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# ON THE

A MAGAZINE ON THE SUBJECT OF JEWELLERY

# ROCKS

# SHOW TIME

THE  
BRILLIANCE  
OF  
BELPERRON



One-of-a-kind Nada Roma micromosaic earrings in 18ct yellow gold with tourmalines and brown diamonds by SOCRATEL & LE CAVALIER.





**NOURBEL & LE CAVELIER** With a GIA training in gemology in common, a strong heritage in the business and an unexpected ancestral bond – their families hail from the same village in Lebanon – Georges Karam and Valerie Le Cavalier decided to combine their expertise under Nourbel & Le Cavalier in 2011, opening their first boutique in London. The location, “an open door to the East and West”, reflects their concoction of influences. “I would say my designs are more influenced by my European side, as they tend to be lighter and easier to wear,” explains Le Cavalier. “But my Lebanese origin is the part of me that likes jewellery. Jewels are a natural part of a Lebanese woman’s dress code.” Drawing on this cultural understanding, the designer’s hand-made, mostly one-of-a-kind pieces are designed to complement and enhance without interfering with everyday life. As to the materials used, there is almost no limitation. “I love novelty and challenge,” says Le Cavalier, “as long as it is wearable, durable, and can be combined with noble metals and gems, I see no limits to what one can use in jewellery making.” This approach is reflected by their Nada Roma collection, built around original micromosaics from the 19th and 20th centuries combined with coloured diamonds, gemstones and gold to create completely new pieces.

**GAELE KHOURI** “Being Lebanese and having grown up in a country that witnessed constant war and sufferance has endowed me with the resilience and strength to get out of my comfort zone and pursue what I want,” says Gaelle Khouri. Not long ago, she did just that, leaving New York and the world of finance behind to pursue her interest in jewellery design. After four years of self-funded production, Khouri launched her eponymous line in summer 2015 with a collection of intricate designs in yellow and pink gold, rhodium silver and treated bronze, representing natural elements and crawling creatures such as roots, centipedes and eels. “What intrigues me are the details and complexities of animal or insect anatomy. I feel there’s something very beautiful, but at the same time, something very ugly about them – which is exactly how our emotions are,” explains the designer. She uses the sinuous shapes to visually represent the “complexities of the feminine”, as she puts it, each piece deeply connected to her emotional experiences. “The passion found its way to me rather than the other way around,” she says, “which makes this ‘profession’ very personal, true and real.”