

## — Spectrum Award Winners 2000! —

**J**ewels By Design is very pleased to announce that our designers have won major awards in the American Gem Trade Association's Spectrum Competition 2000. Bayot Heer received double recognition for his magnificent emerald and diamond ring. He was awarded both First Place in Division 1, (for jewellery valued at more than \$10,000 US) and Best of Show, (the top award out of the entire field of more than 400 entries from all over North America). In the related Platinum Honours section of the Spectrum Competition, Llyn Strelau's whimsical brooch called "Moonshine" garnered one of the 12 awards. (Division II, value from \$5000-10,000 US).

### "Elevated Green,"

Bayot's ring, is a studied contrast in linear and curved lines. The cut-corner, triangular emerald is a rare untreated gem from the Cosquez Mine in Colombia. It is free of oil or any other enhancement to hide internal inclusions. We are fortunate to have the stone on loan from one of our suppliers, JEMA EmeraldStone who specializes in fine Colombian material. The fact that the emerald was not a perfectly symmetrical shape was initially a design challenge but was ultimately the stimulus for the successful asymmetrical design. Safely secured in an 18K gold bezel, the emerald is suspended between two curved gold plates. The plates share the same primary curve but, while the larger tapers from left to right and is flat on top, the other plate curves gently downward from right to left subtly balancing the mass of the emerald. The two plates are connected by a series of highly polished platinum "rungs" whose ends are visible as a graceful pattern of white circles against the matte finished exterior of



the yellow gold. The finishing touch is the sparkle of pavé set diamonds on all of the vertical surfaces of the emerald bezel.

**"Moonshine"** is the perfect name for Llyn's brooch. The inspiration was the face, finely carved in spectrolite (also known in Canada as Labradorite). The carver has managed to capture both a look of serene wisdom and a mischievous glint in the features of this carving. From the central bezel of the face, eight main rays extend, their ends forming both the silhouette of a crescent moon and a partial spider web. Captured in the delicate platinum strands of the web are a number of articulated, bezel set triangular yellowish green sapphires and green and bluish-green tourmalines. These colours are the perfect reflection of the iridescent colours of the spectrolite. In addition, caught like drops of dew, are tiny bezel set diamonds. Hidden on the back of the bezel is a surprise. A spider with diamond eyes waits in its lair, legs aligned with the eight rays of the web.



**The black and white photographs here cannot do justice to these two pieces. We will debut them after we return from the Award Dinner in Tucson. Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 17, 6-9:00 pm and join us for an evening of celebration to see our winners in true and glorious colour.**

## ~ DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL ORDERS FOR TUCSON! ~

Contact the shop at 228-0644 before JANUARY 31st to discuss your requests for Llyn to search out at the annual Gem Show

### TUCSON 2000

Many of my regular clients are familiar with the annual pilgrimage to Tucson for the Gem and Mineral Fair in early February. This year, of course, is extra special because Jewels by Design won two Spectrum Awards. Bayot is coming down and I am anticipating the fun of introducing him to the mind and eye-boggling sights of the show. Of course, the clear air, desert colours and shirt sleeve weather are no small attraction even after our unseasonable but welcome weather here, but believe me we are down there to work!!!

The Tucson Gem Fair is the single largest collection of gems and minerals in the world. Dealers congregate from all corners of the earth with their wares; rubies from Burma, sapphires from Africa and Sri Lanka, Australian opals, rainbows of tourmaline from Brazil, white and fancy coloured diamonds from Australia and Africa... the list could continue but it would be easier to buy a good gem and mineral text - they would all be there! The variety is immense with displays spread across more than 20 locations around the city. Mineral dealers selling magnificent quartz specimens from the back of their flat bed truck - next to diamond dealers from India - next to a room of tables draped with pearls from the Orient and South Pacific.

I attend the show for several reasons, the escape from a bit of winter being only one. One can see what is new, what is different and exciting in the gem world and meet and talk with dealers and designers from other countries to see what the rest of the world is doing in design. And, of course, to buy stock for the shop so that Jewels By Design can bring at least a taste of the Gem Fair to Calgary. Shopping at the show is much more difficult than you might think because of the truly overwhelming selection of beautiful gems. By taking specific orders from our clients I find the shopping easier since I can focus on these items. Often I find other treasures in my search to add to Jewels By Design's inventory.

Is there a particular stone that you would love to have but can't seem to find? Is there an important date coming up that should be celebrated with an equally special jewel? Do you have a piece of jewellery that needs a different stone to bring it up to date? Or perhaps something to compliment a piece you already own?

**Until Monday, January 31, Jewels By Design is accepting special orders for Llyn to search out in Tucson. The selection is unrivaled and virtually any request can be met.**

**Please come in to the shop or give us a call at 228-0644 (or email [designer@jewelsbydesign.com](mailto:designer@jewelsbydesign.com)) to discuss your needs.**

### What's New at Jewels By Design!

Our featured watch in this issue is the St. Moritz Classic. There are four models in this line, all with the simple round case shape and uncluttered design to give an elegant, yet modern look. All models come in two sizes and offer Swiss-made accuracy and reliability in slim water-resistant stainless steel case. All feature a Heat-tempered mineral glass crystal and a quality Swiss-made quartz movement. The model illustrated is the subtle Gunmetal Classic, with a special, double sandblasted finish that resists marking and fingerprints. It is available with the Gunmetal Softmesh steel bracelet or a variety of striking leather bands. There are three other styles in the line, the Gold Classic in heavy 18K gold plate finish, the Black Classic with dramatic black anodized case and finally the Sport Classic in highly polished steel. This model also has a date indicator and looks great with either a fine leather band or the finely woven high polish Softmesh stainless steel bracelet. The Classic line ranges in price from \$200.00 to \$245.00 depending on the bracelet you choose.



There are more than 30 models in the St. Moritz line all with several variations choose from. Prices range from less than \$200.00 to \$3,500.00 for the Mechanical Chronographs, we

are sure you will find one to add to your collection.

While I was in Europe this fall, I was fortunate to be able to attend the annual Inter-Gem Show in Idar-Oberstein, Germany. This little town tucked into the mountains above the Nahe River north east of Frankfurt has been the centre of German gem cutting for hundreds of years. It was the abundant agate and other quartz minerals in the surrounding hills combined with water power that could be harnessed to run the cutting wheels that were the foundation of the industry here. In later years, as the local supplies of stone dwindled, the experienced cutters started importing rough gemstones from many other countries. Today the name Idar-Oberstein is synonymous with excellence in gem cutting. Many of the firms have been in the same families for generations and continue to innovate and produce some of the finest cut gemstones in the world.

They are also justly famous for figurative carvings executed in all manner of gem materials.

Among the treasures that I brought back are a beautiful, matte-finished, black onyx horse's head with a finely detailed swirling mane and a miniature but realistically rendered jade lily-of-the-valley leaf complete with three tiny frosted quartz crystal blossoms. On the more whimsical side are a pair of ducks, the bodies carved in