

Press Release 04

Salim Patel Jewellery
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For Release: 10th February 2010

Salim's new collection of Valentine Jewellery, Love Token Fossils and Holistic Therapy Crystals at Show Off Gallery 13 Harbour Street, Whitstable 11th to 17th February 2010

Salim returns to the Show Off Gallery with his unique organic style jewellery and fossils and crystals ranging from pocket money items to large display pieces. He will also be selling a new product line of high quality 'Holistic Therapy' crystals and minerals at the request of some of his clients.

As a geologist turned jeweller, Salim provides his own information sheets encouraging the younger rock-hounds to learn more about the items they buy and to give information on where they can find their own fossils locally.

Salim uses resin embedding techniques, stemming from his geology background, to enhance and protect his materials.

All items are hallmarked sterling silver, using simple, natural shapes that provide a sympathetic and uncluttered piece of jewellery that is attractive and comfortable to wear. Each piece is unique and hand-crafted.

He specialises in embedding opals and moonstones that display an ethereal play of light, with many clients commenting that they look like miniature moons.

He is about to expand his insect range as a result of meeting a Whitstable man who breeds the iridescent beetles that Salim uses; obtaining an ethical supply of insects was a problem, now, thankfully, solved.

Salim has received many commissions, some using old gemstones and silver or gold belonging to his clients. This 'Up-cycling' of old jewellery has allowed many people to design their own modern piece while retaining the sentimental value of the original item. Of course new gemstones can be supplied by Salim, especially the recently discovered Ethiopian Opals displaying magnificent colour at affordable prices.

End of Press Release

Short Biography: Salim Patel Born 30.11.1951

Having worked and lived in Italy (Florence) and Portugal over the last 10 years, Salim has now settled in Ramsgate with his wife and Pug dog to focus on his creative side which he expresses through his jewellery. On his return to the UK he attended Morley College, London to refresh his skills before embarking on a “re-start business” setting up from scratch in 2008 designing and making jewellery as well as selling fossils and minerals.

His pieces fuse silver-smithing, self taught and studied part time at Sir John Cass, with technical skills acquired from a diploma in Geological Laboratory Techniques. On leaving college he realised that some of the specimens he was preparing for scientific study actually belonged in a jewellery shop, not in the laboratory.

Salim also collected fossils on the Jurassic Coast in Dorset, where he lived for a while. It was then that he started to make jewellery from the many beautiful specimens he found on the beaches.

From several years working at the Science Photo Library, Salim developed a highly-tuned sense of shape and images in Nature, helping him take his own photographs which he still sells.

Salim designed and sold his jewellery in the 1980s in London’s Bond Street and Camden Market before his stint in the world of international marketing and sales.

Having never attended Art School his approach to design is to keep it simple, elegant and strong, just as Nature does with its own designs.

Where to find Salim:

Studio: Unit 2, Pie Factory Studios, 9 Broad Street, CT9 1EW, (Old Town Margate.) Please phone for appointment.

‘Show Off’ Gallery: 13, Harbour Street, Whitstable ;after a successful Christmas period, Salim made many new friends and received valuable feedback on what his customers want, hence his expansion into Holistic Therapy crystals and minerals supplied in their natural state.

Show Off provides non-affiliated creative people with a commission free gallery in Whitstable’s most popular street for one week. It is partly supported by Pearl & Hemmingway and is run by Lesley West. Phone 01227-770000 for details.

Bohemia Market Canterbury: food and artisans market last Saturday of the month; starting again in March 2010, see www.creativecantebury.co.uk for details

Broadstairs Folk Festival: August 6th to 13th inclusive, see: <http://www.broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk>

Broadstairs Food Fair: October 1st to 3rd Victoria Gardens, see: <http://www.broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk>

Web site: www.salimpatel.co.uk

Tel: 07549 123000 for latest information and further details

Photos



Red Cubic Zirconium heart pendant



Brochure of recent work including some of the insect range and the Zodiac sign for Scorpio, set in opals (bottom left)