origin report, which confirms that an emerald is Colombian, for example. — Doug Hucker, CEO of American Gem Trade Association

• Archives. The report should be available indefinitely in the lab's database. — Ehrenwald, IGI

• User friendliness. The laboratory should be able to answer consumer questions directly by phone or e-mail. – *Ehrenwald, IGI*

● *Support.* GIA's Retailer Support Program, for example, offers free tools and promotional items retailers can use to relay diamond information to their customers. – *GIA*

• *Display.* At AGTA, a superpremium package includes a leather or linen-bound book that spins an entire story about a special gemstone, usually a ruby, sapphire or emerald. – *Hucker, AGTA*

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AMERICAN GEMOLOGICAL LABORATORIES (AGL) aglgemlab@aol.com (212) 704-0727

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GEM CERTIFICATION & APPRAISAL LAB (GCAL) www.gemfacts.com (212) 869-8985

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1 GEMOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA (GIA) www.gia.edu (800) 421-7250

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