

VO+ AMERICA

VICENZAORO
Jewels & Luxury
Magazine

Issue 134
Summer 2015

The Archistar
and the
Wineries
New
Cathedrals
of the Italian
Wine

Pininfarina
85 Years
of Grace
and Speed

+
Roberto
Coin
Marco
Bicego
Faraone
Mennella
and
The Pure
Perfection
of Italian
Design

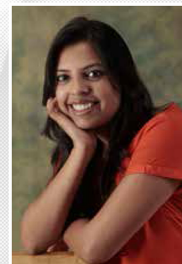
A PLUNGE BACK
INTO THE '70s
The New Era of Style
and Luxury

USA \$14.90 | UK £11 | EUROPE €12



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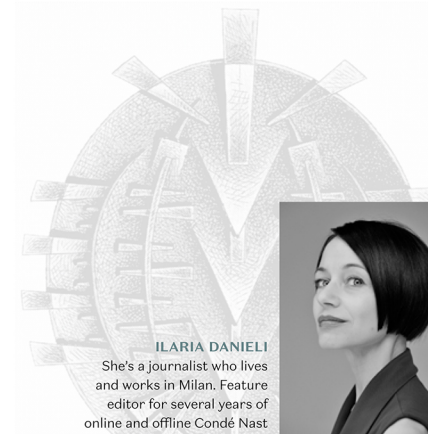
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He has worked as a freelance illustrator and art director since 2000. During these years he has collaborated with clients such as *The New York Times Magazine*, *Wired*, *Il Sole 24 Ore*, *Mondadori*, *RCS*, *Google*, *Adidas*, *NBA* and many others. He has exhibited in group shows in Vicenza, Milan, New York, Washington and London. His works have been selected by the Society of Illustrators NY and SPD. Over and above all this, he is a proud father of Riccardo, five and Beatrice, two.

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From

80 TRENDS

There has always been an exchange of silhouettes and trends between the fashion world and the precious jewelry industry. Last year saw the emergence of three such trends which began their journey in base metal yet today are available in gold, adorned with multi-colored gemstones and sparkling diamonds.

fashion

The hand, a very important part of the body providing a good landscape for jewelry, can be flaunted with ease and flair. While bejeweled ears have been in trend since time immemorial, most earrings are designed to comply with gravity and only few extend upwards.

Words: Preeta Agarwa

Manish Arora SS14 fashion show

to fine



TRENDS

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PART I. HANDS FULL

Bold and stylish, hand ornaments are no longer restricted to just bracelets and rings. Using the full hand as a canvas, bejeweled hand ornaments in all shapes and sizes are much in demand. Connecting the ring to the bracelet, these hand ornaments take inspiration from traditional Indian hand ornaments or 'Hathphool' worn by Indian brides on her wedding day. Contemporary versions come in all varieties- studded with diamonds, classic or floral in inspiration and even detachable versions that can be worn in separate parts.



▲ A traditional hand ornament by the Indian fine jewelry brand **Mirari**, from the *Memoirs of a Maharani* series showcases the fine art of setting uncut diamonds in 22 karat yellow gold known as Kundan Polki in India. Worn as a pair on both hands of the Indian bride, this hand ornament takes inspiration from Mughal architecture, especially incorporating the lotus flower. A sleek version of the usually fuller hand ornament, this accessory connects a four petal floral ring to the three-row bracelet by a dainty single row of uncut diamonds and lotus motif designed to rest at the back of the palm.

➤ This fashionable hand ornament by renowned Mexican jewelry designer **Colette** uses white and black diamond flowers pave studded in 18 karat yellow gold. A single line bracelet and flowers strung on thin gold chains decrease in size across the hand and gently wrap around the finger as an elaborate ring. This black and white bauble from the Les Fleurs collection adds an intriguing touch to a sensual black dress at an evening rendezvous.



▲ Hong Kong based fine jewelry brand **Entice**, famous for its creative juxtaposition of fancy shaped diamonds presents a unique concept in this white and rose gold hand ornament. A versatile piece for modern brides, this broad bracelet connects to the ring by detachable diamond chains and a multipurpose flower motif that can alternatively be worn as a pendant. This multi wearability feature has made this hand ornament a fast seller. A full hand ornament may not be required everyday, yet a floral pendant or a classic ring can be worn anytime.

➤ From the first collaborative collection between eclectic Indian designer Manish Arora and traditional jewelry maestro **Amrapali - India Enchanted**, features chunky tribal ornaments in a mélange of colors. The *Gazelle* hand jewel is a modern take on the traditional Indian hand ornament with pop colored enamel in various hues of pink, blue and green. Enveloping the entire hand, the *Gazelle* wraps around the wrist and further connects all five fingers with little clusters of charm bells and heart motifs.



PART II.
BETWEEN THE FINGERS

Finger rings come in all shapes and sizes. Some may prefer a single one while others multiple ones on both hands. Some like them sleek and some like them bold. For those who prefer them dramatic, here comes a new trend- between-the-finger rings. Leaving behind the long reign of cocktail rings, these between-the-finger rings are unique storytellers on their own and prove a perfect choice of accessory for those who love to experiment with their jewelry. From delicate versions to bold forms, jewelers across the globe are embracing this new trend with full zest.



