

NEWSLETTER

TRI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION

SPRING 1999 NUMBER 5

TRIPS - PAST & FUTURE

We had a very successful panel at SOFA Chicago, organized by Joanne Cooper of Mobilia Gallery and the AJF. Artists Rachel Thiewes, Arline Fisch, Ron Ho and Joe Wood presented their works and discussed artists that influenced their styles. The event was sold out (although free, the room was filled), and it was a wonderful way to share art jewelry with the larger craft audience, and to introduce them to AJF.

We thank Joanne and Libby Cooper for their work and sponsorship of the event. Earlier in the day, many AJF members and their guests gathered for breakfast and a lecture. Members from across the country got a chance to meet and share their enthusiasm. Then, we were treated to an introduction to

British jewelry by Clare Beck, Director of Trading for the Crafts Council of England and Wales.

A DAY IN NEW YORK

The members of Art Jewelry Forum are invited to a day of activities on Friday, May 21 in New York City during the second annual SOFA/NYC exhibit. The day starts with a trip to the home of AJF member Sandy Grotta,

lunch in her beautiful Richard Meier designed home, and a look at her jewelry collection. She has collected a few artists in depth, including Wendy Ramshaw and Laurie Hall. Then the group will come back to Manhattan to hear a panel discussion organized by David McFadden, Chief Curator at the American Craft Museum. After the panel the group will tour the fair with David and discuss various jewelry pieces. More details

will appear in your mailbox and in the next newsletter. For now **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO

AJF is planning a trip to San Francisco in conjunction with a major jewelry show at The San Francisco Craft and Folk Art Museum. The dates of the exhibition are October 23,

1999 - January 4, 2000. Art Jewelry Forum will plan 3 days of events - talks, studio visits, dinners and visits with collectors - starting on Thursday, October 21st through Saturday, October 23. Details will be announced later in the year. **SAVE THE DATES!!!**



Donna Briskin and Sharon Campbell at AJF Meeting

WHY HAVE THE ART JEWELRY FORUM?

By Bruce Metcalf,
Susan Cummins & Mija Riedel

As the Art Jewelry Forum builds its membership, people ask the question: Why should I join? In an era of packed schedules, limited spare time and continual requests for donations, this is a legitimate question. So, it seemed time to review some of the answers about what the AJF offers, and the benefits it affords its membership.

Crafts are in the unique position of having to make their own support and advocacy groups. In the contemporary art world, the museums are the ones who organize the collecting groups and educate these people to understand what they are showing, thereby creating the critical donor and volunteer base all museums need. The craft world has had too few museums and too few good publications to support development and education of craft connoisseurs. So, enthusiastic craft collectors started their own groups with the support and encouragement of galleries and artists. In this case, the results have been that museum collecting and development have followed the collectors instead of the other way around. The Art Jewelry Forum was formed partly because jewelry aesthetes could see how such an association has benefited the glass, clay and fiber fields.

Ultimately, the AJF desires to serve three groups: the private collectors and public institutions who buy and collect contemporary jewelry, the artists, and the jewelry field itself.

Jewelry collectors are true aficionados: they educate themselves; they buy carefully; they go out of their way to meet important jewelers. It has always seemed strange that people who cared so much about modern jewelry should hesitate to identify themselves as collectors. An advocacy group can change this situation. The Forum was designed as a place where enthusiasts could meet one another, share tips, experiences and opinions, and become friends. They would begin to realize they were not alone in this rather unusual passion. Perhaps they would think about themselves as Jewelry Collectors, and view their collections differently. The goal here is to build a community - and, of course, to have some fun in the process. With their own organization, a number of additional benefits might follow.

Most importantly, people can learn. There aren't many places where information about contemporary jewelry is presented, and fewer still where information is tailored to enthusiasts rather than jewelry makers. The Art Jewelry Forum sponsors lectures and studio visits where members can hear outstanding jewelers talk about their work. Curators and teachers offer perspectives and insights that are not readily available. Private collections become accessible. Intricacies and subtleties that might otherwise be hidden are revealed. After all, jewelry is an art of the close-up look. Hopefully, this ongoing education will help members become true connoisseurs, not just consumers. Another point that cannot be underestimated is that artists

are affected by the knowledge that there is a group of collectors out there who are both enthusiastic and knowledgeable. If an artist knows that their work might be acknowledged and purchased, they are more likely to make something more ambitious, or even just think more seriously about what they are doing and feel more encouraged to do it. This can move the whole field ahead in a significant way.



Artist Ron Ho with collectors Susan & Bill Beech.

In the long run, the Art Jewelry Forum is designed to nurture the field of contemporary art jewelry. The field isn't as big and powerful as the other craft mediums; art jewelry doesn't have its own museum (like ceramics has at Alfred), its own study center (like the fiber arts have at the Chicago Art Institute), or its own international art star (like Dale Chihuly in glass). It's healthy and vibrant, but it's small. It needs the support of dedicated collectors, and the attention of curators and writers. It needs a recognized group of advocates who museums feel will support (through loans of artwork and/or cash donations) their ideas for jewelry exhibitions and acquisitions. It needs channels of communication between all segments of the field, from makers to distributors to clients. We want to promote jewelers, assist galleries and museums, and encourage collectors: the whole shebang. The Art Jewelry Forum can do all these things. No other organization can.

