

**HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS SYMPOSIUM
AT MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART TOWER AUDITORIUM
621 HUNTINGTON AVE. BOSTON, MA 02115
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2004; 10:00AM - 5:00PM**

An exploration of the ways in which contemporary jewelry artists are influenced by the arts and crafts of other periods and cultures.

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

JAMIE BENNETT is professor and chair of the art department at SUNY New Paltz. He is a master enamelist whose sculptural forms are imbued with luminous colors and texture. A recipient of numerous awards, such as the New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship and three NEA individual grants, his work is included in the collections of London's Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Musee des Arts Decoratifs, Paris, among others.



MERRY RENK is one of the pioneers of the American Modernist jewelry movement. In 1947, while attending the Institute of Design in Chicago she opened a gallery showcasing contemporary painting, sculpture, textiles, and jewelry. The 750 Studio featured the work of Doris Hall, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, and Margaret De Patta among others. In 1948, Merry Renk moved to San Francisco to become a full time jeweler and was a founding member of The San Francisco Metals Guild. She is an honorary fellow of The American Craft Council and her work is in numerous museum collections including The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.



SUZAN REZAC is known for her mastery of inlay, using gold, silver, copper and especially the Japanese alloys shibuichi and shakudo. She draws her inspiration from natural forms, archaeology and ancient cultures. Many of her pieces are constructed with "shards" based on the history of decorative arts. A Viennese Art Nouveau vase, a 18th century French platter, or an ancient Roman mosaic are all sources of influence for Rezac's continual exploration of the decorative arts, culminating in her elegant, extraordinary jewelry. She is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship and the prestigious Herbert Hoffman Award. Her work has been exhibited in museums in the US, Europe, and Japan.



KIFF SLEMMONS' work continues to amaze us with her intellect and wit infused with historical, cultural and literary references. Slemmons redefines decorative and historical traditions, exploring the potential of non-precious objects and metals. Her materials of choice have included old rulers, pencils, zippers and coins which she transforms with her technical wizardry into entertaining and thought provoking works of art. Her work is in numerous museum collections including London's Victoria & Albert Museum. Learn, view and discover the cultural and historical ideas that makes Kiff Slemmons work richly layered with meaning and symbolism.



JANET ZAPATA is an art historian, curator and museum consultant specializing in jewelry and silver. She is the author of *The Jewelry and Enamels of Louis Comfort Tiffany*, (1993), *The Art of Zadora: Americas Faberge*, (1999), *The Jewelry Menagerie: The World of Animals in Gems*, (2001), *Gems from the East and West: The Doris Duke Jewelry Collection* (2003), and *Seaman Schepps: A Century of New York Jewelry Design*, (September 2004). Ms. Zapata is a consultant for The Louis Tiffany Garden Museum in Matsue, Japan, The Toledo Museum of Art and The Newark Art Museum. She was featured on "Tiffany: The Mark of Excellence" in the A & E Biography series. Her informative and entertaining lecture will focus on American Art Jewelry from 1870 to 1970.



**HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH
"CONNECTIONS"**

**AN EXHIBITION AT MOBILIA GALLERY
SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 30, 2004**

**OPENING RECEPTION AT
MOBILIA GALLERY
358 HURON AVE.
CAMBRIDGE, MA:**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2004
6:30-8:30PM**

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EVENT ON THE FOLLOWING DAY:

**THE DAPHNE FARAGO LECTURE SERIES
FEATURED SPEAKER: JAN YAGER
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2004: 2:00PM**

**REMIS AUDITORIUM
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS BOSTON
465 HUNTINGTON AVE.
BOSTON, MA 02115**

**ADMISSION: FREE
617-267-9300
WWW.MFA.ORG**

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SYMPOSIUM SIGN UP SHEET FOR DETAILS.