

Vail Daily

Ancient jewelry in a modern world

[Cassie Pence](#)
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VAIL - On Friday afternoon, artist and jewelry designer Dhyan Sherri was wearing a ruby for grounding herself and pearls for mental clarity.

"Originally jewelry was meant to be a sacred object, it wasn't worn just for adornment," Sherri said. "Old Egyptians used jewelry for its healing power. They believed if you wore a stone or a symbol, it would bring a certain energy to you. I want to bring that back into jewelry."

Swirl filigree band created by Dhyan Sherri.
Special to the Daily



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Sherri is in Vail from Maui today and Sunday with a collection of her 22 karat gold jewelry. She will show at Karats on Meadow Drive in Vail Village from 1-5 p.m. today and at the Vail Farmers' Market Sunday from 9:30-3 p.m.

Sherri went to school specifically to learn ancient jewelry-making techniques. She's also schooled in contemporary styles, but prefers the look and feel of adornments that are reminiscent of the past.

"I kind of put both styles together," Sherri said. "I use ancient technique, ancient symbols, ancient way of making jewelry, but every once in a while I throw something contemporary in like the way I set my diamonds."



Earrings created by Dhyan Sherri featuring a filigree Roman sun symbol.
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Her show in Vail focuses on filigree work and hand-hammered pieces - all created in 22 karat gold. A metal, Sherri said, has powers of its own. Filigree is an ancient technique that fuses together separate shapes made of gold, like blending together several curly cue shapes for example.

"It's done by heating the metal with your torch and using it like a paint brush," Sherri said. "22 karat gold has a feature in the metal that if you heat it to a certain temperature the basic metal stays solid, but the surface will flow."

Sherri will be on hand at both Karats and market to talk to people about her work and take any commissions, as well. In the past, people have requested her to re-set old stones, draw personally meaningful symbols with the gold or suggest which stones would be most powerful to them.

"Intuitively, we actually know what our personal stones are if we tune it to it," Sherri said. "That's what I like to help people do, tune into their stones."

Meet the artist

Who: Dhyan Sherri

When and Where: Saturday at Karats in Vail Village from 1-5 p.m. and Sunday at the Vail Farmers' Market from 9:30-3 p.m.

Information: Call Karats at 476-4760



Flintstone double bezel ring created by Dhyan Sherri.
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