

europa star - CIJ International Jewellery

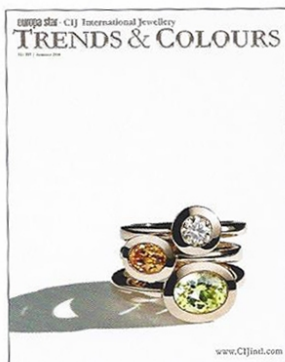
TRENDS & COLOURS

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Selection of rings in 18K pink gold and gemstones by Jochen Pohl.
www.jochenpohl.com



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europa star

BERR & PARTNERS – THE SOURCE FOR SPLENDOUR

Since 1986, Geneva-based Berr & Partners has been one of the industry's most trusted sources for many of the world's most breathtakingly beautiful coloured gemstones. The search for these stones has taken internationally renowned gemmologists, Thomas and Elke Berr, to some of the most remote corners of the globe.

By Diana S. Zimmerman

With a passion for rare beauty and the remarkable talent to find it, Thomas and Elke Berr are not only recognized the world over for their ability to unearth extraordinary stones, but for timeless jewellery that is destined to become tomorrow's trends. Designed by Elke and marketed under the Elke Berr brand, these pieces are sold in limited collections through the world's most prestigious retailers, who also come to Elke for exceptionally precious stones and custom-work for their special customers. Other clients include an increasing number of individuals who ask Elke to find a particular stone, and then have her design and craft a unique piece around it.



Elke Berr

Some examples of her custom-made pieces include a rare 33.9-carat unheated Burmese star-ruby set in gold with black and white diamonds—a true masterpiece—as well as a 4.65-carat royal blue unheated Burmese sapphire ring in the *ICY* collection and a 29.66-carat agate opal ring from the *African Flame* collection.



B&P's exotic one-of-a-kind gems can range from unheated rubies and sapphires from Burma, Kashmir, and Ceylon to fiery majestic agate opals from the heart of Africa. Elke also works with lesser known gems such as spinels, in their lovely range of colours, and the dazzling neon-blue Paraiba tourmalines.

Lovers of coloured gems not only appreciate Elke and Thomas' talent for sourcing rare stones, but also Elke's ability to capture the essence of their beauty in fine jewellery.



A rutilated 15.69-carat Paraiba tourmaline set in gold with diamonds is also a showstopper, as is a splendid 7.14-carat pink spinel set in gold with white diamonds.

Having won critical acclaim from both the press and various trade associations, B&P is recognized internationally for its unwavering ethical standards and high-degree of service. In 2005, the International Colored Gemstone Association (ICA) recognized Elke for her outstanding efforts as a long-term and valued ambassador of the global gem trade.

B&P's ethics extend also to helping people in some of the poorest mining areas of the world. One such endeavour is a children's orphanage in Mogok, Myanmar (Burma) that Thomas and Elke help support. Thanks

to B&P's efforts, along with other gem dealers, children are raised by volunteer "mothers" and can attend school for a basic education.

When asked about the inspiration for her creations, she answers that it comes from the exploration of mining sites and their raw materials as well as a love of all things natural. For example, the invigorating freshness of snow-capped peaks, majestic glaciers, delicate icicles, and frozen shimmering blue water inspired her new *ICY* collection. Then, she turns up the heat with this season's *African Flame* line as she captures the mysterious lustre of agate opal combined with brilliant yellow sapphires, tsavorites, and diamonds.



Because of their knowledge of antique jewellery, Elke and Thomas are also in demand with investors, banks, and insurance companies who rely on their expertise in "art banking." Their opinion is also sought for high-value gemstones as investment vehicles.

Berr & Partners is the source for gemstone splendour, and Elke Berr takes splendour to new heights with each captivating piece of jewellery she creates. (www.elkeberr.com)



Pink & Purple PASSIONS

A symbol of love and femininity, pink is a favourite, with tones ranging from the soft pinkish peach of morganite to the bolder forms of sapphires, tourmalines and rubies. The noble purple tones includes amethyst, spinel, and sapphires. Both of these warm colours evoke feelings of passion and elegance.



Makur



Irit Design



Rudolf
Friedman



Outfit by
Christophe Guillaume



Lika Behar



Mathon
Paris

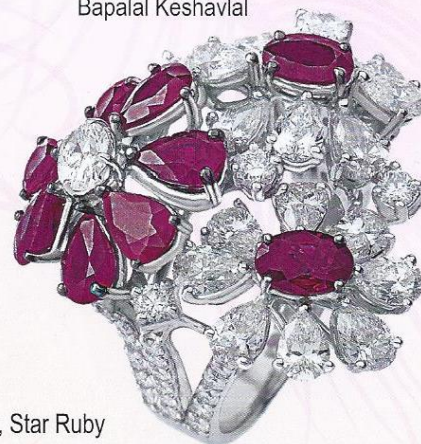


Bayco



Elke Berr

Bapalal Keshavlal



Caram, Star Ruby



Tresor



Azuelos
Jewelry



Elena Kriegner



Van der Bauwede



Pamela
Huizenga



Dust Kreations



Constantin Wild, Kunzite



Carberonia



Outfit by Maria
Barros (photo:
MBFW Madrid)



Union
Suiza



Carla Amorim

Constantin
Wild

PRETTY IN PARAIBA



One of the most striking gemstone finds over the last three decades has been the discovery, in the late 1980s, of a vibrant greenish-blue tourmaline in the Brazilian state of Paraiba. Much rarer than diamonds, paraiba tourmalines come in several colours, but the most sought-after hue is the vivid neon-blue that seems to glow from within. Unlike other tourmalines, paraibas get their dazzling colour from copper. Recently, these gems have also been found in Nigeria and Mozambique, in larger sizes than those found in Brazil, allowing designers even more creativity for pieces that are pretty in paraiba.



Outfit by Hannibal Laguna
(photo: MBFW Madrid)

Alessio Boschi



Caroline C



Caroline C



Rina Limor



Hubert



Vianna
Brasil



Stefan Hafner



Caroline C



Wild & Petsch



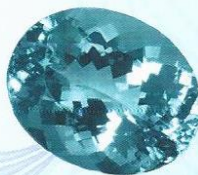
Erica
Courtney



OMI Gems



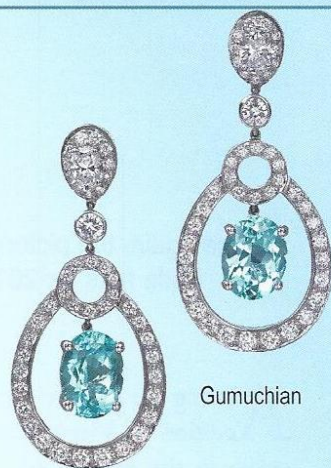
Elke Berr



August Mayer



Clementina
Duarte



Gumuchian



Outfit by Duyos
(photo: MBFW Madrid)