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THE FINE ART OF JEWELLERY AND LIVING

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Language of

Love



As love rules this season, choose jewellery that will help say you're romantic, creative, or bold

Words by **Smitha Sadanandan**



Heart Notes

Hearts are enduring motifs in the world of jewellery, prompting London jeweller Jessica McCormack to put a cool spin on her heart rings encrusted with diamonds, emeralds or rubies or accented with a finer, more delicate polished gold with a single diamond or ruby. “Hearts can be cookie cutter and too sweet, I wanted to reimagine the shape in a more contemporary way that was fun and graphic,” she says. Additionally, these chic Heart rings can be worn stacked. Paris-based FengJ’s new Coeur Rouge earrings, featuring generations-old Chinese lacquering technique painted on silver, are set with rubies and red spinels. Each earring is a halved-red heart that together to completes the shape. “Heart shapes can sometimes be clichéd or cartoonish. We hope that ours, with its wire forms, offer slightly edgier options to sophisticated clients,” say Laurin Lucaire and Christopher Roule, the NYC-based husband and wife design team. Roule&Co’s geometric little ‘roulette’ hearts encase about 1-3/4 carats of loose gems.

1 Feng J Earrings; 2 Jessica McCormack Ring; 3 Roule & Co Necklace; 4 Roule & Co Earrings

Locks, Keys, Envelopes

Locks, keys, and envelopes are eternal favourites. When it comes to elegant designs, Tiffany & Co and Harry Winston always have something special to offer. Marla Aaron's "rebellious little company in the heart of NYC" has jewels inspired by the designer's realisation that she could "morph the shape of a hardware store carabiner in myriad ways." Her offerings in gems, diamonds, and enamel include locks transformed into hearts, boomerangs, bolts, and letters. These locks can also be personalised with engravings and worn on jewels you already have. Montmorency's Heartlock series by Maddy Kebejis was the outcome of her travel to London. "I came across an exciting display of Victorian padlocks at Liberty London, which sparked extensive research on Victorian padlocks. Also, I was already working on some inspiration about padlocks being fastened to the Pont des Arts bridge in Paris, by young couples before they threw the keys into the river Seine to symbolise their love," she says.



1 Harry Winston charm; 2 Montmorency Diamond Heartlock; 3 Montmorency charm; 4 Marla Aaron Bracelet; 5 Tiffany & Co Charm; 6 Marla Aaron Necklace

1 Shahla Karimi Jewelry Earring; 2 Jessie VE Ring; 3 Jessie VE Neckalce; 4 Jessie VE Ring; 5 Jessie VE Necklace; 6 Shahla Karimi Jewelry Ring



Secret Messages, Scripts, Initials

Should you wish to proclaim your love, scripts, initials, and engraved dates are charmingly nostalgic. For subtlety, opt for New York jeweller Shahla Karimi's latest range. Inspired by the Morse code, it is set with round and baguette diamonds that represent dots and dashes. "The majority of my customers are looking for a subtle way to represent a loved one by spelling out the entire name or using initials to combine multiple family members or stack up their ears," she adds. At times, wearing overtly personalised jewellery can feel far too revealing, observes Jessie Evans, founder of Jessie VE. Thus, she turned to sensory language and secret messages to design *Feel The Love*, a line of diamond braille jewels, and the *Dot Dash*, a collection inspired by the letters of the alphabet in the Morse code. "Diamond braille is a subtle way to hide the messages in plain sight – the element of touch (rendered through reverse set diamonds) is also more intimate." The *Dot-Dash* series, says the London-based jeweller, focuses on hiding initials, words, and names in the diamonds.



Emoji Lips

Solange-Azagury Partridge's Hotlips rings, in silver and lacquer, have been all the rage since its launch in 1995. "Before E-mail, I used to write letters and I would sign them with a lipstick kiss. Also, as I never wore bright lipstick, which I love, it's a way of enjoying the fun aspect of colour but by wearing it on another body part," says the British designer. This iconic design, now available in a fun range, features glitters and patterns. Meanwhile, founder of London-based fine jewellery brand Ruifier's collections are a play on emojis. "I wanted to encapsulate a fun approach to fine jewellery, which I had not seen anywhere before. Many of our collections are therefore inspired by the use of emojis and modern communication," explains Ruifier's Rachel Shaw. The Elements collection rings are paved with vivid gems and diamonds; when worn on its own, each design is a pretty ring, but when stacked, creates a unique face – some inspired by eyes and others by mouths, allowing you to mix and match. Ruifier's Moyen line is also quite adorable.

1 Solange-Azagury Partridge Hotlips in neon pink; 2 Solange-Azagury Partridge Hotlips ring in orange; 3 Solange-Azagury Partridge Love Heart Hotlips; 4 Solange-Azagury Partridge Hotlips in classic red; 5 Solange-Azagury Partridge Hotlips Heart in neon pink; 6 Lydia Courteille Ring; 7 Ruifier Necklace; 8 Ruifier Ring

Atypical Jewels

Geneva-based art jeweller Suzanne Syz's vinyl record-inspired earrings, entitled 'All You Need Is Love' and 'You Rock My World', are unusual creations. These earrings in rose gold, actual vinyl, and ceramic are set with diamonds and draw upon the designer's love of music and everyday objects. "People can also personalise them with a song title that reminds them of a special time," shares Suzanne. If you love to flaunt it, set your sights on body jewels – we are talking diamond-punctuated bras – by Jacquie Aiche. Alternatively, you could take the glam route with Charlotte Dauphin de la Rochefoucauld's exquisite diamond sprinkled hair cuffs for her brand Maison Dauphin or choose a diamond hair pin by Graff, or diamond barrette by Messika. 🌟

1 Suzanne Syz Earrings; 2 Suzanne Syz Earrings; 3 Jacquie Aiche Diamond Bra; 4 & 5 Maison Dauphin Distructive Haircuff

