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Aureartist - Christine Leitner

Wearable Art

Christine's approach to design pays homage to timeless notions of sophistication while introducing modern pieces that create a unique view on wearable art.

She is a third generation award winning master goldsmith and designer. Her jewelry and wearable art sculptures are made mostly of 22K and 18K gold, sterling silver and found objects such as glass and rubber. Christine's passion for making jewelry has been part of her life since she can remember. Learning from her mother, an award winning jewelry designer, how to use a blowtorch at the age of 4 gave her a unique appreciation for the arts. Through that early influence she learned how to create her own handmade, original jewelry art pieces. Growing up on 4 different continents led her to explore and view different cultures, which to this day uniquely influences her work. Her love for art and design led her to expand her horizon to product, furniture and lighting design. In 1991 after being classically trained as a goldsmith in Austria she went to study with Lisa Gralnik in New York at the renowned Parsons School of Design at which she received a BFA. She then continued her education at The Pratt Institute and received her MFA in Industrial Design.

Her most recent work was exhibited in SOFA NY 2003, MAK (Museum for Art & Design Vienna) Holiday Show 2009, V&V Gallery Vienna 2010. Her work has been published in books and magazines internationally.

www.christineleitner.com

Cover: "Ice Princess" ; Photo, Concept, & Retouching: Peter von Klueger; Model: Sonia Niekrasz, Q Models; Hair: Aleksandra (Sasha) Nesterchuk; Makeup: Amy Parlow



22 karat gold African Luba Pendant - commission for renown photographer Carol Beckwith.
22 karat gold pearl ring.



22 Karat gold commissions for Noma Copley



18 karat hand knit gold wire & hammered gold; collaboration with Erika Leitner



Juxtaposition

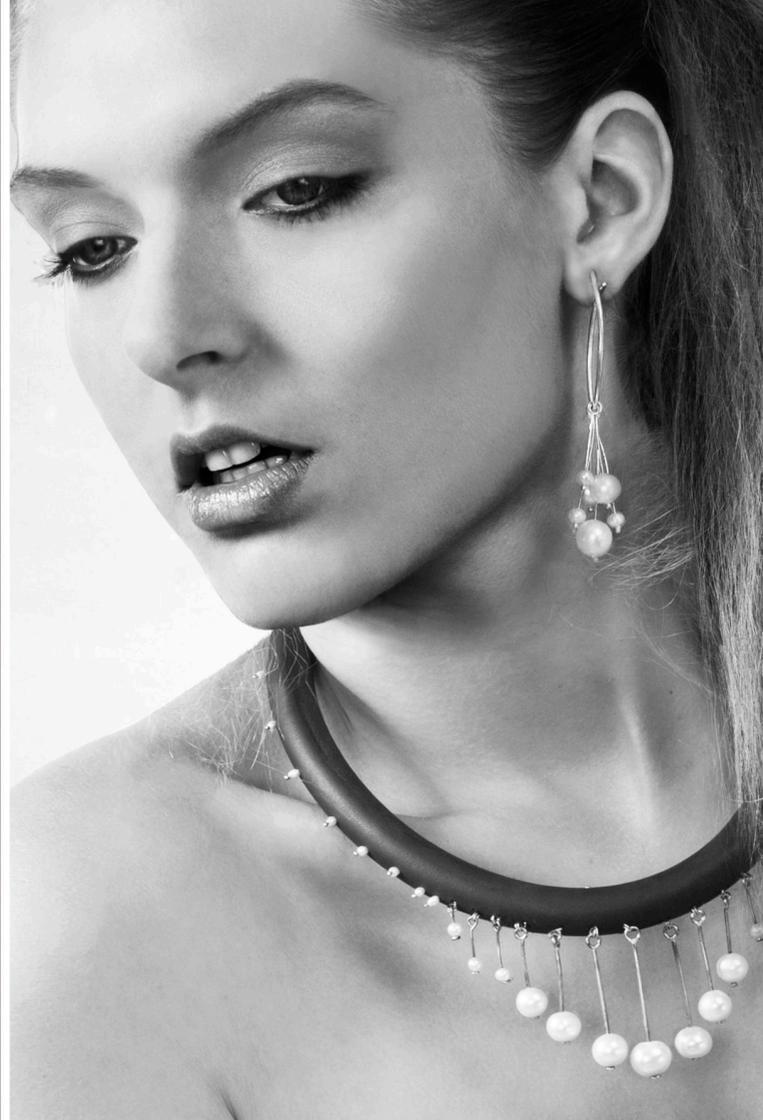
"Tradition" – what we are used to, know and expect. Can we escape out of it? Jewelry is meant to inspire the wearer and the viewer to think. The pearl - the diamond of the sea, breaks tradition and moves with the movement of the body differently than you would expect and playfully flatters the face. The diamond, whose brilliance is being magnified by the many reflections of loose crystals – are they reality? Through jewelry and adornment we can show how we feel and also how we want to be seen. It complements our being."

