

botanical beauties

Nature inspires these creations in 18-karat gold

BY JASON ASHLEY WRIGHT
World Scene writer

Imagine treasures from a fairy tale forest — acorn caps, coffee beans and honeysuckle vines, all gleaming in gold.

The pine cones have sapphires, oak branches bloom pearls, and eucalyptus leaves sparkle with rubies.

These aren't fictional fancies from a Hans Christian Andersen story but real, tangible creations by jewelry designer David Lee Holland, who captures the beauty of botanical forms in precious metals, including 18-karat gold.

"I sometimes feel like I'm creating a permanent record of something that's disappearing from the planet," Holland said recently during a phone interview from his New York studio.

Holland grew up in Selma, Ala., practically ensconced in beautiful lawns, gardens and lush forests. But even after leaving the South for a career in New York, which has included stints at Vogue and Vanity Fair, he never strayed far from nature.

"I've basically created a golden garden in the middle of a concrete jungle," said Holland, whose gallery of handmade gilt pleasures is nestled in SoHo.

Among his newest creations are textured oak twig hoop earrings — beautiful and lightweight, perfect for day or evening, he said. He also mentioned a laurel leaf band of 18-karat gold with a rectangular citrine.

He discussed a pair of 18-karat white gold dangle earrings studded with diamonds, as well as a magnolia leaf pendant with diamonds set along the leaf's veining.



An Osios Loukas acorn ring with diamonds and ruby is shown, along with a six-petal orchid pendant with diamonds.

Courtesy photos

trunk show

DAVID LEE HOLLAND

When: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday

Where: Saks Fifth Avenue at Utica Square

Information: Saks, 744-0200; tulsaworld.com/davidleeholland

"The collection is evolving all the time, sort of like nature itself," said Holland, who produces several new pieces a month.

Other pieces he and co-designer Yannis Kyriazis have designed include mimosa bark bangles and stackable honeysuckle vine band sets with diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires, all available in five colors of 18-karat gold — yellow, green, white, rose and black.

Holland also makes dazzling cuff links for men, and he's expanding a new sterling silver collection featuring nonorganic textures, which he hopes to introduce this fall.

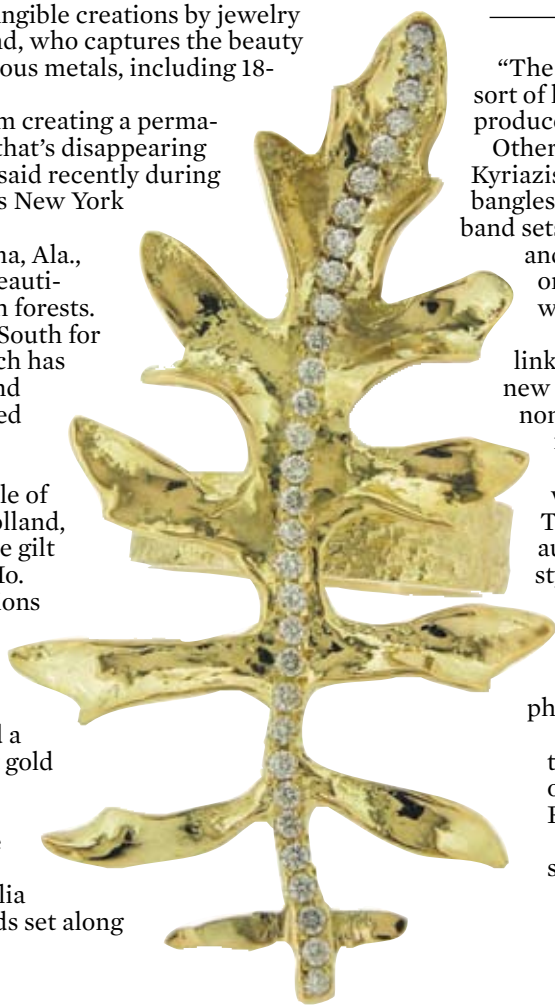
Another of his autumn debuts will be a piece made specially for Tulsa Project Woman — a pendant for auction during October's Pink Ribbon style show with New York women's wear designer Carmen Marc Valvo.

When we spoke, Holland was contemplating a large pansy pendant in rose gold, accented with pink sapphires.

Beyond that, one of his fantasies is to create botanical collections based on a specific eco-system, like a Costa Rican rain forest or the Gobi desert.

"I'm inspired everywhere I go," he said.

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This leaf pin features a path of diamonds along its center.



