

### New Jewelry with a Traditional Background

Some two hundred jewelry artists from all areas of the world were inspired by the topic of 'New Traditional Jewellery' and sent in their designs. The result is an impressive collection comprising neck jewelry, necklaces, pendants, earrings, buckles, rings, clasps, bracelets and much more. The competition was set by the international silver design fair Sieraad which took place in Amsterdam from 7th to 10th December.

All of the artists have one thing in common – they have added a new contemporary chapter to the history of jewelry, which dates back to the centuries-old tradition of costume; items of jewelry which have long carried a symbolic significance but which have disappeared from the street scene worldwide. New Traditional Jewelry aims to retain this old cultural artifacts in our lives by attributing them a new form.

From the two hundred or so anonymous entries, the jury selected fifty contributions to be displayed at home and abroad. The premiere of this exhibition took place at Sieraad, where the prizes were officially awarded. The four winners and the student prize have already been decided. Each of the five competition winners has succeeded in giving a new content to the original theme and in presenting this theme in a high-quality and contemporary form. Their combination of emotion, background, past and expertise also moved and impressed the jury. The winners are Christina Karababa from

Greece, Sabine Lang from Germany, Carla Nuis from Netherlands and Joke Dubbleddam from Netherlands. The student prize won Claudia Schmedding from Germany with her tightrope dancer. [www.sieraad2006.nl](http://www.sieraad2006.nl) • ahe



Mourning ornament  
by Joke Dubbleddam, Netherlands



Student prize for Claudia Schmedding, Germany



Clasp by the Greece designer Christina Karababa

### Buying Jewels without Remorse

In 1997, Sven Frahm and his wife Bettina opened their gallery in Wenholthausen. The Cologne-born artist found out about the Fair Trade in Gems & Jewelry initiative in an article. Now the gold for Frahm's jewelry comes from a river in Argentina and many gemstones from a mine in Brazil. Both sources have one thing in common: workers receive an appropriate salary and can work safely. The gold is also obtained using pans and is initially processed in Germany with the chemicals required for the separation process in closed circuits. The jewelry designer is attracted by the quality of the metal and considers fair trade to be financially reasonable. "The raw materials are not much more expensive than conventional precious metals and I avoid the middleman by making direct purchases" he concludes. His wife adds: "Producing goods which don't harm anyone and stop the overexploitation of nature is something everyone should help with". [www.tigergarten.de](http://www.tigergarten.de) • ahe

### Jewelry from Bones

It may sound like something from a sci-fi story, but it has long been a reality in Great Britain: jewelry is being made here from donated bones. This is a project led by design researchers at the Royal College of Art and a bioengineer at King's College in London. The aim of the "Biojewellery" project is to take the medicinal and technical processes of bioengineering out of the lab and initiate a discussion on ethical responsibility and problems. A commercial business is not planned although cannot be ruled out in the future and in other countries. Five couples have volunteered to give one another a gift of jewelry made from their own bones. A wisdom tooth was taken from each and then new bone grown from the tissue in a petri-dish. Jewelry designers will then design the individualized jewelry.

[www.biojewellery.com](http://www.biojewellery.com) • cete

