



Deconstructed Classics Seeing the World in Color

New York Jewelry Week

November 13 to 19, 2023
10am to 5pm, on appointment

Les Enluminures New York

23 East 73rd Street,
7th floor Penthouse
New York, NY 10021

Les Enluminures is pleased to present the first solo show in the United States by artist-jeweler Joy BC (Joy Bonfield-Colombara) during New York Jewelry Week: Deconstructed Classics - Seeing the World in Color. A series of her new and existing masterpieces will be set in conversation with important manuscripts as well as jewelry from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, part of Les Enluminures's exhibition, *The Color of Medieval Life*. The latter offers an overview of how color was used from the fourteenth to the sixteenth centuries throughout medieval and Renaissance Europe in both manuscripts and jewelry.

Each piece in Joy's oeuvre has been carefully considered in terms of material and color, often illustrating disparate meanings. She has categorized five colors, White, Blue, Red and Yellow, all of great importance in both manuscript and early jewelry production. Fine silver, used in her work "Artemis," echoes the white luminescence of the moon. Red bronze and red garnets are signifiers for blood and pain. They suggest strength and courage. Yellow represents gold, both beguiling and mysterious, often used to create sacred objects which venerate and celebrate the things we believe in. Gold is symbolic of the sun, radiance, reflection and hope. Blue, represents inspiration and dreams. Joy's own "Precious Tear" ring that she wears daily includes a blue sapphire, symbolizing a solidified tear, in the precious gemstone sapphire. The collaboration celebrates over one thousand years of craftsmanship and offers viewers a chance to explore how traditional jewelry resonates with the work of contemporary jewelers such as Joy BC.

About the artist:

Joy BC (Joy Bonfield – Colombara) (Italian/British, 1989) is an artist and goldsmith working predominantly in noble metals and bronze. Her works often challenge pre-existing notions of precious materials and ingrained societal ideals of western female bodies in sculpture. Joy BC plays with mythologies and re-examines the fascination with the "Classical." Joy received her undergraduate degree from the Glasgow School of Art and her MA from the Royal College of Art (RCA) in London. She has also held two residencies in Japan. Whilst at the RCA she was awarded the TF overall excellence prize and the MARZEE International graduate prize. Shortly after her graduation in 2019 her work was exhibited in Japan and at Somerset house in London. In 2021 her work was exhibited in Hong Kong and at "Force of Nature" curated by Melanie Grant in partnership with Elisabetta Cipriani Gallery.

Joy Bonfield - Colombara is currently working on a piece for the Nelson Atkins Museum in the USA and recently a piece was added to the Alice and Louis Koch Collection in the Swiss National Museum, Zurich.

This past year Joy has been a scholar funded by QEST working with the goldsmith Giovanni Corvaja.

"ARTEMIS"

By Joy Bonfield – Colombara 2022.

Recycled 18ct yellow gold and 999 fine silver.

Edition of 2 + 1AP

Unique within the series.

No.01/02



Please contact us for high resolution images and descriptions of the featured work of art.

PRESS CONTACT: newyork@lesenluminures.com

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NEW YORK

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" HYPATIA (GOLD) "

By Joy Bonfield – Colombara 2022.

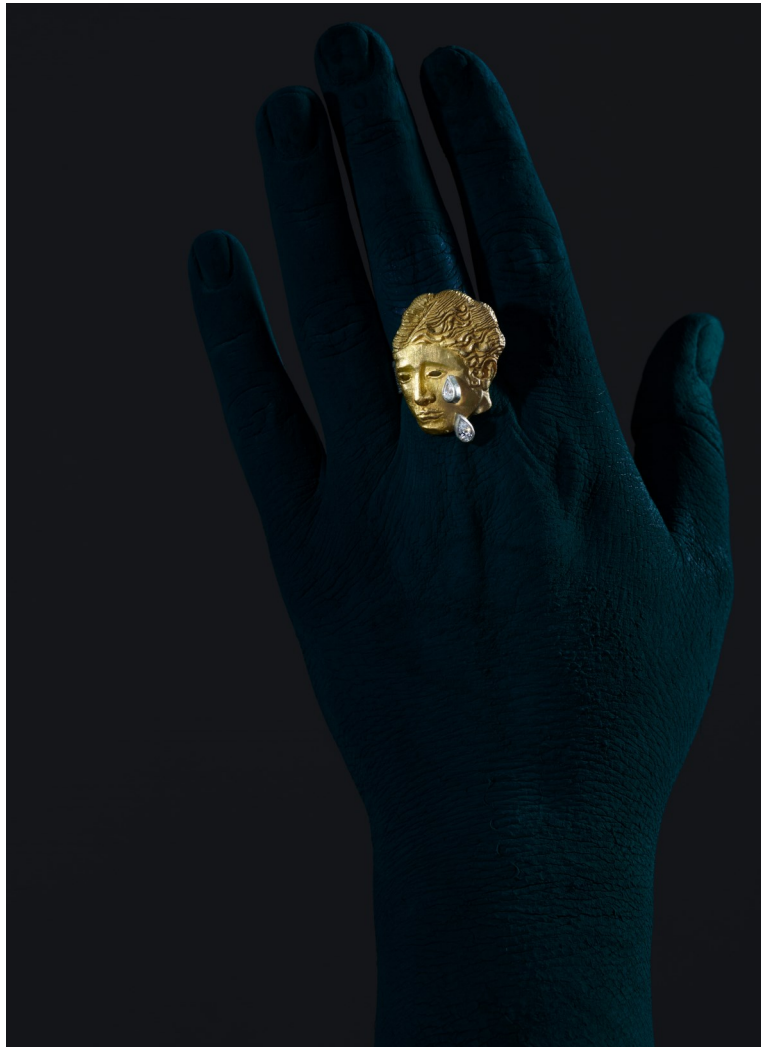
Recycled 22ct yellow gold, Recycled 950 Platinum, 18ct recycled white gold with color D/E natural diamonds (0.13ct & 0.19ct).

3.5cm length portrait

Edition of 3 + 2 AP

Unique within the series

No.01/03



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LATE RENAISSANCE DIAMOND RING

Western Europe, c. 1600-1620

Gold, diamond

Weight 2 gr; Circumference 52.50mm; US Size 6 1/4; UK Size M 1/2



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HEART PENDANT

Gold, enamel, glass

Spain or Italy, c. 1600

Weight 17.2 grams; dimensions 45 × 31.4 × 13.8 mm



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