

# GOLD CREATIVITY, COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 — FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017

Egyptian Gilded Funerary Mask, ca. 1480 BC.  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art. 1936.3.1.



Taking a wide-ranging look at gold and with a focus on jewelry, IAC explores the underpinnings of gold's abiding emotional power, allure, and enduring value. IAC's Gold Conference annually brings together representatives from all communities and disciplines to engage in a multi-faceted exploration of the power and meaning of gold.

"All creative art is magic," wrote Joseph Conrad, an "evocation of the unseen in forms persuasive." In the Seventh Annual Gold Conference, IAC considers the essential dialogue between the magician or artist and his audience, since experience of the magic or art is fundamental to its existence and to

understanding "The Magic of Gold," as it applies to art, industry and its elemental state. Gold is a symbol of ultimate emotional power, allure, and enduring value. This affirmation forms the foundation of this conference's inquiry, for which jewelry serves as the point of departure.

The conference will consider great jewelers and their works, focusing on the interplay between the artists and their materials and tools, those with whom they collaborate, and the influences upon them, as well as their influence on others. The conference will explore the relationship between gold objects and those who experience them, and how that relationship is inevitably affected by legislation, regulation, and world events. An increasing commitment to ethical sourcing and sustainability has impacted not only the ways in which gold is brought to both the wholesale and retail marketplaces, but how fine jewelry is created with a commitment to the fusion of ethical sourcing and aesthetic satisfaction. The conference will focus on the ways in which modern day retailers of gold jewelry are crafting compelling campaigns and create extraordinary sales environments to draw the consumer.

Richline and Signet are Leadership Sponsors.

Republic Metals Corporation is a sponsor at the Patron Level.

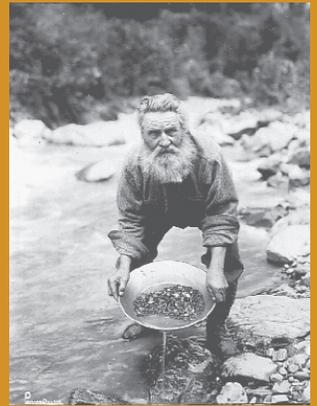
Hoover & Strong is a sponsor at the Supporter Level. Au is a sponsor at the Supporter Level.

We are also grateful for the support of Unleashed by Kara Ross.

We thank Aaron Faber Gallery and Reinstein/Ross, Goldsmiths who are hosting evening events.

Freeman's and the Society of North American Goldsmiths are media sponsors.

(as of 3/10/2017)



Miner from *The Klondike Gold Rush* reproduced in *Blair Lauren Brown Raw and Refined Jewelry Brand Book* and on cover *Yukon Gold: The Story of the Klondike Gold Rush* by Charlotte Jones.

**SIGNET**  
JEWELERS

**RICHLINE GROUP**

A Berkshire Hathaway Company

Richline Brands | Inverness | LeachGarner | Rio Grande

**HOOVER & STRONG**  
THE GOLD STANDARD



A A R O N  
F A B E R  
**FREEMAN'S**

# Wednesday, April 26, 2017

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Kick-Off Reception**  
**Remarks by Andrew Schloss**  
**Creative Director,**  
**Reinstein/Ross, Goldsmiths**

**REINSTEIN/ROSS, GOLDSMITHS**  
*Downtown Store and Gallery*  
*30 Gansevoort Street*



Reinstein/Ross, Goldsmiths, *Three Rings, Julia Ring* with peridot and diamonds in 22 kt. apricot gold, *Braid Ring* with Aquamarine in 20 kt. peach gold and *Shimmer Ring* with peach colored sapphire and diamonds in 20 kt. peach gold. Photo: Chris Stein; courtesy, Reinstein/Ross, Goldsmiths.

# Thursday, April 27, 2017

*Formal sessions take place at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue (between 34th and 35th Streets).*

8:45 – 9:15 a.m.

**Registration and continental breakfast**



Christoph Weigel, *Alchemist Producing Gold*, 1698, copper engraving from *Classes Book of Christoph Weigel*.

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.

**Introduction.** Lisa Koenigsberg.

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

***Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession, and How Desire Shapes the World.***

Aja Raden in conversation with Michelle Graff.

10:20 – 11:05 a.m.

**The Golden Menagerie: A Creative Journey.** Temple St. Clair.

11:05 – 11:20 a.m.

**Break**

11:20 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

**Cutting Through the Noise: Differentiating Between Editorial and Advertorial in Social Media.**

Barbara Palumbo, Mark Smelzer, Trace Shelton, Monica Stephenson; Peggy Jo Donahue, moderator.

12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

**Transforming Retail: A Conversation.** Andrea Hansen, Jim Tuttle, and Mickey Alam Khan.

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

**Lunch (on your own)**

2:15 – 3:05 p.m.

**Technological Alchemy: Alloys, Refining, and Other Transformations of Gold.** Ted Doudak, Linus Drogs, Lindsey Rubin, Stewart Grice; Andrea Hill, moderator.

3:10 – 4:00 p.m.

**New Models: Contemporary Collaborations and Collectives.** Simon Alcantara, Dean Harris, Kara Ross, Nicholas Varney; Victoria Gomelsky, moderator.

4:00 – 4:15 p.m.

**Break**

4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

**Where Are We Now: The Journey Toward Ethical Sourcing, Transparency, and Responsible Practice.**

Cecilia Gardner, Stewart Grice, Sasha Lezhnev, Christina Miller, Elizabeth Orlando, Toby Pomeroy; Rob Bates, moderator.

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**Reception and Viewing**

**AARON FABER GALLERY**  
*666 Fifth Avenue*  
*(on 53rd Street between*  
*Fifth and Sixth Avenues)*



Nicholas Varney, *Snake Cuff Bracelet*, 18 kt. yellow gold, cognac and colorless diamond, fire opal and ruby cabochon. Photo: Squaremoose Inc.

# Friday, April 28, 2017

Formal sessions take place at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue (between 34th and 35th Streets).

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

## Continental breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

## Opening Remarks.

Lisa Koenigsberg.

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

## Inspirations for 2018: Consumer Culture and Product Direction.

Paola De Luca.

10:05 – 10:55 a.m.

## Heritage, Traditional Methods, and New World Education: Goldsmith's Hall and Goldsmith's Center – Bringing Jewelers Into the 21st Century.

David Mills.

10:55 – 11:10 a.m.

## Break

11:10 – 11:55 a.m.

## Nectar: A Collaborative Project in Gold Between Atelier Zobel and the Max-Plank Institute of Ornithology.

Peter Schmid and Sue Schmid.



