



TRADITIONAL INDIAN JEWELLERY

BERNADETTE VAN GELDER

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- Covers the rich heritage of Indian jewelry and its significance past and present
- Excels in detailed descriptions, each accompanied by sumptuous images
- The result of 35 years of research and travel, an exploration of important themes in Indian jewelry: the significance of gold, the meaning behind setting gems in a certain order, its spiritual connotations, and how 17th century European travelers responded to the array of jewels at rich Moghul courts, among many others

Traditional Indian Jewellery is a vast and detailed publication covering the rich heritage of Indian jewelry and its significance in past and present Indian society. Jewelry plays an important part in the everyday lives, important moments, festivals and religious aspects of Indian culture. It is not only girls and women who wear jewelry, but also boys, men, temple statues and even animals. The book excels in its detailed descriptions, which accompany the sumptuous array of images. We discover why enamel is used in the north of India, the origin and significance of gold, the significance of setting gems in a certain order, and jewellery's spiritual importance. The book covers in detail the meaning of the use of flowers and birds in Hindu influenced jewelry, looking through the eyes of 17th century European travellers who visited the rich Mogul courts. This publication is the result of 35 years of research – traveling, studying, and talking to many people across the entire subcontinent of India, as well as having had unprecedented access to goldsmiths and enamellers; being shown techniques known only to one family, which have been transferred from generation to generation; and being granted access to beautiful and never before seen Royal collections.

Bernadette van Gelder founded the firm 'Van Gelder Indian Jewellery' in 1980. She is a frequent face at high quality art fairs.