

School of Art and Design  
Graduating Student Exhibition

# JEWELRY DESIGN



State University  
of New York





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Graduating Student Exhibition

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Jewelry Design students will enter an industry that requires them to strike a dynamic balance with design, craft, economics, ethics, sustainability, and social responsibility. The 2020 Graduating Student Exhibition presents their vision as they balance these factors and find their voice. The unspoken statement of ornament is a powerful one, and this power is explored, harnessed, and released by our students. The exhibition has been curated to demonstrate the range of talent in each student. The ideas expressed, the materials used, and the construction methods employed, are both ancient and modern. Our students' creative voices make a powerful comment on their moment in time.



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# Brandon D. Brown

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## ARROW HEAD NECKLACE

Sterling silver

Through jewelry making I have been able to connect, educate, and learn with people from all walks of life and cultures. I want to create beautiful pieces of jewelry that will adorn the world. My style as a designer is best described as a marriage between the music and fashion industry, with a focus on technology and development. I need a mad scientist's laboratory to fulfill my dreams, and nothing seems closer

to that than a modern jeweler or goldsmith's workshop. Good design takes maximum effort and quite a lot of thought, add someone's personal taste and you have an entirely different story. They say ignorance is bliss, but I can't see any greater joy than doing what I love and sharing my love with others. I've set a goal to one day create my own fine jewelry house.

# Joohee Lee

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## DAVID; MOMENTO

Procreate

People tend to forget and overlook what they know, such as profound enlightenment that can change their lives or precious memories that will make their life brighter. To not forget, people need to keep their memories close at all times. For me, jewelry is an artwork that inspires your every moment.

My goal is to make jewelry which reminds you of an important message or a memory.



## ROSE OF SHARON

Procreate

# Ziqing Li

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## GOLDEN AGE

Procreate

Before learning jewelry design, most of my interests were in anthropology and philosophy. So for me, jewelry design is not only about fashion or wearable art, it's a way for me to express my feelings and thoughts. Considering my background growing up and my personality, I am addicted to contrasting elements. Art, jewelry, or any other type of art are new ways to influence my inspiration and design of jewelry. Classic and modern. Simple but exaggerated. Elegant and interesting. Unpredictable but spontaneous.



## FOR COCO

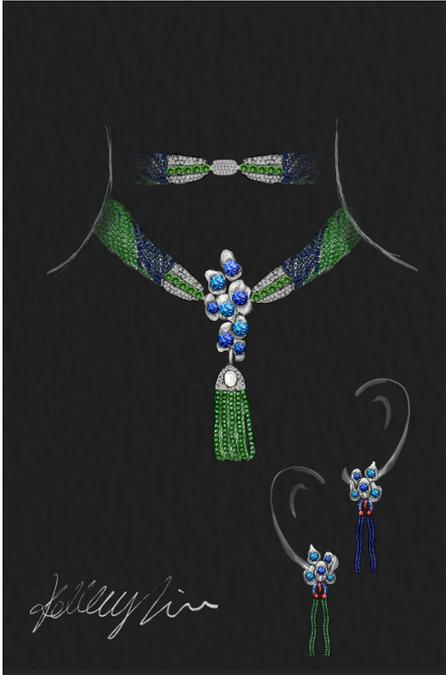
Gouache

# Kelley Lin

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## OPAL JADEITE TWIST NECKLACE

Procreate



## THE BAROQUE PEARLS TIARA

Procreate

I was born in a jewelry merchant family in Taiwan. My childhood toys were a little different from other girls' toys. Instead of Barbie dolls, I played with pliers, string, beads, wires, papers, and scissors. I really enjoyed making earrings, necklaces, handbags, and 3-D models with paper and scissors. My passion for handcrafting has persisted since a very young age. To approach my dream as a jewelry designer, I choose to settle in New York to start my career. As an impetuous person, I initiate a traditional style of jewelry with a more modern style. The main idea of my collection is about combining the use of different characteristic stones on each of the pieces.

