



SPARKLERS

The Artist as Jeweler

Wearable art is no longer the redheaded stepchild of the design world.

A silver necklace (\$240,000) designed by Alexander Calder (below).

Jewelry designed by today's art stars and 20th-century masters is enjoying an uptick in collecting interest, commanding record prices at auction and muscling its way into respectable showcases, such as Design Miami, where companies like Didier Ltd., Elisabetta Cipriani, and Louisa Guinness hawk their wares alongside a roll call of illustrious design names.

"It's an area of connoisseurship that went largely unnoticed for the longest time, but there are now serious collectors buying into artist-designed jewelry," says Guinness, a London-based gallerist who commissions contemporary artists, like Anish Kapoor and Claude Lorraine, to create limited-edition jewelry and also sells existing pieces by the likes of Picasso,



Meret Oppenheim, and Lucio Fontana.

The recent renaissance (underscored perhaps by a pair of earrings by Alexander Calder that was estimated at \$60,000 to \$80,000 and sold for nearly \$1.2 million at auction in 2013) suggests that art snobs have come to accept that jewelry made by

artists is an important part of their output. "Artist-designed jewelry can be a very personal extension of their work," says Martine Haspesslagh, a co-owner of Didier Ltd., a London-based purveyor of jewelry by post-war painters and sculptors, including Georges Braque and Salvador Dalí. "If anything, it is actually one of the most intimate forms of an artist's oeuvre because it is usually created for someone very dear to them." ♦

SPOTLIGHT

CRAZY FOR LA MANIA

A fledging Polish label has emerged as an insider favorite.



What happens when a globe-trotting Polish socialite can't find anything to wear? She consults close friend Karl Lagerfeld and starts her own fashion line, of course. Fast-forward four years and Joanna Przetakiewicz's **La Mania** label has quietly infiltrated the wardrobes of peripatetic sophisticates, including model Anja Rubik and actress Jessica Chastain. "My customers are always on the move," Przetakiewicz says. "And they know if they pack a few La Mania pieces in their suitcases, they'll be prepared for anything." *Dresses, from \$550; lamania.eu. — Sandra Ballentine*

FROM TOP: COURTESY LOUISA GUINNESS GALLERY; HERBERT MATTER/ART RESOURCE NY; © 2015 CALDER FOUNDATION, NEW YORK/ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NEW YORK; COURTESY, LA MANIA