

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jewelry Designer & Studio Coordinator (March 2016 to October 2017)

Bario-Neal, Philadelphia, PA and New York, NY

- Worked with founders/designers, and production team to develop new lines for seasonal collection releases.
- Researched industry trends; created mood boards, sketches, wax and metal prototypes; fabricated finalized designs in conjunction with production team.
- Along with Production Coordinator, led weekly production meetings and solved production challenges in order to successfully meet design calendar deadlines.
- Collaborated with Production Coordinator, jewelers, designers and creative directors on all technical aspects of creating a finished piece.
- Provided input and suggestions on production techniques for designs.
- Managed two bench jewelers, interns, and coordinated with managers on the direction of day-to-day showroom activities.
- Maintained studio equipment and placed weekly supply orders.
- Created and maintained studio and production manuals that documented the fabrication processes, stone characteristics, and metal features for all pieces in the collection.
- Ordered and oversaw all CAD projects.
- Oversaw all custom design orders from Philadelphia and New York locations. This included direct consultation with customers to select metals, stones, settings, and fabrication techniques for each one of a kind piece.
- Used BrightPearl Software for customer service, production, and inventory management.

Jewelry Designer (March 2015 to March 2016)

Eli Halili Jewelry & Design LLC New York, NY

- Created initial conceptual and final detailed jewelry sketches and prototypes, specifying color schemes, material types, and accessory requirements.
- Transformed sketches, renders, and prototypes into finished earrings, necklaces and rings using 18, 22, 24K gold and precious stones.
- Evaluated sample jewelry and modify designs to ensure overall design, wear-ability, color palette, stone selection and structure were inline with company's timeless style and rigorous quality standards.
- Managed and maintained jewelry studio including supplies, materials, tools and machinery.

Designer/Goldsmith (June 2013 to March 2015)

Mallary Marks Inc., Brooklyn, NY

- Fabricated gold and silver pieces using goldsmithing techniques (piercing, sawing, filing, riveting, scoring, bending, sanding, texturing, stone bezel setting and soldering utilizing an acetylene torch and a propane-oxygen mini-torch).
- Worked closely with company owner to develop collections, fabricate pieces and problem solve designs.
- Designed promotional graphic material for social media platforms.

Gallery Assistant (July - December 2013)

Gallery Loupe, Montclair, NJ

- Assisted in the coordination and installation of gallery exhibitions, fundraising events and design fairs.
- Managed and developed the gallery's inventory of artworks and artist bios.
- Managed visitor relations, sales and promotion of special events.
- Identified strategic areas for improvement to increase productivity in: promotion through social media platforms, online sales and diversity of products (i.e. books and exhibition catalogs).

Office of International Students Services (OISS) Coordinator (June – September 2012)

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI.

- Coordinated the International Undergraduate Student Orientation for Fall 2012.
- Led Graduate Student Orientation activities.
- Assisted in student consultation regarding documentation requirements.
- Compiled tables, graphs and lists of statistics regarding international student population.
- Updated OISS website on a regular basis.
- Designed official OISS logo and promotional posters for events and lectures.

Product Development and Design Intern (February-July 2008)

Villie Fashion Jewellery and Accessories (HK) Limited, Hong Kong and DongGuan, China

- Analyzed jewelry trends in the Chinese Market to inform product design and development.
- Designed product lines of costume jewelry, hair accessories and watches.

Jewelry Artist/Designer (2009-Present)

www.manuelajimenez.com Bogota, Colombia and New York, NY

- Design and hand fabricate unique jewelry pieces in fine and base metals, precious stones and alternative materials (polymers and fibers).
- Tailor bespoke jewelry pieces to clients' vision.
- Design custom jewelry packaging.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Co-Instructor: Welcome to Jewelry 1 & 2, Wax Working Open Level (October 2014 – December 2016)

Brooklyn Metal Works, Brooklyn, NY

- Assisted in the instruction of jewelry techniques through group demonstrations and individual meetings.
- Techniques include: piercing, sawing, filing, soldering, riveting, scoring, bending, sanding, texturing, stone bezel setting and wax model fabrication.

