

Jewellery news

This summer, enjoy jewellery exhibitions both contemporarily cool (courtesy of Shaun Leane) and traditionally elegant (Graff)

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Fly on the wall

Until the end of August, Nick Knight's SHOWstudio on Motcomb Street has been transformed into a weird and wonderful chamber of curiosities as it plays host to contemporary jewellery designer Shaun Leane's new exhibition. Notable works from the avant-garde designer include his very first creation, a finely crafted single diamond tusk earring which was first seen on Alexander McQueen's catwalk in 1994, not to mention a whimsical 22-carat gold jewel beetle brooch. Each bespoke piece has been thoughtfully paired with a piece of art, fashion item or natural history specimen; for example a butterfly brooch sits next to an original Damien Hirst painting, while an elaborate pair of feather hoop earrings is being shown alongside a Philip Treacy hat.

Until 29 August, Nick Knight SHOWstudio, 19 Motcomb Street, SW1X (showstudio.com; shaunleane.com)



CUTTING EDGE

On a flying visit to London before the Vegas Couture Show, Texan-based jeweller Emily Armenta, whose eponymous jewellery brand launched 12 years ago, presented us with her latest collection. Incorporating ancient techniques such as micromosaic and stone layering, each piece within the new collection tells an intriguing story:

'As with all my collections, I've tried to bring a piece of history forward and make it relevant to today. The new collection was inspired by the Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca and his vision of "duende", which is essentially the powerful beauty of life'

— Emily Armenta



RARE JEWELS

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Graff Diamonds' Monaco Rare Jewels Exhibition; held at Hôtel de Paris from 29 July to 17 August, the annual event will present the house's very finest luxury jewels and watches. Those of you who had the misfortune to miss this year's Baselworld will be given another chance to see the most talked-about piece of the show; Graff's multi-coloured diamond Hallucination watch, which broke the record for the most expensive timepiece ever created (valued at £33 million). Other remarkable pieces on display from the Graff Jewels collection include stunning tiaras, opulent brooches and elegant Alice bands, along with timepieces from the brand's Luxury Watches collection. Graff Diamonds' Monaco Rare Jewels Exhibition, 29 July – 17 August



SET FREE

Parisian-born Raphaelle Canot's CV is certainly impressive; she has worked in jewellery design for 18 years at Cartier and De Beers. This May saw the designer break free with the launch of her first solo collection. Comprising 30 pieces, the Set Free Diamonds collection is aptly named; the range of wearable diamond pieces have, quite literally, been set loose from their traditional settings. Pieces include delicate rings and mini hoop earrings. Available at Dover Street Market London (raphaelecanot.com)

