

A QUARTET OF AMAZING

The Biennale des Antiquaires (Paris Biennale), a venerable art and antiques fair, held at the Grand Palais in Paris, brings high jewellery designers and luxury jewellery houses into its fold. Noted for their creativity and collector's pieces, the likes of Boghossian, Glenn Spiro, Anna Hu and Moussaieff presented their latest and most unique designs at the fair. Our US correspondent SMITHA SADANANDAN handpicks the works of these four luminaries who stood out at the fair.

GLENN SPIRO

Debuting at the Biennale, London jeweller Glenn Spiro brought forth a mesmerising collection of wearable art in clusters of coloured gems and diamonds. One-off works of art in precious metals and innovative materials like titanium and carbon, Spiro's "prehistoric looking" fishbone earrings in white gold and titanium sparkle with spessartite garnets, orange sapphires and diamonds.

Demure and classic Colombian emerald earrings were paired with the glorious Jahanara white gold and diamond cuff, which featured an eye-popping 40.51-carat (D-Internally Flawless) pear-shaped diamond that can be removed and worn as a ring.

The lightweight Clover earrings in titanium sprang into a riot of rich brown and warm burnt orange. The hero piece was undoubtedly Spiro's string of emerald-cut emeralds and diamond bracelet with a stunning 85.45-carat carved Colombian emerald (interestingly, a former 17th century Indian archer's thumb ring) beautifully accented with oval-shaped rose-cut diamonds.

MAGPIE BROOCH

The Magpie brooch is enlivened with a South Sea pearl, pink and blue sapphires, green tourmalines, moonstone, coloured sapphires and rose-cut and brilliant-cut diamonds. By Anna Hu





ATHENA SIREN ARIA BROOCH PENDANT

A 102.15-carat tanzanite is at the heart of the Athena Siren Aria brooch-pendant in titanium. Surrounding it in attendance are pink and coloured sapphires, green tourmalines, Paraiba tourmalines, moonstones, peridot, blue carved leaves, emerald beads, pear- and rose-cut diamonds, yellow diamonds and round brilliant-cut diamonds. By Anna Hu

DESIGNERS



SUMMER BAMBOO EARRINGS

The Summer Bamboo earrings in titanium are set with pear-shaped emeralds, tsavorite garnets, Paraiba tourmaline, pink sapphires, yellow and black diamonds and round brilliant-cut diamonds. By Anna Hu

BOGHOSSIAN

Geneva jeweller Boghossian has, over the course of six generations, initiated a creative dialogue between the East and the West. The result was a collection of antique pieces at the fair, showcasing their heritage and artistry. Working with select ateliers and craftsmen in Switzerland, Italy and Germany to create jewellery with exceptional coloured gems, the maison's know-how sparkled through the Inlay, Kissing Diamonds and Les Merveilles collections.

The iconic Inlay series features a stone set into another, wherein each stone is carved and shaped to perfection: it borrows upon artistic inspirations from Eastern civilizations, Mughal era, ancient Egyptian periods, including Ming porcelain objects and Iznik tile decorations, the jewels reveal a depth and mystery that is ever so captivating. The Les Merveilles collection – launched earlier in 2017 – comprises jewellery set with diamonds on all four sides in a clever way that barely reveals any metal. The deftly laid diamonds and gems in the Kissing Diamonds collection, melding in a perfect harmony of colours and proportions, were quite sensational.

ANNA HU

In 2013, Taiwan-born designer Anna broke the world auction record for the highest price paid for a contemporary jewellery designer at the Christie's Magnificent Jewels Geneva sale. A look at the newest creations for her brand, Anna Hu Haute Joaillerie, unveiled at the Biennale reveals just why. Aesthetics that marry Eastern and Western cultures through bold and daring designs that often reference nature, dragonfly, butterfly and art are indeed attention-grabbing. Her Monet artwork-inspired necklace and the newer Water Lilies Princess necklace, Magpie brooch, Dragon Fly brooch, Athena Siren Aria brooch and Summer Bamboo earrings, Enchanted Orchid ring-cuff adorned in precious gems – emeralds, Paraiba, tsavorites, sapphires, garnets, tourmalines, diamonds, tanzanites – are amazing examples of collectible jewellery.

MOUSSAIEFF

Interesting design possibilities unfolded as designer and managing director Alisa Moussaieff created star pieces for the fair, all centred on the "concept of lightness". Precious gems and statement jewellery were crafted at the brand's high-jewellery workshop in Paris. Moussaieff chooses important gemstones to adorn its pieces—the titanium and diamond feather necklace, featuring a 57.21-carat Paraiba tourmaline and diamonds, is a tribute to Empress Eugenie, the wife of Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte III. Reminiscent of the sky and sea with the bewitching Paraiba, this necklace was a showstopper. ■

TOURMALINE NECKLACE SET

The necklace set from the Inlay collection is fashioned with Paraiba tourmaline, diamonds, chalcedony, and milky quartz. By Boghossian



EMERALD RING

Kissing Diamonds ring crafted with a Zambian emerald and diamonds. By Boghossian



FISHBONE EARRINGS

The Fishbone earrings crafted with titanium and white gold are patterned with 24 spessartite garnets, 826 brilliant-cut orange sapphires and 158 brilliant-cut diamonds. By Glenn Spiro

EMERALD BRACELET

A string of 94 small emerald-cut emeralds totalling 67.21 carats, punctuated with 1,094 diamonds, forms the circular part of the bracelet.

An 85.45-carat carved Colombian emerald, a former 17th century Indian archer's thumb ring, ornamented with 11 oval rose-cut diamonds, forms the centrepiece of the bracelet.

By Glenn Spiro



EARRINGS

The double-drop white gold earrings are set with 7.60 carats of fancy blue, 2.05 carats of pink and 0.95 carat of white diamonds. By Moussaieff



FEATHER NECKLACE

The star of the titanium and diamond feather necklace is the 57.21-carat Paraiba tourmaline in the front. The necklace is further embellished with a 3.29-carat rose cut, pear-shaped diamond at the back and 53.06 carats of white diamonds.

By Moussaieff