The Goldsmiths Centre. Photo, courtesy, The Goldsmiths Centre, 2016.

Pippa Small, Assorted Jewellery, gold and rough gems in their natural state. Photo: courtesy, Pippa Small Jewellery.



12:00 – 12:50 p.m.

## Regulatory Restrictions: Advocacy for and by Jewelers, Retailers, and Manufacturers.

Linus Drogs, Mark Hanna, Susan Thea Posnock, Sarah Yood; Peggy Jo Donahue, moderator.

12:50 – 2:00 p.m.

## Lunch (on your own)

2:00 – 2:55 p.m.

## Story Telling: The Importance of Narrative in Today's Jewelry Market.

Wendy Brandes, Brandee Dallow, Orin J. Mazzone, III, Melissa Quick and Steve Quick, Trace Shelton; Andrea Hill, moderator.

3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

## Alchemy, Dreams, and Gold: A Magical History Tour.

Jack Ogden.

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.

## Break

4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

## Strategies for Preserving Multi-Generational Businesses.

Lita Asscher, Blair Lauren Brown, Jean Z. Poh, Andrew Slesinger; Brett Barton, moderator.

4:45 – 5:30 p.m.

## The Transformational Power of Jewelry: A Conversation.

Pippa Small and Christina Miller.



Brass Hammer and Raw Alluvial Gold (Gold Nuggets) from Alaska. Photo: Blair Lauren Brown. Reproduced in Blair Lauren Brown Raw and Refined Jewelry Brand Book

# Presenters

**Lisa Koenigsberg**, Conference Director and President and Founder, Initiatives in Art and Culture. Formerly, she served as Advisor to the Dean for Arts Initiatives, and Director, Programs in the Arts and adjunct professor of arts, NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies. She also established the series of conferences which explores fashion, materials, and process. Former positions include: Assistant Director for Project Funding, Museum of the City of New York; Executive Assistant, Office of the President, American Museum of Natural History; architectural historian, New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission; and guest curator, Worcester Art Museum and Yale University Art Gallery. Her writings have appeared in books, journals, and magazines, and in Trendvision's *Trendbook 2018*, and she has organized symposia and special sessions at universities, museums, and professional organizations throughout the US and abroad. She holds graduate degrees from The Johns Hopkins University and from Yale University from which she received her PhD.

**Simon Alcantara**, jewelry designer; Alcantara has a reputation for crafting handmade, magical, whimsical, and modernist pieces that convey a feeling of exoticism and an adventurous spirit. Honored with the Rising Star Award for Fine Jewelry by Fashion Group International (FGI) and was also one of nine designers chosen by a panel of fashion editors, executives, and members of the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA) and the NY Transit System to design a subway-inspired accessory for the centennial celebration of the New York Subway System. Alcantara also formerly designed for Oscar de la Renta, Balmain Haute Couture and J. Mendel. Accepted into CFDA in 2004, Alcantara co-founded CREATIVE COLLECTIVE COL-LAB (March 2013); co-founded the Jewelry Designers of the CFDA Showcase (October 2013, with Tayla Cousins), and was elected chairman of the Jewelry Designers of the CFDA Committee (2015). A former professional classical dancer who danced soloist and principal roles in the U.S. and abroad, Alcantara is continuously exploring multiple art forms, including jewelry, photography, and film in his quest "to create something beautiful, meaningful, timeless, memorable."

**Lita Asscher**, President, Royal Asscher of America; born in Amsterdam, Holland, Asscher carries on the Asscher diamond tradition: her ancestors created the 1902 Asscher Cut diamond, and cut the 3105 carat Cullinan diamond for Great Britain's crown jewels, the largest diamond ever found. After finishing a management degree at Amsterdam's Hogeschool of Holland University and a successful stint at Dell® Computers in the Netherlands, Asscher pursued a diamond education in Antwerp at the High Council of Diamonds (HRD). In 2002, she joined Royal Asscher® Diamond Company to work alongside her father, uncle and brother, creating a pioneering jewelry line that complemented the extant loose diamond business. Her first collection (2005) debuted in the Netherlands; since then, she has designed a collection each year for Royal Asscher® in Europe, and the United States. In 2006, she established the company's North American business. Inspired by her parents' concern for an ethical society and social equity, Asscher has campaigned for an ethically operated diamond industry, focusing on issues affecting women and girls. In 2008, Royal Asscher launched a Sierra Leone-focused project, Star of Africa, which aims to improve infrastructure by funding education and self sufficiency programs. In 2009, Royal Asscher® teamed up with the Diamond Empowerment Fund® (DEF) to support DEF scholars from Sierra Leone who attend the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, funding the program through sales of the award-winning Stars of Africa Collection (introduced, 2009). Asscher has since joined the DEF board, and she serves on the boards of the 7Bar Foundation, which finances businesses started by underprivileged women through micro-economic loans; the Women's Jewelry Association; and the Jewelers Vigilance Committee (JVC).

**Brett Barton**, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, Bellevue, WA; Barton has over 25 years of experience providing complex wealth management solutions for affluent individuals and their families. He previously served as Senior Vice President, Private Client Manager, US Trust (1996 - 2016) where he managed a \$250MM investment, trust and credit portfolio consisting of over 200 high-net worth clients. He holds a degree from Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA.

**Rob Bates**, Senior Editor, *JCK*; Bates has written about the diamond and jewelry industries for nearly 20 years, for the *Rapaport Diamond Report*, *National Jeweler*, and, for the last 15 years, as senior editor of *JCK*. His responsibilities include reporting on the diamond industry and the high-volume retail sector, and helping compile *JCK's* daily e-newsletter. His blog, *Cutting Remarks*, has won two Jesse H. Neal awards from American Business Media, as well as an award for best B-to-B Blog at the *Media Industry Newsletter's* 2012 Best of the Web awards. His *JCK* articles have won five Eddies from *Folio* magazine, as well as the American Gem Society's prestigious Triple Zero Award and the 2016 Jewelers of American (JA) Gem Award for Excellence in Media. He has been quoted as an industry authority in *The New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and on National Public Radio.

