

PMC Portfolio

A closer look at several PMC pieces by one craftsperson

Precieux Shahasp Valentine

My jewelry education began at age thirteen with a very enjoyable lapidary class. I increased my knowledge in a jewelry casting class where I learned various wax techniques, mold making, casting, finishing, and some stonesetting. I continued taking jewelry classes throughout high school and college in addition to ceramics, fine art, and fashion design. After ten years as a graphic designer, I've come back to jewelry, my first love. Most recently, I studied at the Revere Academy in San Francisco. I began creating jewelry professionally in 1993 and started using PMC in 1997.

I'm influenced by architecture, costume, the Renaissance, and the Gothic style. My visits to Venice, Athens, Beirut, Cairo,

Amsterdam, Paris, and London have inspired my aesthetic style and perspective.

Working with Precious Metal Clay is a self-taught skill which has resulted in my second line of jewelry – Precieux – which uses fine silver and 24k gold PMC. I sculpt, carve, trail, mold, push, and pull PMC into shapes and forms. Setting the stones in wet clay feels like an ancient process to me, even though it's very modern. To further the Old-World feeling, I do all finishing by hand, burnishing and brushing to give the pieces a wonderfully organic, rich, and ancient quality. Each piece takes on its own unique characteristics and personality. I sign and number each piece and provide a certificate of authenticity. ♦



"Grande Fleur-de-Lis" necklace by the author. PMC.



"Lily" by the author. PMC.

"Deco" necklace by the author. Hand formed PMC with carved onyx.



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"Double Cathedral Window" by the author. Hand formed PMC with diamond.



"Canterbury" necklace by the author. PMC.

Shahasp Valentine is a Precious Metal Clay Jewelry artist who creates the Precieux line of jewelry in her San Francisco studio.

