



## 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](http://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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