Historical Connections

Symposium/Conference
Saturday, September 18th 2004
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Massachusetts College of Art,
Tower Auditorium
621 Huntington Avenue,
Boston, MA 02115

for information call:
joe wood - (617) 838-4574
or email at joewood@massart.edu

Olaf Skoogfors: Belt Buckles, 1974
Sterling Silver, Bronze, Nickel, Copper

Please Join us in Boston for an exciting and informative symposium event. Mass College of Art Jewelry and Metals Department along with Mobilia Gallery in Cambridge MA are proud to bring together a wonderful group of speakers for a one-day symposium event on Saturday September 18th. “Historical Connections” will explore the ways in which contemporary American jewelers are influenced by the history of jewelry arts and crafts of other periods and cultures.”

Jewelers speaking about their work and the work of their contemporaries include:

Jamie Bennett- 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 Musée des Arts Decoratifs, Paris,
among others.

**Merry Renk** - Pioneer 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. 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** - Jeweler 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** - An artist whose work continues to amaze us with her intellect and wit. Her work is 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.

Art Historian speaking about jewelry from 1870 to 1970; Newark, N J, and New York, NY, jewelry industry to Tiffany & Co:

Mark of Excellence” in the A & E Biography series. Her informative and entertaining lecture will focus on American Art Jewelry from 1870 to 1970.

**Gala opening of “Connections”, a jewelry exhibition at Mobilia Gallery in Cambridge**
**6:30- 8:30 PM following the symposium**

Attendees will be invited to view the current international jewelry exhibition “ContacT” at the MassArt Bakalar Gallery

**Registration:**
$34 students, $65 non-student, $15 continental breakfast, lunch, and afternoon tea
Registration call:
The Massachusetts College of Art Continuing Education
Office at:
617-879-7200 or 7201 or 7164

Books and Catalogs by speakers will be available for purchase at the event.

For information call Joe Wood (617) 838-4574
...or email at joewood@massart.edu

For Directions to the College, go to:
http://www.massart.edu/about/directions.html

For information, you may also call Mobilia Gallery at (617) 876-2109
or email at - mobiliaart@aol.com

Make it a weekend! - There is a separate event the following day on Sunday, September 19th at 2PM at The Boston Museum of Fine Arts:
The Daphne Farago Lecture On Craft Jewelry
Featured Speaker:
Jan Yager, City Flora/City Flotsam