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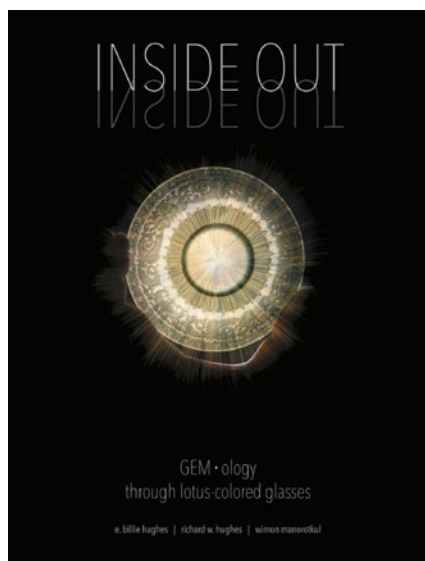
Sapphire Intaglio from Pompeii

Chinese Synthetic Diamonds

Trapiche Rubies from Vietnam

Renaissance Recipes for Artificial Pearls

New Media



Inside Out: GEM•ology Through Lotus-Colored Glasses

By E. Billie Hughes, Richard W. Hughes and Wimon Manorotkul, 2020. Lotus Publishing, Bangkok, Thailand, and RWH Publishing, Boulder, Colorado, USA, www.lotusgemology.com/index.php/library/books/454-inside-out-gemology-through-lotus-colored-glasses-2020, 152 pages, illus., ISBN 978-0964509733 (in English and Simplified Chinese). USD100.00 (+ shipping) hardcover.

Inside Out: *GEM•ology Through Lotus-Colored Glasses* is not a book on gemmology or gem deposits in the literal sense. With its large format and masterful photographs, the reader experiences the emotions associated with gemstones. The book reflects in a great way the term *humanistic gemology*, as coined by co-author Richard Hughes. It is primarily about the pictorial representation of the interplay between the inner beauty of gemstones and the people who mine, process and act on them. Thus, the authors have captured the local people and environments in unique moments during their many journeys to important gem-producing regions. These images are juxtaposed with the microscopic world of inclusions in gemstones from these regions, so the aesthetics and emotions associated with the stones emerge equally.

The photographs are of the highest quality, in terms of both selection and technical implementation. The choice of the 'right' moment, which is of decisive importance to capture a mood or emotion, is particularly

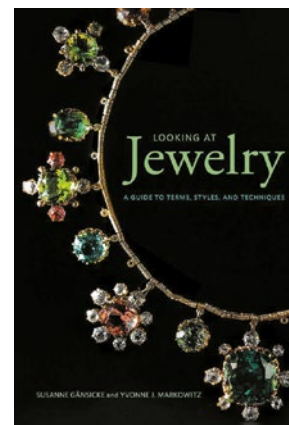
noticeable in the photos of people. Furthermore, Billie Hughes' micrographs reveal a diverse and incredibly rich world of the inner aesthetics of gemstones. Anyone who has ever photographed gem inclusions knows how difficult it is from a technical point of view. The photomicrographs in this book are excellent from both a technical and artistic point of view. An outstanding example of this is the depiction of a pyrite crystal in quartz on page 20.

This book fills a gap in the literature on gems by pictorially exploring the relationship between humans and gems on an artistic and emotional level. It is a work of art that lives from the quality of the photographs and gets by with minimal textual commentary on the images. The book is aimed at both experts and people who see gems as an important part of culture, as well as decorative objects in jewellery and other merchandise.

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Looking at Jewelry: A Guide to Terms, Styles, and Techniques

By Susanne Gänsicke and Yvonne J. Markowitz, 2019. Getty Publications, Los Angeles, California, USA, <https://shop.getty.edu/products/looking-at-jewelry-br-a-guide-to-terms-styles-and-techniques-978-1606065990>, 132 pages, illus., ISBN 978-1606065990. USD19.95 softcover.



This is a nicely produced book with excellent colour illustrations. It has a long introduction that gives an overview of jewellery through the ages. The 'meat' (and indeed the main purpose) of the book is the hundred-page alphabetical glossary. This is essentially a dictionary of jewellery. Surprisingly, it claims to be the first of its kind, although it mentions