

SOLITAIRE

THE FINE ART OF JEWELLERY

*asian
artisans*

Anna Hu
Vanessa Leu
Michelle Ong

*timeless
facets*

Moonphase Watches
Oriental Elements
Jade Jewellery

PLUS
Beyoncé
And
The Art Of
Enamelling

66

August - September 2011



*Eastern
Charms*

A Cultural Calligraphy Of Jewels

WOOD JEWELLERY

by Charmaine Tai

FROM TOP LEFT
Burnt Offerings pendant
with burnt wood, pink sap-
phires and diamonds in 18k
yellow gold. WILFREDO
ROSADO; Ring with an
amethyst, ebony wood
panels and diamonds in
white gold. MARKIN;
Bracelet and earrings
in Macassar ebony with
diamonds set in gold.
GAYTEN

textured
CLASS

*A natural companion for
precious gemstones*

Wood's unpredictable grain, be it rings or streaks, conjures a unique pattern in jewellery making. When smoothened, a matte texture emerges. The colour of wood may range from pale yellows, reddish browns to blacks. Jewellers who intend to create avant-garde designs have often opt for wood, which provides an unconventional backdrop to precious gemstones.

The *Norwegian Wood* cuff by designer Barbara Innamorati for Evocateur is handcrafted from natural wood, brass and enamel, then painted with 22k gold leaf to highlight the dark wooden grains. Pearl and diamond buds of flowers depict Spring in Lee Jewellery's *Nature Wood* ring. Jet stars in most of Jacqueline Cullen's creations. Also known as lignite, jet is a result of wood buried under volcanic ash millions of years ago. Cullen's *Electro* and *Masterpiece* rings feature clusters of 18k gold granulation and champagne diamonds, set atop hand carved Whitby jet and electro formed precious metal. Wilfredo Rosado's Burnt Offerings collection utilises the raw texture of burnt wood, adorned with various jewels and finished in yellow or white gold.

Ebony is also a favourite alternative material. Markin's white gold ring features panels of ebony layered with a total of 131 diamonds. The piece is crowned with an alluring 12.15-carat amethyst. Gayten's unique necklace from its TT collection is made of snakewood, crafted in a jigsaw-like motif, and embellished with streaks of diamonds set in gold. ♡

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