Christine Leitner

left image: model Awa Kamara; photography CL Design; Silver pearl earrings;

right image: Photo, Concept, & Retouching: Peter von Klueger; Model: Sonia Niekrasz, Q Models; Hair: Aleksandra (Sasha) Nesterchuk; Makeup: Amy Parlow









"charm" diamonds on your hand



I have a passion for movement; nothing should be static; everything is ever changing. "Charm" rings which move on the wearer.



Left image: Pendant with repelling magnets creating constant movement while wearing.
Right Image: "NY Melting Pot" Gold crucible with 18K gold granules ever changing.



"Mermaid" ; Photo, Concept, & Retouching: Peter von Klueger; Model: Sonia Niekrasz, Q Models; Hair: Aleksandra (Sasha) Nesterchuk; Makeup: Amy Parlow



Gold Pasties with swinging pearl; can be worn on your favorite LBD or tank top as a brooch strategically placed, . . . or if you are brave like the model on the left on the body.



"Chameleon" - Long Necklace / Double Choker / Triple Bracelet 18K Gold & Silver



"Chameleon" 18 karat gold earrings with removable zeppelin



Earrings with removable 18K gold/silver zepplin, small & large pearls, black & white raw diamonds, set stone charms.



Stacking rings, 18 karat gold, white gold, diamonds



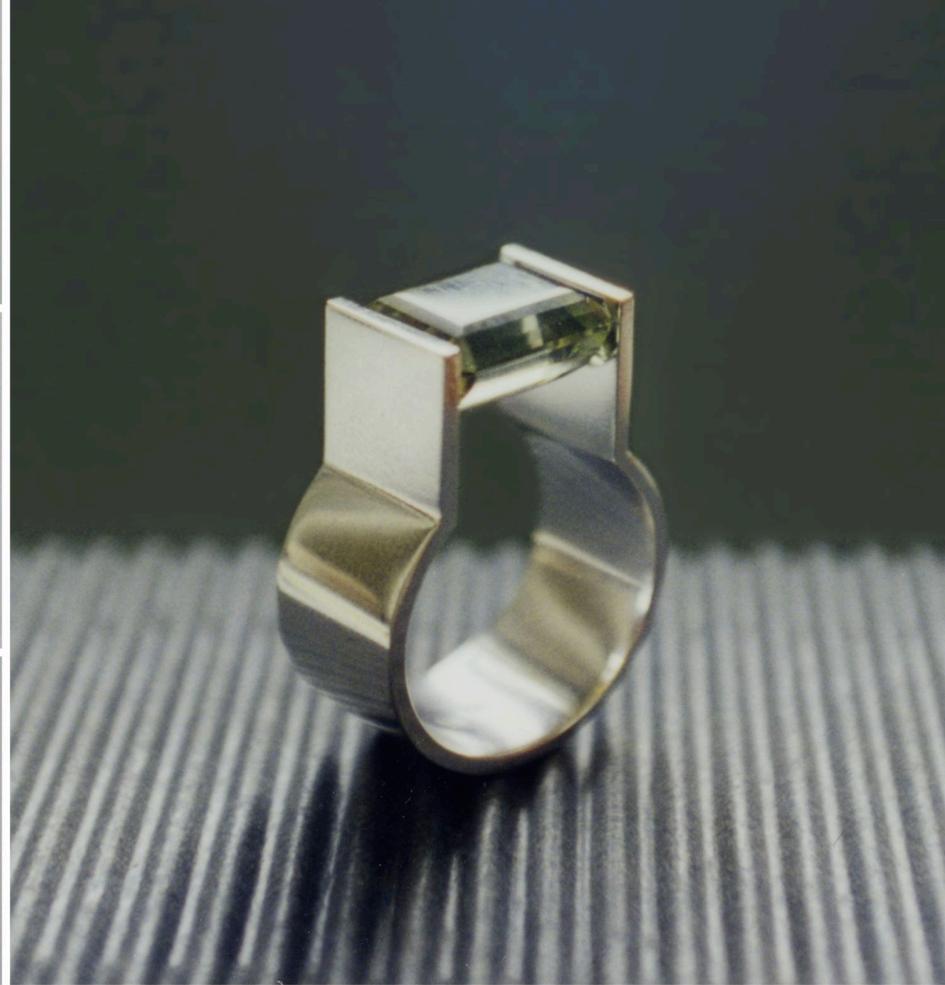
Rings, 18 karat white gold, 18 karat yellow gold, diamonds, stacking rings.



