



August 2021

CMAG Members: Carli Schultz, Laurie Feinswog, Rachel Morris

IMPORTANT DATES

8/15 (Sunday)

Potluck!!!

(RSVP on the guild website for location details)

9/21

September CMAG meeting
(Location TBD)

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ZOOM LINKS

No ZOOM Meeting this month - we hope to see you at the potluck!

Annual Members Potluck!

No presentation this month - instead, Carli has been generous enough to open her home for our yearly potluck. If you haven't registered, please do so ASAP so we know who to expect. **This is also the only way to get the address.**

You can sign up on the [Guild website](#) (make sure you are logged in first!)



Last Call for Art in the Pearl

Art in the Pearl will return Labor Day weekend, September 4–6, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday and 10:00 AM–4:00 PM on Monday. CMAG will share a metal arts demo tent with Greg Wilbur and blacksmith Caleb Booth, and anyone interested in demonstrating or talking about their making process can sign up for a shift of two or three hours. We aren't allowed to sell wares at the show, but we can hand out cards and show samples of our work, so it's a good marketing opportunity as well as a way to fulfill CMAG's commitment to education and public engagement. If you are interested, or have questions, please email Madeleine at madeleine@madeleinemore.com.



Teaching position available in Bend

COCC (Central Oregon Community College in Bend) is looking for a part time instructor for their Jewelry and Metalwork Program. It is an accredited position starting fall term. If anyone is interested in the position, please contact Bill Cravis via email at bcravis@cocc.edu or by calling 608-658-9680.

Call for Artists

To celebrate the 1972 find of a tourmaline mine in Maine, the Maine Mineral & Gem Museum is commissioning 12 pieces of original jewelry to use tourmalines from the Dunton Mine. Artists selected to participate will receive a gem to incorporate into their proposed design, which can have a budget of up to \$5,000. The deadline to apply is September 1, 2021 – please go [here](#) for details.



CALL FOR ARTISTS

In October of 1972, one of the largest and most significant gem tourmaline finds in North American history occurred in the mountains of western Maine. Named the Dunton Mine, this discovery created - and still creates - ripples in the American gemstone industry. It was called: "The Big Find."

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of this extraordinary find, the MMGM endeavors to showcase a collection of 12 original pieces of jewelry utilizing the stunning gemstones unearthed from the famous tourmaline mine.

**THE MMGM INVITES ARTISTS TO TELL THE
STORY OF THESE GEMSTONES
- AND THEIR OWN STORY -
THROUGH THEIR ARTWORK.**

Artists selected to participate will receive a gem of exquisite quality to incorporate into their proposed jewelry design. The artist selection process will be conducted by a panel of artists, community members, and industry professionals. Gems will be selected for each artist at random by lottery.

The MMGM introduces the awe-inspiring science and history of Maine geology and mineralogy to explorers of every age. This year-long celebration of The Big Find directly supports the Museum's sustainability plan, ensuring that science, learning, education and discovery is accessible for all visitors, now and into the future. The artists' process behind these pieces, from concept to completion, will become part of the Museum's archives. In essence, this is history in the making, and we invite you to join us on this adventure.

THE BIG FIND

A Legend Continues

KEY DATES

Deadline for submissions:
September 1, 2021

Jury decision notifications:
October 1, 2021

Delivery day:
September 1, 2022

Exhibit opens:
October 13, 2022

Contact Info:

Maggie Kroenke
Museum Store Manager
Maine Mineral & Gem Museum
(207) 824-3036
mkroenke@mainemineralmuseum.org



Book Review by Madeleine Moore

Edge of the Sublime – Enamels by Jamie Bennett

Authors: Falino, Jeannine; Patricia C. Phillips; Karl Emil Willers

Jamie Bennett is a pioneering enamel artist whose work was celebrated in 2008 with a retrospective at the [Fuller Craft Museum](#); *Edge of the Sublime: Enamels* by Jamie Bennett is the accompanying catalogue. The book opens with a biographical essay by Jeannine Falino, who starts with Bennett's childhood influence: his mother, the fashion designer Jean Grippi. Despite her own designer career, Grippi suggested a business major for her son with an eye to financial stability, but he enjoyed his elective arts courses so much that he decided his talents lay elsewhere. With his mother's blessing, Bennett got his graduate arts degree at SUNY New Paltz, where he was heavily influenced by two professors: Robert Ebensdorf, a founding member of the Society of North American Goldsmiths, and Kurt Matzdorf, a dedicated craftsman whose love of historical metalwork balanced Ebensdorf's passion for new methods and techniques.

EDGE OF THE SUBLIME



Enamels by Jamie Bennett

The early seventies was a good time to enter the world of metalsmithing, which had just reached the critical mass that led to the founding of SNAG in 1970. The long list of workshops, conferences and artist residencies Bennett attended attests to the vibrance of the movement, as well as the fact that artistic excellence is not achieved in isolation. In 1985, Bennett joined the faculty at his alma mater, replacing the retiring Kurt Matzdorf. Both Bennett and his fellow professor Myra Mimplitsch-Gray "work closely with students to ensure that they explore the history and intellectual perspective behind a work of art as well as its structural integrity and quality of execution", Falino writes. SUNY New Paltz now has one of the leading metalsmithing programs in the country, though Bennett retired six years after this book was published.

