

carats



**Kaleidoscopic
colored gems.**

*Iced with dazzling
diamonds. Handcrafted
settings. The artistry of
a master. Only here.*



THE ♦ PRECIOUS ♦ GEM

Inside: Reggie & Lisa go emerald hunting

Optical wonder, cat's eye chrysoberyl! ♦ Gem trivia ♦ New treasures in store



Reggie & Lisa's Excellent Adventure

VITORIA DA CONQUISTA, Brazil, January 2017

We still have hours to go before we sleep but we made it to Brazil. No small feat after 20 hours in the air, two delayed flights and two connections. Although Brazil has long been a favorite of mine for emeralds, it's our first time to this place. A friend told me about this remote spot that's producing really extraordinary crystals. So, upon landing, Lisa and I engaged a local driver and a 4-wheel drive to get us there—6+ hours over rough dirt “roads” in 100 degree heat, no A/C. Finding the mine was “iffy” as our directions were anything but precise. Then, off in the distance, we finally spotted it. I am still amazed at how primitive some small mining operations are today. A small hut covered the opening to a vertical shaft, maybe 400 feet deep. The way down? A swinging seat. One miner got us seated and another lowered us into the mine via a pulley system he operated with his feet. The shaft merged with a horizontal tunnel about 8 feet in diameter. We were in! Several men were picking away at the tunnel wall with hand tools. It was so hot

that we had to come up for fresh air; 20 minutes was all we could stand. Back outside, I asked to see some of the mine's emeralds; we were led to a rustic little building nearby. A man asked us to sit at a table. He left for a moment and came back with a box of rough crystals. This is where the fun (and the challenge) begins! I studied each one; selecting two I considered the best. The ability to determine, after a crystal is cut and faceted, if the loose stones will meet my high standards, is the result of years of experience. I made an offer.

Hours later, we still had not agreed on a price.

Frustrated, tired and disappointed, Lisa and I headed back to where we were spending the night.

The next morning, who should appear at our door

but the miner and the two emerald crystals I'd chosen. He had decided to take my final offer! A handshake and a smile closed the deal, and we all knew that I'd be back to do business again. Our trip was a success and I was excited to get back home to create designs for this pair of Brazilian beauties.



Rings on cover, 18K yellow gold and platinum with fine diamond accents:
R7016 5.31 ct. blue sapphire, R6630 2.60 ct. emerald, R7015 4.42 ct. purple sapphire

from the bench

The finest cat's eye gem:



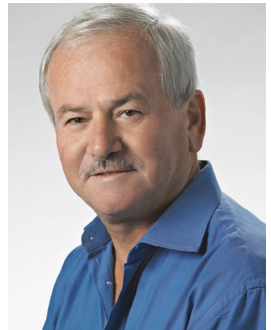
Your jeweler for life

For over 36 years it has been our privilege and pleasure to be part of celebrating your occasions. Whether it's your engagement or anniversary, new job or retirement, new baby or birthday, thank you for making us your jeweler of choice.



the phenomenal chrysoberyl

Chrysoberyl comes from the same mineral as alexandrite. Brazil and Sri Lanka are two of my favorite spots to find these rare gems. Ranging in color from yellowish green to a honey color, this stone is known for its silky luminescence. The most amazing characteristic of chrysoberyl is what is known as chatoyance (from the French “chatoyer” or “to shine like a cat’s eye”)—the optical phenomenon where a bright, silvery-white band of reflected light from small needlelike inclusions in the stone appears across the surface, resulting in a “cat’s eye.” The band will move if the position of the light changes or if one observes it from a different angle. This only occurs in a well cut cabochon (more French: from the Middle French for “head”)—a smooth, polished stone cut with a dome-shaped top and a flat back. The quality and value of these gems is determined by the stone’s color and shape, as well as the definition and location of the band of light. Chrysoberyl exhibits the very finest “cat’s eye” effect although other stones such as tourmaline are also known for this optical wonder.



Reggie Akdogan
Owner & Designer

Stop by the shop to see this 4.75 ct. cat's eye chrysoberyl ring in platinum and 18K yellow gold sparked with fine diamond accents – one-of-a-kind.

treasures to give and to receive may we suggest...



earrings: ▲ Heart-stopping ruby and diamond studs; set in 14K white gold. E8362

Dazzling diamond studs; set in 14K white gold. E8354 ►

Ruby and diamond classics; 18K yellow or white gold. E1078 ▼



rings: ▲ Rare 1.53 ct. ruby, handcrafted in platinum with fine diamond accents. R7089

Wear solo or stacked. These diamond bands are set in 18K white gold with tzavorites or sapphires. ZR7367 & ZR7315 ►



◀ Sensational sapphire and diamond band; set in platinum or 18K white gold. R6704



necklaces:

The ultimate diamond pendant. To wear everywhere. Set in 14K white gold. P1872 ▼



bracelets:

Flexible gold spiral cuffs topped with a colored gem or a center splashed with pavé-set diamonds; in 18K white or yellow gold. CB6654 & CB6675

These jewels are available by special order with different center stones and would be priced accordingly. Please call for your free estimate.

opals and emeralds and ‘TLC’

Congratulations! You now have the opal or emerald jewel you’ve dreamed of. Because each of these gemstones is delicate, you’ll need to give them extra special attention. With proper care, you will enjoy your precious stone for many years to come.

These lovelies do not mix with doing dishes, gardening and the like. Exposure to chemicals, detergents, rapid temperature changes, bumps or knocks could cause the stone to crack.



Respect their space. Store them individually in a soft cloth bag. This prevents them from scratching or chipping if they are knocked against other jewelry, metal or stones.

Rub-a-dub-dub, nice and easy. To clean, use only lukewarm water and a very soft cloth, gently wiping the surface. (You can use a soft toothbrush to clean the setting and surrounding metal; but never the stones.)

Never, ever: Never clean opals or emeralds with commercial jewelry cleaner or ultrasonic machines.

Test your (gem) stone savvy



1. What is the most expensive gem ever sold at auction?
2. What gemstone changes color from daylight to incandescent light?
(Hint: named for a czar.)
3. What gemstone was named after its country of origin in 1969?
4. What organic gem is made of tiny organisms and can range in color from red to pink to white, even black?
5. What gemstone is found in all colors except red?
6. Tsavorite is the name given to a rich green form of what gemstone?
7. Some of the Crown Jewels of England were first thought to be rubies. Actually, what stones are they?
8. Wear this gemstone for protection against drunkenness.
9. Love watermelon? Then you’ll love this particular gemstone.
10. According to legend, Neptune, the King of the Sea, gave this stone as gifts to mermaids.

And the answer is ...
1. Pink diamond 2. Alexandrite 3. Tanzanite 4. Coral 5. Sapphire 6. Garnet
7. Red spinel 8. Amethyst 9. Tourmaline 10. Aquamarine

Must-haves,
just in!



Flexible (make that comfortable) spiral cuff bracelets in 18K white or yellow gold, featuring various colored gemstones and diamonds.

Do it now!

Before the holiday rush, book your complimentary consult with Reggie. Come talk over ideas for your custom jewelry designs. A handcrafted original from The Precious Gem is guaranteed to delight. Call 757-220-1115 today. **Shown:** Byzantine band with natural blue sapphire; set in 18K yellow gold.



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