



BJA speaks out on sourcing 'Clean Gold'

As the campaign against 'Dirty Gold' gains pace, British jewellery retailers are starting to demand assurances from their suppliers as to the provenance of the gold in the jewellery they produce. Supplying such assurances is not however straightforward and the British Jewellers' Association has produced a statement explaining the workings of the gold supply chain in the UK and the ways in which it believes this thorny topic is best approached.

As Geoff Field, CEO of the British Jewellers' Association, explains, to sell gold bars under the London Bullion Market Association rules, refiners of gold and silver must be approved for their manufacturing capability and their bars must meet the required standards for fineness, weight, marks and appearance.

The LBMA sets rigorous standards for such refiners and in the main these are very large firms with minimum levels of refining capacity. At present no UK bullion refiner appears on the LBMA Good Delivery List.

Smaller refineries in the UK are capable of refining gold for jewellery manufacture and work, in the main, with recycled scrap, which may be old gold jewellery or it may be scrap or waste from the manufacturing process. Its origins will not usually be traceable because of the nature of the alloying process. Where there is insufficient scrap to meet demand, the refining may be topped up with 9999 gold bar. The list of refineries with 'Good Delivery Bar' status is available from the LBMA website at www.lbma.org.uk

The minimum refining output for a 'Good Delivery Bar' producer is ten tonnes a year and this means that refining capacity is geared to larger batches. Refining and producing smaller batches (which would be necessary to maintain any form of traceability) would cause considerable extra expense and would almost certainly make the resulting gold so expensive as to make jewellery uncompetitive.

For these reasons the BJA believes that the answer to providing 'clean gold' lies, not in trying to demonstrate linkages along the supply chain – as has worked successfully with Conflict Diamonds – but rather in putting further pressure on the gold mining companies to clean up their act.

The BJA and the National Association of Goldsmiths, are both members of the Standards Committee of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices (CRJP) a body which draws from across the global jewellery supply chain and includes many of the world's largest gold mining corporations. These businesses are already heavily involved in initiatives such as ICMC (the International Cyanide Management Code) and the IRMA – the Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance.

To become signatories to the ICMC Code, mining companies must have their operations monitored by an independent third party to demonstrate their compliance and work to ensure the responsible management of cyanide in gold mining, whilst also enhancing the protection of human health and reducing environmental damage.

IRMA, a Canadian, multi-sector initiative, is working to develop a way of independently verifying compliance with environmental issues as well as human rights and social standards for mining operations.



Participants in this group include mining companies, prominent jewellery retailers, NGOs and trade associations.

"I believe that these initiatives will address many of the concerns expressed by CAFOD, in its '12 Golden Rules' campaign and by the 'No Dirty Gold' campaign and we should be in no doubt about the commitment of the gold mining companies to these values. Without them they will undoubtedly face difficulties in obtaining mining licences in the future," says Geoff Field. "To my mind working with the CRJP to support these best practices is the way forward. Linkages through the gold supply chain will not be convincing and will, in the long run, build resentment against the positive values we are trying to instil in our industry," he says.

For further information on 'Dirty Gold' visit: www.nodirtygold.com or www.cafod.org.uk

BJA BACKS RETAILER INCENTIVE AT IJL
see page 4 for more details

'Silver Vessels'

exhibition for LJE (Stand C569)



Vessels by Wayne Meeten seen below at work'

As part of the London Jewellery Exports (LJE) project, funded by the City Fringe Partnership with investment from the London Development Agency and delivered by the British Jewellers' Association, the BJA is to stage an exhibition of silver vessels. These will be drawn from the Capital's silversmiths and will be shown on the LJE stand in the British Design Pavilion at International Jewellery London (2-5 September, 2007).

The exhibition will be a focal point for an inward trade mission from Japan which is being organised by British Jewellery and Giftware Exports the BJA's export wing. The mission will bring a group of key Japanese buyers and journalists on a complementary visit to the show.

Sales opportunity

LJE is also providing London jewellery and silverware businesses looking to export their products to Japan with the opportunity to meet these buyers and to show them their products.



