

NEWS RELEASE

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BIJOUX PARISIENS

*French Jewelry from the
Petit Palais, Paris*

**The First Ever Exhibition Devoted to Jewelry at Joslyn
Traces the Course of French Jewelry Design from the
Seventeenth Century to the Early 1950s**

(Omaha, NE) – Throughout history, jewelry has served both
functional and decorative purposes, reflecting not only the

patron's particular values and interests, but also the social, political, and economic circumstances of the time and place of its creation. In France, Paris has long been considered a center of innovation in fashion, the visual arts, and jewelry production. *Bijoux Parisiens* charts the course of jewelry design in France over four centuries, tracking the country's evolving jewelry aesthetic as it responded to historical events and art historical movements.

Opening at Joslyn Art Museum on June 4 and continuing through September 10, the exhibition tells the story of dozens of talented artists, designers, and entrepreneurs, who created extraordinary works of art using the most precious materials on earth. Drawn from the exceptional holdings of the Petit Palais, Paris, with generous contributions from lenders, the exhibition features nearly seventy pieces of fine jewelry and *objet d'art*, over one hundred technical and creative design drawings, and numerous fashion prints that demonstrate the relationship between jewelry and fashion. A unique experience at Joslyn, *Bijoux Parisiens* offers an impressive platform for discovering the history of French taste and the enduring elegance of Paris.

This exhibition has been produced by the Petit Palais, City of Paris Fine Art Museum, Paris Musées, in association with the Dixon Gallery and Gardens, Memphis, TN, and Joslyn Art Museum.

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Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, Paris at Joslyn Art Museum

The objects presented in *Bijoux Parisiens* reveal the wealth and social fabric of France as the country's shifting tastes and ever-changing political situations, from the reign of Louis XIV (r. 1643–1715) to World War II, impacted how jewelry was worn and by whom.

Necklaces, pendants, bracelets, and brooches made with precious and semi-precious materials like platinum, gold, diamonds, and gemstones reflected both the wearer's position in society and the designer's creativity and skill. Many artistic styles are shown together, including the severe aesthetic of Neoclassicism, the natural forms of Art Nouveau, and the sleek, geometric lines of Art Deco, demonstrating how Parisian preferences changed over time. Design drawings also show the endless imagination of artists and entrepreneurs, who first designed for the aristocracy and later for the famous jewelry *maisons* of Paris; Cartier and Van Cleef & Arpels, among others, remain international brands with lasting appeal to this day. Expressing the age in which they were made, the unique and compelling objects in *Bijoux Parisiens* will delight the senses and inspire the imagination.

Exhibition Catalogue

The *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition catalogue is available in the Hitchcock Museum Shop. \$54.95 (Member price: \$49.46).

Exhibition Tickets and Tours

Bijoux Parisiens is open to the public June 4 through September 10, 2017.

Bijoux Parisiens is a ticketed exhibition. Joslyn members see it first and see it free! \$10 for general public adults; members, youth ages 17 and younger, and college students with ID are free. Special Thursday pricing (4–8 pm): \$5 for general public adults. All visitors, including members, must obtain a ticket at the admissions desk for entrance to the exhibition. Programs with visits to the exhibition will be priced accordingly for general public adults. Docent-guided tours of the exhibition are offered weekly (ticket pricing applies; view the calendar of events at www.joslyn.org for tour offerings).

Exhibition Mobile Tour

Free Wi-Fi is available in all Joslyn galleries. Guests may use their own web-enabled mobile device or borrow one of Joslyn's to access the dual language *Bijoux Parisiens* mobile tour. Dial (402) 881-3601 for English or (402) 972-4031 for Spanish; or visit www.joslyn.org > Education > Multimedia; or scan the QR code at the entrance to the exhibition. Presented by Joslyn and OnCell with special thanks to 91.5 KIOS FM.

Exhibition Programs & Events

Friday, June 2

Members Preview Reception

Lecture & Reception; 5:30–8 pm

On Friday evening, June 2, members are invited to a private discussion and reception celebrating *Bijoux Parisiens*. At 6 pm, Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Joslyn's Associate Curator of European Art, will offer an overview of the show in the Witherspoon Concert Hall. The presentation will be followed by exhibition viewing, complimentary light hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar in the fountain court. Joslyn members receive invitations. To join Joslyn, visit www.joslyn.org.

