

NEWS RELEASE

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A Fusion of Style and Substance: Contemporary Jewellery at Coutts London Jewellery Week

Not all that glitters is gold. In fact, Coutts London Jewellery Week is by no means the preserve of the fine jewellery industry as it embraces the phenomenal diversity of the capital's jewellery industry.

Contemporary jewellery is a fast-evolving profession that straddles the spheres of art, craft and design and features strongly during the Week's celebrations. One of the highlights of the Week will be a Contemporary Trail which draws out some of the names to watch. Visitors will be taken on a journey to discover a world where jewellery is crafted from paper, plastics, resin and wire, porcelain, precious metals and stones.

The trail begins in north London at Amanda Mansell's leading gallery, **Dualpod**, in the Mall Antiques Arcade on Upper Street. Dualpod will be exhibiting the work of 35 contemporary designers and showcasing Tine de Ruysser's jewellery. Close by is the **Electrum Gallery**, one of the city's foremost contemporary galleries, displaying the work of over 100 jewellers and popular with both celebrities and highly discerning collectors.

Next on the trail is the **Contemporary Applied Arts (CAA)** on Percy Street which will be exhibiting jewellery by Vicki Ambery-Smith, who creates ornate jewellery and boxes inspired by real and imaginary buildings; internationally-renowned Wendy Ramshaw; and Jacqueline Mina, regarded as one of the UK's leading contemporary goldsmiths.

Cockpit Arts in Holborn is the UK's only creative business incubator for designer-makers. Renowned as a 'hotbed of creative talent' the Open Studios will offer the chance to find cutting-edge creativity, including Sarah King, Ruth Tomlinson and Katherine Wardropper. Tucked away in Bloomsbury is the newly relocated **Margo Selby Gallery**, which incorporates a section for jewellery showcasing some of the best of emerging British talent.

Just down the road is **Hatton Garden**, the epicentre of the UK's jewellery industry and London's original jewellery quarter. **Nicholas James** will be showcasing the work of ten of

Britain's most daring contemporary jewellery designers at his 'Young Upstarts' show; Josef Koppmann, Lilly Hastedt, Andrew Lamb and Zoe Arnold are among the hand-picked new talents.

The **Garden Studios** at Langdales Jewellery Centre is a dynamic social enterprise blending the talents of designer-makers using precious metal, jewels and mixed materials with traditional and contemporary manufacturing techniques. The work of nine talented jewellers will be on sale at their Garden Party. In nearby St John's Square in Clerkenwell, **Brilliance**, an exhibition from Craft Central, Design-Nation and Gold Works, will be showcasing and selling the work of a group of pioneering hand-made jewellery designers. Ann Alleweireldt, Disa Allsopp, Sarah Herriot and Elizabeth Bone and Daphne Krinos are among the ones to watch.

The **Lesley Craze Gallery** on Clerkenwell Green has always been ahead of its time and Coutts London Jewellery Week will be no exception. Lesley has identified 100 talented artists who favour materials as avant garde as plastic, porcelain and liquid nylon and techniques such as rapid prototyping and laser welding. A journey further east to Canary Wharf reveals an inspirational collection of silver and gold jewellery and sculptures created by a group of students from the **Mary Ward Centre**.

Heading west to Notting Hill, outstanding collections of contemporary jewellery will be on show at **Whitewall Gallery** and **flow Gallery**, which is displaying the ingenious jaw-dropping gem creations of Karl Fritsch. The spectacular **Victoria & Albert Museum** houses the newly opened William and Judith Bollinger Jewellery Gallery where visitors can marvel at the show-stopping 'White Queen' ring set by Wendy Ramshaw, the British queen of jewellery.

Statuesque on London's Southbank stands the iconic **OXO Tower**, which, during Coutts London Jewellery Week, will be home to the Jewellery3 display, comprising three independently run galleries specialising in enamel work. The jewel in the crown of Coutts London Jewellery Week is the Treasure exhibition at the **Tower of London**. Home of the Crown Jewels, the Tower will showcase the work of 50 of the most talented contemporary British jewellery designers.

For full listings on the events taking part please see the website:
www.londonjewelleryweek.co.uk

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Notes to Editors:

Coutts London Jewellery Week is taking place from 11th – 15th June 2008 is the first time that the jewellery industry has united to showcase the UK's status as one of the leading centres of global excellence for jewellery.

Coutts London Jewellery Week is organised by the City Fringe Partnership, with funding from the London Development Agency, and is sponsored by Coutts.

The City Fringe Partnership

The City Fringe Partnership (CFP) uses a sector-based approach to encouraging growth in industries key to the City Fringe and London economy. By establishing new, or supporting existing, industry forums the CFP identifies market needs within individual sectors.

In 2006, the CFP commissioned a feasibility study into industry calls for a flagship consumer-facing jewellery event and, after positive results, is now proud to have signed Coutts as the title sponsor for the inaugural London Jewellery Week. Coutts London Jewellery Week is one of a range of projects that the CFP has established to support the jewellery industry in London via its Jewellery Sector Investment Plan (JSIP).

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London Development Agency

The London Development Agency (LDA) works to improve quality of life for all Londoners and drive sustainable economic growth. Coutts London Jewellery week has received funding from the LDA through the Jewellery Sector Investment Plan delivered by the City Fringe Partnership. Funding for the Small Grants programme also comes from the Jewellery Sector Investment Plan as part of the LDA's commitment to supporting emerging talent in the capital.

Coutts

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