▲ This exceptional ring from British-born designer **Stephen Webster's** *Magnipheasant Plumage* collection covers three fingers with deep green emeralds and diamonds. Known for his fearless creativity, Stephen's haute couture jewelry collection pays tribute to the British Isles with jewels inspired by the plumage of England's iconic game bird, the pheasant, infused with the signature style of Stephen Webster, bringing back to life a swathe of feathers in a riot of colors and exotic precious gemstones.

▼ The all diamond two-finger ring forms part of the latest *Bow* collection launched by one of the oldest jewelry houses in the world- Garrard as part of celebrations marking its 280th Anniversary. The Bow motif resonates throughout **Garrard's** history since 1858 when it made a series of three bow diamond brooches for Queen Victoria. One of the most feminine motifs, the bow always invokes a 'girlie' feeling in anyone who adorns it and similarly, this two-finger ring has a playful charm to it as the ribbon elegantly wraps around the fingers.



▲ Bold, beautiful and with a touch of darkness, London based **Leyla Abdollahi's** jewelry successfully demands your attention. As part of her collection *Lust & Lure* Leyla explores dark and mysterious combinations of colors and materials. The two-finger rings uses diamond studded three-dimensional knots as the main motif visible above the fingers connected by yellow gold rings. Color combinations such as black and yellow or white, yellow & green reflect Leyla's essential design characteristics prevalent throughout her collections.

▼ Using forms from Mother Nature is an intrinsic factor at the design studios of renowned French jewelry house - **Van Cleef & Arpels**. Known for their fairies and flowers, this simple yet unique between-the-finger ring is part of the *Lotus* collection and features the Chinese symbol of wisdom, prosperity and love in a delightfully elegant form. The ring features an ingenious method by which it can be worn as a between-the-finger ring or for a different occasion. By virtue of a simple to use mechanism it can be twisted to be worn on a single finger with the flowers and leaves stacked up altogether.



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Clockwise: Louis Vuitton FW15; Valentino, Jean Paul Gaultier, House of Holland S/S 2015



PART III.
UP THE EARS

Earrings, often experimented in their lengths below the ear lobe, have at times, also been designed along the curve of the ear. Ear cuffs- a trend that surfaces every two decades has historical references in most eras where money was flowing, leading to expensive tastes. Considered as a traditional ornament in India, ear cuffs have been in vogue again for the last two years across the globe. Moving swiftly from the fashion jewelry industry to elaborate examples in gold studded with diamonds, this accessory has taken Hollywood by storm lining the red carpets with an array of ear cuffs from traditional Indian to punk-like designs.



As part of the *Ruby Embrace* series **Mirari** presents an elaborate traditional Indian ear ornament. Taking inspiration from the elegant Indian national bird- The Peacock, the bird sits poised on the lobe as its tail twirls and covers the entire ear along the outer curve where little gold clips hold the jewel to the ear. Red, considered the most auspicious color in India, the peacock earrings designed for a bride are studded with rubies, pearls and diamonds in 18 karat yellow gold. A pearl and ruby bead tassel add a desired graceful finish to the whole ornament.

Mumbai based designer **Bina Goenka** is well known for her fusion of Indian traditions and contemporary art and such are these one-of-a-kind hand crafted ear ornaments. A unique combination of flowers, leaves, peacocks and bells studded with diamonds, rubies and pearls in yellow gold. The sharp contrast of the channel set rubies outline the form of the ear as the elegant gold and pearl bells hang from the ear lobe with a gentle tassel and two peacocks perched on each bell.



Bolder than ever, this year ear cuffs even possess a punk edge. The ear cuffs from Greek designer **Nikos Koulis' Fontana** collection are stylized wings that climb up the ear in white and black diamond studded free flowing spirals. Where white diamonds in white gold add grace to the ear cuff, black diamonds in black rhodium plated gold add a Punk statement to the same design. A gold wire cleverly designed to go behind the ear connects the top of the earpiece to the base at the lobe, providing the necessary support required to wear such a large piece.

Each piece from the *Lust & Lure* collection by **Leyla Abdollahi** is a special treat in itself. Dark and enigmatic, intricately carved black onyx wings in mid-flight form a major part of this pair of asymmetric earrings. Accented with white diamonds set in black rhodium plated gold and streaks of deep green emeralds, the earrings exhibit a very surrealistic appeal. Two marquise cut emeralds dangling from the top of the ear add the finishing touch, connected through a thin wire designed to hide behind the ear. Influenced by the post-war era of the 1920's, this collection of jewels by Leyla takes us back to the elegant and sophisticated era of Art Deco.

As part of her latest *Blue Drift* collection, **Colette** explores the free flowing form of birds as they fly fearlessly across the blue sky. The black, white and grey diamond studded earpiece is called Istanbul, as the idea for the collection originated during her recent trip to Turkey. The feathers of the wings dramatically trail the line of the ear adding an edgy touch to the whole piece. Not necessarily designed to be worn on both ears, this cuff can be worn on a single ear only as a style statement.

