



THE CONCEPT OF A RING

Associate Workshop

JamFactory Metal Design Studio

2015

In February to March of 2015 Guy Keulemans and Kyoko Hashimoto ran a workshop for JamFactory Metal Design Studio associates. The workshop was designed to address the shape, form and relations of rings, in the context of history and contemporary needs. Focus was given to the development of experimental and reflective practice, self-directed research and conceptual thinking. Through presentations, group and individual discussions, the associates developed the design of rings that responded to their research, loosely framed by the commercial goals of JamFactory for establishing a custom ring design service.

These rings were subsequently finished and photographed in April 2015. The results indicate a strong approach to conceptual thinking, challenge the conventions of ring design and propose new directions for contemporary jewellery.

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Kyoko Hashimoto & Guy Keulemans

JamFactory 2015 Resident Artists

February–April 2015

Associates

Angela Giuliani

Sylvia Nevistic

Davide Spinoni

Emma Field

Zoe Grigoris

with

Christian Hall creative director & **Alice Potter** production manager

Angela Giuliani





Following from her research on ornate design of 19th century ecclesiastical rings, Angela Giuliani applied techniques of reduction inspired by the paintings of Mondrian to produce this modern commitment ring.

materials: red garnet, 18 ct white, yellow and rose gold.

Sylvia Nevistic





Responding to the ethical problems of large diamond engagement rings and their aesthetics, and following historical research on ancient metal bands, Sylvia proposes a different kind of engagement ring, in which precious features are almost hidden. Her design reflects on the attention to small details required in enduring relationships, and proposes that beauty is defined by the effort of looking.

materials: sterling silver, oxidised sterling silver, diamond, black diamond, and 18 ct yellow gold.

Davide Spinoni





It is traditional in Italian culture to break a plate at weddings to wish the bride and groom good luck. Today, for many couples, marriage is less significant than other relationship milestones, such as buying an apartment or building a home together. Combining these ideas and informed by his conceptually driven practice, Davide created a series of contemporary commitment rings that reflect on shifting values.

materials: concrete, sterling silver.

Emma Field





Interested in the material relationships of commitment rings, Emma proposes a system in which the woman's ring is cut from the man's ring, and are both cut from the same blank. The irregular line of the saw mark binds the two rings together conceptually and, when it's rough surface rubs against the skin, reminds of the commitment to marriage.

material: sterling silver

Zoe Grigoris





Jewellers are often asked by clients to melt down and remake inherited rings and other jewellery, a practice that indicates generational changes in taste, but at the same time affects the ring's formal and sentimental history. By partially melting down old rings, subjecting them to deformation from heat and flame, Zoe provokes thinking around issues of reuse and recycling, and their relations in material and aesthetic culture.

materials: reclaimed rings (sterling silver, various stones)

Angela Giuliani
Sylvia Nevistic
Davide Spinoni
Emma Field
& Zoe Grigoris

are Metal Design Studio associates for 2015 at the JamFactory Centre for Contemporary Craft and Design in Adelaide, Australia.

Guy Keulemans
& Kyoko Hashimoto

are resident artists for 2015 at JamFactory, and work together and independently in the research and practice of conceptual design.

Text and images by Guy Keulemans and Kyoko Hashimoto