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Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, Paris at Joslyn Art Museum

Saturday, June 3

Members Preview Day

Private Preview Day; 10 am–4 pm

Every ticketed special exhibition at Joslyn opens first and exclusively for members. The members preview day for *Bijoux Parisiens* is Saturday, June 3. From 10 am to 4 pm, members show their membership card at the admissions desk for tickets to the exhibition on preview day (reservations not required during the day). At 11 am and 11:45 am, Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Associate Curator of European Art, will present talks for members in the exhibition galleries. Each talk is limited to 30 people on a first come, first served basis (participants will be asked to sign up upon arrival on June 3). Joslyn members receive invitations. To join Joslyn, visit www.joslyn.org.

Saturday, June 3; 6 pm

Joslyn Art Museum Association Gala

The Joslyn Art Museum Association (JAMA) presents this special gala preview of *Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, Paris*. The evening includes cocktails and exhibition viewing, then a French dining experience outdoors in an air-conditioned tent. After dinner, an array of decadent patisseries and chocolats, plus a coffee bar, will be served. Formal Attire. Honorary Chairs: Ellen & Stavelly Wright. Gala Chairs: Mary Lou Brasee, Melanie Hecker, and Debbie Wood.

Saturday, June 17; 1 pm (in English) & 2 pm (in French)

Royalty, Revolution, Republic: French Jewelry & Design presented by Jan Schneider Lund

Presented in the Abbott Lecture Hall, this talk is free. Those wishing to see the *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition must secure an exhibition ticket.

Join Jan Schneider Lund, Officier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques, for this presentation that tells the story of the artists, designers, and talented entrepreneurs who created the extraordinary jewels featured in the *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition. Lund will consider pieces dating from the Ancienne Régime to the Empire and beyond, with an emphasis on Art Nouveau. The talk will be delivered twice: once in English (at 1 pm) and once in French (at 2 pm).

Board member and past president of the Alliance Française d'Omaha, Lund has the distinction of Officer in the Order of the French Academic Palms, France's highest teaching honor. She is a retired adjunct professor of French at Creighton University. She holds the Degré Supérieur de Langue et de Civilisation Française with an art history minor from the Sorbonne, University of Paris.

Thursdays, June 29 & August 17; 6:30 pm & 7:10 pm each evening (cash bar @ 5 pm)

Curator Gallery Talks

Advance registration is strongly encouraged; walk-in guests will only be admitted as space permits. Please register online at www.joslyn.org (select gallery talk date and time) or by contacting Susie Severson, Director of Adult programs, at (402) 661-3862 or sseverson@joslyn.org. The talks are free with regular exhibition admission (special Thursday evening pricing of \$5 per ticket for general public adults).

Join Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Associate Curator of European Art, for a look at the highlights of the *Bijoux Parisiens*.

Thursday, July 6; 5–7 pm

Omaha Under the Radar @ Joslyn

An annual, city-wide festival showcasing some of the best experimentalists in dance, music, and theater from around the country. At Joslyn, Omaha Under the Radar will move throughout the Museum with four acts:

Chinook Collaborative Ensemble – chamber music for oboe and strings about Wikipedia, Galileo, and seeking truth in complex societies

tbd Dance Collective – movement sculptures, including a response to *Bijoux Parisiens*, using innovative improvisation

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Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, Paris at Joslyn Art Museum

Elizabeth Baker and Helen Hansen French – new work for dance, piano, and electronics exploring fear as a reaction to our changing environment and circumstances

Choreographer Vivian Kim – an ensemble dance

Omaha Under the Radar is presented by Analog Arts, with additional support from the Nebraska Arts Council, New Music USA, and Farnam House Brewery.

Admission to the event is free, however guests also wishing to view the exhibition must obtain a ticket (\$5 Thursday evening pricing for general public adults).

Thursday, July 27 @ 6:30 pm (cash bar @ 5 pm)

***The Allure of the Past: 100 Years of French Jewelry* with Emily Stoehrer, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

Presented in the Abbott Lecture Hall, this talk is free. Those wishing to see the *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition must secure an exhibition ticket.

While history has always fueled the artistic imagination, there have been certain moments when interest in the past has sparked a flurry of creativity in jewelry design. Nineteenth-century jewelers in France were looking to their glorious past to create colorful Renaissance-revival jewelry that used an array of enameling techniques. As an extended period of Egyptomania swept Europe, French jewelers designed modern ornaments that borrowed ancient themes, sometimes including antiquities in their pieces. This lavishly illustrated lecture focuses on styles revived from 1830 to 1930.