Jewelry Instructor: Introduction to Jewelry (January-December 2012)

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

- Introduced students to the fundamentals of design and metal fabrication techniques for jewelry and small objects.
- Developed syllabus with a series of structured assignments to guide Precollege, Undergraduate and Graduate students through the design and fabrication of finished pieces.
- Led group critiques, held individual meetings and gave lectures on historical and contemporary jewelry to inform and inspire student work.

Teaching Assistant: Introducción a la Joyería (2009-2011)

Escuela Taller Laura Ovinni, Bogotá, Colombia

- Instructed students in advanced jewelry techniques through one-on-one sessions.

Teaching Assistant: Joyería (August-December 2008)

Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

- Assisted in the instruction of basic jewelry techniques through group demonstrations and individual consultations.
- Led lectures and workshops on the history of metals and their manufacture.

EDUCATION

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence RI 2013

Master in Fine Arts - Jewelry and Metalsmithing, Honors

Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia 2009

Bachelor of Arts - Industrial Design

Meritorious Distinction for Thesis Project

OTHER STUDIES

Universidad de los Andes (Study Abroad Program Paris, France Summer 2009)

Art History In Situ and Music History In Vivo Summer Courses

Through several museum visits, concerts, plays and operas, both courses offered a deep introduction to each field's history giving the students an in situ experience to the most influential art works found in Paris.

EXHIBITIONS

- Icons at Play, co-curated with Kendra Pariseault, Brooklyn Metal Works, Brooklyn, NY. October 7th – November 30th, 2017.
- Adorned Spaces: Making America Great, curated by Platforma, 2017 SNAG Conference, New Orleans, LA. May 25th – 26th, 2017
- Wearable Art, Greenville Center for Creative Arts, Greenville, SC. April 7th – May 24th, 2017
- Backwash: The Welcome Back Show, (Piece in Collaboration with Furniture Designer: Ho'o Hee), Mason Gross Galleries, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. September 2 – 17, 2016
- Fifth Benefit Exhibition for Philadelphia Ballet Company, BalletX, Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Philadelphia, PA. September 5 – October 9, 2014.
- Under Construction, Soho20 Gallery, New York, NY. July 22 – August 16, 2014.
- F-1, Brooklyn Metal Works, Brooklyn, NY. May 3rd – June 27, 2014.
- On/Off, SooLOCAL: A Division of Soo Visual Arts Center, in conjunction with the 2014 SNAG Conference, Minneapolis, MN. April 24-26, 2014
- Objetos, Rojo Galería, Bogotá, Colombia. December 5 - 21, 2013.
- RISD Thesis Graduate Show 2013, Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence, RI. May 16 - June 1st, 2013
- ArtFutura: Art in Motion, RIC (Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago), Northwestern University, Chicago IL. May 31- June 6, 2013
- Beyond Borders, Juried Digital Student Exhibition, 2013 SNAG Conference, Toronto, Canada. May 2013
- Can I touch It?, RISDEXposé, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI. April 4-10, 2013.
- Jewelry & Metalsmithing Graduate Biennial, Sol Koffler Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI. March 21-April 13, 2013.
- Object Rotterdam 2013, Netherlands Architecture Institute (NAI), Rotterdam, The Netherlands. February 7-10, 2013.
- White Tie Show, RISDEXposé, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI. November 2012.
- Craft Forms 2012, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA. December 2012 – January 2013.
- Jewelry & Metalsmithing Triennial, Woods Gerry Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI. November 2-11, 2012.
- Graphic Design Graduate Exhibition. (Project in Collaboration with Graphic Designer: Virginia Chow), Sol Koffler Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI. October 28-November 13, 2011.
- Volarán: BFA Thesis Exhibition, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia. December 2008.

FELLOWSHIPS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Fellowship Tuition for M.F.A Studies, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI. 2011 – 2013.
- Meritorious Distinction for Thesis Project, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia. 2009.

COMPUTER SKILLS

MS Office, Adobe Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator)

LANGUAGES

Native Spanish speaker and Fluent English