

JEWELLERY

5 Things To Know About Pad Fair 2018

From dinosaur fossils set with recycled gold to emeralds, rubies, and black onyx, jewellery editor Carol Woolton shares the details on London's most popular fair for 20th-Century art, design and decorative arts.



by CAROL WOOLTON

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ad fair boasts incredible decorative pieces, sculptures and 20th-Century art on stands reeking of Parisien chic. The trouble is you don't just want to buy just one thing, you pretty much want to move in and set up home on the stand. I'm convinced that the interiors of Emmanuelle Alt's house looks like any one of them. And yet what struck me as being truly innovative this year were the jewels.



CREDIT: COURTESY SUZANNE SYZ

I do not exaggerate when I say the jewellery is out of this world. Meteorites, which have fallen through space from a comet or asteroid through the atmosphere to earth, are a trend. Sometimes the oldest material can look the most contemporary. Lorenz Bäumer is showing his collection of modern-looking meteorites studded with coloured gemstones from the Place Vendôme, and New Yorker Monique Pean's stylish work glistens with ancient material such as meteorites, pyrite and dinosaur fossils set with recycled gold and repurposed diamonds.



CREDIT: COURTESY LORENZ BAUMER

Indeed, I've rarely seen so many innovative materials used before with such great success. Suzanne Syz took an old book of Andy Warhol's drawings for children; featuring brightly coloured koala bears, parrots and cars and replicated them in miniature paintings on enamel earrings. "I'm inspired by the '80s", she told me, "and I'm always looking for new materials and new possibilities that are light and comfortable." Her disc earrings and rings are cut from real vinyl, the pair I saw were studded with "We will rock you', but you can request whatever song you want. Hemmerle are reviving ancient crafts in contemporary jewels with vintage hand-painted porcelain faces of the Japanese gods of fortune swinging on brushed aluminium and diamonds, and have framed a large blue lozenge 27ct aquamarine with "Mikado" sticks. Glenn Spiro has trapped slender gold foil under glass, with a slither of black onyx and line of diamonds, on a hammered gold cuff and his ceramic earring petals shine with an otherworldly luminous glow around emeralds and rubies.



CREDIT: COURTESY HEMMERLI

The flair of women designers was on everyone's lips. On the The Objet d'Emotion stand Valery Demure enticed 11 female designers to showcase their unique pieces as well as their wildly different jewellery perspectives. The bright hand-painted and enamel pieces surrounding flat Muzo emeralds by Alice Cicolini sit alongside delicate pastel gemstone and pearls by Nadia Morgenthaler, energetic hand-painted Brazilian flora and fauna on wood by Silvia Furmanovich and vibrant gemstones cast onto gold stacking rings by Los Angeles-based designer Polly Wales.



CREDIT: COURTESY SILVIA FURMANOVICH

Walid Akkad's architectural-looking sleek yellow gold pieces were introduced to London for the first time. "I like to play with light", he says, "using both polished and brushed gold." Simple twisted shapes on pendants he calls "Volute" swing on one side with slick red enamel, and the other with green, whilst delicious-looking chocolate diamonds spiral on rings set into red gold. Lorenz Bäumer also plays with modernist architecture in the appearance of his geometric "Cubiste" and Labyrinthe pieces as well as the interior of floral rings, created with 3D printing leaving a coloured titanium hollow in the centre, this acts like a sponge when a drop of perfume sinks. Lean in and the precious flower has an aroma. Like I said, the jewels at PAD are spectacular and will capture every one of your senses.