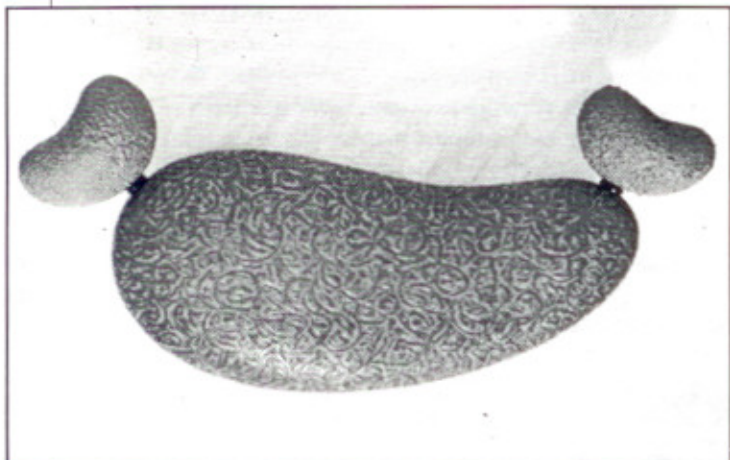


NEWSLETTER

TRI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION

FALL 1998 NUMBER 4

MEETING AND PRIVATE TALK AT SOFA



Brooch by Dawn Gulyas, Textured resin over wood cone.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

LECTURE HALL A at Navy Pier, Chicago

9:00-9:30 AM BREAKFAST BUFFET

9:30-10:00 AM MEETING FOR THE MEMBERSHIP

10:00-11:00 AM "INTRODUCTION TO
BRITISH JEWELRY" By Clare Beck, Director of
Trading, The Crafts Council of England and Wales

The members of the Art Jewelry Forum and their guests are invited to a meeting and private lecture by **Clare Beck** the opening morning of the SOFA Chicago fair. The meeting will be short, but will allow the members to give the working committee suggestions for future events and projects.

Clare will present a talk about the exhibit that AJF member **Gail Brown** curated. The exhibition has travelled to Boston and New York. It will be available to preview at the Miller Gallery at SOFA. After her talk, Clare will go with members to the Miller Gallery booth for a continuation of her discussion.

The exhibition was planned to be an overview of contemporary jewelry in the United Kingdom, and as an introduc-

tion for American collectors. The exhibition offers a view of the contemporary British jewelry scene through the work of 24 makers at mature, mid and emerging career points. The aim is to introduce and then present small individual bodies of work to allow the contemplation of, and subsequently to develop familiarity with each participant's "personal voice". This group offers a study in contrasts and complements in its formal elements, materials and intent; it explores jewelry as a wearable object in the historic evolution to a more innovative idea of adornment.

The work takes sculptural, figurative, abstract and narrative forms with attention to form, line, color, texture, and mood. The materials run the gamut from platinum to plastic: fine carat golds of diverse color range, precious and semi-precious stones, silver of all finishes, steel, wood veneers, and recycled bits and pieces. The objects may be delicate or bold, elegant or earthy, sumptuous or minimal - but always with an ultimate respect for the "craft" and the hand of the maker.

In this talk, the work of these 24 jewelers will be set into the wider more recent historical context, and it will show how ideas have been developed by leading makers and teachers. **This lecture is not to be missed.**

Watch for your personal invitation in the mail and RSVP immediately.

What a disappointment it was to the committee, and surely to our members that the Racine/Madison trip had to be cancelled. The schedule and all of our plans were made before we knew SOFA had been changed to a four-day event. From the enthusiasm of Bruce Peppich and the art community in that region, we know that a trip there is a must.

You will be the first to know when another trip has been arranged!

SPECIAL EVENT AT SOFA



"MULTIPLE VIEWS" -- A VISUAL PRESENTATION OF ART JEWELRY.

Organized and introduced by Art Jewelry Forum member JoAnne Cooper of Mobilia Gallery. Sponsored by the Art Jewelry Forum and SOFA.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9 3:30-5:00 PM
SOFA FESTIVAL HALL A

Reception and Book Signing to follow in room adjacent to Festival Hall.

The Art Jewelry Forum is sponsoring an event open to the public. A visual presentation that explores the conceptual and technical aspects of jewelry as an art form, featuring five diverse

artists who bring a unique and fresh perspective to the jewelry world. Each artist will speak for 15 minutes about the intent of their work, and their technique and materials while slides of their work are being shown.

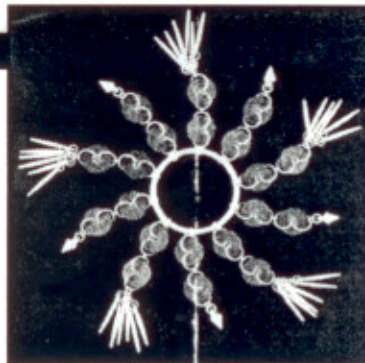
The speakers will also select one or two

contemporary jewelry artists whose work they admire, and show their slides.