**Wendy Brandes**, jewelry designer; her 18 kt. gold signature line—inspired by the true stories of powerful women—is known for its fierce designs, attention to detail, and "covert luxury," including hidden gems and surprising mechanical elements. Supermodel Christy Turlington captured the spirit of the collection when she called Brandes's Empress Wu dragon ring "a bit scary, but really a cool piece of art," after seeing it online. Brandes's designs have

been featured in publications such as *InStyle*, *ELLE*, *W Magazine*, *Paper*, and British *VOGUE*, and spotted on celebrities including Rihanna, model Bella Hadid, Britney Spears, and Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Skylar Grey. Brandes received Fashion Group International's Rising Star Award for fine jewelry in 2012, and her work has also been recognized in the AGTA Spectrum Awards, *JCK's* Jeweler's Choice Awards, and the American Jewelry Design Council New Talent Competition. Brandes led the luxury-goods industry into social media when she launched her blog in 2007, and the playfulness that she displays online is also seen in her diffusion line, which features emoji earrings, her much-mimicked F@#! ring set, and, most recently, *NASTY* and *PERSIST* necklaces. Before becoming a designer, Brandes spent over a decade as a journalist at the *Wall Street Journal*, CNN and *People* magazine. She received a BA in English from Columbia University.

**Blair Lauren Brown**, jewelry designer; Brown carries on her 112-year family tradition of handcrafted fine jewelry working with ethically sourced materials, raw uncut diamonds, and pure 24 kt. gold nuggets. All of the pieces are handmade in the USA and locally produced in New York. This uniqueness and emphasis on sourcing allows a unique story to be told with every piece. Driven by a deep appreciation for nature and a commitment to sustainability, for Blair Lauren Brown, preservation is paramount. The refined gold and sterling silver used are certified recycled precious metals, and all the stones are responsibly sourced and conflict free. Personally active in all of the campaigns supported by her business, Blair uses her company and her position as a platform for awareness and community building and as a structural support to hostess and facilitate events in support of ethical causes on a larger scale. She has observed that she has "designed this line out of a pure love for the outdoors and an absolute respect for the rough and wild place where I was born. ... Alaska is the untamed place where nature continues on, and what stays the same is the coming and going of seasons in a completely rugged landscape."

**Brandee Dallow**, Director, North America Representative Office - Diamonds Sales and Marketing, Rio Tinto; an award-winning, marketing, branding, and communications specialist in the luxury goods and fine jewelry sectors, since March 2014, Dallow in her leadership capacity at Rio, has developed compelling programs that drive a competitive advantage for Rio Tinto Diamonds' Select Diamantaires in their U.S.-based, downstream activities. Prior to joining Rio Tinto, she was Vice President of Marketing & Communications for the Julius Klein Group - a world-renowned diamond manufacturer; she holds the distinction of being the company's first female executive in more than 65 years. She joined the international jewelry industry in 1999 as a Manager/Partner at J Walter Thompson in the public relations group for De Beers' Diamond Trading Company. Dallow is the current, international President of the Women's Jewelry Association (WJA) from which received the Award for Excellence in Marketing & Communications (2009) and she is a member of the 24 Karat Club of New York. She has provided voiceovers for numerous documentaries and commercials, was an on-air reporter and news anchor in both television and radio.

**Paola De Luca**, Founder, The Futurist Ltd.; a creative intelligence firm, The Futurist specializes in trend forecasting and strategic projects in the luxury and jewelry sectors. In partnership with Italy's Vicenza Fair, organizer of one of the world's leading international jewelry trade fairs, she co-founded in 2012 TRENDVISION Jewellery + Forecasting, an independent observatory focusing on trend forecasting for the jewelry industry. Starting her career in New York in 1989, she landed her first job as a designer for Fendi Jewelry and Watches, later collaborating with leading luxury brands, such as Salvatore Ferragamo, Harry Winston, and Swarovski. In 2002, in partnership with CRU Group of London, she established TJF Group Ltd. For a decade, TJF Group focused on research and forecasting, launching the *TJF Trend book*, which became the world's first and most authoritative jewelry trends publication. In 2010, De Luca undertook a collaboration with Rio Tinto Diamonds serving as the company's global Design Director. As Creative Director, she leads design projects; educational programs for buyers, government organizations; brands and manufacturers; she coordinates research think tanks and market trends-focused projects.

**Peggy Jo Donahue**, owner, Donahue Communications, Content Creation and Social Networking; Donahue works with clients both in and outside the jewelry and gemstone industries. She previously worked as director of the MJSA Education Foundation, and as Public Affairs Director for both MJSA and JA. She was also Editor-in-Chief of both *Professional Jeweler* and *JCK* magazines, where she earned two Neal Awards from American Business Media for her reporting on legal and crime issues. Donahue is the author of five books. Her professional service includes: member, Advisory Group for the Diamond Development Initiative (DDI); member, Advisory Council for Ethical Metalsmiths; member, WJA International Board (communications chair); member, WJA New York Metro Board (social networking communications); member, Jewelers Equality Alliance Board. She also serves as a job coach at the GIA's Career Fairs.

**Ted Doudak**, Founder and CEO, Riva Precision Manufacturing Inc.; a Brooklyn resident. Doudak moved to New York City from Lebanon in May 1985 having completed a BA in Business Administration at American University of Beirut. In 1988, he founded RIVA Precision Manufacturing: a state-of-the-art, high-tech manufacturing plant in New York City. RIVA offers a full jewelry contracting service under one roof, from traditional jewelry-

making to stamping, computerized rapid prototyping, chain making and enameling to making their own precious metal alloys, metal molds and dies. RIVA consistently upgrades its technology in order to best service its clients. Their work is truly a fusion of engineering and art.

**Linus Drogs**, owner and President, AU Enterprises; a nationally respected, casting professional with over 33 years of experience in the field, Drogs founded Au Enterprises in 1987 and has built it into a leading, short-run, full-service private label manufacturer. A participant in The Santa Fe Symposium for 21 consecutive years, he has been named an Ambassador for the event. Drogs is frequently called upon to lecture and lead workshops on a variety of challenging industry topics as well as write and contribute to technical articles for jewelry trade magazines. Currently he is consulting for Norilsk Nickel Mining in Russia with Palladium Global Marketing to expand palladium as a jewelry metal.

**Cecilia Gardner**, independent consultant, and General Counsel to and director of the US Kimberly Process Authority Institute; former President, CEO, and General Counsel, JVC, a not-for-profit trade association dedicated to compliance with laws pertaining to the jewelry industry. A graduate of Smith College and Hofstra University School of Law, Gardner's career has included positions as a federal prosecutor at the Office of the US Attorney for the Eastern District of New York. As an assistant US attorney, she specialized in narcotics, money laundering, organized crime, and white-collar cases. Her positions included appointments as the deputy chief of the Narcotics Unit and as attorney-in-charge in the Long Island Office.

