

2013

Category 1 - Design Drawing for Student/Novice

Amy Robson	'Perfectly Imperfect'	Winner & Peoples' Choice High Commendation High Commendation Commendation
Margot Miller	'Opal Find'	
Doris Jurzak	'Colony'	
Laura Herning	'Dance'	



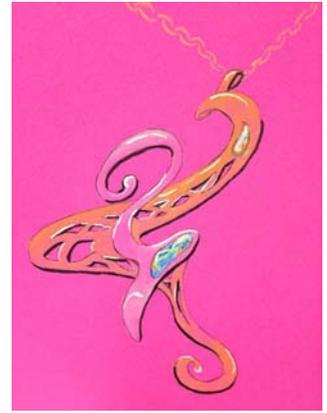
Amy Robson
Sydney, NSW
"Perfectly Imperfect"



Margot Miller
Sydney, NSW
"Opal Find"



Doris Jurzak
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"Colony"



Laura Herning
Sydney, NSW
"Dance"

Category 2 – Novice/Non Professional

Carmen Nelsen 'Perseverance' **Winner**

Carmen Nelsen from Bruce, ACT - **Winner**
'Perseverance'



Some people strike it lucky in a short space of time, and find opal. Most have to persevere in the search. Among the difficulties to be overcome is the ephemeral nature of the channel country, where the roads of the previous year have been altered by the current year's monsoonal flows.

Then there are the innumerable pegs marking out claims, even in designated public fossicking areas. Are they old, or new and current? How are to know? They are like a fence to keep you out! Where to begin the search? The pegs are represented by the silver bars, which also serve the purpose of supporting a particularly nice piece of boulder opal. They are textured at the bottom where they would be driven in the ground.

I have seen miners who have lost their savings in the search, and who found nothing. I have known some whose mining experience has ended in tragedy. Small chance then for the holiday fossicker who chips away for a limited time, enjoying the experience of being out in the opal fields, in hopes of finding something worthwhile.

Those who overcome these and many other difficulties may find truly beautiful opal.

It all comes down to PERSEVERANCE.

Category 3 – Apprentice/Student

Adriana Daleris

'Chaos'

Winner & Vince Evert Bursary Recipient



Adriana Daleris from Sydney, NSW
Winner & Vince Evert Bursary Recipient

'Chaos'

For the first time in my life, I was affected with the awful truth of learning that two people very close to me were very sick. Having to mentally deal with this, I was then faced with unemployment and complex family issues.

This piece is me in a nutshell, geometric yet slightly off balanced, and defines my life....Chaos!

The use of the two tones of metal reflects good vs evil, and the vibrant colours are an expression of my personality.

Category 4 - Professional

Ayano Nakajima

'Age of the Dinosaurs'

Winner

Ayano Nakajima

'Mount Fuji'

High Commendation

Kelvin Parry

'The Queensland Sky Rise'

High Commendation

Linda George

'Wings of Desire'

Commendation & Peoples' Choice



Ayano Nakajima from Japan – **Winner**

'Age of the Dinosaurs'

The dinosaur's silhouette in this boulder opal inspired me to create a scenic story of the Age of the Dinosaurs.

The fire-spouting volcano and its flow of lava is represented by black diamonds and the trembling rubies, whilst the attached dinosaur, movable by a spring, is walking through the lush growth of prehistoric (fernlike) pteridophytes, created with green garnets.

Manufactured & set by Satoru Ouchi.



Ayano Nakajima from Japan - High Commendation

'Mount Fuji'

Widely known as the national symbol of Japan, affectionately referred to by its people as Fuji-san, it is Japan's highest peak and an active volcano. Its graceful appearance viewed both as an object of worship and a wellspring of art, it has nurtured Japan's unique culture, blending religious and artistic traditions through the centuries.

I discovered Mount Fuji in this, originally rough, Boulder Opal.

The basic shape of the matrix was retained by grinding the stone as little as possible, thus the mother rock became the natural, organic frame enclosing Mount Fuji.

The front of the Opal is held by and decorated with the traditional Japanese flower symbol, the cherry blossom, and accented with an Akoya Pearl, which was faceted by the award-winning Hitoshi Komatsu. The back of the Opal is encased in a lacy pattern of cherry blossoms.

Manufactured & set by Satoru Ouchi.

Kelvin Parry from Brisbane, Qld. -High Commendation

'The Queensland Sky Rise'

I was given a Boulder Opal to make a piece of jewellery and while looking at the Opal and pondering the size and shape I fell in love with the stone.



I thought about a ring I would like for myself. I wanted something big, bold and special. Then I started thinking about Queensland's sky and earth and was inspired to make a ring depicting all of the sky, from the big blue and multicolours of the sunset, to the milky-way full of stars, then a big dramatic lightning flash that splits through the open sky.....

I wanted a classy and sophisticated ring to wear for any occasion that is when I thought of "the flip side top". The beautiful opal is the centre piece, standing proud and honest. Then there are all the diamonds, different sizes and shades of colour like the stars in the sky.

I have joined 18ct yellow, rose and white gold together to have the appearance of the hot Queensland sky and with the deep cuts in the lightning gives the ring an ever changing effect of the light reflecting.

Linda George from Bellingen, NSW
Commendation & Peoples' Choice

'Wings of Desire'



I was inspired firstly by the stones, the feather pattern led me to wings, the Art Deco look of the top opals led me to Art Nouveau as a theme, and especially Lalique as I adore his work.

Lastly I was recently looking through inherited Grandmothers costume jewellery collection including several 1920s and 1930s filigree brooches and so all the components came together and then had to be altered slightly due to weight and length considerations.

Other 2013 Entrants:

Leeanne Crane, Adrien Vermande, Christina Coulston, Stephanie Bodie, Debra Ray, Josephina Doak, Mary Pearce, Bob Morgan/Stephen Tasic, Beata Dziegielewski/Stephen Tasic, Vanessa Nock, Etta Goodstein, Sohana Bohlool/Wayan Sutra.