

Giovanni Corvaja

Curriculum Vitae



Born 1971, Padua, Italy

- 1985-1988 Pietro Selvatico School of Art, Padua, Italy, Diploma di Maestro d'Arte under master goldsmith Francesco Pavan
- 1988-1990 Pietro Selvatico School of Art, Padua, Italy, Maturità d'Arte Applicata
- 1990-1992 Royal College of Art, London, MA Goldsmithing, Silversmithing, Metalwork & Jewellery

Working in Todi, Italy

"Everything started because of my passion and fascination about metals. Ever since I was a child I found metals to be very interesting: the way they feel to the touch, the way they reflect the light, the way they absorb so quickly the warmth of our hands, their malleability and ductility were like miracles for me. In the earth metals are very common, but, because at its origin the earth was hot and melted, most of it collapsed to the centre of it, forming the earth's core: a giant ball of melted iron of thousand of kilometres in diameter. Most probably the heavier of those metals are in the inner core...I am convinced that the soul of the earth is a huge sphere of gold and platinum, or at least, that is how I like to imagine it."

Recently Giovanni has dedicated himself to the Golden Fleece project. Almost 10 years of detailed research and two years in the studio have culminated in four unique pieces of jewellery. Through the intense making process, wire is drawn down to a finer and finer thread (less than 10 microns) altering the qualities of the material. The gold then becomes softer and smooth to the touch, with a feeling akin to fur. The Golden Fleece collection is a technical tour de force by an artist at the height of his powers.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2013 *Gold: Status and Glory, Masterpieces from the Middle Ages and Today*, Moretti Fine Art, London, in association with Adrian Sassoon
- 2008 *Giovanni Corvaja*, Gallery Anna Schmid, Basel, Switzerland
- 2007 *Giovanni Corvaja*, Katherine Kalaf Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2006 *Giovanni Corvaja*, Hipotési Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- 2004 *Giovanni Corvaja*, Shedler Schmuck, Luzern, Switzerland

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2017 *Jewellery: Made by, Worn by*, Museum Volkenkunde, Leiden, The Netherlands
50 Secrets of Magic Craftsmanship, Elements, Edinburgh
Medusa; Jewellery and Taboos, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
Timeless Innovation, curated by Joanna Hardy, Goldsmiths Hall, London
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2016 *Adrian Sassoon*, Salon of Art & Design, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2015 *Adrian Sassoon*, Salon of Art & Design, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Modern Masters, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Out of this World! Jewelry in the Space Age, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
What is Luxury? Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2014 *Adrian Sassoon*, Salon of Art & Design, New York, USA
5th European Triennial of Contemporary Jewellery, World Crafts Council, Mons, Belgium
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2013 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2012 *Gold: Power and Allure*, Goldsmiths' Hall, London
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2011 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2011 *Adrian Sassoon*, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2010 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, Former Chelsea Barracks, London
Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, The Saatchi Gallery, London
Messe für Kunst und Antiquitäten 2010, Resedenz Salzburg, Represented by Spiegelgasse Gallery, Salzburg, Austria
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2009 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Alchemia, Middlesborough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesborough
Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, The Saatchi Gallery, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
The Golden Fleece Collection, Meister Der Moderne, International Trade Fair, Munich, Germany
- 2008 *Erico Nagai, Mittlerin zwischen den Kulturen*, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
Just Must, The Great Guild House, Estonian History Museum, Tallinn, Estonia
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
40th Anniversary of Galerie Handwerk, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
Gioiello Italiano Contemporaneo, Vicenza, Italy
- 2007 *Opening Exhibition*, Ab Ovo Gallery, Todi, Italy
Bite the Bullet, Harvey Nichols, Manchester
Signs of Value, Deutsches Goldschmiedehaus Hanau, Hanau, Germany
- 2006 *New Italian Design*, Triennale di Milano, Milan, Italy
- 2005 Galleria Maurer-Ziglioli, Desenzano del Garda, Italy
Temptations, Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2005, Cheongju, Southern Korea
International Contemporary Jewellery, Lucca Preziosa, Lucca, Italy
Ryan and Corvaja, Electrum Gallery, London
The Universe of Metals, EXEMPLA, Handwerkskammer für München und Oberbayern, Munich, Germany
- 2004 *Atelier Munsteiner*, Stipshausen, Germany
L'or, Bijoux D'Europe, Travelling exhibition in France
Jacqueline Ryan & Giovanni Corvaja, Le Arti Orafe Galleria, Firenze, Italy
- 2003 *Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja – New Work*, Galerie Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
Micromegas, Museo degli Eremitani, Padova, Italy & international tour
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja – New Work, Bijouterie Jungblut-Thijssen, Luxembourg
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja – New Work, Bayerischer Kunstgewerbe Verein, Munich, Germany
- 2003 *Jubiläumsausstellung Erfurter Schmucksymposien*, Schmuckmuseum Pforzheim, Germany
Contemporary Decorative Arts, Sotheby's, London
- 2002 *Masterpieces: Centenary Exhibition of Applied Modern Arts*, Palazzo Bricherasio, Turin, Italy
Das War's Also, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
Art Jewellery, Plateaux Gallery, London
Orfèverie de Recherche, Banque du Gothard, Montecarlo, Monaco
Jubiläumsausstellung Erfurter Schmucksymposien, Angermuseum Erfurt, Germany

