



CADY CARLSON DESIGNS –

“From the Pit of My Heart:” Enameling Experiment on 14K rose gold



I don't normally get much time to work up my own designs and experiment with new techniques, but in late spring with some money and time set aside, I created a project partly for an art show entry but mostly just for the fun of it. My first step was to design a piece that would properly combine both old and new technologies. What better than combining 3D printed rose gold, old-fashioned enameling and an Art Nouveau design? A long-time fan of this genre, I designed a variation of a popular motif using CAD software and then 3D printed it, followed by enameling thin layers of colors from that time period through multiple kiln firings. Art Nouveau has a propensity to depict a feeling of romanticized forlorn love and yearning with a sense of brokenness. I continued to muse how just as often the art movement also depicts women with a sense of wholeness and accomplishment inherent in their faces. This rabbit trail led me to intentionally add a pattern of “flaws” or pits in the enameling. I filed some scrap gold and collected the remnants in a tiny cup, fired the piece in my kiln for the umpteenth time, inlaid the gold filings, set the pearls, fussed over my chain and then was done. I am very pleased to share the results!

Rick had previously purchased this stellar sapphire cabochon and needed a heavy men's ring to do it justice. I was able to take his rough sketch and turn it into a functional reality. See the CAD rendering, to your right.



Micro-prong settings should be professionally checked quarterly.

Wedding Ring Maintenance 101

Self-Care

If your ring is made of traditional metals, such as gold, platinum, or silver, clean it monthly with Dawn liquid dish soap and a soft-bristle toothbrush. If the diamond still looks dirty, use that same toothbrush with rubbing alcohol.

Jeweler Care

Twice a year professional cleaning! Or, if you have a micro-prong setting (under a millimeter of gold per prong) get your ring checked quarterly. Best of all, most jewelers, including me, will do this for free!

In the News...

Highlights from the 2018 Tucson Gem Show in Tucson, AZ include attending a product demo by famous tool designer, Bill Fretz, and a lecture on custom jewelry by Gary Dawson. And of course SHOPPING. Lots and lots of shopping, including some gorgeous, ethically sourced pearls and gems!... This July through August, I am teaching a Casting Class at WaterWorks Art Center. Students of all skill levels will



learn different methods for developing wax models and the centuries-old processes required to create a finished, one-of-a-kind piece of sterling silver jewelry. I will demonstrate techniques so students can then develop their own project(s) such as a pendant for casting. Class is full but stay tuned for future sessions....

Mark your calendars for the **Maker Faire August 25** at Central Park Hall in Expo Square. Family-friendly and free to attend.

Maker Faire Tulsa

This year, I will have less inventory for sale and will focus more on my custom CAD software design and milling capabilities.... Check out my online **Christmas in July Sale!** Mid-month I'm putting more than 60 inventory items from my website on **SUPER-Sale!** Anything left over will be moved to my soon-to-be-launched online **Etsy Shop!** (Exact date to be announced via my website, Facebook and Instagram)... As always, you can check out my ever-expanding **3D printed items** for sale at Shapeways.com/shops/cadycarlsondesigns... And, if you are out and about in the Brady Arts District check out my work at the **AHHA Gift Shop**. Each jeweler has a few pieces out and more in assigned pull-out drawers!... **Stay Posted:** I'm in-



roducing a new design line, Grandiflora, developed for small galleries or boutiques. Crossing fingers to have some follow up info on that in the next newsletter... Please give me a call to arrange to come by and get your jewelry cleaned, see my studio or even just share a cup of coffee or tea. Thanks for reading!

Cady Carlson Dill

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