Participating jewelers:

ARLINE FISCH creates woven, pleated and folded "cloth-like" pieces with silver and gold, referencing ancient cultures in her methods and techniques. She is a Professor of Art at San Diego State University where she started the jewelry and metals program. Arline will be signing copies of her book, *"Textile Techniques in Metal"* at a reception following the lecture.

RON HO works with ideas collected from his travels to Guatemala and China, through remote areas which are rich in ethnic and traditional folk art. He fabricates narrative, sculptural neckpieces that are richly imbued with cultural identity. Ho has been quoted as saying, "It took me forty years to become Chinese." He has taught for 34 years in the public school system.



"Ring of
Thorns"
Bracelet by
Rachelle
Thiewes.
1996.

JOYCE SCOTT, considered the "Queen of Beadwork", has mastered the technique of diagonal bead weaving to make exuberant neckpieces and sculpture that confront and stimulate with their social/political content and humorous outlook. She is a visual and performance artist who has taught, lectured, and performed internationally.

RACHELLE THIEWES makes bold and dramatic pieces, which by their sound and movement emphasize and define the interaction between wearer and environment. Her elongated forms with sharp points have been described as threatening, but a transformation of intimacy occurs when worn on the body. She is a Professor of Art at the University of Texas, El Paso.

JOEWOOD is an artist who investigated jewelry as an approach to thinking about the history and significance of ornament. Wood is known for his sculptural and architectural forms. He works in series and experiments with surfaces and materials, such as burned oil on silver. He is an Associate professor of Art at Massachusetts College of Art.

As an incentive to join the Art Jewelry Forum, Mobilia Gallery is giving to the first 10 new members a copy of the book *"Messengers of Modernism"*. The next ten new members will receive the infamous Blinking Ring. JoAnne Cooper has requested that all members wear their Blinking Rings to the event. (If you weren't in Seattle, you may not have "your" ring yet. JoAnne will have extras for you in Chicago.)

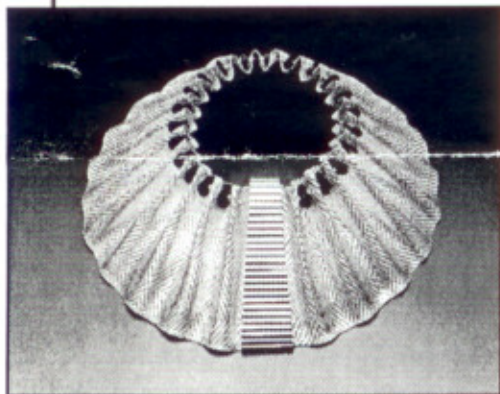
GALA AUCTION TO BENEFIT C.E.R.F.

The Craft Emergency Relief Fund will host an auction in which over 30 renowned craft artists, galleries and collectors have donated their best work. Prices range from \$500-\$10,000, and the proceeds will provide support to professional craftspeople suffering career threatening emergencies such as illness, fire, theft and natural disaster.

WHERE: John Elder Gallery, NYC

WHEN: September 28, 1998

For tickets and info, call 802-229-2306 or see the auction web site to view the catalog and place bids by phone: www.johnelder.com.



"Egyptian Dream" Neckpiece by Arline Fisch. 1996.

PATRONS WHO MAKE HISTORY

BY JAN YAGER

Whenever I ponder the complex array and stunning beauty of Rene Lalique's jewelry my thoughts turn to his patron Calouste Sarkis Gulbenkian. An oil magnate with an artist's eye, Gulbenkian purchased and/or commissioned over 140 major works from Lalique between 1899 and 1927. (These are now part of the vast holdings of the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum in Lisbon). I often wonder how much of Lalique's work would exist without his patronage! I also wonder what part Gulbenkian played in their cutting-edge extravagance, scale, and mood. Regardless, together artist and patron set - still untouchable standards - and made art jewelry history!

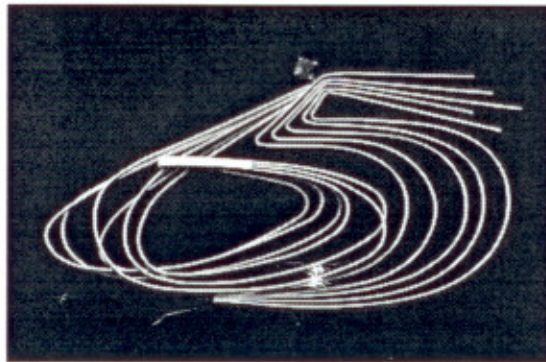
We all understand the pleasure of owning and/or wearing a unique piece of jewelry. Sentiment aside, ownership allows close examination, prolonged contemplation, and unlimited intimate access to its beauty and technical prowess. Collecting jewelry (or any fine or applied art for that matter) adds the next layer, which is, seeing and understanding a work in relation to others of the same or different time periods. Collections expand upon a specific topic, as any individual object cannot. Some collections are carefully composed, curated, and archived, while others are - organic. But, like a signature piece of jewelry all collections are assemblages uniquely reflective of the collector.

