

MULTIFACETED:
An Exhibition of Fine Jewelry

July 8–August 18, 2017

About the Exhibition

Multifaceted presents the work of eight carefully selected jewelry designers and makers from the Rochester and Finger Lakes areas. Jewelry included consists of wearable and sculptural pieces in a variety of metals, precious and semi-precious stones, beads, silk, paper, and more from Erica Bapst, Juan Carlos Caballero-Perez, Lynn Duggan, Colleen Griffin-Underhill, Marisa Krol, Boo Poulin, Karen Tretiak, and Francesca Vitali.

The exhibition also includes a selection of collaborative pieces with jewelry by Marisa Krol and paintings by Andrea Durfee.

“I wanted to do this exhibition to change the context of how we look at jewelry. My hope is for people to experience these pieces as if they were looking at painting or sculpture and spend time considering the meaning behind the work.”

— *Bradley Butler, gallery director and curator*

Erica Bapst

"I am driven by my passion for the jewelry making process, and the individual's search for self-expression. Often my inspiration will start with a glimpse of nature in its infinite beauty, or perhaps the whisperings of those around me and their aesthetic desires. These points of light serve as springboards for my creativity, but ultimately it is the materials and process that are often the force behind the finished piece. Just as in life travels, I love the unexpected journey of getting lost in a process and seeing where it takes me. Very often I set out to create a design; only to be further inspired by the way the light plays off a hammer mark, the curvature of a hand bent wire, or simply how the metal feels in my hands as I am forming it. From there a myriad of thoughts often explode. Rarely are there enough hours in the day to explore them all.

In seeking this unconventional beauty, my wish is to unveil a certain self expression and celebration of life, both for myself and for the wearer. The intrinsic value of each piece grows as it marks a gift from a loved one, a special moment in time, or even simply by lifting the spirits and confidence of the wearer. I hope to evoke a sense of joy, and love with every piece I make."

Erica Bapst received her AAS in graphic Design from Finger Lakes Community College in 1998 and her BFA in Metalsmithing from Syracuse University in 2001. She opened her boutique "Adorn" in 2004 in her hometown of Canandaigua, NY where she lives with her husband and daughter.

Erica works with a wide variety of materials including sterling silver, 14k gold filled, brass, copper, semiprecious stones, freshwater pearls, Czech glass, Swarovski elements and more. She creates jewelry for every day wear, as well as special occasions such as bridal and prom.

Juan Carlos Caballero-Perez

“My work is an exploration of body ornamentation and sculptural jewelry. This link continues my recent theme of work which is a tribute to a lifetime of seamstress work and is symbolic of how we sew together the experiences of our lives to create ourselves – who we are and who we’ll become. The link pays tribute to the circle of life. We live, we die, and we leave behind our history, our work, and our legacy. The series celebrates the life and honors the death of my mother; all mothers who sacrifice for their families.”

Juan Carlos is a Metal artist and educator from Mexico City, Mexico. Carlos has been a Professor in the Metals Program at Rochester Institute of Technology since 2001. He is a New York State Foundation of the Arts Fellow and Craft Alliance of New York State Career Development Grant Recipient. In addition to teaching at R.I.T., Carlos also teaches, gives demonstrations and lectures nationally and internationally. Workshop and lecture venues include Penland School of Crafts, Touchstone Center for Crafts, Florida Society of Goldsmiths, Appalachian Center for Craft, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and the Southwest Center for Crafts among others. He has shown his work nationally and internationally.

Lynn Duggan

Lynn Duggan has a BA in Creative Arts from Purdue University and an MFA in Jewelry and Metalsmithing from Washington University. She was a professor of Jewelry and Metalsmithing at Nazareth College of Rochester for nearly 40 years. She has also taught as a visiting professor for the University of Georgia Studies Abroad Program in Cortona, Italy. Duggan was awarded two New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships and was honored with the Nazareth College Excellence in Teaching Award.

Lynn's current work explores social/political themes in mixed media, including contemporary issues such as gun violence, health care, and war. Much of her work reflects her ongoing involvement in women and gender studies.