That's why the AJF is important. That's why people should join and support the Forum even if they don't always participate in its events. Membership is a way of saying that you think art jewelry has an important place in contemporary society. It's a vote of confidence in the whole idea.

GETTING INVOLVED

We are looking for members of the organization to:

1. Become one of the officers. We will be putting a new slate of officers together this year and want to know if you have the time and energy to be considered for active duty. This is a great opportunity to help chart the course of the AJF, and have direct input into the year's activities.
2. Design a membership brochure which explains the AJF to those unfamiliar, curious, potential new members. (We need some good graphic design; we already have the content.)
3. Write an essay or even a small article for the newsletter about a jewelry topic of interest to you. You could explain why you collect jewelry, how you got started, how your views have changed, etc.
4. Increase membership and your own AJF experience: write or call your best friends and ask them to join.

5. Plan a special event in your area with the help of a gallery or artist or university to educate or promote jewelry to a new audience. What does your area have to offer that would be of interest to others? Who and what would you like to know more about? What professor, museum person or jeweler could you collaborate with on a special project?

Please let one of us know if you take on any of the above projects. Write to our address or call Sharon at 415. 453-2323. Thanks.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Existing Officers of the Art Jewelry Forum:
 Sharon Campbell - Chair
 Susan Beech - Vice Chair
 Barbara Waldman - Secretary
 Donna Briskin - Treasurer
 Judy Bloomfield - Trip Coordinator
 Susan Cummins and
 Bruce Metcalf - Newsletter

It is time to prepare a new slate of officers for this organization and we would love any recommendations from you. Please contact Sharon Campbell at 415-453-2323, or write to us at AJF 38 Miller Avenue, suite 224, Mill Valley, CA 94941.

PANEL DISCUSSION

At the invitation of The Metal Arts Guild, a non-profit organization of California metal artists, AJF will be conducting a panel discussion: "Art Jewelry - the Collector's View." This is an exciting opportunity for us to introduce our organization and to share our views of what attracts us, what influences our buying decisions, and how we wear and display our jewelry. The discussion will take place at the Metal Arts Guild meeting on April 23rd in San Francisco. If you want more information or would be interested in joining the panel, please contact Carol Windsor (650) 579-5970. Idea: Consider contacting your local jewelry artists' group and offering a similar panel to them!

<p>JEWELRY/METAL SYMPOSIUM</p> <p>Presented by the University of Washington - Art Department, The Seattle Metals Guild and the Pratt Fine Arts Center, on</p> <p>Saturday, April 10, 1999 at the University of Washington;</p> <p>9:00 am to 4:30 PM.</p> <p>The following speakers will participate in the Symposium:</p>	<p>CONSCIOUS & UNCONSCIOUS MEANDERINGS Marcia McDonald, Studio Jeweler</p> <p>JEWELRY WITH COSTUME Judy Sourakii, Curator of Costume, Henry Art Gallery</p> <p>FORGING A CAREER IN PRODUCTION JEWELRY Tami Dean, Studio Jeweler</p> <p>SOME TIPS, SOME SAFETY WITH A CATCH Charles Lawton-Brain, Instructor</p>	<p>GLASS IN JEWELRY James Minson, Studio Jeweler & Glass Artist</p> <p>THE METAL ARTS & THE MUSEUM Bruce Peppich, Director, Wustum Museum</p> <p>Cost: general - \$45 full time student - \$25</p> <p>INCLUDES A BOX LUNCH</p>	<p>EVENTS PRIOR TO THE SYMPOSIUM</p> <p>Thursday, April 8 - Reception for Dana Singer, SNAG Exec. Dir., at Facéré Jewelry Art</p> <p>Friday, April 9 - Student Gathering University of Washington Art Bldg., Metals Shop</p> <p>Friday, April 9 - Student Exhibition Opening - Pratt Fine Art Center</p> <p>Thursday and Friday, April 8 & 9, workshops at Pratt Fine Art Center, call (206) 328-2200 for information.</p> <p>To request a registration form, contact: Facéré Jewelry Art, City Centre #108, 1420 Fifth Ave., Seattle, WA 98101; tel (206) 624-5768</p>
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YES! SIGN ME UP FOR THE ART JEWELRY FORUM

NAME _____ STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE (Day) _____ (Evening) _____ (Fax) _____

\$135 Single
 \$175 Dual/Family
 \$200 AJF Single/SFC&FAM Dual Sponsor
 \$225 AJF Dual/SFC&FAM Dual Sponsor

All membership categories both Art Jewelry Forum and the San Francisco Craft & Folk Art Museum annual dues and are fully tax deductible. Sponsors are able to participate in approximately 10 special lectures and tours of artist studios and private collections each year in the SF Bay Area.