**Victoria Gomelsky**, Editor-in-Chief, JCK; prior to joining the 148-year-old jewelry trade publication based in New York City, she was the editor of *Couture International Jeweler* and a senior editor at *National Jeweler*. Gomelsky's freelance work has appeared in the *International New York Times*, *The New York Times*, *WSJ Magazine*, *Robb Report*, the *Hollywood Reporter*, and *Waking Up American: Coming of Age Biculturally*, an anthology published by Seal Press. She graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from UCLA with a BA in political science in 1995 and earned her MFA in nonfiction writing from Columbia University in 2002. She specializes in jewelry and watch writing but her greatest love has always been travel—55 countries and counting. She divides her time between New York City and Los Angeles.

**Michelle Graff**, Editor-in-Chief, *National Jeweler*; a native of Pittsburgh who earned her journalism degree at Ohio University, she began working at *National Jeweler* in 2007 as the senior editor, traveling to Israel, Africa, Dubai, and Belgium to learn about the jewelry industry. In August 2013, the company promoted her to her present position, and she now oversees the content on *National Jeweler.com* as well as the 109-year-old publication's new digital magazine. Graff was the 2014 winner of the WJA's Award for Excellence in the editorial category.

**Stewart Grice**, Vice President, Mill Products, Hoover & Strong; he holds a Higher Diploma in Physics, a Degree in Materials Science, and a Masters in Metallurgy & Materials. A Fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, and a Chartered Engineer with the Engineering Council of Great Britain, he co-authored the precious metals chapter of the *ASM International Metals Handbook on Metallurgy and Microstructures*, has had publications in *Gold Technology* and other trade journals and magazines. He has presented 10 papers at the Santa Fe Symposium® on jewelry manufacturing technology, co-authored eight papers, and received seven industry awards. A two-time presenter at the MJSA "Great Minds of Jewelry" seminars, Grice has over 20 years experience in the jewelry industry working in alloy and process design, technical support, and production management. He has been a member of numerous councils and committees within the jewelry industry. He also has six years experience in industrial ceramic research.

**Mark Hanna**, Chief Marketing Officer, Richline Group, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway Company; during Hanna's 45 years in the jewelry industry, he has had experience in all facets of management, manufacturing, marketing, sales and corporate responsibility. He was honored as one of the US's top 200 CMOs and with the CMO Club's Highest Award for Corporate Social Responsibility.

**Andrea Hansen**, Founder, LuxelIntelligence; in 2012 Hansen created LuxelIntelligence, a brand intelligence and global business development consulting firm for manufacturers, designers, and retailers of luxury and consumer goods and services combining sourcing, manufacturing, and branding, digital marketing and social networking expertise, but always with a commitment to helping the industry navigate the future of retail, embrace the role of technology in consumer engagement and the store experience. Hansen started her career in 1985, when she took a summer job working as a workshop tour guide at H. Stern Jewelers World headquarters in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In 1993, having graduated with a Master's degree in advertising and marketing from ESPM, and a BA in journalism and communications from UERJ, Hansen moved to New York to study business at NYU. She was soon after appointed Marketing Director of H. Stern, North America. By 1995, she had become a vital force in the global repositioning of the brand. In 1997 Hansen launched a "Jeweler for the Stars" campaign placing H. Stern jewels on all major celebrities, using the star design as a signature of the brand's products. In 2003, she led the teams that initiated wholesale distribution, opening the market for H. Stern products in 20 new countries, and in 2004, developed and launched a collection co-designed with Diane von Furstenberg, the first high profile FashionLuxury collaboration of its kind. By 2007, H. Stern was well positioned as a leader in the designer fine jewelry arena with over 300 points of sale in 32 markets, and an early adopter of digital marketing. In 2009 Hansen became the first CEO of then newly-

launched Ivanka Trump brand, challenged to create a new brand for women in the accessible luxury arena. Soon after the jewelry launch, the brand evolved its product line into apparel, footwear, handbags, eyewear and fragrance, through strategic licensing and distribution partnerships. She sits on the boards of Women's Jewelry Association, the Reign Australian Sapphires, Jewelers Mutual, and Peace of the Action, which mentors women entrepreneurs in such regions as Pakistan, Southeast Asia and Latin America.

**Dean Harris**, jewelry designer; a self-taught artist who lives and works in New York, Harris has chosen the medium of metal to express himself. He began his namesake company in 1998. Each unique piece he creates strives to balance the organic, fluid motion of his craft with the idea of what it means to be modern. Attention to detail is always important, as are impeccable materials. Combined, they tell a story of modern luxury. In 2000, after one year in business, he received the Council of Fashion Designers of America Perry Ellis Award for best new accessory designer. Further accolades include: the display of his "Branch Tiara" at The Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute during the "Goddess" exhibit (2003); his solo show at Kent State University Museum (2007-2008); and inclusion in a group jewelry show at the Carnegie Mellon Museum of Natural History (2010). His work has been published in the following books: *Sample* (2005, Phaidon Press) which showcased the top 100 designers of the new millennium; *American Fashion Accessories* (2008) by Candy Pratts Price, *Catwalk Cats* (2006) by Grace Coddington, Ralph Rucci: *The Art of Weightlessness* (2006), and *The One Hundred* (2008) by Nina Garcia. In 2004, Dean was one in the first group of finalists selected for the CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund; the competition for this grant was documented in *Seamless*, a film by Douglas Keefe. In 2008, he was selected by Target to be their second guest jewelry designer; the successful partnership was extended into 2009. Runway collaborations include designing jewelry for Marc Jacobs, Doo Ri, Derek Lam, Peter Som, John Varvatos, and Ralph Rucci.

**Andrea Hill**, Founder and CEO, Hill Management Group, LLC, with the brands StrategyWex, SupportWex, and MentorWex; for over 25 years as CEO and president, she has successfully led start-up through mid-sized companies to rapid and profitable growth. A highly regarded author of books—most recently, *How-to-Hire Handbook for Small Business Owners*, and the forthcoming *Big Business Brand, Small Business Budget*—magazine articles (including her regular column for *MJSA Journal*), and business education materials, her experience spans multiple industries: she served as CEO, Rio Grande Jewelry Supply; President, Fulcrum Direct/After the Stork, an international clothing manufacturer and direct marketer; President, Anthill Marketing, a marketing services firm and as a founding senior executive of Playboy's direct marketing catalog operations in music and video. Hill's particular expertise is in preparing companies for growth to improve the bottom line or approach serious investors.

**Mickey Alam Khan**, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, *Luxury Daily*, the world's leading luxury business publication. He was also founder/Editor-in-Chief of *Mobile Marketer* and *Mobile Commerce Daily*, leading publications in the mobile space. He was previously Editor-in-Chief of *eMarketer* and *DM News* and, prior to those stints, correspondent for Advertising Age. He is based in New York.

