

“Breakthrough: Swedish Art Jewelry Today”

3 MAJ – 25 juli 2017, The Gallery at ReinsteinIRoss, NEW YORK

## **PRESSMEDDELANDE**

Debuting in the US the work of five important Swedish contemporary jewelers.

Opening and Artist Reception, Wednesday, May 3rd, 5-8pm

Exhibition Continues Through June 25th

"Breakthrough: Swedish Art Jewelry Today" will highlight the work of 5 contemporary Swedish jewelers who are redefining the field in their country and bringing attention to it globally. The exhibition is co-curated by Swedish curator and scholar, Inger Wästberg.

Each of these artists' work is grounded in traditional metalsmithing and inspired by historical jewelry yet their vocabulary includes a wide range of materials and techniques. The majority of their work is far from the silver jewelry that is perceived as typically Swedish. Yet these artists link contemporary jewelry to the rich heritage of work in silver. Their jewelry is beautiful and unconventional, always wearable and with strong references to traditional jewelry.

Ingrid Bärndal works with traditional goldsmithing techniques and says "the things I can achieve with polypropylene I can not do with metal". For Agnieszka Knap art jewelry is closely related to goldsmith craft and ancient techniques such as enamelling. Åsa Lockner starts with traditional materials and shapes, but stretches the boundaries on how material is perceived. Hedvig Westermark is an educated goldsmith and has for over 20 years developed her art by returning to recognizable shapes. Jelizaveta Suska learned classical techniques in Latvia. She uses polymer covered with crusted marble and creates an illusion of solid stone.

All of the five are represented in the permanent collection at The National Museum in Stockholm.

Ingrid Bärndal

Agnieszka Knap

Åsa Lockner

Hedvig Westermark

Jelizaveta Suska

### **Inger Wästberg**

Inger Wästberg is an art historian who has written the book “Contemporary Swedish Art Jewellery”. She is a member of The Global Leadership Council at the Museum of Arts and Design. She worked in New York 1999-2004 with promoting Swedish art and design. Inger Wästberg has curated exhibitions in New York and Stockholm and will curate a jewellery exhibition in connection with the Biennale in Venice. She has worked with information and advocacy in a variety of roles, including as a member of Stockholm City Council, vice chairman of Stockholm University, and Director General

for the Office of the disability Ombudsman.

### **The Gallery at ReinsteinIRoss**

The Gallery at ReinsteinIRoss was founded as a unique, New York City venue, to exhibit progressive work in studio art jewelry, as well as fine arts related to jewelry, precious stones and precious metals. Our mission is to bring international exposure to emerging and established artists, through promotion, education, and exhibition.

The RIR Gallery presents regular group or solo exhibitions, and is interested in collaboration with other galleries, museums, and educational institutions.

The RIR Gallery is housed in a storefront space at the intersection of New York City's fashionable Meatpacking District and the West Village. The space is connected to, but separate from, the Gansevoort Street store and workshop of ReinsteinIRoss, Goldsmiths. Founded in 1985, ReinsteinIRoss is committed to high-karat gold, distinctive gemstones, and classical goldsmithing techniques. Reminiscent of ancient jewelry, but distinctly contemporary, ReinsteinIRoss jewelry is hand-fabricated to impeccable standards in their New York City workshops.

High-resolution images are available upon request.

Please direct all inquiries to Bella Neyman, Gallery Director, [bella@reinsteinross.com](mailto:bella@reinsteinross.com)

The Gallery at ReinsteinIRoss, 30 Gansevoort Street, NYC, 10014

Gallery Hours: Monday- Saturday, 11-6:30 and Sunday, 12-6.