



Gibeon Meteorite Jewelry: out of this World!

Gibeon meteorite is iron from outer space. Four billion years ago a meteoroid formed, cooling slowly over millions of years. Passing through Earth's atmosphere in prehistoric times, it broke into pieces and scattered over thousands of square miles in the African desert where it was discovered near Gibeon, Great Namaqualand, Namibia. As is traditional, it was named after the location where it was found. Europeans first reported the meteorite (a meteoroid in space, a meteorite once it falls to Earth) in 1836. Locals, however, had long known of the metal and used it for making tools. The iron/nickel alloy is easy to work with, and the nickel content makes it relatively resistant to corrosion.

Only 5 percent of meteorites that have been found are classified as iron meteorites, so the Gibeon is rare. Slices—popular for making jewelry and watch faces—are etched with nitric or sulfuric acid, which exposes the lattice of long nickel/iron crystals. This elongated crystal pattern, created by slow cooling in the zero gravity of space, is proof of extraterrestrial origin. Reportedly, 25 tons of the metal have been recovered over the years, though the government of Namibia no longer allows meteorites to leave the county, resulting in a diminishing supply for scientists, collectors, and jewelers. —Patrick Murphy



From left: Gibeon meteorite slice; 14K cuff links set with Gibeon meteorite; 14K Gibeon meteorite ring; 14K pendant with tourmaline and Gibeon meteorite. Come in and check out these and other wonderful pieces by Patrick Murphy.

New "Sticks and Stones" from Three Continents

1. **Peruvian blue opal**—what a color! It's a true opal, sacred to the Incas as a gift from the Goddess Pachamama and associated with tranquility and peace. It's easy on the ears, too, because it's light weight. This pair has a translucent glow that is both fine and rare.

2. **Tanzanite**, the new kid on the block, relatively speaking. First marketed by Tiffany's in the 1970s, this fabulous gem exhibits different hues from different angles—it's all in how you look at it. Rough tanzanite is universally heat treated to improve its color.

3. **Matrix boulder opal**, cut from unique volcanic formations found only in southern Queensland, Australia. Veins of precious opal run like fiery rivers through the warm brown ironstone host rock. The opal in this pair is just as dramatic on the back side!



1.



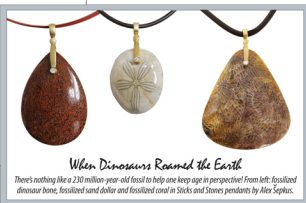
ALEX SEPKUS



2.



3.



When Dinosaurs Rained the Earth

There's nothing like a 230 million-year-old fossil to help one keep age in perspective! From left: fossilized dinosaur bone, fossilized sand dollar and fossilized coral in Sticks and Stones pendants by Alex Sepkus.



April Coupon



Springtime is a good time to check the condition of your jewelry collection, especially those daily-wear favorites. Regular maintenance can prevent stone loss! Cleaning and checking is always free at Studio Jewelers.

Present this coupon and receive \$10 off the price of your April stringing or jewelry repair order.

One coupon per person and per repair. Coupon expires 4/30/13

GOLD, PLATINUM PALLADIUM, SILVER & OTHER JEWELRY METALS

How to Test, Select & Care for Them



Renée Newman GG

Gemologist Renée Newman has published the latest in her series of popular consumer buying guides, *Gold, Platinum, Palladium, Silver and other Jewelry Metals*. Ms. Newman consulted with Hanna last year when the project was in the development stages and then came to Studio Jewelers for the proverbial three hour tour. She was so impressed that she included numerous images of the work of Studio Jewelers' artists in her book, even putting pieces by Alexandra Hart and James Binnion on the front cover. Steve Vincent's workshop got a full page; Kristin Anderson, Lashbrook Studios and Hanna Cook-Wallace all have pieces pictured in the book. It's nice to be recognized by a leading jewelry author!



Studio Jewelers is unique in the variety of jewelry-making techniques represented here. Each artist has a personal vision that is expressed in the tradition of skilled accomplishment at its finest.