To make an appointment or to find out more email [Aldyth Crowther](mailto:Aldyth.Crowther@londonjewelleryexports.com) aldyth@londonjewelleryexports.com

IN BRIEF

London Jewellery Week

Lindsey Straughton, head of PR and marketing at the BJA is to join an advisory board of high profile figures, drawn from across the industry, to help stage 'London Jewellery Week' - a week-long celebration designed to draw attention to London as destination for world-class jewellery. The event, which has come about as part of the Jewellery Sector Investment Plan (JSIP) funded by the City Fringe Partnership with investment from the London Development Agency, will take place for the first time in the summer of 2008. Other members of the development board include jewellery retailers Jonny Rocket and Lisa Chambers, journalist Vivienne Becker, representatives from the DTC, Clarion Events and the government tourist body 'Visit Britain'.

Prize draw raises £2000

The prize draw organised by the British Jewellers' Association at the RJUK Awards, held at Grosvenor House Hotel in London on 19 July, raised over £2000 for The Benevolent Society, the industry's registered charity. The winner was Donato Cinelli of Universal Marketing who took home an 18ct white gold earring and necklace suite, from the 'Dawn' collection by the Birmingham designer Fei Liu, of F&L (UK) winner of the 2007 Kayman Award.

Student award winner

Nutre Arayavanish has won the 'Student Designer of the Year' Award, in the UK Jewellery Awards 2007. The Award, which is sponsored by the BJA, is open to students from throughout the UK. Arayavanish who is originally from Thailand studied at The Royal College of Art. Her collection which uses precious gemstones, metal and wood was admired by the judges for its visual appeal and intricate geometric underpinnings



Nutre receives her award from BJA Chairman Martyn Pugh (right) and comedian Jason Manford.

Rare Red Diamond on show

BJA member, Yves Frey, will be showing an extremely rare red diamond on Stand F420 at IJL. Red diamonds get their colour due to graining in the diamond crystal. The level of colour depends on the amount of this so-called 'pink graining', although distortion of the crystal lattice can also produce red diamond colours. Most people will go a lifetime without the chance of seeing such a stone and Frey anticipates considerable interest from exhibitors and visitors alike.

Services for members at IJL

The BJA team will be on Stand C605 throughout IJL (2-5 September) to offer support to its many members exhibiting at the event.

Also working from the BJA stand will be a team of intellectual property specialists from London law firm Royds who, as part of the Copywatch Service, will be offering free initial advice to any company or designer with copyright, trade mark or other IP queries.

To deal with more general legal problems there will also be lawyers available from Steeles of Norwich, providers of the BJA's free Legal Advice Line service. While for those seeking financial solutions, representatives of the service provider Voltrex will also be at the show.

Photo: Lindsey Straughton, Geoff Field, Kim Yip and Diane Thomas

"The stand offers a wide range of services, both to members exhibiting at the show and to the retailers who visit," says chief executive, Geoff Field.

"The team has a broad industry knowledge and can frequently save retailers considerable

time by pointing them to those suppliers who produce the kind of products or services they are seeking. Whatever the query we are always happy to help," says Field.



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BJA backs retailer incentive at IJL



The British Jewellers' Association has joined with show organiser, Reed Exhibitions and other industry bodies to launch a new Retailer Incentive Scheme at this year's International Jewellery London (2 – 5 September, 2007).

On Monday 3rd September, the BJA will provide vouchers worth £1500 to one lucky retailer whose name is drawn at random from those visiting the event, giving them the opportunity to go out and spend the equivalent sum of money, in units of £500, with one or more of the BJA members exhibiting.

"This is a win, win situation," says chief executive Geoff Field. "Not only will the initiative provide a real draw to retailers, it will also provide the possibility of additional sales for some of our members." There will certainly be plenty of choice for the winning retailer.

BJA members exhibiting at IJL include designer makers, traditional jewellery suppliers, stone dealers, silversmiths, equipment providers and box manufacturers. "I'm sure that who ever wins will be spoilt for choice," says Field. Members of the BJA can be spotted at IJL by the logo cards displayed on their stands.



ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE

Spring Fair Birmingham is responsible for many successful business liaisons but how many marriages has it spawned? Well at least one. For BJA Vice Chairman, Barrie Dobson of IBB London and Jo Scott-Walker, of David Scott-Walker, Hall 17 was where it all began. Barrie and Jo tied the knot in Essex in August and Spring Fair was there, in spirit at least, to celebrate with them. "Spring Fair was responsible for getting them together and to celebrate this we bought them all a drink by donating some champagne to the wedding," MD, Alison Jackson told JIB.

Fabulous Creatures – lizard brooch by T.A. Duran



Getting on trend for 2008

As the industry launches its collections for Autumn 2007, the trend forecasters are already predicting the look of jewellery in Summer 2008 and beyond.