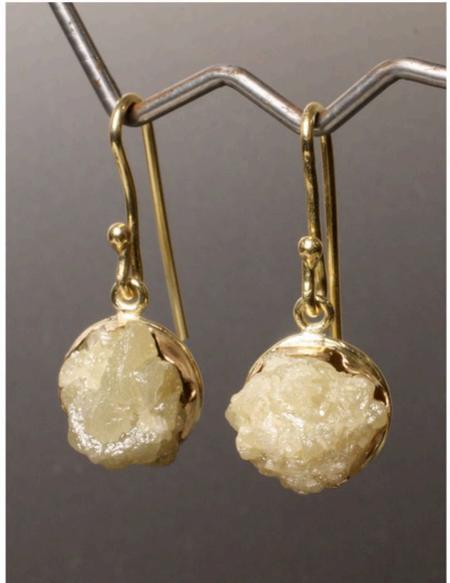
18 karat gold charm bracelet; a baby's gift for when she turns sweet sixteen; the idea is that the parents start collecting charms for memorable events throughout their daughter's life.



18 karat gold pendants; forged pebble; granulation; hammered texture.



18 karat yellow & white gold rings with precious stones



18 karat gold & silver earrings; pearls; raw yellow diamonds.



18 karat gold granulated ring; 18 karat gold "two finger" ring





Wedding bands; 18 karat white & yellow gold, diamonds



Series of sterling silver magnet brooches. 1st prize in National Student Sterling Competition



Forged steel custom tables

Branche



Nadel-„Charm“-Ring von Christine Leitner



Christine Leitner: Chandelier-Öhring mit Perlen

Wien:

Leitner&Leitner bei V&V

Eines haben Erika Leitner und ihre Tochter Christine Leitner, die mit der Ausstellungseröffnung bei V&V ihren 40. Geburtstag feiert, gemeinsam: sie gehen von der Maxime aus, dass es „ohne das Handwerk zu beherrschen keine Kunst“ gibt. Somit entsprechen ihre Gestaltungen auch den höchsten qualitativen Anforderungen, neben künstlerischen Fantasien, Konzepten und Ideen. Erika Leitner gehört seit Jahrzehnten zu der Gilde renommierter österreichischer Schmuckkünstler. Sie lotet die Grenzen des Materials „Metall“ aus. Neben ihrer „Textilen Technik in Metall“ – sie selbst spricht vom „gehäkelten und gestrickten Schmuck“ - konzentriert sie sich auf das Treiben von Metall. Den handwerklichen Bereich erlernte Christine Leitner in der Linzer Designschule von Adolf Drobny. Sie verfolgte das Metier des Designs an der „Parsons School of Design“ in den Vereinigten Staaten und komplettierte ihre Ausbildung mit dem „Industrial Design“. Das führte sie als Gestalterin in vielfältige Bereiche der Tischkultur und Innenarchitektur. Als freischaffende Künstlerin wandte sie sich dann wieder dem Schwerpunktthema Schmuck zu. Derzeit befasst sie sich mit dem Gedanken, Neues aus der Tradition zu erkennen und gleichzeitig aus ihr herauszutreten. Viele der Arbeiten sind Anhänger, die Betrachter und Trägerin zum Nachdenken anregen. Sie setzt Materialien ungewöhnlich ein, wie etwa die Perlen beim „Chandelier“-Öhrgehänge, die in Dauerbewegung in Harmonie mit dem Körper bleiben. In ihren Schmuckgestaltungen arbeitet sie mit Silber und Gold, aber ebenso auch mit Latex, Gummi und Plexiglas. Es ist ihr wichtig, stets die Verbindung vom Material zum Betrachter herzustellen. Ihr Schmuck soll gewissermaßen zum „Reden“ auffordern.

www.kunstnet.or.at/V&V



Christine Leitner:
Magnet-Hänger



Armschmuck und Ring
von Erika Leitner

FZ

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Christine's early starts as a goldsmith with her mom.
If you are wondering . . . we use a blow torch in Austria for soldering.