



## IMPORTANT DATES

### 11/17 ZOOM

November CMAG meeting

### 12/15 ZOOM

December CMAG meeting

### 1/19 ZOOM

January CMAG meeting

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## ZOOM LINKS

### Board meeting

(5:30 pm):

[https://zoom.us/j/93290571612?](https://zoom.us/j/93290571612?pwd=VVlrQUU2RWZTQVFWFpuSDRtKzVzZz09)

[pwd=VVlrQUU2RWZTQVFWFpuSDRtKzVzZz09](https://zoom.us/j/93290571612?pwd=VVlrQUU2RWZTQVFWFpuSDRtKzVzZz09)

### Members meeting

(7:00 pm):

[https://zoom.us/j/94035081444?](https://zoom.us/j/94035081444?pwd=a2xxUVp0SG1OaHlzZ3FIMFhRaC81UT09)

[pwd=a2xxUVp0SG1OaHlzZ3FIMFhRaC81UT09](https://zoom.us/j/94035081444?pwd=a2xxUVp0SG1OaHlzZ3FIMFhRaC81UT09)

## NOVEMBER PRESENTATION:

### Mike Suri - Blacksmithing and Sculptural Metalwork

[Mike Suri](#) is a sculptor and metal worker based in Portland OR. For over two decades Mike has operated Suri Iron Inc., a sculptural and architectural metal fabrication business focusing on one of a kind creations both large and small. His work can be found in public and private collections throughout the Northwest. In addition to the pursuit of fine metal craft Mike teaches vocational fabrication and metallurgy at Mt. Hood Community College. Mike's days are filled with a blend of family, sculpture making, custom design and fabrication,



education, and community. A good portion of his time is spent teaching the arts of practical metal fabrication, direct metal sculpture, small workshop blacksmithing and mentoring. Suri Iron has been involved with numerous public art projects where Mike's unique design sense and ability to manipulate heavy steel into fluid, organic and bold forms has resulted in works that celebrate community, nature and place.



## Metal Stamping with Matthieu Cheminée - One Day Workshop

We are happy to announce that CMAG's first virtual class will take place January 16, 2020.

The instructor is [Matthieu Cheminée](#), an internationally-known artist whose book *Legacy: Jewelry Techniques of West Africa* was recently acquired for the CMAG library. Matthieu's interest in metalsmithing was sparked when he was 19 and moved to Taos, New Mexico, where he studied Navajo, Hopi and Zuni techniques. Later he lived in Mali and learned from Tourag and Fulani metalsmiths.

Over time he developed his signature technique, "stampclastic": stamping a sheet of metal to create a deeply indented geometric pattern, then anticlastically forming the sheet into jewelry.

In his all-day class on January 16, Matthieu will cover all steps of the process: annealing steel rod, transforming one end to make a stamp, combining stamps to produce a unique pattern, and then manipulating the end result to create anticlastic forms.

The new widespread use of Zoom gives us a unique opportunity to host our Quebec-based teacher, who won a Saul Bell design award in 2017. The Saturday class will consist of two three-hour blocks with a one-hour lunch break in between. Materials required are some short lengths of steel (old chisels will do) and metal to work with. You can register [here](#) for the class, which is \$200 for members and \$225 for nonmembers.



## Online Classes and Other Cool Stuff

### Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) – Road 2 Success

free and fee-based online classes, including CRAFT LAB: Year End Best Business Practices with Kristin Mitsu Shiga

<https://www.snagmetalsmith.org/resources-opportunities/r2s/>

**Kent Raible** - [Going Tubular](#) and [Architecture of a Ring](#)

**Leslie Kail Villarreal** – [Online Classes](#) including Mandala Earrings and Maltese Cross Rings

**Emily Shapiro** - Good selection of [Online Classes](#), including metalsmithing techniques and business development

## Book Review by Madeleine Moore

### Jewelry and Metals Survey (JAMS)

by Holzman, Warren; Bryna Pomp; Lena Vigna

The Society of North American Goldsmiths began publishing an annual Jewelry and Metals Survey in 2017, a compendium of contemporary metalsmithing juried by three leading designers or curators. The 2019 edition was released last month and contains seventy-six “top picks,” plus individual selections from the jurors: blacksmith Warren Holzman, LOOT curator Bryna Pomp, and Racine Art Museum curator Lena Vigna. One difference between JAMS and similar volumes, including the Showcase 500 series, is that all submitted pieces have to have been designed within the preceding year, ensuring that the collection is fresh and represents the latest work being produced in the field.