If you do not understand the lifestyle of your target audience and are not designing your product with a specific target audience in mind then, according to the trend guru, Paola de Luca, you need to stop and take stock.

Speaking at the 10th anniversary celebrations for the Jewellery Industry Innovation Centre in Birmingham, De Luca, of the global forecasting agency, TJF - Jewellery Trends Forecasting – and publishers of TJF magazine, told her audience, "If there is nothing behind your designing – go home. You need to do your research and know at whom you are aiming. A product is a service to an audience and designers must produce something that meets the end need of the consumer. Nothing is an accident, things rarely happen by chance and understanding the long-cycle trends is crucial to product success."

Global influences

So what should manufacturers be considering in terms of design for 2008? During her talk De Luca identified a number of long-cycle, global trends which she believes will persist over the next five to ten years and which will strongly influence consumer thinking. Among these was the democracy of information gained via the Internet – where networking sites such as My Space and You Tube, which are still in their infancy, are doing much to change our response to the world. Another trend she identified was 'The Planet in Danger', where concern about global issues is breeding a new more responsible and green consumer, affecting the way in which consumers buy. And finally mass production and standardisation, which are now causing many consumers to seek more individual, handmade products and to seek the values of arts and crafts.

Charms, spheres, fabric mixed with metals, symbols and spiritual messages – this piece from Azuni has them all.



These long-term influences spawn other less lasting trends and here De Luca directed her audience to the themes of 'Modern Icons', 'Re-Cycle Culture', 'Bio-losophy' – a fusion of biology and philosophy, Bio-morphism – a melting effect that takes much from surrealism and artists such as Salvador Dali and Post Virtuality and a move towards products with more depth and meaning.

Not surprisingly, many of De Luca's predictions are firmly in line with those of WGSN whose Louise Chidgey gave a trend presentation at the inaugural Summer Fair. Chidgey identified three trends for Summer 08 – 'COAST', 'GOOD LIFE' and 'FUNDAMENTAL'. The first reflects a growing ethical conscience and looks for craftsmanship. The second is a revival of 50's-70's glamour and old-style luxury while the last harks back to ancient civilisations whilst seeking the organic and simple. Colour palettes for all these looks are relatively subdued with many shades of grey, deep blues and greens and plum/red tones predominant.

BUZZ WORDS for SUMMER 2008

- | | |
|---|---|
| Bakelite | Mosaic effects |
| Beads | Multi-functional designs |
| Bejewelled objects (memory sticks, headsets, phones, glasses) | Multi-links |
| Blackened metal | Nature – plants and creatures |
| Buddhas | Pearls and stones |
| Cabochon stones | Photo-etching – metal as brocade |
| Cascading chains | Silhouetted shapes |
| Charms and spiritual messages | Pieces with meaning |
| 'Chat' jewellery – puzzle pieces | See through surfaces |
| Anything Chinese | 60's shapes |
| Chunky | Souvenirs of travel |
| Collage | Spheres |
| Custom-cut stones | Symbols |
| Customisation and personalisation | Unisex objects |
| Fabric with precious metals | Vintage |
| Leather | Words – 'yelling messages' jewellery that says who I am |
| Melting shapes | |

Connected with Silverware

The ABDS's 'CONNECT Conference' was staged to generate dialogue and challenge current thinking across all strands of the silverware industry. JIB was there.



Mike Barton of Advantage West Midlands and ABDS member, Adreas Fabian look out through a vase by Charles Hall.

"The big question is are you interested in the fact that manufacturing is changing in this country, or are you only interested in being designer silversmiths and producing the work you produce?"

This was the provocative question posed to his 150 strong audience by Peter Taylor, director of technology and training at the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths', in his role of Chairman of CONNECT when he opened the conference in Birmingham on 6 July.

CONNECT – a two day event staged by the Association of British Designer Silversmiths with the backing of Net Infinity and Advantage West Midlands – was, as the name suggests, all about looking at ways in which silverware

manufacturers and silverware designer/craftspeople may be able to work more closely together to their mutual advantage.

Kicking off the debate was Matteo Alessi, scion of the Italian design dynasty, whose company has long worked with independent designers to create iconic household products. The company is particularly famous for its work with architects making limited edition tea and coffee sets primarily in silver.

Alessi was keen to stress the overwhelming importance of design to his business and the company's determination to give designers the maximum freedom by ensuring that Alessi's engineering team doesn't compromise the design to find an easy production solution.



