

A TUFTS COMMUNICATIONS FINE JEWELRY PUBLICATION

BIGHAM

JEWELERS MAGAZINE

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48 Hours in Paris

Beauty in Contrast

Igniting a Passion for Gold

The Invincible World of Rolex

Deconstructing Bilgore



Family Matters

Picchiotti Style

The storied past of one of Italy's preeminent high jewelers, Picchiotti, unfolds nearly half a century ago in Valenza, an ancient Italian village known for jewelry-making. In this idyllic setting, some of the world's foremost jewelers have sojourned to perfect their craft.

Founder Giuseppe Picchiotti had a clear vision from an early age for creating the finest jewelry. But it wasn't easy for Picchiotti to achieve his dream. Being a child from a long line of physicians, the family opposed his goal of entering the jewelry trade. Yet at age 13, he apprenticed as a goldsmith in a small studio surrounded by gifted jewelers, and never looked back.

Today, the legendary family endeavor is precision-run by Picchiotti and seven family members who oversee different aspects of the business. "Since the very beginning, I liked the idea that one day I would surround myself with my children and family in the business," he reflects.

Small Wonders

The Valenza atelier still produces masterful miniature works of art with élan for its appreciative fans. Picchiotti's sophisticated collection is created entirely in-house, assuring excellence in the execution of each piece, and absolute quality control. Picchiotti painstakingly oversees every aspect of the creative process. But he also carves out time to scour the globe in search of rare stones befitting his elite brand. These forays uncover magnificent gems that often inspire his new signature pieces.

Those Who Know

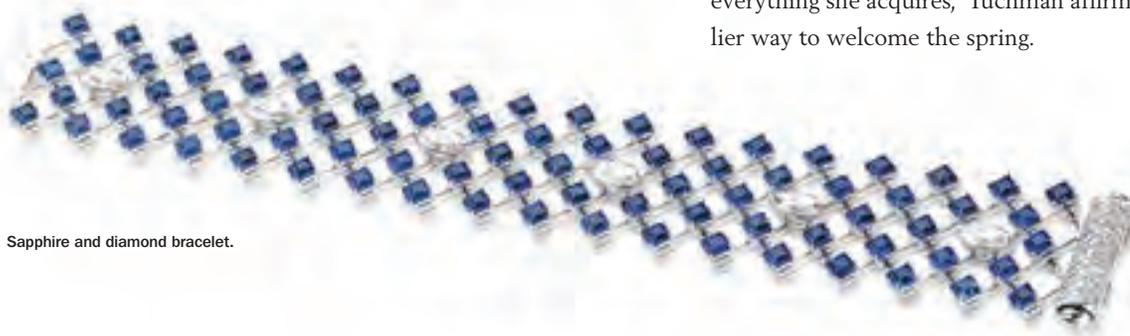
This artful fusion of classical styling interpreted for modern collectors lands Picchiotti's work in the world's most prestigious retailers, including Bigham Jewelers in Naples, FL. Bigham has cultivated

a loyal clientele of savvy collectors who've seen it all. Jacob Tuchman, director of fine jewelry services at Bigham explains, "The Picchiotti craftsmanship is in every way like a fine automobile or handmade virtuoso violin. This type of craftsmanship is becoming rarer." "Traditional artistry in jewelry making is a fading craft," Tuchman warns. "Many people forget or have never even seen old-world craftsmanship like Picchiotti."

Bigham is delighted to introduce its customers to Picchiotti's one-off jewels. Each piece is as unique as the wearer. Customers proclaim Picchiotti's designs to be timeless, and transcend fickle trends. Tuchman adds, "We can distill the entire Picchiotti brand into these three words: quality, beauty and style."

Must See

Mark your calendars now for Bigham Jewelers elegant Picchiotti Trunk Show, April 10-11, 2014. Experience a rare preview of these Italian treasures in a relaxed atmosphere and witness old-world craftsmanship comingled with precious gems and diamonds. You'll enjoy a connoisseur's array of museum-quality jewels. "The Picchiotti woman demands the highest quality in her jewelry and in everything she acquires," Tuchman affirms. We can't envision a lovelier way to welcome the spring.



Sapphire and diamond bracelet.



PICCHIOTTI

deconstructing bilgore



Multi-colored sapphire bracelet in 18 Kt white gold.



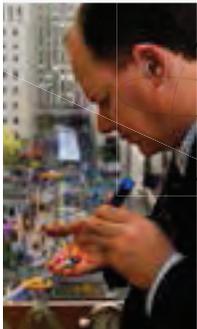
Emerald cut and cushion cut sapphire and diamond rings.

To call gemologist Jeffrey Bilgore an internationally acclaimed gem merchant is correct. But it's also accurate to identify him as an explorer, an award-winning jewelry designer and a manufacturer. Did we mention he's an expert gem cutter? He's all of these and more. Bilgore's contribution to the world of fine jewelry is immense and singularly unique.

For over three decades, he's been the go-to source for top-tier precious stones to our industry's leading manufacturers and retailers. Bilgore has consistently earned industry accolades year after year in design competitions for his superb stones set in Bilgore's own mountings. "Each stone tells me what to do with it, after I focus on it a while," he explains.