The color plates at the rear of the book are in chronological order, allowing the reader to follow Bennett's artistic progress. His work from the 1970s features black line drawings filled in with subdued colors. The first bright splash of color comes in the early 1980s with the Red Site series, which had its origins in a red barn, the building and its surroundings splintered into unrecognizable shapes. After adding color Bennett elongated forms and embellished them with gold. His *Priori* series of 1988 was an attempt to move beyond the framework of a jewel in a bezel setting; these were a series of electroplated 3D forms with enameled surfaces. Gallerist Susan Cummins wrote to him after seeing his show in New York:



Book Review continued

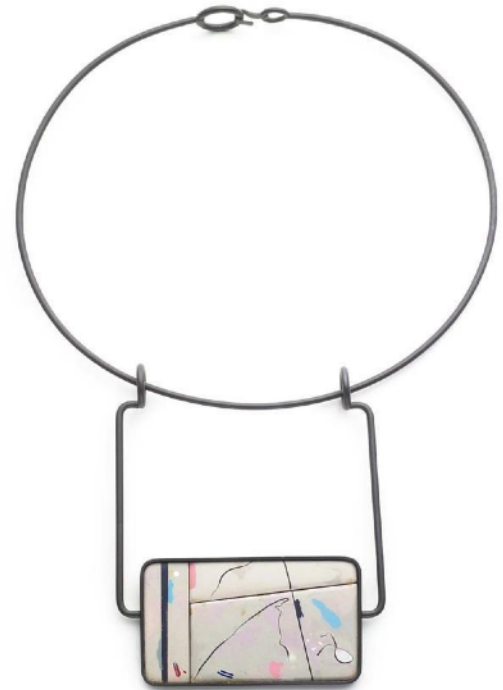
Edge of the Sublime – Enamels by Jamie Bennett

Authors: Falino, Jeannine; Patricia C. Phillips; Karl Emil Willers

"The work was spectacular. It seemed so natural or logical to enamel the whole form without the ever-present bezel, something I hadn't seen done before in the round as you did it. The restrained addition of gold elements created an elegant juxtaposition to the enamel."

Bennett embraced ornamentation around 1991, fighting against the modern art and design movement that dismissed decoration as superfluous garnishing that distracted from structural integrity. He was drawn by the intense colors and patterns he encountered during repeated trips to Istanbul and Morocco, creating large enamels in jewel tones and setting them in gold. The Chadour series was meant to evoke the gowns of Iranian women against brilliantly sunwashed mosque walls.

This book is not for the artisan – the technicalities of enameling are not addressed. The first two essays address Bennett's biography and place within design theory. The third essayist, Karl Emil Willers, examines his design process but steers clear of the making process. How does Bennett achieve the matte powdery surface of his enamels? What prevented jewelers from enameling on rounded forms before him? What karat gold does he use and why? What do the backs of his brooches look like? Those questions will have to be answered elsewhere.



CMAG Members: Anne Johnson, Nancy Hoyt, Mandy Allen



CMAG Board & Staff FY2021

Executive Board:

President: Madeleine Moore

Treasurer: Barbara Covey

Vice President: **POSITION OPEN**

Secretary: Anne Johnson

General Board & Staff:

Member-At-Large: Marsha Sandman

Director of Education: **POSITION OPEN**

Communications Chair/Social Media: Madeleine Moore

Web Site: Bob Woods

Spring Show: Tai Vautier

Programs Director: Madeleine Moore

Librarian: Kristin Fudalla

Refreshments: Marcy Swanson

Newsletter Editor: Jen McCaw

Membership Chair: Carli Schultz

Open Role:

Class Registrar (reports to Education)

GUILD BUSINESS

GENERAL MEETING (MONTHLY)

When: General CMAG member meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month.

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm, and adjourn by 9:15

Where: For the foreseeable future, meetings will be held virtually on Zoom.

What: Meetings consist of general business followed by a program which may be a demonstration of a technique or tool, a slide presentation, a panel discussion, or other presentation of interest to CMAG members. We are open to suggestions of topics we can cover remotely.

Who: Meetings are open to CMAG members and their guests, though if you share a meeting link, please let [Madeleine](#) know to expect them if they will be joining separately

BOARD MEETING

Board meetings are held prior to the General Meeting at 6:00 pm also on Zoom for the foreseeable future. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute.

CONTACT INFO

Creative Metal Arts Guild (CMAG)
PO Box 8946, Portland, OR 97207

Email: guild@cmaguild.org

Web: cmaguild.org

NEWSLETTER ITEMS WANTED

We're looking for news about you and from you! Virtual trunk shows, tools you can't live without, books you love, online workshops or webinars you've attended or upcoming classes you recommend. And photos of new work you'd like to show fellow CMAG members. Include body text in an email with any links, and attach photos (ideally jpeg format) where available.

Submit to: news@cmaguild.org

Upcoming deadlines:
September Issue: 9/17/2021

WAYS TO PROMOTE CMAG, OUR MEMBERS, & EVENTS

GENERAL:

Talk us up among your artist friends - invite them to a Third Tuesday meeting! Update your membership page on the website with photos, especially! Like our public Facebook page and Like, Comment on and Share announcements on your own page and on groups you think would appreciate them

<https://www.facebook.com/CreativeMetalArtsGuild/>

Follow us on Instagram, like our posts and tag us @creativemetalartsguild in your own appropriate posts
<https://www.instagram.com/creativemetalartsguild/>

Use hashtags in your social media posts:

#creativemetalartsguild
#creativemetalartsguildpdx