

Bowerbird

eye of the beholder

by Jennifer Martin



Bowerbird - eye of the beholder.

An exhibition of jewellery inspired by the unique and distinctive courtship rituals of the bowerbird.

In a complex ritual, the male bowerbird builds a structure from twigs and grasses known as a bower. He then decorates it with brightly coloured objects carefully selected, curated and placed into position. Charcoal, shells, feathers, flowers, stones, berries, discarded blue plastics and glass are used to embellish the bower. Arranged and rearranged for hours until the collection is pleasing enough to entice the female. The females visit multiple bowers inspecting the ornamentation of each. Having attracted the female with the arrangement the male will then perform a complicated dance to impress his mate.

As an artist, Jennifer Martin has a strong personal connection with the qualities of the bowerbird. Her processes are similar; Constant collection, observation and reflection. She deconstructs, curates and constructs anew. Each component of the collection has its place in Martin's archive of materials. She attributes meaning and talismanic qualities to both the materials and subjects she selects. As a maker of betrothal, engagement and wedding rings the custom of exchange of objects is powerfully symbolic.



- 1) Bower
JFC24831 18ct yellow gold, mother of pearl & lapis lazuli, earrings \$1260
- 2) Satin Bowerbird
JFC24845 18ct yellow gold & black oval Australian sapphire ring \$2520
- 3) Bowerbird
JFC24818 Sterling silver, sapphire beads & mabe pearl neckpiece \$1690



4) Grass Crown

JFC24844 9ct yellow gold, green sapphire & diamond ring \$2100

5) Blue

JFC24833 Kyanite, sterling silver & 18ct gold earrings \$520





7)Nucleus

JFC24836 Sterling silver, 18ct gold, ruby & sunstone earrings \$390

8)Feather Tiara

JFC24842 9ct rose gold, sapphire & diamond ring \$2520

9)Frass Cake

JFC24840 9ct rose gold, champagne diamond & sapphire ring \$2100



10) Sweet Treat

JFC24822 18ct gold, diamond, 9ct gold & sterling silver pendant \$840

11) Cumberbund

JFC24843 18ct yellow gold, princess cut sapphire & diamond ring \$2520

12) Feather Band

JFC24847 18ct yellow gold ring \$1785



- 13) Eye of the Beholder
JFC24838 18ct rose gold & purple sapphire pendant \$580
- 14) Knot ring
JFC24846 18ct yellow gold, sapphire & diamond \$1575
- 15) Feather ring
JFC24217 18ct yellow gold \$1350



16) Frass with diamonds

JFC 24827 18ct yellow gold & diamond earrings \$1050



17) Eye of the Beholder

JFC24837 Sterling silver, 18ct rose gold & purple sapphire pendant \$630



18) Bowerbird

JFC24820 Sterling silver, green garnet & 18ct gold neckpiece \$650



19) Star fruit

JFC22330 18ct yellow gold & diamond earrings \$945

20) Frass

JFC24841 18ct yellow gold sapphire & diamond ring \$2310

21) Frass

JFC24828 18ct gold earrings \$630



22) Bowerbird

JFC24819 Sterling silver, black spinel & 18ct gold neckpiece \$590

23) Leaf

JFC24839 Jasper & 18ct gold earrings \$420

24) Caterpillar

JFC24824 Marble, pearl & sterling silver neckpiece \$420



25) Oval Reflection
JFC24832 Sterling silver, fine silver & rose cut glass earrings \$390
26) Sweet Treat
JFC24821 Sterling silver, marble & pearl neckpiece \$380



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