

JUNE 2015

performances

MAGAZINE

MURDER

for Two
A New MUSICAL COMEDY



GEFFEN
PLAYHOUSE

AUDREY SKIRBALL KENIS THEATER AT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

CONTENTS

12 TONY TV

Many theater figures have migrated to television over the years—but it's not a one-way street.

25 PROGRAM

Cast, who's who, director's notes, chairman's letter and donors.

6 IN THE WINGS

Sound of Music's 50th and Frank Sinatra's 100th at Hollywood Bowl; *Janis Joplin* back in Pasadena.

8 DATELINE

An Act of God and *Amazing Grace* in New York; *Light Shining in Buckinghamshire* in London.

34 SHOPPING

Designer Liv Ballard's exquisitely unconventional collection expands the jewelry universe.

38 HOME

MidcenturyLA in North Hollywood offers Scandinavian midcentury, and in such volume it's almost surreal.



40 DINING

New All'Acqua brings high energy and veteran chef Don Dickman (ex Rocca) to Atwater Village.

44 WINE

Tips on enhancing the outdoor wine experience: Don't fear the screw cap, and do chill the reds!

46 TRAVEL

Looking for a contrarian travel option? Palm Springs in the summer has its fans!

48 BACK PAGE

TCL Chinese Theatre.



LESLIE RAE BEGA
REAL ESTATE

Artfully Uniting Extraordinary Properties with Extraordinary Lives

Decades of industry leadership. Integrity, care, experience and the power of the largest global network worldwide with a culture of excellence that dates back for centuries.

10% of our net proceeds from each sale is donated to the charity of our clients choice in their name

"Charity begins at home, and justice begins next door."

- Charles Dickens

Sotheby's

Leslie Rae Bega
Top 1%
Commercial & Residential
Investments | Developments | Acquisitions

11911 San Vicente Boulevard, Suite 20
Brentwood, California 90049
lesliebega@mac.com
www.leslieraebega.com
M 310.600.6615 F 310.472.7830
DRE 175519329

SAPPHIRE SEAS

▶ JEWELRY DESIGNER LIV BALLARD

JEWELRY DESIGN—THE creation of tiny masterpieces whose capacity to elicit emotion far exceeds their diminutive size—is the fashion world's most expressive art form, whether achieved through galaxies of diamonds or simple hammered brass. Designer Liv Ballard's exquisitely unconventional collection reminds us just how endless the universe of jewelry can be.

Ballard, a Mississippi native, splits her time between L.A. and Paris, designs out of a home studio and has her pieces handcrafted in Rome. "I

searched a couple of years for a goldsmith who could appreciate what I wanted to do, only to find one who spoke a language I didn't understand," she says with a smile. The limited-production collection is sold only online and at Maxfield, the chic Melrose Avenue boutique with a penchant for cutting-edge accessories.

The designer's original item, and her signature piece, is an extraordinary three-dimensional expression of our world: 18-karat-gold continents floating in a sea composed of tiny sapphires, whose graduated shades suggest depth. The



← Liv Ballard's Caput
Mundi Sfumatura
Sapphire Globe

earth, a sphere that features a delicate diamond equator, even spins on its axis thanks to a brilliant diamond pavé armillary. The sapphire globe (\$60,000), which Ballard herself is usually wearing, is frequently customized, with emerald oceans a popular and dramatic alteration.

An all-gold version of this bejeweled world features a diamond-delineated equator and Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, and a diamond-encrusted Antarctica that is Ballard's subtle reminder of a shrinking ice cap. But the real world is light-years away from this flashy indulgence, which includes a sturdy gold chain.

The piece expresses its designer's own wanderlust, and Ballard recounts that she was on an airplane when the idea first came to her. A popular gift, she reports, the globe can be further customized to commemorate any location—a birthplace or honeymoon destination, for instance—with a sparkling red ruby.

Ballard's celestial theme continues with a one-of-a-kind solid-gold moon face pendant encircled by a pair of diamond pavé armillary rings (\$150,000). A rotation of the brilliant face, whose forehead is accented

with a ruby bindi, reveals a translucent moonstone, a rare 60-carat gem, on the reverse.

"My work appeals to women who aren't afraid of getting a lot of attention," Ballard says of her clientele. "These pieces always spark a conversation."

Among her most popular items are the "Sacro Vincolo" rings: two diamond-laden gold bands, one with a diamond ball to match the gold chain that forever binds them. A perpetual couple, these bands represent freedom paired with restraint, or the concept of being a slave to love.

In contrast, the "Ucello Libero" necklace (\$49,000) features a flat, diamond-clad bird with an emerald eye and tail tethered to an emerald-beaded chain with gold hardware. Another flat piece depicts a whimsical mermaid whose flesh is crafted with different shades of gold, her tail fins adorned with sapphires fading to white diamonds. "She carries quite a lot of meaning on her slender shoulders," Ballard says of this more recently introduced piece, "La Sirena."

Although elegant hoop diamond earrings and relatively staid gold cuffs contribute conventional notes to the collection, Ballard favors strong

PAGEANT of the MASTERS

where art comes to life!



LIFE IMITATES ART

A unique theatrical performance

Shows nightly 8:30 p.m.

July 8 - August 31

Advance tickets \$15-\$230

For info call 800.487.3378


PageantTickets.com

650 Laguna Canyon Road in Laguna Beach

Will Geer's
**Theatricum
 Botanicum**

2015 SEASON
 JUNE 6 THRU
 SEPTEMBER 27

**Minutes from L.A.
 Your Summer Getaway!**

Harper Lee's 
**TO KILL
 A MOCKINGBIRD**
 by Christopher Sergel

**A MIDSUMMER
 NIGHT'S DREAM**
 by William Shakespeare

AS YOU LIKE IT
 by William Shakespeare

**AUGUST:
 OSAGE COUNTY**
 by Traci Letts

**GREEN GROW
 THE LILACS**
 by Lynn Riggs

Tickets NOW On Sale
 Box Office: (310) 455-3723 or purchase online
www.theatricum.com

1419 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Topanga, CA 90290

expressions, creating what moves her without commercial marketability driving her design decisions.

Case in point: the tongue-in-cheek opulence of the "Scaccia Diavolo" charm bracelet of vampire-detering tools: a mirror, cross, stake, sun face and garlic embellished with diamonds and rubies. "There are a lot of people who take and don't give," Ballard says. "This is an apotropaic piece meant to protect its wearer from those circumstances."

Gentlemen have not been forgotten in the Liv Ballard collection. Miniature versions of the designer's signature spinning globes appear as cuff links (\$22,000), and a bracelet's minimalist design and matte gold or sterling-silver construction appeal to men—and occasionally their women.

"It's masculine and simple, intended for a man to put on and never dream of taking off," says its creator. Because the bracelet is crafted in two separate pieces, it requires a couple to get it on or off, making it an incredibly intimate gift. —Joseph LeMoyne

Liv Ballard Jewelry

livballard.com

Maxfield

8825 Melrose Ave., L.A.

310.274.8800, maxfieldla.com