

# Flora Bhattachary

Flora Bhattachary creates dramatic fine jewellery with a couture edge. Inspired by her family's links with India since the 18th century, Bhattachary draws on Asian influences, geometry, and a strong interest in pattern to create her bold designs. Mixing historic artifacts, family history and Islamic and Hindu art Flora is "devoted to telling a story not in words or paint on canvas, but in gold and precious stone" (Maria Doultou, Telegraph Luxury). The result is elegant sculptural jewellery with a uniquely opulent and seductive take on modern luxury.

The Lotus Collection was Bhattachary's response to researching her family history. She found herself drawn to a group of Gupta period Bengali coins in the British Museum, which feature Lakshmi, the goddess of fortune and prosperity. Lakshmi is usually depicted seated on a Lotus and holding Lotus flowers and is often associated with women. Bhattachary says of this collection: 'I had been looking for a way to represent some of the lost stories of the Indian women who had formed relationships with East India Company employees in the C17th. The designs that emerged from drawing these stylised depictions of the Lotus became the focus for tales of passionate love across distant cultures, often juxtaposed with separation and loss.'

## Education

14 MA Design (Jewellery): Distinction, Central Saint Martins, London  
01 BA Hons Design (Jewellery): 1st Class, Kent Institute of Art and Design

HND in Jewellery and Silversmithing, John Cass, London

BA Hons Intellectual History, University of Sussex

## **Awards**

Professional Jeweller Collection of the Year Award, Highly Commended - 2015

Professional Jeweller, Hot 100 NexGem - 2015

Editor's Choice Award, International Jewellery London, Highly Commended - 2015

One Year On Award, Winner

Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Awards, Precious Jewellery, Silver & Conceptual Jewellery, Silver - 2015

EC One Unsigned Award, Winner - 2014

Chow Tai Fook Award, Winner - 2014

Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Awards, Fashion Jewellery, Commended - 2001

## **Selected Exhibitions**

Goldsmiths' Fair, Goldsmiths' Hall, London - 2016

Flora Bhattachary & Robyn Hinchcliffe, National Centre for Craft and Design, Sleaford - 2016

Made Showcase, The Yorkshire Sculpture Park - 2016

Goldsmiths' Fair, Goldsmiths' Hall, London - 2015

KickStart, International Jewellery London - 2015

Summer Showcase, The Goldsmiths' Centre - 2015

Zaha Hadid Presents, The Zaha Hadid Gallery - 2015

Rising Stars, The New Ashgate Gallery - 2015

## **Selected Publications**

New Rings - Nicolas Estrada, Thames & Hudson

The Best of British Design 2015, The Jewellery Editor, Jan - 2016

Carving Artwork in Gems - The Jewellery Editor, Octct . Fully

Burnished - Vanity Fair, Aug - 2015

Forging Ahead - Vanity Fair, Aug - 2015

The Luxury Report- Professional Jeweller, Aug -2015

Flora's Family Jewels - The Telegraph Luxury, Feb - 2015

[caagallery.org.uk](http://caagallery.org.uk)