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The Luxury Jewelry That Sparkled Brightest At Paris Couture Week

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It was a rich Couture Week in Paris earlier this month, with houses from Boucheron to Buccellati showing their latest luxury jewels, alongside independent designers like Jessica McCormack and Dries Criel.

Boucheron

The summer Carte Blanche collection from Claire Choisne and her team is consistently spectacular, but this season's collection stayed with editors for days after the Place Vendôme presentation. Continuing the nature theme of the January high jewelry collection, Impermanence explored the life cycle of nature from budding to decay, through six Japanese Ikebana-style floral jewelry compositions. Each one comprised a vase, botanical elements, and an insect; 28 high jewelry pieces designed to be worn on the body in different ways. Compositions ranged from light — glass, mother-of-pearl, diamonds, and 3D-printed plant resin ingeniously sewn with diamonds to avoid adding metal weight — to dark — onyx, aventurine, titanium and Vantablack® — illustrating the increasing rarity of nature.

"It's about making the ephemeral, eternal," Choisne told journalists. "First we considered nature, then how it would sit on the body, rather than the other way around." Four years and 18,000 hours in the making, Impermanence is a tribute to human ingenuity and the dizzying beauty of the natural world, that is nothing short of breathtaking.





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Chaumet

More than any other house on Place Vendôme, Chaumet has placed nature at the heart of its creative identity, transcribing plants and flowers into precious metals and gems with verve, for the past 245 years. In a continuation of the strikingly modern Chaumet Bamboo collection unveiled at Couture Week in February, Jewels by Nature felt more classic, with spectacular diamond pave collars, earrings and full parures full of grace and movement. A majestic full-diamond dahlia necklace of impressive volume, and a mixed metal gold and diamond earcuff stood out, and sprinkled throughout, were a series of colored gemstone rings featuring the house's beloved bee emblem, also the theme for the Bee by Chaumet high tea, available this summer at the Peninsula Hotel, in Paris.

Graff

Alongside more timeless pieces — like a triple-row pear-cut diamond choker that appeared to be lined with baguette emeralds — Graff showed a hero suite, celebrating the freedom and rebellion of Swinging London in the 1960s. The 1963 set, named for the year the house was founded, comprised a necklace, earrings and bracelet made up of a swirl of elongated hoops, traced in baguette, pavé and oval diamonds accented with round emeralds.

Play Puzzles & Games on Forbes

Dries Criel

The Antwerp-based designer is going from strength to strength, and in Paris, he showed his first high jewelry collection, marking a move into more preciousness, more colored stones — and more audacity. A natural palette ranging from woodland green to sunny yellow, in gemstones including tourmalines, diamonds, and jade, accentuates his signature forms in the Double Lotus bangle, while the endlessly elegant sphinx earrings showing paraiba tourmaline. Bold, gender-neutral jewelry, which draws on the precision of the dancer and the art of Ancient Egypt.

Pasquale Bruni

The Italian house chose the Musée des Arts Décoratifs for a decadent and intimate presentation of the Rosina collection, inspired by Pasquale Bruni creative director Eugenia Bruni's family history. Against the backdrop of a former family home overtaken by nature, the inspiration of a powerful matriarch — Aunt Rosina —becomes a capsule collection of diamond pave rose petals, each piece complete with a ruby heart on the inside, representing a beating heart.



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De Beers

De Beers played tribute to the trees of the countries in which it mines — Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Canada — in a showcase held near the upcoming Rue de la Paix flagship, which is set to open towards the end of 2025. Diamond pavé Baobab roots encircle the neck, while the textured bark of the Namibian camelthorn tree is a reminder of resilience in bracelet form. Elsewhere, mixed metal maple leaves adorn the ear lobes, all with the house's signature mix of polished and rough stones.

Pomellato

The Milan-based house revisited its archives with Collezione 1967, a joyful romp through three decades of jewelry history. From chain-making in the 1970s, which saw the development of the house's characteristic chunky links, through the sculptural jewels of the 1980s and bold color in the 1990s, the collection was a powerful distillation of the essence of the exuberant Milan-based jeweler, with Pomellato's signature use of colored stones providing energetic accents throughout.

Damiani

Editors who stepped into Damiani's Place Vendôme showroom embarked on a Grand Tour of Italy for the high jewelry collection, with chapters based on the country's spectacular coastline, landscapes and cities. Muzo emeralds, a star sapphire and molto diamonds told a story of the sun-drenched splendour. Topped with an ethereal Paraiba tourmaline on a mesh of marquisecut diamonds and morganites to convey the pink sands of Sardinia, the Marea Rosa necklace was a case in point.

Repossi

As the city sweltered under a heatwave, Repossi brought editors down to the cool of the lush outdoor auditorium at the Musée du Quai Branly anthropological museum, for a tour of the collections that inspire Gaia Repossi's jewelry. The most recent elements of the Blast collection draw on the curves and circles of tribal necklaces, with volume and presence recalling the designs of her father Alberto, who led the house in the 1980s and 1990s. Gold wire forms are scattered with diamonds in a sculptural play of light, that draws on elements of traditional Masai, Miao and Indonesian jewelry.

Anna Hu

Anna Hu showed at home this season, in her private apartments overlooking Place Vendôme. The designer payed tribute to her other home, Monaco; with La Rose Gracieuse, a titanium,



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diamond and spinel brooch that recalls Princess Grace's charitable work for children through the Bal de la Rose. Elsewhere, electroplated titanium orchids bloomed next to a series of her trademark butterflies — 'hu' means butterfly in Mandarin — in a blend of Eastern inspiration and Parisian high jewelry expertise.

Jessica McCormack

Fresh from her store opening on Madison Avenue in New York, Jessica McCormack was showing her easy-wear high jewelry in Paris. Sparkling in the summer sunlight in an airy suite at the Ritz, were ropes of round diamonds, rubies and sapphires with interchangeable button-back colored cushion-cut stones, and matching earrings topped with cornflower blue sapphires, from the upcoming Tempest collection.

Buccellati

The Buccellati store on rue du Faubourg St Honoré was abuzz on Tuesday morning, as the house unveiled new bejewelled evening bags. A revival of a historic line — precious bags from the 1920s and 2000s were also on show — the three models looked to Buccellati's historic craftmanship. A soft velvet pouch was finished with a satin gold frame and diamond filigree, a more structured green velvet bag was quilted and embroidered with gold and diamonds, while the most striking model, a sphere of black velvet was finished with white gold and diamond lace.

Mikimoto

As feminine and graceful as ever, the Japanese heritage pearl house channelled graceful flora in a high jewelry collection that sparkled in the Parisian sunshine. Colored stones and pearls evoked blooms at different times of the day, with Mikimoto's signature conch pearls appearing on statement earrings and necklaces. In parallel, the house — which also has a strong presence in the Asian beauty market — is about to launch a fragrance collaboration with Lalique, further strengthening its links with Paris.

David Morris

The rare Perfection collection spotlit the beauty of colored stones, with unusual cherry red Mozambiquan rubies, a deep purple spinel ring and diamonds from the Argyll mine. Geometric motifs bit through hearts and gentle floral shapes, in a nod to Art Deco that made for a powerful 12-piece collection.