Publisher Malcolm S. Forbes was a consummate collector. He devoted decades to acquiring over 365 Peter Carl Faberge works (including 12 Imperial eggs). He and fellow collectors (i.e. Gray, Minshall, Post, etc.) were duly noted in the exhibition "Faberge in America" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. But as an artist, I draw a sharp distinction between a collector and a patron. Although Forbes spent years assembling these works, to me his efforts were - after the fact. It was the Russian Czar Alexander III and his son Czar Nicholas II who literally 'egged' Faberge on to ever more astounding technical and visual delights by commissioning him year after year (1885 -1917) to mark their birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays.

The optimum set of conditions in which the arts flourish appear to be an obsessed artist and equally obsessed patron. Speaking as an artist, I don't know what provokes a collector to 'morph' into a patron, but I do know it demands a profound understanding, and patience with the creative process. In my opinion, some patrons achieve sainthood for their

respectful and dignified dealings. These days if you find a piece that 'sings' the simplest form of patronage is paying the full asking price. . . this pays for the piece at hand, and contributes to what comes next.

In Seattle, B. Seymour Rabinovitch, has gone a step further. He has chosen to invigorate the craft of silversmithing by commissioning American and British silversmiths to create contemporary versions of his scholarly passion; broad blade cake, fish and pudding servers. (Fifty are displayed in "Silver Servers," Seattle Art Museum, March 13, 1998 - March 14, 1999). He only specifies the price and the weight, thus enabling a new generation of silversmiths - to make history for the next generation of scholars.



Brooch: #65 by Betty Cooke.

One of the hallmarks of Betty Cooke's 50 year career as a designer/jeweler is her one-of-a-kind 'annual enumeration series'. For years her patrons have commissioned her to create jewelry celebrating moments in their lives. Her spare modernist approach may one

year create the number '52' in the form of a five pointed star with 2 diamonds for a birthday, or deftly wrap the number '55' around the wrist for an anniversary. Other times pearls, or half circles must be counted out to realize the number. Although she describes the process as wrought with emotion and negotiation she considers these commissions as important to her as they are to her patrons. In 1995, longtime patron Martha Head sparked an exhibition and catalog documenting Cooke's work at Baltimore's Maryland Institute. These strong personal bonds were palpable during the opening. It was then that Betty Cooke's patrons were finally able to acknowledge her role in their lives beyond mere financial support.

Recently in Philadelphia, I met a young African-American business major who offered an example of the powerful and complimentary needs of the patron and the artist. Though he would not describe himself as a 'patron of the arts' his passion, and generosity of spirit, qualify him as 'emerging'. He told me about buying a painting from a fellow student who was studying art. . . "because the guy needed money." Then he spoke of discovering the recurring pleasure of getting up each morning and seeing it in anew. "That oil painting makes me feel so good each time I look at it, that whenever I run into the guy who painted it - I feel like I owe him!"

Jan Yager is an artist/goldsmith in Philadelphia, PA. Her recent work "City Flora, City Flotsam" portrays the weeds and debris of the sidewalk

CALENDAR

Concepts Gallery 408-624-0661
Ocean Avenue, PO Box 301, Carmel, CA 93921
Carolyn Morris Bach; Nov. 28 - Dec. 31

Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum
New York, NY
Wendy Ramshaw: "Picasso's Ladies"; Nov. 19 - Jan. 17

J. Cotter Gallery - Vail 970-476-3131
234 Wall Street, Vail, CO 81658
Barbara Terrell - October; Jim Cotter - November;
Kim Rawdin - December

J. Cotter Gallery - Beaver Creek 970-949-8111
5 Market Square, 61 Avondale Lane, Avon, CO 81620
BKM, Inc. - October; Rika Elrick Mouw - November;
Ruth Taubman - December

Susan Cummins Gallery 415-383-1512
12 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941
Cheryl Rydmark: "Partita"; Sept. 1 - Oct. 3; "New Views"
Group Show; Oct. 5 - 31; D.X. Ross: "Chain of Tales"; Nov. 2
- 28; "Jubilant Jeweltide Jumble" Group Show; Nov. 30 - Jan. 2

Helen Drutt Gallery 215-735-1625
1721 Walnut Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103
"Brooching it Diplomatically: A Tribute to Madeleine K.
Albright"; Sept. 10-26; Degani Schoken: Contemporary
Jewelry and Drawings; Jerusalem; Oct. 1 - Nov. 14; Georg
Dobler: Contemporary Jewelry; Berlin; Nov. 21 - Dec. 31