Conference facilitator, Peter Taylor of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths (left) with ABDS Chairman, Julie Chamberlain and keynote speaker, Matteo Alessi.

He explained Alessi's philosophy of working on the edge of an imaginary borderline between a design concept that is innovative and pushes the boundaries of commercial viability and one that goes too far and topples into what he called 'commercial fiasco'. "Working close to the borderline is risky but it gives the chance to express design in the best way," he said.

Nick Munro, was the next to speak. As an engineer and a graduate of the RCA, Munro comfortably straddles the gap between designer and manufacturer. Although he can create things himself, his job is essentially to design products and to get them manufactured for other people. He has worked successfully with many big name producers including Wedgwood, Tyrone Irish Crystal, the Italian cutlery company, Bugatti, P&O and Royal Selangor the world's largest pewter producers.

Munro spoke of various bad experiences he has had with British manufacturers, who very far from the Alessi mode, had made it clear that they were not interested in moving from their production comfort zone and looking at new methods to create his designs. "Your job is to sell what we can make," was, he said, their mantra.

The importance of good PR was a very clear message to come out of Munro's talk which was peppered with press cuttings of the various projects in which he has been involved. "The press is very important to me and getting my work talked about in influential magazines is essential," he said.

Good marketing the key

The need for good marketing was underlined in the ensuing three way debate between Matteo Alessi, Joel Langford of the London Silver Vaults and Patrick Fuller, of the Birmingham casting company and jewellery component supplier Weston Beamor/Domino. "We need to make silver sexy again," said Langford, who also suggested that the answer to wooing the media could be for designers to collaborate more closely to create marketing cooperatives.

Other topics covered on the first day of CONNECT were an interesting debate on whether or not designers need craft skills to design effectively and a tour through the philosophy of aesthetics by Professor Francis Smets. The second day saw workshops on 'deep-drawing silver plate, creative thinking for designers and designing for overseas manufacturers.

The closing debate was 'Silver – where to now?'

The Connect Collection on show during the Conference



the **CONNECT** Collection

One of the highlights of 'CONNECT' was the unveiling of 'The **CONNECT** Collection' forty pieces of silverware created by individual members of the ABDS.

The designs are based around one of two objects a plain white bowl by Jasper Conran for Wedgwood or a crystal glass manufactured by Tudor Crystal, all kindly donated by these companies. The Collection was sponsored by Cookson Precious Metals who donated the silver for the project with the option of using Brilliance, its new, tarnish-resistant sterling silver alloy.

The Collection illustrates the scope of the creative imagination and how it can transform a familiar manufactured product into an exciting new form.

Three Awards were given to the designers judged to have created the most innovative and interesting designs and these went to Olivia Lowe for 'Meeting Point', Brett Payne for his 'Flatware' candlestick and Wally Gilbert for his 'Tazza Column Vase?'



*Brilliance silver bowl on oak
by Olivia Lowe*



*Tazza column vase
by Wally Gilbert*



*Flatware sterling silver candlestick
by Brett Payne*

Working together

One of the most enlightening talks of the day came in the joint presentation from designer Lucian Taylor and Birmingham silverware producer Richmond Broadway, who have collaborated in the past to create a collection of silverware objects for John Lewis.

Broadway Silver has been in business since 1900 and has a strong reputation for fine quality products, handmade in its own workshops in the UK. It still produces a number of items using original patterns, but blends these with more contemporary products. In 2002 the company undertook a design project for John Lewis in collaboration with Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen to design a number of household and gift items in silver, so it had, previous experience of this type of project before working with Taylor on a further John Lewis collection.

"The timeline was very tight, we only had six months to design and produce the products,"

Broadway explained. Lucian's first design idea, which drew on some of Broadway's highly patterned heritage pieces for inspiration didn't work. "We were trying to make bowls out of patterned flat sheet, but the silver split when it was spun and we had to rapidly change course," he said.

Compromise

In the end Lucian, who, created three designs, the most successful of which was a silver spinning top which after three years is still a strong seller for John Lewis. "There were a lot of compromises, both in the look and feel of the pieces, but that was no bad thing," he said.



*'Reheated Soup'
by Lucian Taylor*

Broadway and Taylor are now working together with the backing of the Arts Council and their work will be written up as a case study for that organisation. The brief has given Lucian more freedom not restricted by price points and he is looking at tooling and the opportunity to try stamping as well as spinning.

