



From Louise Bourgeois to Yoko Ono

Jewellery by Female Artists

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- A fresh, female-focused take on avant-garde art jewelry
- Iconic women artists redefine jewelry as personal artistic statements
- From minimalist elegance to bold sculptural expressions
- An exhibition of the same name runs from 21st November 2025 - 26th April 2026 at the Museum of Applied Arts, Cologne, Germany

From Louise Bourgeois to Yoko Ono presents around 85 jewelry works by some 45 internationally renowned female visual artists from the 1920s to the present day. Their jewelry pieces open up new, often surprising perspectives on their artistic production. Some pieces captivate with minimalist elegance, others with their expressive, sculptural presence or playful humor, with each unique work consolidating an artistic vision into a small personal statement. With its exhibition of the same name, the Museum für Angewandte Kunst Köln (MAKK; Museum of Applied Arts, Cologne) deliberately focuses on female standpoints, thus breaking with the male-dominated perception of avant-garde art jewelry.

Artists featured include: Lynda Benglis; Pierrette Bloch; Barbara Bloom; Katinka Bock; Louise Bourgeois; Helen Britton; Barbara Chase-Riboud; Claudia Comte; Sheila Concari; Sonia Delaunay; Nathalia Edenmont; Aube Elléouët; Claire von Falkenstein; Ruth Francken; Marcia Grostein; Jenny Holzer; Rebecca Horn; Annabelle d'Huart; Leiko Ikemura; Jacqueline de Jong; Yayoi Kusama; Alicja Kwade; Claude Lalanne; Liliane Lijn; Rita McBride; Blanca Muñoz; Brigitte Nahon; Eva Renée Nele [E. R. Nele]; Louise Nevelson; Michele Oka Doner; Yoko Ono; Meret Oppenheim; Françoise Pétróvitch; Niki de Saint Phalle; Armelle de Sainte Marie; Elodie Seguin; Mailys Seydoux-Dumas; Kiki Smith; Sophie Taeuber-Arp; Dorothea Tanning; Sissel Tolaas; Rosemarie Trockel; Paloma Varga Weisz; Sophia Vari; Joana Vasconcelos; Zhou Yiyun.

Text in English and German.

Petra Hesse was born in Wiesbaden in 1966 and has been the director of the Museum of Applied Arts Cologne since March 2010. Prior to that, she worked in various functions at the Reiss-Engelhorn Museums in Mannheim, the largest municipal museum complex in southern Germany, since 1998, most recently director of the Museum Zeughaus and the Museum Schillerhaus as well as deputy to the general director. Her areas of responsibility included in particular the project management for the general renovation and museum refurbishing of the Museum Zeughaus as well as the supervision for the new construction of the Bassermannhaus for music and art. **Lena Hoppe** is the Research Associate for Metal Art, Objects made of Organic Materials, Jewellery and Weapons at the Museum of Applied Arts Cologne. Together they have also published *Faszination Schmuck / Fascination Jewellery*, a comprehensive monograph on 7000 years of jewelry history as showcased by the museum.

