



# The Age of Grandeur

The definitive guide to 19th-century jewellery,  
from the Classical and Romantic to Art Nouveau

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**David Bennett**

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- Over 250 stunning new color photographs with detailed captions
- Revised and expanded edition of the jewelry world's bible on 19th century adornment
- A comprehensive history of jewelry, from Napoleonic classicism and Gothic and Renaissance, through to the Arts and Crafts of the late 19th-century

"When a new tome by David Bennett and Daniela Mascetti arrives for me to review, I don't wait. I immediately open it and am completely drawn in by the breadth and depth of their knowledge and the awe-inspiring jewelry featured within their works. Such is the case with their new book ..." — **NouvelleBox**

"... The book is intellectually rich yet warm in its tone, and visually sumptuous, offering a definitive perspective on the Classical, Romantic, and early modern aesthetics that shaped the era." — **The Jewellery Editor**

"... these pages promise to inspire knowledgeable collectors while taking their expertise to the next level." — **Gem and Jewel**

From the authors of *Understanding Jewellery*, considered to be one of the most important and frequently referenced books on jewelry ever produced, **Age of Grandeur** focuses solely on the 19th century, bringing with it over 250 new color photographs of jewelry from this most celebrated era.

Taking the reader through the history of jewelry over the decades, we learn how and why particular styles came about and then changed. From Napoleonic classicism and Victorian sentimental and memorial jewelry, through the Romantic era and its penchant for naturalism, the Gothic style and recreation of the Renaissance and, finally, the unique designs of the Arts and Crafts and Art Nouveau periods, this comprehensive study enlightens and fascinates. With stunning photographs accompanying us on our journey through the decades, creating a rich visual history that brings the text to life, this book remains the essential bible on 19th-century jewelry.

Regarded internationally as a leading authority in the field of precious stones and jewelry, **David Bennett** spent 42 years in the role of Worldwide Chairman of Sotheby's jewelry division, a post he held until 2020. During his prestigious career, David sold three of the five most-expensive jewels in auction history, as well as seven 100-carat diamonds, earning him the nickname the '100-carat man'. David has also presided over many legendary, record-breaking auctions, such as the Jewels of the Duchess of Windsor (1987), The Princely Collections of Thurn und Taxis (1992) and Royal Jewels from the Bourbon-Parma Family (2018).

**Daniela Mascetti** is one of the jewelry world's most experienced scholars specializing in the history of jewelry. Daniela joined Sotheby's in 1980, opening the firm's jewelry department in Milan shortly afterwards. Following a distinguished career of 40 years at Sotheby's, she was appointed Jewellery Chairman of Europe, a position she retained until 2020. Highlights from Daniela's distinguished career include research for the sales of historic collections such as the Jewels of the Duchess of Windsor (1987), The Princely Collections of Thurn und Taxis (1992), Elton John, Maria Callas and Gina Lollobrigida.