**Sasha Lezhnev**, Associate Director of Policy, Enough Project, where he focuses on peace, conflict, and corporate accountability issues in central Africa; Lezhnev is a Governance Committee member of the Public-Private Alliance on Responsible Minerals Trade and a founding director of the Grassroots Reconciliation Group, an organization that runs projects with former child soldiers in northern Uganda. He previously worked at Global Witness, the International Crisis Group, and the US Institute of Peace on US policy issues on conflict resources, extractive industries transparency, and peace processes in Africa. He was based in Uganda for 2 1/2 years as a senior program officer with the Northern Uganda Peace Initiative and advisor to the chief mediator of the peace process with the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). He is author of the book *Crafting Peace: Strategies to Deal with Warlords in Collapsing States* (2005). He holds a master's degree in International Relations from Cambridge University and a BS in Foreign Service *magna cum laude* from Georgetown University.

**Orin J. Mazzoni, III**, Director, *Sharing the Rough*; an American filmmaker who was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan into a third-generation family jewelry business, Mazzoni spent ten years working in his family's jewelry business as a Graduate Gemologist and Certified Gemologist Appraiser before earning an MFA in Motion Pictures and Television from the Academy of Art in San Francisco. His thesis film, *Larkin*, won a record five awards over seven nominations at the San Francisco Epidemic Film Festival, and he further established his creative directorial skills when he directed Ethan Coen's *Almost an Evening* to five sold-out audiences in San Francisco and Detroit. *Sharing the Rough* is his feature directorial debut, and was an unexpected yet perfect collision of his two passions, gemology and filmmaking. *Sharing the Rough* has proven to be a film that not only shows the passion for the gem and jewelry world, but also inspires people across all industries, reinvigorating them through the power of the human spirit.

**Christina Miller**, independent consultant working to inspire and mentor bold social and environmental leadership in jewelry and the arts; Miller is Co-Founder and former Executive Director of Ethical Metalsmiths (EM), a non-profit advocacy organization founded in 2004 that strives to increase responsibility in the jewelry industry. In 2013 EM successfully introduced FAIRMINED gold to the US in collaboration with 23 independent jewelers and Hoover & Strong.



Simon Alcantara, *White Gold and Diamond Pavé Hand Woven Chain Fringe Earrings*.



Temple St. Clair, *The Bee Bracelet*, 2016, from *The Big Game*, 18 kt. gold with Imperial topaz, Ceylon sapphire and diamond. Photo: Temple St. Clair.

## Registration

Registration confirmations are sent via email.

### To register on-line:

**www.iacgold2017.eventbrite.com**

**By e-mail:** Fill in the registration form and send to: [info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com).

**By phone:** Using American Express®, Visa® Card, Discover®, or MasterCard®, call (646) 485-1952.

**Fee:** The conference fee is \$350 with single-day registration options available; for information call (646) 485-1952. Student rate \$100 (with ID). To receive a discounted rate, you must provide proof of status.

**Withdrawal and refunds:** Notice of withdrawal must be made in writing to: Initiatives in Art and Culture, 333 East 57th Street, Suite 13B, New York, NY 10022 or to the Program Office via e-mail at [info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com). No refunds will be made after April 13, 2017.

**Conference location:** This conference will take place at The Graduate Center, City University of New York with events at Reinstein/Ross, Goldsmiths and Aaron Faber Gallery.

Program subject to change.

Single-day registration options available; please send inquiries to: [info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com) or call (646) 485-1952.

**Please register me for GOLD: Creativity, Community and Collaboration. The conference fee is \$350 with single-day registration options available. Please send inquiries to [info@artinitiatives.com](mailto:info@artinitiatives.com) or call (646) 485-1952. Student rate \$100 (with ID).**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
Day-time phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

Payment is enclosed (check or money order made payable to Initiatives in Art and Culture), or

I authorize you to charge my credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Visa®  American Express®  Mastercard®  Discover®

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ CVC code \_\_\_\_\_

Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Billing zip code \_\_\_\_\_



Mark Schneider, *Pendant Created for Sharing the Rough Documentary*, 18 kt. yellow gold and platinum featuring a 13.65 ct. shield shape mint green grossular garnet, 5.22 ct. bullet shaped red garnet, 0.425 ctw. white diamonds, and 0.70 ctw. natural fancy yellow diamonds. Photo: Trevor Toma.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Presenters

Prior to assuming the directorship of EM, Miller was an assistant professor of jewelry and metalsmithing at Millersville University in Pennsylvania, from which she had received her BFA prior to receiving an MFA from East Carolina University.

**David Mills**, Director of Communications and Marketing, Goldsmiths' Company; as part of his role, Mills serves as Director of Goldsmiths' Fair, the UK's premier fine jewelry and contemporary silver selling exhibition held annually at Goldsmiths' Hall. The best goldsmiths and silversmiths working in the UK are selected each year to show at the Fair and in 2016, sales reached just over £3 million during the two-week exhibition. Mills comes from a background in fashion PR having worked in marketing and PR for Jasper Conran, the British designer whose stylish designs range from high fashion to affordable luxury.

**Jack Ogden**, leading expert on jewelry history and a jewelry industry consultant; he is a member of the fourth generation of a well-known British jewelry business, but after a brief period in it, he entered the consulting field, working with museums, auction houses, dealers, and collectors worldwide primarily on problems of authenticity of historical metal jewelry. He has written and lectured widely on ancient and historic jewelry and taught courses at The J. Paul Getty Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, the NYU Institute of Fine Arts, and the Institute of Archaeology (London). His 1982 book *Jewellery of the Ancient World* remains the standard work on early jewelry materials and technology. An elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, he has a doctorate from Durham University (Egyptology), the Gem-A Gemmology Diploma (with distinction), and the Diploma in Art Profession Law and Ethics (with distinction) from the Institute of Art Law. Over the years, he has also been chief executive of the Gemmological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A) and run CIBJO (the World Jewellery Confederation) and several of his own companies.

