



Aninka Harms

## Indaba highlights jewellery in SA



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South Africa is among the world's biggest producers of gold, platinum and diamonds, but creates little fine jewellery. We produce millions of Rands worth of fashion garments for international labels, but only a handful of indigenous designs. We have some of the most talented architects in the world, but few great modern buildings.



Jennifer Fair



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In February, the 8th Design Indaba held in Cape Town, focused on Architecture, Fashion and Jewellery Design in three specialist Indabas running alongside the main conference.

The objective was to give special attention to sectors, which have enormous potential for our economy and our quality of life, but are not getting the recognition and support they deserve.

This was the first time the Indaba featured jewellery and was a wonderful opportunity for the Jewellery Council to meet with the Cape designers and manufacturing Jewellers, network and show the Council's commitment to its regional counterpart.



Heidi Liebenberg

"Is there a typically South African design aesthetic in the jewellery field?"

The accreditation of SA Jewellery News was used effectively to facilitate the Jewellery Council within the exhibition, the cost of which was R1400 to enter.

The Jewellery Indaba, held over one day, focused on the state of jewellery design in South Africa. A key question being raised was: is there a typically South African design aesthetic in the jewellery field? The Minister of Minerals and Energy, Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka gave a short presentation on the history of adornment, government's role and projects recognised by government. She recognised the Jewellery Council's presence at the Indaba.

Among the speakers was one of the world's most exciting and dramatic

designers, Paris-based Lorenz Baumer, celebrated around the world for his finely-engineered, whimsical pieces which include jewelled fruits, animals and geometrics.

South African designers Beverley Price and Geraldine Fenn, shared their passion for contemporary South African jewellery design and talked about their collaboration with local crafters and skills transfer to disadvantaged communities.

The Jewellery Indaba was a challenge to our own designers to raise their game and dig deep to produce world-class designs with a distinct South African signature.

A second part of the Jewellery Indaba was the exhibition representing a cross section of works by South Africa's contemporary jewellers, focusing on looking at the direction of jewellery design in South Africa. The aim of the show was to highlight unique and interesting South African design, whether it was in form or materials used. Amongst the exhibitors were the Diamond Trading Company and AngloGold Ashanti. Lorna Delport, General Manager Jewellery Council of South Africa



Jewellery Council of South Africa



Heidi Liebenberg

