

## **Press Release 06**

Salim Patel Jewellery  
Show Off Gallery  
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**For Release: 16<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

### **Insect Jewellery Exhibition**

**18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> August 2010**

**Show Off Gallery**

**Whitstable**

**Colourful new range from Salim Patel of insect jewellery using responsibly sourced insects from around the world embedded in clear resin and surrounded by hand crafted solid silver frames.**

**Also on display are “Statement Pieces” using fossil ammonites sectioned and treated to show their delicate internal structures demonstrating the Fibonacci sequence in the structure of their spiral shells.**

**The resin embedding technique also enhances gemstones such as moonstones and beautiful free form opals (some cut and polished myself) giving them a fire and play of light only seen in the most expensive gems. The opals are sourced in the rough from the Afar region of Ethiopia and polished stones from Australia.**

**Bespoke pieces can be commissioned, using customer’s gems and precious metal (reworked into new pieces) or materials supplied by myself.**

**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 back in London 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**

Canterbury Artists Open House Weekends of 16<sup>th</sup> Oct, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October see: <http://www.canterburyfestival.co.uk/eventdetail.asp?id=1374> for details

‘**Show Off**’ Gallery: 18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> August and 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010  
Show Off provides non-affiliated creative people with a commission free gallery in Whitstable’s most popular street for one week at a time. 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, see [www.creativecantebury.co.uk](http://www.creativecantebury.co.uk) for details

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

**Web site:** [www.salimpatel.co.uk](http://www.salimpatel.co.uk) Tel:07549 123000 for latest information and further details

## Photos

Iridescent beetle (*Chalcoprotoetia*) from the Philippines .

Each insect is treated and a frame designed and hand-made to ensure the piece is comfortable to wear while showing off the delicate structure of the insect.

A vacuum is applied while setting to help eliminate air bubbles.

These techniques were used by me to embed scientific specimens while at college.



Silver ring with embedded insect (*Olseibergerula confuses* female)



Pair of ear rings using specimens collected in the UK. The mounts can be adapted for different types of stud, kidney loop etc depending on the customer

Please see [www.salimpatel.co.uk](http://www.salimpatel.co.uk) for further information.

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