Emily Stoehrer, Ph.D., is the Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Curator of Jewelry at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where she oversees a collection that spans 6,000 years and includes more than 22,000 objects. She is currently writing a book on jewelry and Hollywood.

Tuesday, August 15 @ 7 pm

Marie Antoinette (2006; Dir. Sofia Coppola)

Kirsten Dunst channels the iconic French queen of excess in a visually scrumptious take on her adolescence and rise to the ill-fated French monarchy. Introductions by Joslyn Associate Curator of European Art Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Film Streams Education Director Diana Martinez, Ph.D., and Juliette Parnell, Ph.D., Foreign Languages, UNO, who will explore the life of the French queen—particularly the so-called “affair of the diamond necklace.”

Presented in partnership with Film Streams at the Ruth Sokolof Theater (1340 Mike Fahey St.). Visit filmstreams.org for ticket prices.

Friday, August 25 @ 6:30 pm

Bling! Girls Night Out at the Museum

\$30 Joslyn members; \$40 general public. Space is limited and reservations are required at www.joslyn.org.

This *au revoir* to summer will feature exhibition viewing, French wines, petits apéritifs, and an 8 pm screening of *Masters of Dreams: The French and Swiss Jewelers* by Guillaume de Ginestel.

Other Programs at Joslyn

Many of Joslyn’s regularly scheduled programs will feature *Bijoux Parisiens*-inspired themes this winter and spring. Visit www.joslyn.org for complete details.

- **Art Encounters** (Thursday, June 15; 10:30 am): Art lovers, from the well-seasoned to the amateur, will enjoy a docent-guided tour of the exhibition. \$5 for general public adults on June 15 (includes *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition ticket).

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Bijoux Parisiens: French Jewelry from the Petit Palais, Paris at Joslyn Art Museum

- **Stroller Tours** (Wednesday, July 19): Joslyn offers docent-guided tours designed for moms, dads, and caregivers to look at and talk about art with other adults, while being mindful of young ones in arms and strollers. Guests gather on the Strauss Bridge at 9:30 am for complimentary refreshments, then head to the galleries at 10 am for tours of Joslyn's collections and exhibitions. Crying babies welcome! On July 19, the tour will feature the *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition. Free for Joslyn members and infants/toddlers; \$10 for general public adults (includes exhibition ticket). Space is limited; reservations are requested. Sign-up at least one week in advance at www.joslyn.org > Visit > Kids Programs.
- **Story Adventures** (Tuesday, June 20; 10:30 am): Preschoolers and young readers, accompanied by an adult, are invited to this artful reading program presented by Joslyn and Omaha Public Library on selected Tuesdays at 10:30 am. On June 20, stories will be read in the *Bijoux Parisiens* exhibition. Admission is free, including time spent in the exhibition galleries.
- **Art Camps and Classes**
Joslyn offers summer 2017 camps and classes inspired by the exhibition for teens and adults. Online class registration is available; Joslyn members receive discounted registration. Visit www.joslyn.org > Education > Classes.

PICTURED: (page 1) Husson, *Brooch*, c. 1880, gold, diamonds, emeralds, and enamel, Collection of Petit Palais, City of Paris Fine Art Museum, Paris Musées



JOSLYN
Art Museum

Our Mission – Joslyn Art Museum collects, preserves, and interprets the visual arts of the highest quality, fostering appreciation and enjoyment of art for the benefit of a diverse audience.
Our Vision – To be cherished and respected as a premier art museum.

Joslyn Art Museum showcases art from ancient times to the present. The Museum was a gift to the people of Omaha from Sarah Joslyn in memory of her husband, George, who made his fortune as president of the Western Newspaper Union. The Museum's original 1931 building is one of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in the nation, with 38 types of marble from seven countries. The Walter and Suzanne Scott Pavilion, a 58,000-square-foot addition built in 1994, was designed by renowned British architect Norman Foster as his first U.S. commission. The Museum features galleries, a 1,000-seat concert hall, fountain court, education technology gallery, lecture hall, classrooms, sculpture garden, café, shop, and Art Works, an interactive space for art exploration.

General Museum Admission: Free (additional charge for general public adult tickets to *Bijoux Parisiens*; see page 2).

Regular Museum Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am–4 pm; late 'til 8 pm on Thursday; closed Monday and major holidays.

www.joslyn.org | (402) 342-3300 | 2200 Dodge Street | Omaha, NE 68102