

[Home](#) > [Luxury](#) > [Jewellery](#)

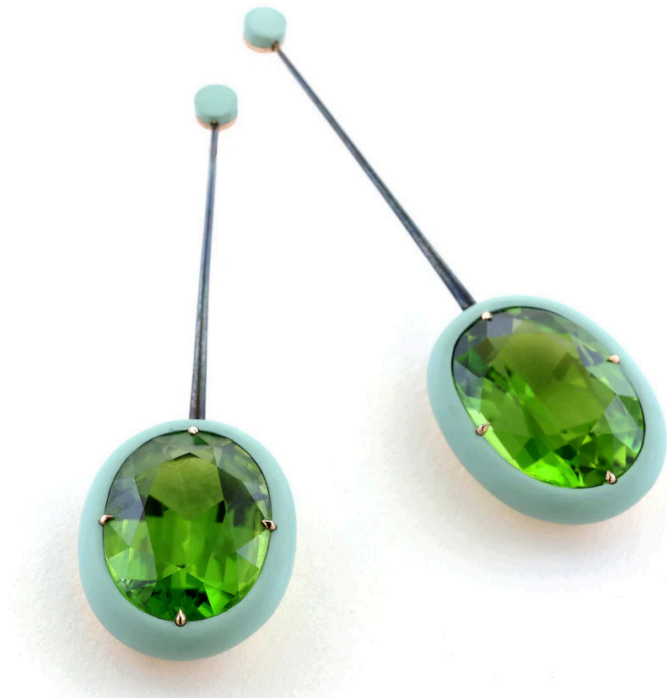
PAD London jewellery highlights: from Taffin's European debut to Boghossian's astonishing gems



Melanie Georgacopoulos mother-of-pearl and pearl necklace, shown at Objet d'Emotion

If there's one thing I like almost as much as looking at gorgeous stuff, it's looking at people looking at gorgeous stuff, and now's the time for that in London. While Goldsmith's Fair is great for spotting craft fanatics who bring their own jewellers' loupes to get a close-up view of the work, PAD is best for spotting well-heeled, cultured types who know as much about modernist furniture as they do about mid-century lighting.

Increasingly, the Berkeley Square fair is also a great place to see some really fantastic, independent jewellers' work, much of which you can't just wander into a store to purchase.



Taffin 18ct rose gold, blue steel, peridot and grey ceramic ear pendants

Taffin, the house founded by New York-based French designer James de Givenchy, will be showing publicly for the first time at PAD, and this is one jeweller whose work deserves to be classified as serious art.

His pieces have intrinsic value in that they feature precious metals and stones, but are just as likely to include glass, ceramic, wood, leather and even Neolithic stone beads. Every single piece is extraordinarily considered, like the most precise of wearable sculptures, and every time I see a new work of his I think it's my all time favourite... until I see the next one.



Francesca Villa Electrifying earrings at Ojet d'Emotion

Valery Demure's carefully curated stable of designers will be showing under her Objet d'Emotion gallery, with seven jewellers and one ceramic artist included this year. British designer Alice Cicolini's playful, bold jewels, often incorporating hand-painted enamel by a Jaipuri artist, are always a treat, with new pieces showing tiny painted scenes of flowers in unusual settings, and her usual deft, clashing colour combinations.

Francesca Villa hunts down artefacts and unusual objects including vintage poker chips and stamps to turn into one-of-a-kind jewels, all with extraordinary stories behind them. Pearl master Melanie Georgacopoulos brings her graphic, rule-breaking approach to the fair, with flat mother-of-pearl necklaces holding an array of pearls which seem to sink further and further into their settings, like stones sinking into water.



Silvia Furmanovich earrings at Objet d'Emotion

Also at Objet d'Emotion, Brazilian designer Silvia Furmanovich's work uses marquetry in the form of wood, coral and turquoise set in gold with precious stones to create dramatic stories on the surface of large-scale earrings, cuffs and clutches, while Yael Sonia's pieces set pearls and other precious gems spinning in cage-like structures or hung from gold ear hooks.

Meanwhile, Jacqueline Rabun's meditative pieces follow smooth lines and organic forms, crafted from polished gold and hard stones such as aventurine.

Elsewhere at the fair, Munich family-run jeweller Hemmerle will be exhibiting, with its almost anarchic use of iron, bronze and wood alongside white and coloured diamonds and no end of coloured gemstones. From architectural to organic, playful to weighty, Hemmerle's pieces always surprise and demand close-up viewing.



Hemmerle diamond, iron and white gold earrings

Glenn Spiro's G label consists of show-stopping jewellery, often in feather-light titanium, or graduated colours achieved through the careful mixing of different gems. This year his assortment includes a pair of earrings set with two Burmese rubies and painted with a glow-in-the-dark layer to shine at night.

Italian jeweller Fabio Salini's graphic, highly complex works utilise gemstones, mirror-like polished metals, deep black carbon fibre, shagreen and leather in pieces which range from black, armour-like cuffs trimmed with white diamonds, to drop earrings that appear like cascades of finger rings.



Fabio Salini earrings

On another stand, Paris-based Lorenz Baumer's daring pieces include a huge ring in the shape of a gem-set sea urchin, and pink sapphires set in the tips of tendril-like swirls of white diamonds and gold to be worn as earrings.

From vintage Bulgari and Piaget watches to bracelets made from fossils and diamonds, Parisian gallerist and jeweller Karry Berreby is worth making time for – she has an amazing collection of vintage pieces but her own designs are wonderfully flamboyant and varied. Equally flamboyant is Suzanne Syz, whose motifs could include anything from rockets to hot and cold taps.



Boghossian ring

Boghossian will be bringing its art of layering gemstones to the show, with astonishing gems like grey-blue diamonds, natural saltwater pearls and huge emerald cabochons often layered on top of each other. Elsewhere, Chinese high jeweller Anna Hu will showcase her baroque, fantastical aesthetic via jewels which take hundreds upon hundreds of hours of craftsmanship.

Elisabetta Cipriani will also be in residence, a gallerist who convinces some of the world's most important artists to create jewellery, from Ai Wei Wei to Cindy Sherman. This year she will also showcase the work of London-based Noor Fares, a designer whose adherence to mystical codes never fails to delight.

PAD London is at Berkeley Square, W1, from 30 September - 6 October, 11am - 7pm; pad-fairs.com

Sign up for the Telegraph Luxury newsletter for your weekly dose of exquisite taste and expert opinion.