Contemporary jewelry can be roughly defined as jewelry that is: 1) made to conceptualize an idea, distinct from jewelry intended solely as decoration and 2) aware of its own place in the history of jewelry, and willing to engage with that history. That leaves a lot of wiggle room – some contemporary jewelry may have layers of meaning, while some is created because the artist enjoyed playing with linoleum.

A lot of contemporary jewelry has a distinctive look that comes out of Western art schools – blocky forms and large necklaces, oxidized silver and bright colors, soft rubber and rough-edged enamel – but the range included in JAMS covers wider ground. The array of materials and techniques is impressive. Here are just a few of the pieces: a ring by Ben Dory made from stainless steel, pearls and sequins; a statue by Jessica Calderwood made from copper, electroplated enamel, porcelain, and milk paint; and a necklace by Jessica Andersen made from paddles, wood, and brass.

Work that deliberately eschews convention often lacks the balance and harmony that create beauty, and looking through JAMS doesn't provide the easy pleasure of looking through, say, *The Master Jewelers*. Since the chief value of contemporary jewelry lies in the thought behind it, a two-sentence artist statement by each photograph would make a wonderful addition. As it is, it's often impossible to guess the meaning of each piece from form and title alone. Some works, like Gretal Ferguson's *Stitched Series* (featured on the cover) achieve an aesthetic excellence that needs no explanation, but most of the objects would be enhanced by a caption.



# Instagram Ideas for Holiday Sales

by Jen McCaw

For those of us who sell our jewelry, we are coming into the final sprint of what is shaping up to be a record-breaking online shopping season.

It's easy to get overwhelmed in even 'normal' times, so here are a few ideas that can help you maximize your social media engagement with targeted effort. (As always, references are to Instagram, but if you are active on other social media platforms many of these ideas translate well.)

### Strategy #1:

You only have so much content and time to post it, so schedule those posts for maximum impact.

Currently, best DAYS to post are:  
Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays  
(Wednesdays are best)

Best TIMES to post are:  
11am - 1 pm and  
7pm - 9pm  
(this is probably your own local time zone, but if you have a lot of followers in a different time zone you may want to take that into account)

If you post on Saturday: on or after 5pm  
Sunday posts have the lowest engagement

### Strategy #2:

Save time and effort - reuse product photos you already have + free templates (try Planoly, Canva, or Picmonkey) three different ways:

- Use carousels (multi-image posts) to create a gift guide in your feed. Use a gift guide template for the first photo, then add up to 9 photos of your work.
- Then, add the same series of photos to your Stories to generate extra interest
- Finally, after 24 hours you can add that Story to your Highlights bar, which keeps it front and center on your profile

### Strategy #3

Prepare buyers now for shipping delays. Even if we stick to our own fulfilment times, most carriers are warning of delays due to all those record-breaking online sales.

- Consider offering expedited shipping options
- Create a post to let your followers know what's going on - don't forget to mention any expedited shipping services you offer
- Add that post to your Highlights to keep it featured permanently in your profile

## Shared Studio Space Available in Central SE

### Studio Features:

- Good quality jewelers bench included, or you're welcome to bring your own
- High 12' ceilings and big functioning windows on two walls. Lots of natural light!
- Shared equipment: rolling mill, torches, pickle, tumbler, ultrasonic, buffing equipment, 12' table, jump shear, crucibles for cuttlefish casting, anvil, sink with hot/cold water, clean microwave, etc.
- Storage space is included: drawers, cabinets and shelves.
- Restroom and shower down the hall
- One block from the bus stop and street car
- Free WiFi

### Security Features:

- 24/7/365 access with secured entry keypad
- Cameras throughout building
- Deadbolt on studio door
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### Rent Details:

- \$250/mo, no deposit, all utilities included
- Easy month-to-month rental agreement

We are committed to doing our part to stop the transmission of the Covid-19 virus by doing our best to stay up to date with government guidelines and CDC recommendations. The seat at your bench would be 9' from the nearest person, and 20' from the next nearest person. The windows easily open to allow cross ventilation and disinfectant is readily available. More info on this is in the sublease.

If interested, contact Joe Diemer at (503) 484-4900 or [joe@handmadebirdcages.com](mailto:joe@handmadebirdcages.com)



## CMAG Board & Staff FY2020

### 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: Heather Munion

Web Site: Bob Woods

Spring Show: Tai Vautier

Programs Director: **POSITION OPEN**

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. Unique links to join will be included in each month's newsletter.

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 (guild@cmaguild.org) know to expect them if they will be joining separately.

### BOARD MEETING

Board meetings are held prior to the General Meeting at 5:30 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 CALL TO ACTION

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:  
December Issue: 12/7/20

## 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:

#CMAG

#creativemetalartsguild

#creativemetalartsguildpdx