**Elizabeth Orlando**, Economic Officer, Bureau of Economic Affairs, Office of Threat Finance and Countermeasures, US Department of State; Orlando joined the State Department Foreign Service in 1992, and now oversees implementation of the Kimberley Process and Dodd Frank Act on Conflict Minerals, while also covering artisanal mining issues. The recipient of a BA from Mount Vernon College (now George Washington University), she holds a JD from the University of Akron School of Law and a certificate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) from Duke University. After three years at a private law firm and as a mediator for the city of Akron, Orlando was a Court Advocate for victims of violence in NY before joining the Department of State. A Tex Harris Awardee for Constructive Dissent (2004) and the recipient of the Secretary of State Outstanding Overseas Volunteer Award (SOSA, 2013), Orlando has lived in Frankfurt, Germany; Bangkok, Thailand; Helsinki, Finland; and Abuja, Nigeria and has traveled to over 170 countries. Her writings have appeared in the *Washington Times*, in *Stars and Stripes* European edition, *Connection Magazine*, and she published *A Field of Flowers: Tales from a Diplomat's Journey*. Active in Toastmasters International, she has earned the Distinguished Toastmaster Award twice. The founder of five Toastmasters clubs—including three in Abuja, Nigeria—Orlando has worked with thousands of youth and adults on business etiquette, public speaking, negotiation, and leadership in programs with the Hispanic College Fund, the National Hispana Leadership Institute, Latinas Learning to Lead, the Girls Scouts of Washington, Today's Teachers—Tomorrow's Leaders, and the YMCA.

**Barbara Palumbo**, Founder, *Adornmentality.com*; freelance editorial writer, jewelry industry veteran, speaker, and social media personality, Palumbo writes the popular and humorous online jewelry publication, *Adornmentality.com*, and in 2016 launched a female-friendly watch publication titled *WhatsOnHerWrist.com*. With a background in wholesale and retail jewelry sales, manufacturing, and marketing, she has written for a variety of trade magazines over her 21 years in the jewelry industry. Palumbo states that her strong suit is her ability to tell a written story in her own voice without hesitation or fear of retribution.

**Jean Z. Poh**, Founder and CEO, Swoonery; a luxury e-commerce experience, Swoonery provides customers with access to over 74 international fine jewelry brands and a wide array of unique, impeccably crafted, fine jewelry offerings using proprietary, taste-based recommendation technology that facilitates discovery and personalizes the online shopping experiences. Poh is the fourth generation in a family of high-jewelry professionals and collectors. She began investing in startups at the age of 28 during her first career as a venture-capital attorney. She later left law to work with her father in the jewelry industry, earning a graduate degree in diamonds from the Gemological Institute of America, apprenticing with a famous jewelry master, studying jewelry history, and teaching herself to design and render jewelry. She began designing one-of-a-kind pieces for private clients and funded the establishment of her jewelry atelier by designing jewelry for established designer brands, brokering international diamond and gem transactions and consulting for an overseas jewelry conglomerate helping them set up their first flagship store in Manhattan. Poh started Swoonery to address the difficulties and inconveniences consumers faced when trying to shop for jewelry and the challenges that designers are confronted with in an outdated and inefficient industry. Her love of fine jewelry compelled her to create a platform allowing people to connect with exquisitely crafted pieces and experience the true beauty and integrity behind the art of jewelry-making.

**Toby Pomeroy**, designer, goldsmith, activist for social and environmental responsibility in the jewelry industry; he is President of TOBY POMEROY, a jewelry design and manufacturing firm in Corvallis, Oregon that creates distinctive jewelry of uncompromising quality; Pomeroy is actively committed to an ethical jewelry industry and to the empowerment of responsible artisanal and small-scale miners globally. The son of medical missionary parents, Pomeroy grew up in the bio-diverse foothills of the north Indian Himalayas and was indelibly influenced by the region and its craftspeople. Creating jewelry in his Oregon studio, his forged work is recognized by its elegant simplicity and wearable style. In 2005, Pomeroy committed to the possibility of reversing the devastating environmental and social impacts of conventional mining and was one of the first jewelry designers in the US to widely encourage jewelers to use and promote the benefits of using reclaimed gold and silver. A dedicated advocate for responsible mining, he is a member of the board of directors of the Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM), a nongovernmental organization (NGO) whose purpose is to empower responsible artisanal and small-scale mining and enhance the quality of life of artisanal miners, their families, and their communities. Pomeroy believes that the jewelry industry can be pivotal in instituting responsible mining practices by purchasing responsibly sourced gems and metals with transparent chains of custody, from mine to market.

**Susan Thea Posnock**, Director of Public Affairs and Education, Jewelers of America (JA); through JA Public Affairs, she works on issues related to responsible business practices in the jewelry supply chain, from mine to retail, as well as legislative and legal issues and policies that impact the jewelry industry. Posnock also oversees JA's education department, which provides a gateway to higher learning and career development. Education includes seminars, professional certification, and discounts and scholarships on leading industry education. Posnock has more than 20 years' experience in the journalism and public affairs fields. Prior to joining JA, she worked as senior editor for *National Jeweler* magazine, where she covered the international diamond and jewelry industries.

**Steve Quick**, CEO and Founder, and **Melissa Quick**, President, Steve Quick Jeweler; this trio of boutique jewelry stores in Chicago was started 30 years ago with three showcases, a safe and 280 square feet by Steve Quick who quickly realized he didn't fit into the jewelers row mentality and moved to the Lincoln Park neighborhood. This gave him the room and audience to start focusing on designer and custom jewelry. In the early '90s, Steve Quick Jeweler was one of the first jewelry stores in Chicago to feature groupings of small batch jewelry designers including Spectrum winner William Richey, George Sawyer, Anthony Gerard and Lapponia. At about this time, Melissa joined him, and they began to build the Steve Quick brand together. In 2008 they added a second location, with the third coming in 2012. They have been recognized as a Top 10 Designer Retailer, Top 3 Coolest Store in America and Small Business of the year by the chamber of commerce, and pride themselves on being different, supporting up and coming designers and only carrying jewelry that they love.

**Aja Raden**, author, *Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession, and How Desire Shapes the World*; Raden studied ancient history and physics at the University of Chicago and, during that time, worked as the Head of Auction Division at the famed House of Kahn Estate Jewelers. For over seven years, she worked as the Senior Designer for the Los Angeles-based fine jewelry company, Tacori. Raden is an experienced jeweler, trained scientist, and well-read historian, and her expertise sits at the intersection of academic history, industry experience, and scientific perspective. She lives in Beverly Hills, California, and her book, *Stoned*, was a *New York Times* bestseller.