Colleen Griffin-Underhill

“As a visual artist, everything is a vehicle for paint and every moment, an opportunity for creative expression. The jewelry is a celebration of the artistic process: the uniqueness of a brush stroke, the beauty of imperfection and the endless conversation between colors, patterns and texture. All pieces feature handmade beads of polymer clay which are then hand painted with artist inks and acrylic paint. Ear wires are oxidized sterling silver. Toggle clasps are pewter.”

I live in Rochester, NY with my sweet boys and their daddy, who makes all things I do feel important and possible. I run a grocery store in my free time.

Marisa Krol

“Interstellar Love Craft. Seen and unseen, it is the history of what was, the mystery of where we are headed, and the magic of the present moment. It is about creating space to allow one’s gifts to blossom. It is about taking care of ourselves so we might take care of others. It is about showing up, rising to the occasion, and being your best self. It is about awareness of our words and actions.

A way of life. It is about honesty. and most importantly, Interstellar Love Craft is about limitless love.”

Marisa Krol is the co-founder of The Adorned Studios, where she keeps studio space to create her successful line, Interstellar Love Craft. ILC was born in 2010 of a desire to give and live through creative expression and freedom. Marisa was introduced to metal craft by local jewelry metalsmith, Sharon Jeter to whom she assisted early on in her career.

Boo Poulin

“My work is very graphic, geometric and precision oriented, incorporating materials such as sterling silver, pearls and steel cable into the context of jewelry. This deliberate use of precious and non-precious materials, combined with industrial technology and standard hand skills is aimed at extending the traditional parameters of the jewelry object as well as expressing a personal and contemporary aesthetic.”

Boo Poulin has maintained a design and production jewelry studio in downtown Rochester since 1983. After studying with Albert Paley at SUNY Brockport, Boo Poulin received her MFA from the School for American Craftsmen at Rochester Institute of Technology. Her work is sold nationally to craft galleries and museum shops.

Karen Tretiak

“My jewelry exemplifies the visual excitement I find in layering textures, colors, values and materials. I gather imagery and inspiration from the natural world around me; in particular the sea and forest. Moss greens, autumn coppers, silken leaves, woven shadows, luminescent waves, and polished stones appear and reappear throughout my work.

Creativity has guided my life from as far back as I can remember. Mud, paint, crayons, yarn...so many possibilities as a child. As is true of most artists, that child-like joy has never left me but has been guided and nurtured through skill development and life-long learning.”

Karen Tretiak is an artist and a teacher; each influencing the other. She has taught in a wide variety of venues from public high school to colleges to workshops and lectures. Her paintings, jewelry and ceramic sculptures have been displayed and marketed throughout the world. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Art Education from Skidmore College and a Master of Fine Arts from Rochester Institute of Technology. She lives and works in the Finger Lakes area of Western New York State and on Cape Cod as well as in “Maxine the Wonder Bus” when she’s on the road.

Francesca Vitali

"I began my journey in the jewelry design after having already started a career as a chemist. In my vision, art and chemistry have found an intersection point in the alchemy of paper jewelry. In ancient times, alchemists have been ambitiously trying to convert common matter into gold. Sharing this grand aspiration, I strive to transform paper, a humble and ordinary material, into precious objects.

Paper itself is a product of an incredible transformation: a delicate element derived from a sturdy and rough material like wood. My alchemy continues this transformation process, catalyzing the subsequent metamorphosis, and revealing the dignified essence of this fascinating element. Paper crosses our everyday life continuously and in multiple forms: magazines, maps, shopping bags... I love to manipulate refined, vintage and handmade paper, but many of my creations are intentionally made out of used paper from these and other sources. I enjoy the idea that fragments of someone live will remain trapped in my paper jewelry.

In my most recent work, I have made the conscious choice to stop working in combination with 'more precious material' in order to give my work a higher perceived value. I have come to the conclusion that my craftsmanship, my minimalist design aesthetic and my sense of color should be the only three elements that can achieve that alchemy I have always tried to reach."