Send all AJF mailings & minimum SFC&FAM mailings
 Send all AJF mailings and all SFC&FAM mailings
 Make check payable to: AJF of the SFC&FAM. Mail to Art Jewelry Forum, 38 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941
 For more information, phone the San Francisco Craft & Folk Art Museum at (415) 775-0991

CALENDAR

Aaron Faber 212-586-8411
666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019
"Distinctive Voices in Metal and Stone",
March 4 - April 17; "Japanese Metalworking,"
curated by Hiroko Pijanowski, May 4 - 29

Helen Drutt Gallery 215-735-1625
1721 Walnut Street 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103
"Helen Drutt Philadelphia: Celebrating 25 Years"
Feb 10 - March 27; Margaret West; March 10 - April 10;
Tore Svensson; April 14 - 24

Linda Richman Jewelry 414-289-0855
@ Katie Gingrass Gallery, 241 North Broadway Milwau-
kee, WI 53202
Ivan Barnett & Allison Buchbaum Barnett, Spring 1999

materia/ The Hand & The Spirit 602-949-1262
4222 North Marshall Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Ruth Taubman, Feb 1 - 28; Martina Windells, Petra Class,
& Sandra Enterline, March 1 - 31

Mobilia Gallery 617-876-2109
358 Huron Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138
"Fish by Fisch," Feb 2 - 27; "A Collection of New Work
by Joe Wood"; March 1 - 31; "The Lapidary Skills of
Michael Boyd: Vessels and Jewelry" April 1 - 30

Objects of Desire 502-896-2398
3704 Lexington Rd. Louisville, KY 40207
"A Matter of Materials," European jewelry curated by
Charon Kransen, Jan 22 - Feb 26; "The British are Com-
ing" jewelry and headwear curated by Julia Comer, April
1 - May 1; "The Banquet Table," American holloware, May
21 - June 30

Obsidian Gallery 520-577-3598
Suite #90, 4340 North Campbell Ave., Tucson AZ 85718
Michael Boyd, Andy Cooperman, and Diane Egbert, opens
February 6
Ivan Barnett & Rika Mouw, March / April
Barbara Minor & Hannelore Gabriel, April / May

OXOXO Gallery 410-466-9696
1617 Sulgrave Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209
"Sweethearts" Valentine's Day Invitational, Jan 23-Feb 28;
Barbara Stutzman Jewelely, March 6 - April 3

Susan Cummins Gallery 415-383-0244
12 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941
"Takarabako: Treasure Boxes," sculpture by
Mariko Kusumoto, Feb. 1-27;
"Jewelry for Lovers," Bruce Metcalf, March 1 - April 3

Sybaris Gallery 810-544-3388
202 East Third Street, Royal Oak, MI 48067
Doug Harling, March 13 - April 24; David Dahmkoehler,
May 1 - June 5

The Works Gallery 215-922-7775
303 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106
Sam Shaw, Feb 2 - March 15;
Robin Martin and Cheryl Rydmark, April 1-May 1;
Sharon Boardway, May 5-May 29

Velvet Da Vinci 415-626-7478
508 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
"Tokens of Love," Feb. 2 - 28

Yaw Gallery 248-647-5470
550 North Old Woodward Ave., Birmingham MI 48009
Ingrid Zeitler, Jan 29 - Feb 27; Kevin Glenn Crane,
Feb 1 - 14; "The Colored Diamond," with Tony Lent,
Cheiko Akagi and others, March

Institutional Exhibitions, Spring 1999

"A Taste for Splendor: Treasures from the Hillwood
Museum," **Kalamazoo Institute of Art**, MI
Feb. 21 - May 9

"Designed for Delight"
J.B. Speed Museum, Louisville, KY
March 8 - May 23

"Transformations: Recycled Materials in
Contemporary American Craft and Design"
Boise Museum of Art, ID Feb 13 - April 25
Mobile Museum of Art, AL May 15 - July 11

The Fabergé Gallery will reopen in April
Richmond Museum of Art

"Brooding It Diplomatically:
A Tribute to Madeleine K. Albright,"
American Craft Museum, New York City,
June 3 - August 8

"Klaus Bürger: Jewelry and Drawings," **Oliver Art Cen-
ter, California College of Arts & Crafts**,
Oakland, CA Jan. 27 - March 17

"Botanical Jewelry," **Society of Arts & Crafts**,
175 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116
617-266-1810 March 6 - May 2

ART JEWELRY FORUM

*Donna Briskin 510-885-2620
SHARON CAMPBELL 415-453-2323*

38 Miller Avenue, Ste. 214
Mill Valley, CA 94941

The deadline dates for receiving
material for the newsletter are:
MATERIAL PUBLICATION
April 15 May 7
August 13 September 3

JOANNE RAPP MOVES ON

AJF member Joanne Rapp announced last summer that she had sold her gallery and was moving on to other adventures. Joanne opened one of the earliest galleries devoted to showing crafts in the country and it has lasted for 26 years. Her energy and enthusiasm will be missed. We wish her the best of luck and hope that the new owner, Bentley Terrace Dillard will carry on in the tradition that has been established over the years. The gallery is now materia/The Hand & The Spirit. Joanne will stay active in the AJF, where we will put her many skills to good work.