

THE ART OF JEWELLERY

A new book by Louisa Guinness charts the history of artists and their often surprising forays into jewellery-making

BY LORNA DAVIES



ABOVE: Claude Lalanne
Collier Ronce, c. 1970-8

LEFT: Alexander Calder
The Jealous Husband,
c. 1940, worn by
Anjelica Huston



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CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT:
Niki de Saint Phalle, *Assemblage*, 1974/2015;
Jesús Rafael Soto, *Penetrabile*, 1968;
Lucio Fontana, *Ellisse contaglio 'concetto spaziale'*, 1967 bracelet.

From Salvador Dalí, Man Ray, Alexander Calder and Pablo Picasso, through to Anish Kapoor, Damien Hirst and Grayson Perry, the great figures of modern art have all turned their talents to jewellery, creating pieces less concerned with sparkling diamonds and more with conceptual significance.

Art As Jewellery documents a timeline of some of these unique pieces, through the expert eyes of Louisa Guinness, founder of her eponymous gallery on Conduit Street. The pieces are shown as either a design sketch or a photograph – some taken by renowned photographers such as Ugo Mulas and Antonia Mulas. Other photographs have been buried in archives for decades, unseen since the 1960s. Modern works have been given the model treatment by photographer Alexander English, making this book a glamorous blend of new and classic jewellery art. Louisa provides commentary on each artist and their work, revealing personal stories behind each piece.

“I have been doing this for 15 years and I think the level of interest has increased rapidly recently,” says Louisa. “There are many people out there who have no idea that any artists have ever made jewels. When they find out, they are fascinated and want to know more. This is the first book ever written on this subject, which is why I have presented it as a general introduction. I want to tell people about all these wonderful works of art that exist. To explore the subject matter themselves and, like me, become intrigued to find out more.”

***Art As Jewellery*, by Louisa Guinness, published by ACC Art Books, is out now, £45**