My goal is to get people to start looking at different types of jewelry and appreciating it as art jewelry.

# Qiuyu Lin

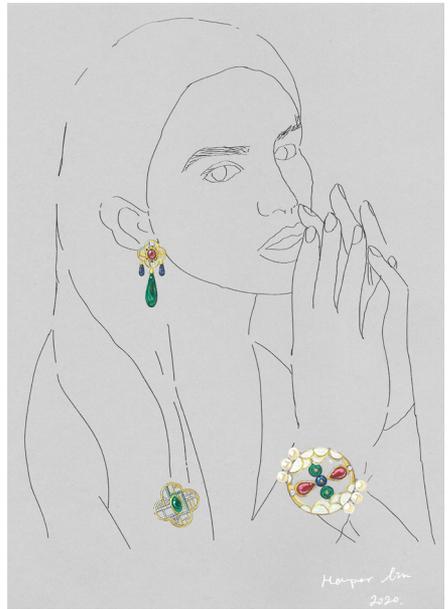
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I am known as Harper. During my childhood, both my grandfathers' studies were my playground. My maternal grandfather is a famous antiques collector, so his priceless collection of paintings, fine china, and especially jewelry were my earliest companions. He cultivated my appreciation of beauty. My paternal grandfather is a cartographer, and he taught me to maintain consistency, preciseness, and an uncompromising attitude toward detail. After I

gained their knowledge and techniques, I started my journey on jewelry design. When I create jewelry, I include many different cultures along with a unique story. The story must impress me, be it happy or sad. Milan Kundera said, "Beauty is the abolition of chronology and a rebellion against time." For me, jewelry is the beauty. As a jewelry designer, I use my brush to collect the story. As a craftsman, I use my hands to record the beauty.



**MECHANISM ALBIZIA**  
Gouache



**TRADITIONAL WEDDING**  
Gouache

# Sarah Martinez

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I am a descendant of Latin American and Northern European immigrants. I am a lifelong explorer of design and the arts across a wide breadth of cultural traditions. I identify as both a minimalist and maximalist and feel equally called to the wild open spaces of Colorado, where I was raised, and to diverse urban hubs like New York City.

Through my jewelry, I seek to tell the story of the places and the cultural influences that have defined me. Though grounded in a deep love for the American West, I create colorful, globally inspired designs that tell stories of people and places from around the world.

In February of 2020, I launched my namesake online fine jewelry brand. My first collection is centered around the idea of home — in the West, in the East, and in my own space.

My goal is to grow my online business — all while designing bold fine jewelry heirlooms that encourage individual expression and create space for fearless exploration.



## STACKING TRILLION GEMSTONE RINGS

Aquamarine, tourmaline, and 14k yellow gold



## EL FÉNIX AND A COLLECTION OF COASTAL DESERT FOLK CHARMS

Turquoise, opal, vintage coral, mother of pearl, diamond, and 18k yellow gold alongside traditional gouache rendering

# Katie McCants

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## URSULA SUITE

Gouache, watercolor on canford paper

My jewelry is beautifully handcrafted with an emphasis on elevating the natural qualities of the materials I use. Whether drawing inspiration from the vibrant colors of India, the patterns of African textiles, or the clean lines of New York City architecture, I strive to create wearable pieces of art meant to take the wearer on a global journey.

# Minju Seo

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## WINTER FOREST COLLECTION

Silver, natural dendritic agate

I believe that my fulfillment from my designs comes when fully immersed in creating and fabricating the design. After many hours of sketching, rendering, and fabricating, I feel strongly connected with the piece when completed, as if a small piece of myself has been joined with my creation. I believe the true value of design is appreciated the most when people come to understand the design



## WINTER SWANS PEARL NECKLACE

CAD modeling, keyshot rendered

throughout time. This makes me feel that they were given a small piece of happiness that I received from the fulfillment of creating my designs.