**Kara Ross**, jewelry and accessories designer; Kara's inspiration stems from a ring she designed featuring a native gemstone which her parents allowed her to choose on a childhood safari to Africa. After graduating from Georgetown and a brief stint at *Harper's Bazaar*, Ross became a certified gemologist and designed distinctive one-of-a-kind pieces. In 2003, Ross founded the company Kara Ross, LLC, with a focus on work inspired by alternative materials, and gemstones in their raw, organic forms. The company debuted with a fine jewelry collection, which earned her recognition from such associations as CFDA and WJA. She also received the GEM Award from JA in 2014. Her most famous clients to date are former President and Mrs. Obama for whom she designed gifts for esteemed White House visitors. Recognized as works of art, her jewelry can be seen at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, The Museum of Arts and Design, New York; and the San Diego Natural History Museum. An exhibition of her work—also featured in *Living Jewels: Masterpieces from Nature* (R. Peltason, 2010)—was mounted at the GIA Museum in 2013. That year, she opened the first Kara Ross boutique on New York's Madison Avenue. In 2015, Ross launched Diamonds Unleashed, a lifestyle brand that promotes and supports women's empowerment initiatives from the arc of education to employment.

**Lindsey Rubin**, Corporate Secretary, Republic Metals Corporation (RMC); Rubin joined the family business, which was established by her father in 1980, after completing her Bachelor of Science from the Boston University's College of Communication and her Graduate Gemology and Accredited Jewelry Professional degrees at the Gemological Institute of America. Republic Metals is one of the world's leading primary precious metals refineries; headquartered in Miami, Republic boasts state-of-the-art gold, silver, and stone

removal refineries, as well as a world-class minting facility. Throughout its history, Republic has displayed excellence in precious metals refining in a manner considered environmentally-friendly, as demonstrated through its long-standing registration with ISO 14001. Republic holds gold delivery listings with the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA), Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), Shanghai Gold Exchange (SGE), and the Singapore Bullion Market Association (SBMA) along with certifications from the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC), for both the Code of Practices standard and the Chain-of-Custody protocols, the Conflict-Free Smelter Initiative (CFSI), the Ethical Alliance (EA), and ISO9001:2015 for quality control and assurance.

**Temple St. Clair**, jewelry designer; she found her passion for creative expression in gold and precious gemstones 30 years ago and established her company in Florence, Italy, beginning her partnership with the world's finest goldsmiths – the centuries-old Florentine jewelers'guild. Barney's New York inaugurated their fine jewelry department with her first collection in 1986. In 2016, Temple St. Clair was awarded JA's GEM Award for Jewelry Design, the industry's most prestigious honor. With an artist's eye and explorer's heart, St. Clair fashions expressions of universal narratives of the earth and cosmos with rare colored gems and distinctive gold work. Her Fine Jewellery collection is recognized for signature iconic rock crystal amulets, signature triple granulation and archer's granule, and in it, St. Clair creates one-of-a-kind pieces born out of a quest for the rarest stones. In her Haute Couture work, St. Clair explores meaningful themes through a lens of whimsy and discovery retaining an uncompromising approach to her choice of materials and execution. Her critically acclaimed nine-piece collection of Haute Couture, *Mythical Creatures from the Golden Menagerie*, debuted in Paris at the Louvre Museum in 2015. Among her publications are *The Golden Menagerie* (2016), celebrating her Haute Couture collection, and *Alchemy: A Passion for Jewels* (2008). In June 2017, her 18kt. *Eight-Ring Tolomeo Pendant*, the central work in her Celestial collection, will become part of the permanent collection of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs at the Louvre.

**Peter Schmid**, owner and Creative Director, Atelier Zobel; Schmid studied Goldsmithing at the renowned, Berufskolleg für Design, Schmuck und Gerät in Schwäbisch Gmünd, and later received a grant to study at the Escola Massana in Barcelona. In 1995 Schmid became a key figure at Atelier Zobel, which was founded in 1968, and in 2005 assumed leadership of the studio. The Atelier's precious jewelry has celebrated color and pattern, using varied techniques and materials (patterned gold surfaces in which 24 kt. is fused on 18 kt. gold; oxidized sterling silver surfaces fused with 24 kt. gold or platinum, 21 kt. rose gold patterned with platinum and pure gold). Under Schmid's direction, the jewelry has become increasingly sculptural with a pronounced three-dimensionality, and concern for scale and size. Gemstones are unusual or unusually cut (such as oversize cabochon quartz domes, raw diamonds, rubellites and transparent squares of amethyst or beryl). Under Schmid's artistic direction Atelier Zobel continues to win awards, including the Couture Design Award, Las Vegas. The collection can be seen in more than 40 galleries around the world, as well as many private and public collections, including the Boston Museum of Fine Art, Museum of Art and Design, New York, Schumuckmuseum Pforzheim. Most recently, his work graced the red carpet worn by Elizabeth Banks to the world premiere of "The Hunger Games- Mockingjay."

**Trace Shelton**, Editor-in-Chief, *INSTORE Magazine*, a business magazine for North American jewelry retailers. He became acquainted with the jewelry industry as part of his first job after college: working as a copywriter and media buyer for Williams Marketing, an advertising agency for small business owners. He continued to work with jewelers as a senior account executive for Olmstead Consulting. In all, he spent six years working directly with jewelers as a marketing executive. He began writing freelance articles for *INSTORE Magazine* in 2003, and in 2004, he was hired as a senior editor. In 2007, he took on the role of editor-in-chief of another Smartwork Media publication, *INDESIGN* (a niche B2B for designer-oriented retailers) while remaining as a contributing editor with *INSTORE* of which he was named Editor-in-Chief in July 2016. During his time with Smartwork Media, he and the jewelry publishing team have won numerous publishing awards from the Jesse H. Neal Awards, FOLIO, and Trade Association Business Publications International (TABPI).

**Andrew Slesinger**, owner, Rough Diamond World (RDW); a New York-based sixth-generation diamond company with family in and connections to the industry worldwide, Rough Diamond World only purchases goods from those who strictly adhere to the Kimberley Process. In addition, RDW buys jewelry and reclaims (and sometimes recuts) the polished diamonds; these are sold as another ethically sourced product. RDW also manufactures rough diamonds and offers custom cutting. Pursuant to the Kimberley Process every stone is guaranteed to be conflict free. RDW is one of only a few entities within the United States authorized by the United States Kimberley Process Authority and the Jewelers Vigilance Committee to issue Kimberley Process certificates for international shipment of rough diamonds.

**Pippa Small**, London-based jewelry designer; she has worked for over 20 years to pioneer an organic sensibility that respects the natural contours of the stones employed and that inspire her choice of setting. Small's jewels embody a story, speak of a distant culture and employ ancient skills handed on to an indigenous or tribal craftsman. A pioneer in working with gold mined without harming the environment, often by community cooperatives, and always in a manner respectful of labor rights, Small has also worked closely with indigenous, tribal and traditional crafts persons to develop jewelry and other art works that draw on their traditions while helping them to

reach a new and demanding world market. For her collaborations on projects with the Kuna Indians of Panama, the Batwa of Rwanda, the San Bushmen of Botswana, slum dwellers in Kenya, Afghan artisans, and Aymara goldsmiths in Bolivia, she was honored in 2008 by the human rights organization Survival International, which named her its ambassador. She also received the 2015 Ethical Jeweler of the Year. Her work is also recognized by such influential designers as Tom Ford, Nicole Farhi, Phoebe Philo and Christina Kim, with whom she has collaborated. She has worked with the fairtrade company MADE in Kenya and continues to work with the charity Turquoise Mountain in Afghanistan. She has shops in London, Santa Monica, and New York.

