

ERICH ZIMMERMANN



Bio Augsburg-based jeweler Erich Zimmermann's *Pirate* line put a surprising twist on the precious gem. Confronting beauty and transience in such close quarters, these skull trinkets radiate a captivating aura. Zimmermann's love for gemstones and his enthusiasm for the multitude of design options offered by precious metals are the sources from which he draws his inspiration. The quality inherent in the work of this classically trained gold- and silversmith has not only been acknowledged by awards and prizes, but also by museum purchases and international requests for his professorship. A smile on the skulls represents the idea that the best way to approach death is as a part of life and to be happy that this whirligig of time is just a transient thing.

I like the symbol and the emotions that the skull gives me. I don't look at the work of other designers. I don't do it for fashion and I don't think it connotes rebellion or mystery. To me, it is simply a powerful symbol.

I like nature very much; it inspires me and gives me a clear mind. I go hiking in the mountains and am a private pilot. It is nice to look at the world from above.

It's not about shock-value; I would like for the observer to be at peace with death; to see the end of life, without fear or denial.

Pirate Ring, 2007
750 gray gold with a 0.9 carat brilliant-cut
diamond set in skull
Photo by Erich Zimmerman



Pirate Pendant, 2007
1.5 inch pendant
Rose gold necklace with amethyst beads
and red coral pendant
Photo by Erich Zimmerman

Two Pirate Rings, 2011
Gray gold ring with a cognac-colored
brilliant-cut diamond
Silver ring with black diamond
Photo by Erich Zimmerman

Pirate Pendant, 2007
1.5 inches high
White coral pendant with brilliant-cut
2.72-carat diamond set in 750 rose gold
with round hematite bead necklace
Photo by Erich Zimmerman



Pirate Pendant, 2007
32 x 21 inches
750 rose gold setting with 150 carat pear-
cut amethyst and white coral skull
Photo by Erich Zimmerman