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2002 *Galerie Louise Smit, Kunstrai, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*
- 2001 *Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja - New Work, Galerie Tactus, Copenhagen, Denmark*
Nocturnus, Muhu Island, Estonia
Galerie Louise Smit, Kunstrai, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2000 *Contemporary Craft from The Scottish Gallery, Thomas Goode & Son, London*
Erfurter Schmucksymposium, Barfüßerkirche, Erfurt, Germany
Asymmetry and Harmony, PLAZA Building of the Commerz Bank, Frankfurt, Germany
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Hilde Leiss, Hamburg, Germany
*The Ego Adorned, 20th-Century Artists' Jewellery, Antwerpen, Belgium**
Expo Vitrine, Galerie Neuer Schmuck, Hannover, Germany
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Slavik, Vienna, Austria
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Musée de l'Horlogerie et de l'Émaillerie, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1999 *The Eye's Delight, Contemporary Arts and Crafts in Germany, Erfurt, Germany*
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Viceversa, Lausanne, Switzerland
Zehnjähriges Jubilaeu, Galerie Slavik, Vienna, Austria
Für Dich-für Mich, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany & tour
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Aurum, Frankfurt, Germany
Hommage an Dr. Herbert Hofmann, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
Selection '99, Design Zentrum Nordrhein-Westfalen, Essen, Germany
- 1998 *Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Louise Smit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*
Jewellery Moves, National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Treykorn, Berlin, Germany
Schmuck aus Padua, Landesmuseum Joanneum, Graz, Austria
A Genetic Messenger of Happiness, Gallery Artin, Tokyo, Japan
- 1997 *In neuer Reihung, (Friedrich Wilhelm Müller Competition), Germany & tour*
Jewellery at the End of the Millennium, Associazione Culturale FATTIDARTE, Piacenza, Italy
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Slavik, Vienna, Austria
- 1996 *Granulation, travelling exhibition, Germany*
Studio Herta Sophie Zaunschirm, Zurich, Switzerland
Oreficeria di ricerca, Associazione Culturale FATTIDARTE, Venice, Italy
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Studio Herta Zaunschirm, Zurich, Switzerland
Galerie Sophie Lachaert, Gent, Belgium
Repetitions II, touring exhibition, USA & tour
Jacqueline Ryan and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Hélène Porée, Paris, France
- 1995 *Ars Omata Europeana, Bratislava, Slovakia*
Galerie Slavik, Vienna, Austria
Camera di Commercio di Terni, Terni, Italy
- 1994 *Schmuckszene '94, Handwerksmesse, Munich, Germany*
- 1993 *Brooches and Pins, Galerie Hélène Porée, Paris, France*
Giampaolo Babetto and Giovanni Corvaja, Galerie Treykorn, Berlin, Germany
Facet '93, Kunsthal, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 1992 *Triennale Européenne du Bijou, Paris, France*

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 1992 *Schmuckszene '92*, Handwerksmesse, Munich, Germany
1991 *Galerie Louise Smit*, Kunstrai, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
1990 *Triennale Européenne du Bijou*, Paris, France
1990 *Signaturen*, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany

Awards

- 1998 *Unione Regionale delle Camere di Commercio dell'Umbria*, Terni, Italy
Highly Commended, *International Jewellery Competition '97*, Tokyo, Japan
1997 *Bayerischer Staatspreis*, Munich, Germany
1996 2nd Prize, *Granulation '96*, Pforzheim, Germany
1992 *Herbert Hofmann Prize*, Munich, Germany
1991 2nd Prize, *Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers Competition*,
London
1990 3rd Prize, *Signaturen*, Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany

Public Collections

Ayrton Metals Platinum Collection, London
Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesbrough
National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh
Nottingham Castle Museum and Art Gallery, Nottingham
Royal College of Art, London
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Landesmuseum Joanneum, Graz, Austria
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France
Die Neue Sammlung, Staaliches Museum für angewandte Kunst, Munich, Germany
Kunstgewerbemuseum, Berlin, Germany
Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany
Schmuckmuseum, Pforzheim, Germany
Museo degli Argenti, Florence, Italy
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Montreal, Canada
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas, USA
The Newark Museum, New Jersey, USA
The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio, USA

Bibliography: Catalogues & Books

- 2013 *Giovanni Corvaja*, Adrian Sassoon, London
2012 *Collecting Jewellery* by Johanna Hardy published by Thames & Hudson
2011 *21st Century Jewelry The Best of the 500 Series*, by Marthe Le Van, Lark Books,
USA
New Rings: 50+ Designs from Around the World, Nicolas Estrada, Thames &
Hudson, USA
2005 *500 Brooches*, Larks books, New York, USA
500 Bracelets, Larks books, New York, USA

Bibliography: Catalogues & Books (continued)

- 2005 500 Earrings, Larks books, New York, USA
Temptations, Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2005, Cheongju, Southern Korea
 Lucca Preziosa, Oreficeria Europea Contemporanea Org. Comune di Lucca, Villa Bottini, Lucca, Italy
- 2004 1000 Rings, Larks books, New York, USA
 L'Or, Bijoux D'Europe – Gold, Jewellery of Europe, Château Musée. Cagnes-sur-Mer, France
 Bemporad, D. L. Jacqueline Ryan, Giovanni Corvaja, Org. Le Arti Orafe Art Gallery, Florence, Italy
 Atelierausstellung, Atelier Munsteiner, Stipshausen, Germany
- 2001 Pallavidini, R., *Gioiello Creativo: Giovanni Corvaja E Jacqueline Ryan*, Gioielli e Bijoux del XX secolo, nr. 3, DeAgostini publisher, Italia, p.50
 Mikromegas, Schriftenreihe des Bayerischen Kunstgewerbe-Vereins e.V., Band 27 Galerie für angewandte Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2000 Walgrave J, *The Ego Adomed: 20th Century Artist's Jewellery*, Koningin Fabiolazaal, Antwerpen, Belgium
 Erfurter Schmucksymposium, Barfüßerkircher / Angermuseum, Erfurt, Germany
 Lambert, S., *The Ring: Design, Past and Present*, published by Rotovision, France, (ISBN/ASIN 288 046 3173)
 Jahre Galerie Treykorn am Savignyplatz, Galerie Treykorn, Berlin, Germany
- 1999 Watkins, D., *Design Sourcebook*, published by New Holland, London (ISBN-1-859740782)
Jacqueline Ryan, Giovanni Corvaja - Art Jewellery, Edizioni Canova publisher, Treviso, Italy (ISBN-88-87061-66-1)
 Schmuck, Kunst am Körper, Galerie Slavik. Wien, Austria

Bibliography: Articles & Essays

- 2009 Emma Crichton-Miller, *Obsession with Golden Fleece alive in collection*, International Herald Tribune, Jewelry supplement, 10th December 2009
- 2002 Spagnesi, L., *Il Tesoro Di Montecarlo: L'Arte Dei Re*, Arte, Editoriale Mondadori, September, n.349, Italia, p.112
 Battistoni, L., *Uno Splendore Di Gioielli*, Città Viva, anno XVII n.2 March/April, Todi, Italia, p.50
- 2001 Simon, M., *Smoke and Fire in Gold - Giovanni Corvaja and Jacqueline Ryan*, Metalsmith Magazine, summer (vol. 21 no. 3) p.16, USA
 Bellavista, C., *Slow is Beautiful, Giovanni Corvaja and Jacqueline Ryan*, Schmuck Magazin, Ebner Verlag publisher, Germany, 3/2000 July, p.76
- 2000 Mina, J., *Jacqueline Ryan, Giovanni Corvaja - Art Jewellery*, Book Reviews, Crafts Magazine, UK, no.162 January/February, p.61
 Jahre Galerie Treykorn am Savignyplatz, Galerie Treykorn, Berlin, Germany
- 1999 Mina, J., *Winning Gold at the Festival*, The Independent newspaper weekend review, 21st August, no. 4,008, p.18
- 1997 Bach, B., *Focus: Golden Fabrics - Giovanni Corvaja*, Jewellery Magazine, published by Ebner Verlag, 5/1997, Germany, p.85
 Lucas, F., *Eine Handwerksharmonie - Galerie Slavik/Wien*, GZ Journal, Ruhle-Diebener-Verlag, 4/1997, Germany p. 166