"The idea of being a businessman as well as a designer is new to me and it is difficult knowing how to protect yourself, but for me design in manufacturing is providing a second strand to my work which is complementary and which I enjoy," he said.

Cross and Paxton share Jerwood Prize



Ring by Adam Paxton



Jewellery by Susan Cross

Susan Cross and Adam Paxton are joint winners of the 2007 Jerwood Applied Arts Prize for jewellery. This Crafts' Council award is described as 'the most prestigious in the arts world' and carries a £30,000 prize. The two jewellers represent very different aspects of contemporary jewellery. Paxton works mainly in acrylic and Cross in oxidised silver, but the judging panel felt that both demonstrated superb craftsmanship in their jewellery making.

An exhibition featuring their work and that of the six runners up is currently touring the UK. It will be at the National Museums of Scotland from 12 October – 2 March, 2008 and in Bradford at the Bradford I Gallery from 15 March – 25 May, 2008. Visit www.jerwoodspace.co.uk for further information.

New £14m jewellery Institute for Clerkenwell

THE GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY has announced its intention to create a groundbreaking facility for London's silversmithing and jewellery industries.

"The Goldsmith's Institute", as the building will be known, will be in Eagle House, an old school near Farringdon tube station. Considerable renovation and new building work will be undertaken and when finished the centre, which is due for completion in 2010, will house state-of-the-art education and training facilities with particular emphasis on encouraging young people wishing to enter the trade. There will also be exhibition, conference and seminar areas, a café, managed workspace and starter studios.

The project has come about as a direct result of the Company's involvement with the City Fringe Partnership and co-operation with the London Development Agency.

The Centre will be run by a new independent Charity established for the purpose, and its development will be managed by Peter Taylor, the Company's Director of Technology and Training, working to the Trustees.

"There is no other centre like this in the world, and it represents the largest project that the Company has undertaken in the last 100 years. It is an initiative which gives a clear indication of our ongoing and steadfast support for the craft and industry in this county," Dick Melly, Clerk of Company told JIB.

As well as providing training and educational support, the Institute will also provide facilities where the public can engage with

craftsmanship. There will be affordable workshop space and every effort will be made to support a cluster of complementary businesses in London. It is hoped that the Institute will also become a focal point and resource for the entire UK craft and industry.

To tackle skill shortages the Institute will offer a one year pre-apprentice programme for young people and a one year post-graduate programme. The latter will appeal to top graduates who want to develop professional design careers within the craft and industry. The project launches with a 2008 "summer school" programme for second year undergraduates while full time courses will begin in 2009.

Ethics hot topic at IJL

"A brand without values has no value at all" – this is the topic for 'The Great Debate' to be staged by The Birmingham Assay Office in conjunction with Reed Exhibition at International Jewellery London on 5 September, 2007.

The debate will explore the threats and opportunities for the jewellery trade that arise from ethical issues and will examine the view that activity by non governmental agencies such as Global Witness, CAFOD and Earthworks has brought ethical, social and humanitarian issues to the attention of its members and its customers.

Discussion points will cover the thorny issues of 'conflict diamonds' and 'dirty gold', whilst also exploring the fact that Western jewellery buyers are quite literally keeping millions of people alive in Africa, India and other less developed areas of the world where raw materials are extracted and transformed.

Brief presentations from key panellists will present a balanced view of the situation and then attendees are invited to join the debate as to how the industry can respond to these new challenges.

Seminar Programme

The Great Debate is just one of a comprehensive programme of seminars being staged daily at IJL.

Other highlights include; 'The State of the Diamond Industry' by Martin Rapaport, Jewellery Trends Forecasting 2009 by Paulo de Luca of Trends Jewellery Forecasting, The Mintel Jewellery and Watch Report by Mintel director Richard Perks, 'Satisfaction, Sales and Success' from the Emagold group in conjunction with the National Association of Goldsmiths and 'The Importance of Platinum to the UK Consumer' by Ruth Donaldson of the Platinum Guild International. Visit www.jewellerylondon.com for further information.

Successful celebrations for JIIC

The Jewellery Industry Innovation Centre (JIIC) at the University of Central England in Birmingham, staged two, action-packed, days to celebrate its 10th Anniversary at the beginning of July when it opened its doors to the region's jewellery and silverware producers and other guests from throughout the country.

