

THE  TIMES

LUXE

**WATCHES &
JEWELLERY
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IN RECORD TIME

Ben Ainslie on
what really made
Team GB tick

ALSO STARRING

Jonnie Peacock, Abdi Jama,
Anthony Joshua, Richard Whitehead

 **ANTONIA FRASER'S FAVOURITE BROOCH, THE WORLD'S
COOLEST JEWELLERS AND JOSEPHINE DE LA BAUME'S PERFECT RING**

THE WORLD'S FIVE BEST JEWELLERS

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1 FAR EAST | MICHELLE ONG

Kate Winslet and Glenn Close are fans, she's best friends with the Chinese jet set and for years people have flocked to her Hong Kong headquarters for her eye-poppingly beautiful high jewellery. Now Michelle Ong is bringing Carnet, the jewellery house she set up in 1985, to London. Her style is diverse, combining old-fashioned glamour (usually with a nature motif) with rare delicacy, even in the larger pieces – but pigeonhole her as an Asian

designer at your peril. "We are based in Hong Kong, but I have an international clientele. When I started, people in Hong Kong would say, 'Your pieces are very Western'. And when I come to the West, they say, 'Oh they're very Asian,'" she says with a sigh. "I went through the colonial times and we are hugely influenced by the West here in Hong Kong, but it's very cosmopolitan. We all have our own style. China is hot – you can't ignore this market

Main picture: Michelle Ong. Jewellery, from top: Le Jardin Carnet brooch; Dreamcatcher earrings; Emerald Delight ring; Icy Radiance choker; Lotus Leaf brooch; Prism bracelets; all price on application; Ong with socialite David Tang

– but I don't think it works to take what might be considered a Chinese motif and just put some diamonds into it. Like everyone else, the Chinese are just looking for beautiful pieces and for me, beauty is universal." **Nancy Durrant**
Carnet is available at Obsidian, 13 Duke Street, London SW1