



OUTRAGEOUS ORNAMENT

Extreme Jewelry in the 21st Century

Katonah Museum of Art, October 21, 2018 – January 27, 2019



Daniel Jocz, *Pot Shots, An American's Riff on the Millstone Ruff*, 2007. Courtesy of Daniel Jocz © Daniel Jocz.

KATONAH, NY—*Outrageous Ornament: Extreme Jewelry in the 21st Century*, opening at the Katonah Museum of Art (KMA), Katonah, NY on October 21, 2018, reimagines the traditional boundaries of body ornamentation. Jane Adlin, former curator in the Department of Modern and Contemporary Design at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, brings together 50 bold, unique, and innovative pieces of jewelry that broaden our expectations of personal adornment.

“Jewelry, in one form or another, has been around since the beginning of time,” Adlin explains. “From prehistoric evidence of body decoration made from found materials such as shells and bone, to Egyptian, Grecian and Roman use of newly invented material like glass, to Renaissance artisans’ use of vibrant stones and gem-set gold, jewelry has always been a cultural signifier.”

Rather than focusing solely on materials and process, this distinctive exhibition asks whether jewelry is even defined by its wearability. Works like Marjorie Schick’s neckpiece *Spiraling over the Line* and Ted Noten’s iconic, yet unwearable, acrylic handbag defy notions of jewelry sitting neatly on the body.



Left: John Baldessari, *Mr. Bluebird on My Shoulder (with Diamonds)*, 2013. Courtesy of Hauser & Wirth, New York © John Baldessari.



Right: Ted Noten, *Bitch Bag (Icepick Bag)*, 2005. Private collection © Ted Noten.

The objects in *Outrageous Ornament* come from a diverse range of creators, both traditional jewelers and interdisciplinary practitioners from the fields of art, architecture, design, and fashion. Renowned contemporary artists John Baldessari, Mary Heilmann and Cristina Iglesias have expanded their practice to explore art designed to be worn on the body. Jewelers Melanie Bilenker, Lola Brooks and Bettina Speckner turn to the past for inspiration, while Märta Mattsson and Naama Bergman use unusual materials, such as cicadas and salt, in novel ways. Many of the works, including those by Iris van Herpen, Danyi Zhu, Gregory Larin and Lauren Kalman stretch the relationship between adornment and the human body, as well as the way it holds, responds to and plays with the human form.

Michael Gitlitz, KMA's executive director remarks, "Even though Grace Kelly noted that, 'A woman needs ropes and ropes of pearls,' the desire for ornament has been central to both men and women since the dawn of civilization. Ornamentation and jewelry have always served as one of the most important aspects of human expression and Jane Adlin has curated an extraordinary exhibition presenting the most innovative and sophisticated practitioners of this artistic form."



Above: Karl Fritsch, *KF 346*, 2004. Courtesy of the Artist and Salon 94, New York © Karl Fritsch.



Left: Iris van Herpen, *Chemical Crows Skirt, Collar*, 2008. Courtesy of Iris van Herpen Atelier © Iris van Herpen.

A diverse program of events have been designed around *Outrageous Ornament*, including:

Fall Fling Dance Party (October 27) Celebrate the opening of *Outrageous Ornament* at this party with DJ, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Jewelry Panel (November 1) Jane Adlin will moderate a discussion with industry experts Audrey Friedman, owner and co-founder of Primavera Gallery in New York with Haim Manishevitz, Toni Greenbaum, a New York-based art historian specializing in 20th- and 21st-century jewelry and metalwork, and Jonathan Wahl, artist and Director of the jewelry and metalsmithing program at 92Y's School of the Arts, New York.

Pop-Up Jewelry Boutique (November 10 & November 11) KMA will be selling a curated collection of jewelry and objects by widely-known artists working in a range of media.

KMAway New York (November 15) For the debut of New York City Jewelry Week, KMA has arranged a day of visits to leading designers in New York, as well as a private tour of *Jewelry: The Body Transformed* at the Metropolitan Museum of Art with the exhibition curator.

KMAway: Hudson (December 1) Assistant Curator Olga Dekalo will lead a tour of galleries, designers and jewelry studios in the Hudson Valley.

Workshops (November to January) There will be two artist-led workshops for families with Lindsay Carone (November 3) and Lesley Ware (November 18) as well as one for adults on Victorian Hair Jewelry (January 12). During vacation days, "School's Out/Art's In" offers artist-led projects for children aged 3 and up (November 6 & 23, December 26, 27 & 28). Throughout the exhibition, visitors can also participate in the hands-on design lab "Design Studio: Wear Your Art" in the KMA Learning Center.

Creative Community Fridays (October 26, November 30 & January 25) On the last Friday of the month, KMA offers Stroller Tours (9:30-10:30am), Senior Socials (1-2pm), and Imagine it! After School programs (3-5pm).

About The Katonah Museum of Art

The Katonah Museum of Art (KMA) promotes the understanding and enjoyment of the visual arts for diverse audiences. The museum presents exhibitions that explore ideas about art, culture and society – past and present – through innovative exhibition and education programs. The KMA hosts lectures, workshops, trips and concerts, solidifying it as a space that both celebrates and amplifies the power of creative thinking.

Exhibition Details

VIP Preview: October 20, 4:30pm & Member Preview, 6:30pm

Dates: October 21, 2018 - January 27, 2019

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 AM-5 PM, Sunday 12 PM-5 PM.

Address: 134 Jay Street, Katonah, NY 10536.

Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 seniors and students. Members and children under the age of 12 enter free.

<http://www.katonahmuseum.org/>.

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