Aaron Faber 212-586-8411
666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019
"The Forest for the Trees: Modern Enamel Masters"; Sept.
10 - Oct. 17; Stephen Hoglund; Oct. 1-31; Modern German
Studio Goldsmithing; Nov. 19 - Dec. 30

Facere Jewelry Art 206-624-6768
1420 Fifth Avenue #108 City Center, Seattle, WA 98101
Triptych: Andy Cooperman, Suzanne Stern, Cynthia Toops
& Dan Adams; Oct. 16-30; Holiday Show & Ornament
Giveaway (Gallery Artists); Dec. 4

Jewelerswerk Galerie 202-293-0249
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20006
Therese Hilbert: "Insight - Inside"; Oct. 16 - Nov. 6

Kennedy Galleries 212-541-9600
730 Fifth Ave. New York, NY 10019
William Harper: "Volumes of Souls"; Oct. 14 - Nov. 14

Miller Gallery 212-226-0702
560 Broadway, New York, NY 10012
"Introducing Contemporary British Jewelry"; SOFA Chicago

Mobilia Gallery 617-876-2109
358 Huron Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138
Barbara Walter: "Dinashauras - Jewelry Based on Puns";
Sept. 12 - Oct. 5; Marjorie Schick: "Time/Place/Color: New
Jewelry"; Oct. 6 - 31; D.X. Ross: "Tall Tales & Sacred
Stories"; Nov. 3-28; Wendy Ramshaw: Sculptural Jewelry;
Nov. 10 - Dec. 8

National Ornamental Metals Museum 901-774-6380
374 Metal Museum Drive, Memphis, TN 38106
Pat Flynn: "Master Metalsmith Exhibition"; Sept. 20-Nov. 15

Obsidian Gallery 520-577-3598
Suite #90, 4340 N. Cambell Ave, Tucson, AZ 85718
Annual "Day of the Dead" exhibition; through Oct. 31
Terri Logan and Thomas Mann; November & December

OXOXO Gallery 410-466-9696
1617 Sulgrave Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209
Maryland Inst./Collage of Art Jewelry Ctr. Faculty Exhibition;
Sept. 4-16; "Wired" Group Exhibition; Sept. 18 - Oct. 22;
"Dennis Nahabetian: Jewelry/Objects"; Oct. 24 - Nov. 25

Perimeter Gallery 312-266-9473
210 West Superior Street, Chicago, IL 60610
"The Gold Show"; Ken Loeber: Jewelry; Nov. 20 - Dec. 30

Primavera Gallery 212-288-1569
808 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021
William Harper: "The Barbarian's Trapeze and Other
Jewels"; Oct. 13 - Nov. 7

Linda Richman Jewelry 414-289-0855
@ Katie Gingrass Gallery, 241 N. Broadway
Milwaukee, WI 53202
Mary Kanda; Oct. 16 - Nov. 25;
Steff Korsage; Dec. 13-14

Richmond Art Center
Richmond, CA
"Metal Arts Guild Members Exhibition"; 51 Works:
Sculpture, Flatware & Jewelry; Sept. 2 - Nov. 14

The Sybaris Gallery 248-544-3388
202 East Third Street, Royal Oak, MI 48067
Nick Cave & Alan Burton Thompson; Sept. 12 - Oct. 24;
Myra Mirlitsch Gray & Susan Kingsley; Oct. 30 - Dec. 5;
"Jewelry for Giving"; Dec. 12 - Jan. 16

The Works Gallery 215-922-7775
303 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106
Tod Pardon; Oct. 2-31; Laura Marth: "Birds, Baby &
Dishwasher"; Dec. 4 - Jan. 15

ART JEWELRY FORUM

38 Miller Avenue, Ste. 214
Mill Valley, CA 94941



TACOMA MUSEUM SHOW IN REVIEW

In July, a select number of AJF members traveled to Tacoma, Washington to view the show, "Messengers of Modernism" and to be introduced to the lineage of Northwest jewelry in "Torch Songs: 50 Years of Northwest Jewelry".

A tribute to 18 of the NW's most prominent jewelers ranged from Mary Lee Hu to Keith Lewis to Kiff Slemmons to Ken Cory. One viewer was overheard saying, "Never again, will I wear boring jewelry".

Following the opening, AJF members were also treated to presentations by Laurie Hall, Flora Book, Andy Cooperman, Micki Lippe and Nancy Worden.

At this casual gathering, members were reminded about why they had gathered together: the play of words, the power of the imagery, and the humor of the moment that brought each person closer to this art form and the artists that create it.

-- Karene Lorene

Ralph & Donna Briskin
1221 Trestle Glen Road
Oakland, CA 94610