My goal is to fully captivate clients and viewers and have them feel the same special connection that I have with my creations.

# Lillyana Reyes

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## WISHBONE CUFF

Sterling silver

As a first-generation Latina raised in New York City by my Dominican mother, I've learned to be strong and independent. I knew I wanted to start my own jewelry line when I started interning in the Diamond District. I learned and networked through the business and soon realized that this was what I wanted to pursue. My jewelry is an interpretation of the empowerment I feel as a self-made designer. I want my customers to feel a vibrant energy that fills

them with confidence. I want my pieces to have natural boldness with an urban sleekness that reigns from the city that has made me who I am.

My goal is to have a jewelry line that will eventually become a lifestyle. I want to be successful enough to donate to third world countries that suffer from poverty and to organizations that support sustainability.

# Teddy Rizzo

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## SINFONIA

14k gold, 6x4mm emerald, CAD modeling

Gentrification, or the blending of a new culture, is the foundation for all of my designs. The metals in my creations flow in different directions as the heat is applied, forming wavy lines of change. They form curves, like the steel of subways, traveling in dark tunnels. The graffiti on the walls of those tunnels, and the statements they make, are embedded in my art. The blend of urban and urbane evolves in my designs as I combine rich delicate stones

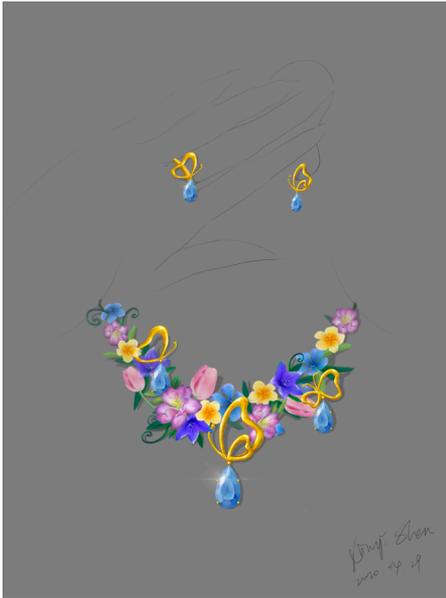


## STEEL WHEEL

Sterling silver, CAD modeling

with steely wide metal bands. The rebuilding of a city of beauty, renewed with strength, is at the heart of my style. My designs speak to those who have built a city of beauty where they harmoniously live, work, and relax. They plant their roots in an urban garden of color and diversity. My goal is to create an artistry of wearable beauty that flows among a new culture.

# Xinyi Shen



I started to learn jewelry design because I love those shiny baubles. I want to use them to remind people, especially women, not to forget their sense of self-worth. It is the design aspect of jewelry making that interests me the most, because a good design can provide the wearer with different meanings, making them and the object even more beautiful.

Audrey Hepburn once said, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." I try my best to create jewelry that bring me and my clientele joy forever.

# Shuyang Weng

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## LIAM

Gouache; will be made in gold, anemone,  
tourmaline



## THOMAS

Sterling silver, spinel

I believe jewelry is simply an eternal way of being, brilliance over exaggeration. I create jewelry people can feel, even if they do not own it, yet. Serendipitously, I live with much jewelry.

# Shang-Yu Wen

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## THE BLOSSOM

Procreate



## THE BLOSSOM

14k gold, ruby

Capturing the movement of nature is what I do. I'm inspired in the moment when I see a fluttering butterfly or when flower petals swing in the wind. My design process always starts from a fine piece of art that I draw, then I transform it into a jewelry piece. Art is a way for us to share our thoughts and ideas, and I like to share my stories through my jewelry. Ultimately, I would like to see how my audience is surprised by the beauty of my works. My goal is to create my own jewelry line, to create jewelry that becomes a gallery collection. It may be unwearable, but I want to enjoy and participate in the story I was trying to tell through my work.









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