Ron Loyd (back row, from left), Dixie Roberts, Eric Gibson, and Ross McCorkell (front row, from left) and Jenna T. Harris prepare for the LOOK Stars party to be held June 7 at Southern Hills Country Club. MIKE SIMONS/Tulsa World

Light Opera stars to perform at Southern Hills benefit event

Light Opera Oklahoma is planning two great parties.

The annual Stars event will be at 6:30 p.m. June 7 at Southern Hills Country Club.

The evening of cocktails, dinner and musical entertainment will feature performances by stars of LOOK's 2009 summer season, which includes "My Fair Lady," Broadway's longest run of any major musical; "The Gondoliers," Gilbert and Sullivan's last great success; and "A Little Night Music," a hit Broadway production in the 1970s. Performances begin June 11 and end July 5 at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, all part of Tulsa Performing Arts Center's Summer Stage.

Patrons for the Stars event will be treated to a private dress rehearsal and evening with the cast of LOOK's cabaret-style production, "The Gondoliers." The patron party will be Sunday at the University of Tulsa.



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Stars tickets are \$250 per person and can be purchased by calling LOOK at 583-4267. The package that includes an invitation to the patron party will begin at \$500.

Founded in 1983, Light Opera Oklahoma (LOOK) is a nonprofit organization that exists to preserve and promote the world's finest operetta and classical musical comedies by presenting professional performances every summer in Tulsa.

For more information about Light Opera Oklahoma's Summer Season, visit tulsaworld.com/look. For other information, call Mollie Grubb at (918) 640-7934.



C-O-M-P-E-T-I-T-I-O-N: Sameer Mishra (above), winner of the 2008 Scripps National Spelling Bee, competes in Washington, D.C. Tom Bergeron will host live coverage of the final championship rounds of the 2009 Scripps National Spelling Bee as 293 spellers from around the world compete. 7 p.m. ABC, channel 8

tube picks

Don't miss TV for Thursday

The following information was not available when the Sunday TV World went to press.

7 a.m.

8 8 **Good Morning America** TV show host Tom Bergeron; medical report. (CC)

9 2 **Today** Kris Allen and Adam Lambert perform; Al's book club; singer James Taylor. 8 a.m.

6 6 **The Early Show** Kris Allen performs; chef Bobby Flay. 9 a.m.

9 2 **Live With Regis and Kelly** "American Idol" third-place finisher Danny Gokey performs; actor Jeff Daniels. (CC) 10 a.m.

5 23 **The Martha Stewart Show** From Paradise Island in the Bahamas. (CC)

8 8 **The View** David Hyde Pierce ("Accent on Youth"); Justin Long ("Drag Me to Hell"); investment guru Melody Hobson. (CC) 11 a.m.

8 8 **Rachael Ray** A woman

takes on her mother-in-law in a cooking showdown. (CC) 3 p.m.

6 6 **Dr. Phil** Guests tell how online profiles have negatively impacted their lives.

8 8 **The Bonnie Hunt Show** David Boreanaz; Bill Nye.

9 2 **The Ellen DeGeneres Show** Reese Witherspoon; chef Bobby Flay. (HD) (CC) 10:35 p.m.

6 6 **Late Show With David Letterman** Tom Hanks; The Killers perform. (HD) (CC)

9 2 **The Tonight Show With Jay Leno** Billy Crystal; Prince performs.

Changes

32 (DISN) **Jonas** (6:30 p.m.)

32 (DISN) **Wizards of Waverly Place** (8:35 p.m.)

57 (AP) **Escape to Chimp Eden** (9 p.m., midnight & 4 a.m.)

38 (SPIKE) **Gametrailers TV** (10 p.m.)

5 23 **Jerry Springer** (3 a.m. Friday)

Cox digital adds Hispanic station

Tulsa's only Hispanic television station will be added to the Cox Communications digital lineup starting Thursday.

TeleTul Canal 51 — a locally owned and operated digital UHF station licensed as KXAP, channel 51.1 — will be available on cable 444 to Cox digital subscribers. The station's signal will continue to be available at 51.1 for non-cable subscribers.

The station, Second Street and Lewis Avenue, was launched on air in summer 2008. Sixty percent of its programming is produced in Tulsa, including a morning program, local entertainment and a nightly local news broadcast, and other shows.

"We're very excited about becoming part of the Cox family," TeleTul President Antonio Perez said in a press release. "Thousands of additional viewers will be able to enjoy our quality programming."

KXAP also airs nationally syndicated Spanish language dramas, game shows, and, on weekends, children's shows, and local Catholic Mass on Sundays.

— RITA SHERROW,
World television editor

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A.R.T.S. BLOG

with Arts Critic James D. Watts, Jr.

“

Any reasonable topic – seriously.

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