

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Among the 25 artists invited to exhibit their works at the International Jewelry Exhibition now being held at the Hessischen Landesmuseum in Darmstadt, Germany (through February 15) is one American -- Irena Brynner, a Russian-born sculptress who turned to jewelry-making when she came to the United States in 1950. Twenty-one of her pieces -- necklaces, bracelets, rings, pins, cuff links -- are included in the exhibition, along with the work of Jean Arp, Georges Braque, and Jean Lurcat.

Miss Brynner also teaches jewelry-making to an adult class at the Art Center of The Museum of Modern Art on Wednesday evenings. The course deals with the intricate problems of stone setting, piercing, soldering, forging and making models for the lost wax casting process, so often used by sculptors.

Born in Vladivostok, Russia, Miss Brynner was educated in Manchuria, and studied painting and sculpture in Lausanne, Switzerland. "My approach to jewelry is very similar to that of sculpture, but instead of working in relation to space I work in relation to the human form," she says. "Jewelry should become an enhancing part of the body and not an accidental addition."

She works almost exclusively in gold set with precious stones -- rare jade, black pearls, emeralds, opals, diamonds -- the metal wrought to the shape of the gems. She designs all the elements of each piece, including the stones which are cut in San Francisco by the lapidarist, Francis Sperisen. Miss Brynner now sells her jewelry at her own shop at 46 West 55 Street, New York City.

Miss Brynner was one of seven jewelers whose works were exhibited at the American Pavilion at the Brussels World's Fair in 1958. The following year she had a one-man show at the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York City; and in 1963 was awarded the Bavarian State Prize (gold medal) at the International Trade Fair in Munich, Germany.

Photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.

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Date January 8, 1964

To: files & Mrs. Shaw

Re: Irena Brynner photographs/release

From: Lynn

Elixabeth Howkins -- wedding band and engagement ring
gold ring (art nouveau design)

Eugenia Sheppard -- choker (gold and jade)
earrings (topaz and gold)

Constance Woodworth -- gold ring with jade bead
gold earrings

Clare Wallace -- grey baroque pearls and gold earrings

Gay Pauley -- Jade and gold necklace
Gold and diamond man's ring

Joy Miller, AP -- jade and pearl ring
gold and diamond necklace

Betty Reef -- gold and opal ring

Mary King -- Indian cooking stone in gold, with diamonds -- necklace
(Daily News) -- Chain necklace -- gold pearls and green tourmaline)

Leo Lerman -- Emerald cluster, quartz, forged gold necklace
Mademoiselle

Marguerite Lamkin -- gold and jade earrings
Glamour oriental jade and gold necklace

Allene Tallmeyer -- gold and jade necklace
Vogue gold and jade wedding and engagement rings

Rose Slivka -- Opal and gold pin
mosaic gold ring with sapphires and diamonds