The jewelry Oscar goes to...

Couture's Town & Country Design Awards honored the best jewels of 2007



Bridal

Shaun Leane The diamond Captured Tear ring set consists of three interlocking rings, each celebrating a different occasion: the engagement, the wedding and the anniversary. Crafted in 18-karat white gold, the engagement and eternity rings each have a two-carat tear-shaped diamond tipped with pavé-set stones, while the wedding ring is carpeted in white diamonds for extra luster.



Colored gemstones

Sevan More than 14 months of work went into creating this unique piece, named Samatya Balikcisi, or The Fisherman of Samatya, after the district of Istanbul where Sevan grew up. Beneath the carved lemon topaz floats a fishing boat and flying seagulls, while the base of the ring contains 12,000 micromosaic tiles. A carved vision of the Blue Mosque appears in the background.

Diamonds

La Reina Collection This one-of-a-kind bangle bracelet, part of the Art Du Jour collection, grew out of designer Samir Bhansali's formal fashion training in his hometown of Mumbai. Distinguished by petals of flat diamond slices, the piece contains 48.25 carats of flat diamonds, 4.34 carats of diamond beads, 4.15 carats of round diamonds and 0.96 carats of fancy diamonds.



Gold

Erich Zimmermann The simplicity and sophistication of the Cocoon necklace, composed of 10 "pods" of 18-karat yellow gold, are the reasons why German designers like Zimmermann are the fine jewelry world's answer to Rodin.



Haute couture

Yossi Harari The one-of-a-kind Helen necklace was forged from 24-karat gold and gilver (a 25 percent gold, 75 percent silver alloy that has a signature black, oxidized hue) and includes 40.7 carats of white, cognac and rose diamonds. Described by the designer as "all things Yossi," the piece combines techniques typical of his oeuvre.



Pearls

Yvel Orna and Isaac Levy are no strangers to the winners' podium. This year marks their third win in the pearl category. Inspired by their love and appreciation of nature, this flower brooch features 21 natural white freshwater pearls set with diamonds in 18-karat white gold.

Platinum

Steven Kretchmer This platinum cushion pendant contains a 3mm center stone surrounded by diamonds and topped by a halo of floating diamonds made possible thanks to Polarium, a unique magnetized platinum. A quartet of alloys—P950, Pt777, 20-karat yellow gold and 18-karat yellow gold—also make an appearance.



Silver

John Hardy The Kali Menari bracelet in sterling silver is named after the Bahasa Indonesia words for river and dancing, respectively. It's part of a collection of light, articulated pieces featuring polished details meant to change with wear, taking on a patina that reflects the life of the women who wear them.

