

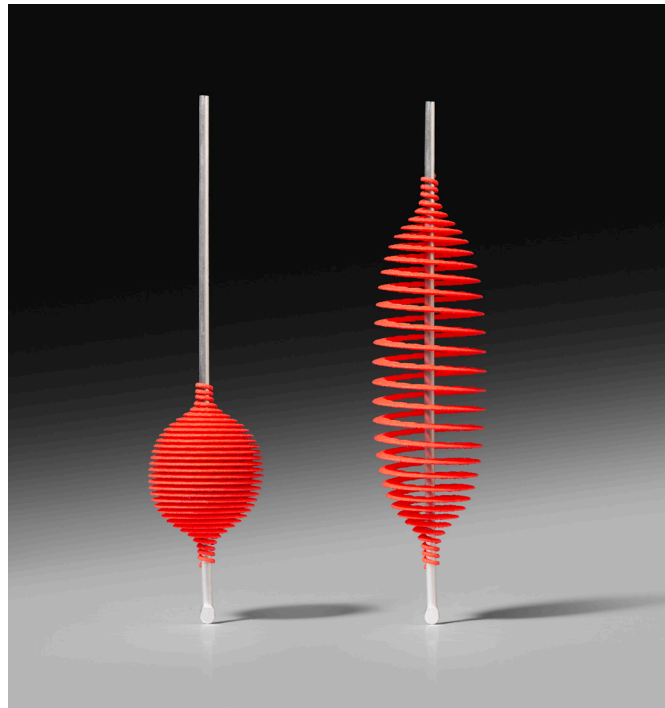
LOUISA GUINNESS GALLERY

RON ARAD ROCKS!

A SELECTION OF NEW JEWELLERY

24 FEBRUARY – 8 APRIL 2016

PRESS PREVIEW: 23 FEBRUARY 6 – 8PM



Hot Ingo, 2016, Earrings, silver & red laser sintered polyamide, edition of 100

- NEW EXHIBITION BRINGING TOGETHER THE LARGEST EVER SINGLE BODY OF ARAD JEWELLERY
- OFFERS FOR SALE UNIQUE AND EDITIONED WORKS MADE FROM SILICON, SINTERED POLYAMIDE AND PRECIOUS METALS
- CULMINATION OF THREE RECENT PROJECTS DATING FROM 2015 TO THE PRESENT DAY

Louisa Guinness Gallery is delighted to present *Ron Arad Rocks*, a solo exhibition of new jewellery by internationally renowned artist, architect and designer Ron Arad. The exhibition will offer unique and editioned works including necklaces, bracelets and earrings made from silicon, laser sintered polyamide, quartz, gold and silver.

Ron Arad Rocks is a culmination of the artist's most recent work in jewellery and focuses on three separate projects; *Rocks*, *Naja* and *Hot Ingo*. Like his large-scale work, each project combines material innovation, intelligent and beautiful design with the artist's inviolable sense of humour.

Far from the precious stones the title suggests, Arad's *Rocks* series are made from solid silicon. Though the silicon is soft and pliable to the touch, each piece appears heavy and dangerously jagged; the effect is of bare shards of glass hanging a breath from the wearer's skin. Not until the viewer has the piece in their hands are they able to detect Arad's sophisticated manipulation of silicon. Far from smashing and threading glass, he chips away at a plain of prepared silicon, shaving each fragment off.

The impression of opaque or coloured glass is created by dropping lengths of coloured or graphically patterned silk into the silicon, adding an ingenious layer to the optical illusion. Sculpted by the hands of the maker each work is unique varying in shape, color and form.

The *Hot Ingo* earrings and *Hot Ingo Necklace* derive from Arad's early experimentation with laser sintered polyamide and rapid prototyping in *Not made by hand not made in China* launched in Milan over a decade ago. One step in the artist's long exploration of what computers and machines are able to achieve, the necklace and earrings take their name and inspiration from Arad's long standing friend and collaborator Ingo Maurer.

"I have always been inspired by Ron's work," says Guinness. "I am astonished by his consistent ability to solve practical problems with simplicity, intelligence and aesthetic panache. Take *Naja* not only beautiful and wearable but an ingenious solution to the middle aged drama of short sightedness."

Naja, the final series, is a magnifying glass pendant made of a solid quartz lens, surrounded by a serpentine coil of silver or vermeil. The work is named after the distinctive "be-spectacled" markings on the hood of a Naja cobra. Not only a beautiful object, artwork and jewel, with a typically Aradian twist it can also be used to decipher a cocktail menu.



Top Left: *Hot Ingo*, 2015, Earrings, silver & red laser sintered polyamide, edition of 100; *Rocks N.IV*, 2015, Necklace, silk and silicon, 20.6 x 9.0 x 1.7 cm approx, unique; *Naja, Free Hand*, 2015, Necklace, silver with quartz lens, diameter: 6.5 cm approx, series of 25

Top Right: *Rocks N.V*, 2015, Necklace, silk and silicon, 18.3 x 4.8 x 2.3 cm approx, unique; *Hot Ingo*, 2015, Earrings, black laser sintered polyamide and 18k rose gold, 10 x 2.5 x 2.5cm, edition of 100; *Rocks E.I*, 2015, Earrings 18k gold and silicon left: 2.6 x 3.3 cm, right: 3.0 x 4.0 cm, unique

NOTES TO EDITORS

Ron Arad and Louisa Guinness will be available on Tuesday 23rd February throughout the day for interviews.

For any press enquires or for high res images please contact Cecily Motley or Tamara Platisa: cecily@louisaguinnessgallery.com, tamara@louisaguinnessgallery.com

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in Tel-Aviv in 1951, Ron Arad is a creative polyglot known for his ability to navigate, challenge and transgress the boundaries of art, architecture and design. Having completed his training at the Jerusalem Academy of Art and then London's Architectural Association in 1979, Arad established his own design practice One Off in 1981 in Camden, London. Here he began fusing together ready-made pieces to create works such as the now iconic Rover Chair. In 1989 Ron Arad Associates opened a second studio in Camden.

Artist, architect and designer, Arad is celebrated for his innovative reconceptualization of everyday objects and structures from materials such as aluminium, bronze and steel in his iconically fluid and curvaceous style. He first began working with Louisa Guinness Gallery in 2003. Known to solve practical problems with flare his latest collaborations with Louisa Guinness Gallery are no exception.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Louisa Guinness Gallery works with today's leading sculptors and painters to create jewellery as well as collecting and dealing in works by master artists.

The gallery opened in May 2003 with its inaugural exhibition 'Past and Present; Jewellery by 20th Century Artists'. With this show Louisa Guinness departed from her original focus on artist-made furniture into the world of artists' jewels. Since then she has worked on over 18 separate projects with leading contemporary artists.

Each new work is published in a small edition to the highest standard. Most are handmade in London's famous Hatton Garden district or the artist's studio. The ethos behind the jewellery is that it should be treated as wearable sculpture: whilst it is not being worn it is a piece of art independent of function, at home on a coffee table or in a dressing room.