



Let's talk with Michelle Ong

The unveiling of previously unseen art works, antiques and jewelry pieces exclusively at Masterpiece is why connoisseurs from around the world eagerly attend each year.
Let's talk about Michelle Ong.

Among all the exciting jewel unveilings this year, Olivier Dupon - reporting for The Eye of Jewelry selected one of his favorites which was Carnet by Michelle Ong at Symbolic & Chase.

"Hong-Kong based Carnet has evolved as a small, discreet brand, with an intensely personal, private, bespoke approach, a very particular aesthetic, and all my jewels are one-of-a-kind", Michelle Ong shares.

"Each takes a great deal of time to conceive and craft, and I prefer to concentrate on artistry and quality, rather than quantity or extensive exposure, and generally wouldn't participate in shows or fairs," explains Michelle Ong.

"I felt that Masterpiece London offered a unique opportunity and the right environment for Carnet. Besides the noble art of the jeweler has played a role in every culture and civilization and I believe that showing contemporary jewelry alongside art and antiques creates a vital continuum" she ends.

(Seen Below: The Diamond Sea Nymph Earrings)

Michelle Ong believes Masterpiece has grown to be one of the most dynamic and refined art and antiques fairs in the world today, and so she felt it was important for Carnet to be present.

In fact, Michelle Ong explains that she and her team have exhibited in a very small way at Masterpiece in the past few years, 'testing the waters,' and are now delighted to be represented by Martin Travis of Symbolic & Chase in Europe.

"We felt that the time was right to have a stronger presence at the Fair. It was a natural progression to create a specially curated selection of my designs," admits Michelle Ong.

The dramatic setting of the Symbolic & Chase stand suited Carnet's pieces beautifully. A black glossy environment whose obscurity was only broken up by mid level continuous windows could exhibit truly spectacular pieces.

(Seen Below: Sparkling Sunlight Pendant)



The Carnet section immediately can only draw someone's attention with the jaw dropping 'Jade and Gems' necklace : an intricate collar neckpiece, whose juxtaposition of multi-colored faceted and cabochon gemstones creates an organic composition. The ceremonial quality of the necklace paired with the delicious array of sophisticated pastel hues made for a graceful statement piece fit for a Queen.

'Each of my jewels has a strong, individual story behind it, and I find my designs have their own impetus and momentum,' explains Michelle Ong. *"Whether that is a beautiful flower, a cloud in the sky, the gentle curve of a priceless Chinese porcelain vase or a mesmerizing gemstone, I create jewelry to capture and enhance that vision.'*

(Seen Below: The Glowing Jade and Gem necklace & Luminous Emerald Earrings)



If you happen to examine the "Pink Perfection" dangling pair of earrings, there are a feminine fantasy. The color of the perfectly matched pink spinels is luscious, and their scintillating but soft sparkle and swaying movement, seductive and sensual, brings light to the face and eyes.

'I always let the jewelry designs speak for themselves,' claims Michelle Ong.

She believes that jewelry is so personal that she cannot think of a more deeply personal purchase where the whole experience has to be unique and special in some way.

"Choosing just the right jewelry is like finding a life-long partner, a soul mate. Wearing jewelry is like building a bond with another person, it is a relationship with the body and the personality of the wearer", she says. *'A jewel becomes part of your persona, you and your jewel should become one.'*

(Seen Below: Pink Perfection spinel earrings)