**Mark Smelzer**, Publisher, *JCK* and *JCKonline.com*; *JCK Magazine*, "The Industry Authority," is widely regarded as the jewelry industry's leading trade publication. *JCKonline.com* is the industry's one-stop location for trade news, JCK Show information, product sourcing and retailing tips, as well as "native advertising" and sponsored content from the JCK Content Studio. Smelzer joined JCK in June 2004, bringing 15 years of publishing experience to the position, including roles as publisher of the trend-setting *Buzz* magazine, advertising director for the online sales and consulting firm L90, and associate publisher of the world's leading entertainment industry trade, *Variety*. Smelzer received his undergraduate degree in political science from UCLA, and an MBA from the Anderson School of Management at UCLA.

**Monica Stephenson**, Founder, *idazzle*; a writer, jewelry expert, and entrepreneur with over 20 years experience in the jewelry industry, and certificates from the Gemological Institute of America, Stephenson has poured her passion for the stories of artisan jewelry, designers and trends into the jewelry blog, *idazzle.com* since 2008. She is active in the industry as a board member of the Women's Jewelry Association and Ethical Metalsmiths, and is thrilled to be a frequent speaker about social media and responsible sourcing. A particular fascination with gemstones and East Africa led to the founding of ANZA Gems in 2015, and her adventures as the "accidental gem dealer" lead her all over the globe: you can follow along on social media at @idazzle or @anzagems.

**Jim Tuttle**, Founder and President, Green Lake Jewelry Works; in his nearly 30 years as a bench jeweler, designer and CAD modeler, he has made thousands of custom pieces with and for his clients at Green Lake. A leader in the custom jewelry industry, Tuttle speaks at many industry events, including MJSA Expo, JCK Vegas, Seattle Metals Guild, the *Instore* jewelry show bench competitions, Portland jewelry symposium and Gemvision conclaves on topics ranging from online custom design and customer experience based retailing to CAD/CAM and the resurgence of traditional fine jewelry making skills. A member of AGTA, he holds several GIA jewelry and gemology certificates and is on the MJSA Custom Jewelry Advisory Council. Green Lake Jewelry Works is two of the largest custom jewelry shops open to the public, with over 65 jewelry artists in two Seattle area locations. The Seattle shop was chosen as "Coolest Big Jewelry Store" by *INSTORE Magazine* in 2012. The Bellevue location, with lessons from Green Lake's 20 years as a leader in the custom jewelry business, was built both to be a great working shop for their jewelry artists and as an inviting and interesting place for clients. Viewed as a model for the custom jewelry business of the future, Green Lake is a member of AGTA & MJSA.

**Nicholas Varney**, jewelry designer; Varney, who believes that jewelry is the most expressive ornament, designs his one-of-a-kind pieces with the singular goal of delighting, through craftsmanship, the world's most discerning women. His company, NICHOLAS VARNEY JEWELS, is recognized for its pursuit of the world's rarest and most beautiful stones. His pieces have been included in *VOGUE*, *DEPARTURES*, *W*, *THE ROBB REPORT*, *TOWN & COUNTRY*, *Harper's BAZAAR*, *ELLE* and many other top fashion magazines. Educated in fine schools in New York, Newport and Florida, Varney was born into a family with sophisticated taste in design, and he traveled all over the world from the Caribbean to Russia. After graduating from college in the United States, he completed his education at the Gemological Institute of America in Vicenza, Italy and thereafter opened his design studio. He was inducted into the CFDA in 2006.

**Sara Yood**, Senior Counsel at the Jewelers Vigilance Committee (JVC), is an attorney admitted in the state of New York with extensive experience in intellectual property law. Yood's responsibilities at JVC include trademark monitoring, trademark litigation, advertising monitoring, creating legal compliance tools and publications, and general legal support. She has developed an additional expertise in U.S. and international laws concerning the importation and exportation of animal materials used in jewelry, and has authored multiple JVC publications illustrating the laws surrounding the jewelry industry. Yood came to JVC from a fellowship at the Fashion Law Institute at Fordham Law School. During law school at Fordham, Yood served as Symposium Editor on the Editorial Board of the *Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal*, and as Treasurer of the Media & Entertainment Law Society. She also held several prior positions in the private sector focused on intellectual property in the music, publishing and technology industries. Yood is a sought-after speaker in the jewelry industry, presenting on topics such as intellectual property law, advertising law, the laws about the import/export and use of animal products in jewelry, employment law, and the compliant use of diamond grading reports in selling jewelry. She has been a featured speaker at JCK Las Vegas, AGTA Tucson, JANY, RJO, the North & South Carolina Jewelers Association annual meeting, the Texas Jewelers Association Convention, FedEx New York headquarters, the United States Import-Export Council, the Manhattan GIA Alumni Association, SmartShow Chicago, the Fashion Institute of Technology and at Fordham Law School.

# Initiatives

in Art and Culture

## Initiatives in Art and Culture

333 East 57th Street, Suite 13B  
New York, New York 10022



Kara Ross, *New York Mosaic Earrings*, 18 kt. yellow gold with diamonds.

**GOLD** CREATIVITY, COMMUNITY  
AND COLLABORATION

A CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK CITY  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 — FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017

# Initiatives

in Art and Culture

# GOLD

CREATIVITY, COMMUNITY  
AND COLLABORATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 — FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017

A CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK CITY

*An Artisanal Miner Taking a Break Outside a Fairmined Certified Mine in La Llanada, Colombia. © Manuela Franco.*



*Polishing a Ring. Photo: Daniel Zetterstrom; courtesy, Green Lake Jewelry Works.*



*Peter Schmid "Nectar" cuff bracelet, 2016, 24 kt. gold on oxidized sterling, set with three large hexagonal green beryl, yellow beryl and blue beryl (aquamarine) gems, accented with diamonds; 2 1/2" x 3 1/4" x 1/2". Photo: Aaron Faber Gallery.*



*Jeweler at the Bench. Photo: Daniel Zetterstrom; courtesy, Green Lake Jewelry Works.*