Renaissance Jeweler

Perhaps his treks to remote corners of the globe hunting down colored stones at their source has helped shape Bilgore's tremendous respect for natural gems. His admiration is evident in the way he designs around each stone. While he's in touch with trending patterns, he's never slave to them. The gem itself holds center-court in Bilgore's bespoke jewels. His artful designs frame each stone to showcase their splendor. He knows when to stop and walk away. By contrast, some designers today simply keep going over the top. But Bilgore's genius is revealed in the nuances of each setting he creates for a stone.



Multi-colored sapphire ring in 18 Kt yellow gold.



Multi-hued sapphire & diamond rings.



Bigham Jewelers is proud to showcase the masterful jewelry of **Jeffrey Bilgore** to their discerning clientele. Bigham understands the market in Naples, FL. Its residents embrace activism and philanthropy like nowhere else in the states. They are a community with means and a generous spirit. The countless social opportunities here demand dressing and accessorizing worthy of their lifestyle; but not without thought. Bigham clients are bona fide jewelry lovers who carefully choose jewels for their beauty and craftsmanship--collecting only special pieces that they'll enjoy for a lifetime.

bilgore



the main thing is color

Bilgore's colorful jewelry is a perfect fit for this jeweler. In a modern retail landscape rife with trendy designers who emerge only to vanish quickly, Bigham carefully curates precious items that reflect their own cultivated taste and love for rare stones. **Jacob Tuchman**, director of fine jewelry services at Bigham Jewelers recalls, "My first experience with a world-class gemstone involved working with a Kashmir sapphire." The outcome was "falling in love with colored stone jewelry," Tuchman confides.

Tuchman sees color as a highly personal preference and each one resonates with collectors differently. "The world is not black & white," he points out. "We experience life in living color. And Bilgore's gems reflect an exquisite beauty that only nature could create."

The Bigham - Bilgore collaboration has been years in the making. Tuchman has known Bilgore for over 25 years. "His expertise is unique in the trade; and at the top echelon." According to Tuchman, working with Bilgore produces an exciting trifecta. "He brings great gems straight from the source, plus his award winning designs, together with top-level artistry in cutting."



march 13-14



Green Tourmaline and
Diamond Teardrop Earrings.

During March 13-14, 2014, Bigham Jewelers plays host to a two day trunk show of Bilgore's original creations, aptly named Color, Form & Fun. Bilgore places special emphasis on the fun aspect. "Come in, have fun, meet a gem-aholic who spends his life traveling the world finding amazing gems to make into jewels people give to those they love most," Bilgore shrugs. It's the perfect setting for gemstone lovers to meet Bilgore and experience his collection in a relaxed atmosphere. Enjoy an up-close-and-personal preview of some of the world's most precious colored stones set by a master jewelry designer. Bilgore is pleased with this symbiosis at Bigham. "Helping make Bigham Jewelers business more successful and fun is my mission. Shared success is the sweetest kind," he maintains. Tuchman anticipates this event to be one the season's highlights. "We'll be previewing

mark your calendar

the finest gems and simply amazing jewelry by Bilgore." And, he adds, "It's going to be a lot of fun for everyone." There's little reason for customers to be reluctant to chat up Bilgore at this show, Tuchman foresees. "He is very down to earth. Connecting with Jeffrey and his collection will be easy."





Rare Tsavorite, 'Green Garnet'

lovelier the second time around

What to do with a charming piece of jewelry you've inherited but know you'll never wear? What about that precious bauble languishing in the corner of your jewel box? The best way to respect these treasures might be to sell them to a fine jeweler who offers estate jewelry along with new pieces.

Estate jewelry may be from the popular Victorian Era which began in the mid-19th century. Or it can include more contemporary pieces from iconic designers like Van Cleef & Arpels or Gucci. Today's style-confident woman accessorizes her wardrobe with a mix of modern and vintage jewelry.

If you're in the mood to pare down an entire collection of your own jewelry, or even one piece, seek out a reputable retailer who will buy your items. The knowledgeable staff will be happy to offer their expertise on the value and salability of your items.

Bigham Jewelers, of Naples, FL, offers exceptional quality jewelry to their discerning clientele. They also carry a select array of estate jewelry from different eras. Many of their clients collect them because they appreciate fine craftsmanship seen in earlier pieces and the distinctive nature of these items. "Our clients like to have a unique piece of history," says Kathy Bigham, president of Bigham Jewelers.



Fred Leighton Cabochon Emerald and Diamond Necklace and Earrings



Pave Diamond Bracelet



Tiffany Diamond Ring

Ruby and Diamond Bracelet





With estate jewelry, you never see the same thing twice. “We acquired an extremely large un-heated natural Burmese blue sapphire,” she shares. “We were delighted with the rare opportunity to present an un-treated sapphire over 30 carats.”

If it’s simply too difficult to let go of your piece, Bigham’s has a solution for that too. “Our on-staff jewelry designers can custom-create a new item using a clients’ sentimental jewelry,” she explains. Selling your estate jewelry or re-inventing it into a new piece may just prove to be lovelier the second time around.



This ring is available for acquisition by a discerning buyer.