The seminar programme, which included both trends and technical information, was well attended. So too the exhibition of high-tech equipment featuring some 31 different producers. Amongst the technologies on offer were CAD/CAM, Rapid Prototyping, Rapid Modelling and Laser and many exhibitors had made significant developments and



Gay Penfold, JIIC manager, with keynote speakers (from left to right) Janne Kytanen, Freedom of Creation, Lionel Dean, Future Factories and Lena Thorsson, AB Particular, Sweden.

improvements to their systems since last year's show.

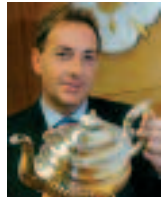
Another attraction was the exhibition of 14 very different, product case studies which illustrated perfectly the extremely

diverse design and production work for which JIIC is renowned. Full details of these case studies can be found at www.jewellery-innovation.co.uk For further information about JIIC contact Gay Penfold on 0121 331 5940.

IN BRIEF

30 years for Assay Master

Sheffield Assay Master, Ashley Carson has recently celebrated 30 year's service.



He joined the Office straight from school, during the Queen's Silver Jubilee year and was appointed Assay Master in 1993.

New sightholders for Tanzanite One

In line with its objectives of growing global consumer demand for tanzanite and increasing production of the stone, Tanzanite One Limited (AIM:TNZ), the world's leading miner and marketer of tanzanite, has announced the appointment of two further sightholders. The companies are AG Color Inc of New York and Paul Wild OHG of Germany. Their appointment brings the total number of tanzanite sightholders to eight. For further information visit: www.tanzaniteone.com

Assay Office for QVC

The Birmingham Assay Office has announced the opening of a "sub-Office" hallmarking facility for QVC. This is situated within the shopping channel's state-of-the-art, customer operations and distribution centre at Knowsley, Merseyside and is fully equipped to carry out the assaying and hallmarking of precious metal articles sold by the company. Birmingham Assay Office has also recently announced the appointment of five new guardians to its committee.

GIA design competition

Jennifer Lam, a graduate of the Gemmological Institute of America's (GIA) graduate gemologist programme in London has won the inaugural 'H. Goldie Jewellery Design Competition', sponsored by London diamond brokers, H Goldie & Co. Lam receives a cheque for £1000 and a £500 trip to BaselWorld 2007. Mark Walker, creative director, of Goldie told JIB: "Jennifer is inquisitive, creative, inspired, and most importantly, loves jewellery. She will use this experience as an important stepping stone toward what we all expect will be a highly successful jewellery career."

GIA London's next Jewellery Design course starts on 24 September, 2007. Registration is available on www.gialondon.co.uk or telephone 020 7813 4321.



Stephen Webster at Collections

The designer jeweller, Stephen Webster is to be the 'headline' exhibitor at Collections the new jewellery show from Clarion Retail which launches at Earls Court, London from 13-15 January, 2008. The show, which stands as a separate event alongside Top Drawer Spring in Earls Court 1, will be Webster's debut UK trade show and will be used as a platform to launch a new silver line for men and women. Collections will also be showcasing a carefully edited selection of precious and non-precious, design-led jewellery drawn from designer makers, importers, manufacturers and distributors. It will be divided into seven dedicated areas: Designer Collections: Fine Collections, Gold Collections, Silver Collections, Costumer Jewellery, Silver Designs and Presentation and Display. For further information contact Anna Wales on 020 7370 8189 or email anna.wales@clarionevents.com



Moissanite student winners announced

Emily Richard, a student at the University of Central England, has been named the winner of the inaugural Moissanite Student Design Competition. Richard's 'Facetious' suite of yellow and white gold, articulated jewellery was felt by the judges to be fashionable and designed with strong attention to detail. She wins a cash prize of £500.

The runner-up, also from UCE, was Isabella Hart whose 'Ripples' collection was inspired by the soft lines and changing shapes and forms of concertina paper.

"We were delighted with the way in which these students embraced the unique properties of Moissanite



and the truly innovative ways in which they approached their designs," says Dennis Allen, UK business development representative for Charles and Colvard the US makers of Moissanite.

Open Competition

Charles & Colvard will reveal the winner of their Open Design Competition, which carries a top prize of a trip to the JCK Show in Las Vegas in 2008, at a reception to be held on Stand H145 at

International Jewellery London. Designs from five finalists will be displayed and those short-listed to win are Linda MacDonald, Catherine Best, Yvonne Knight, Janet Weller and Julie Wright.

For those wanting to know more about Moissanite, Dennis Allen and representatives of Charles & Colvard USA will present a Seminar on the gemstone at IJL in the Windsor Room at 11.00 am on 4 September.