



# Welcome to the Pay It Forward Event

## Finding My Artist Voice

with Holly Gage

**Our session will start shortly.**  
**Please turn off your microphone and camera.**





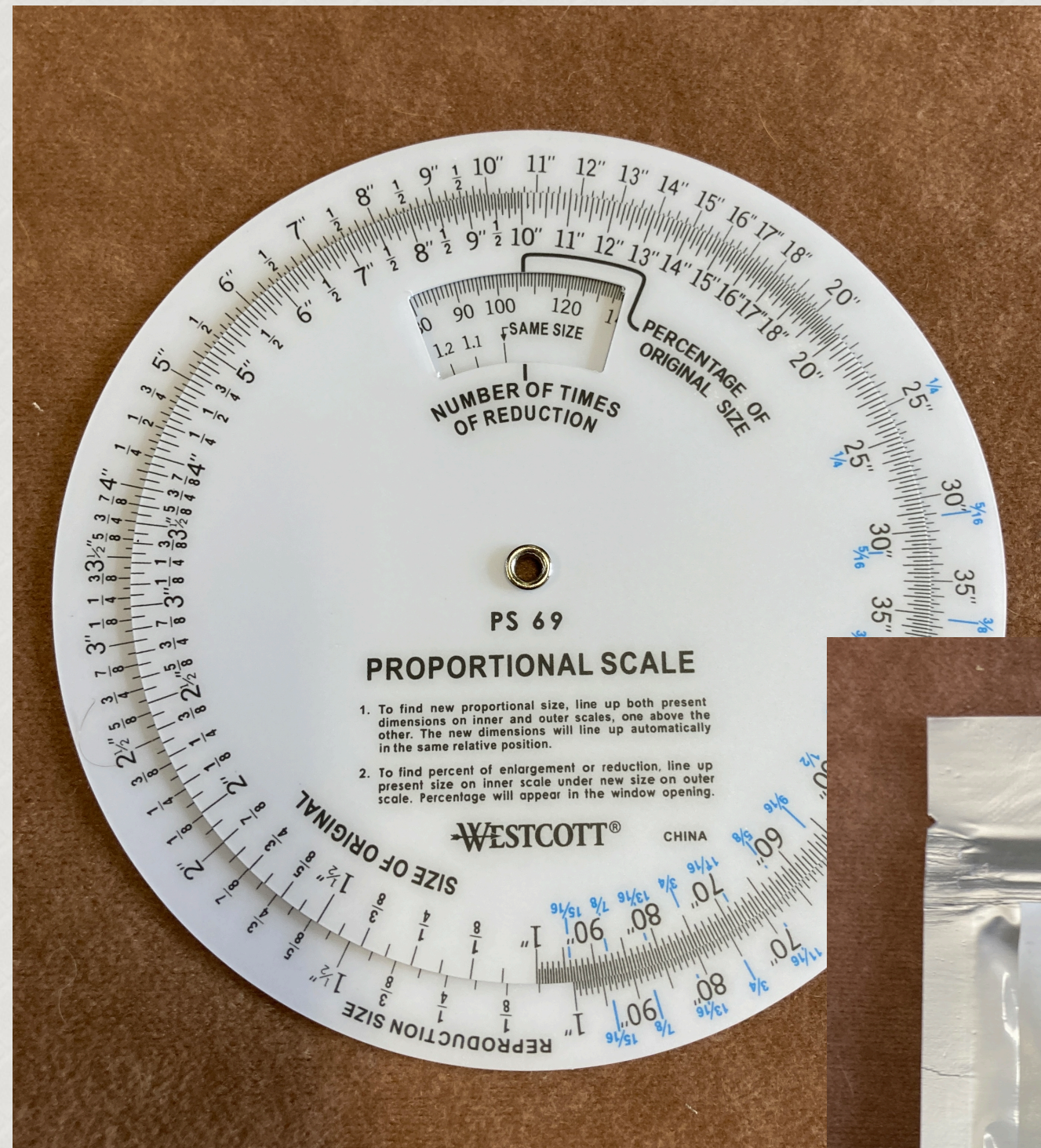
We will talk with five artists:  
Anastasiya Stepnova • Jo-Anne Sofianek Frazier  
Lisa Barnes • Phyllis Cahill • Susan Marie Thrasher Dees  
to discuss their desire to create a signature style and the steps  
helping them through their journey.

- *How to start the process.*
- *What motivations led to creating a jewelry line.*
- *What struggles they needed to overcome.*
- *How they separated their style from other influences.*
- *Advice for others for a path forward.*

*Following the initial presentation  
will be a Question & Answer Session.*







*Stay to the End  
for  
AWESOME  
Give-A-Ways*





# Your “You•Nique•Ness”

*An artist's voice is their You • nique • ness, a style and use of elements, which ultimately are part of their signature design, style and body of work.*

How many of you wish to have folks identify your jewelry and recognize your pieces as uniquely yours without seeing your name?



# Cohesiveness

When an artist creates a Line of Jewelry, they seek cohesiveness between the pieces within that line. The pieces have unity or a connection in some way from one piece to the next. This **DOES NOT** mean the pieces look the exact same, but it does imply a theme, style, and other commonalities.





# Different Lines of Jewelry

I'm sure you have seen artists with various Lines of Jewelry. One might be a romantic series, another a contemporary line, yet another explores glamorous stones.

**But how can this be? How can a single person create vastly different Lines of Jewelry and still retain their identity as an Artist?**





Consider that people have many facets to their personalities and interests. For instance, they may have a humorous side, an interest in politics, and a love for animals.

We do not question why they can have these diverse interests, so why can't we create multiple Lines of Jewelry?

**WE CAN!**

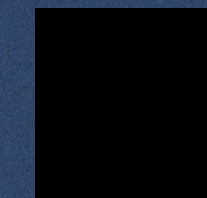
However, each Line of Jewelry needs a clear intention and purpose as not to mix random styles in one collection. We need to maintain cohesiveness within the collection.



With a history in Interior Decorating and Graphic Design, and raising 3 children, I put a hold on time creating art. Now that they have grown, I asked myself how I could reinvent my talents and fulfill that void. A friend asked me to take a class in precious metal clay jewelry with her. Little did I know, it would reinvent the new me with this wonderful new medium of moldable metals. It included illustrating, designing, sculpting, crafting and creating a beautiful finished piece of wearable art. I add color with different metals, cabochons and beads. It lit a fire in me and I can't get enough.

Creating different lines of jewelry is a heartfelt goal. It's like branches of a tree that keep growing and reaching while their roots keep them grounded. Growing up on the East Coast, big trees, thick forests, beautiful lakes, and fresh air were my life. Finding deserted cabins while hiking was a common thing. I was always fascinated how these vacant structures took on a new life. Deserted and neglected by humans, nature took over. They were supported by vines and trees and painted by years of wear and tear, moss and green overgrowth. Even though through time the architecture had slipped, worn and broken down, it was still incredibly beautiful and inspires me to this day. I find myself wondering who looked through those windows, walked through those doors and wandered down those pathways.

In my work, I find myself gravitating towards wood grains, patinaed metal, cracked cement, beautiful earthy textures, beads and cabachones made of natural stones and muted colors. Natural and rustic with a side of bling = regrowth/rebirth. I love to create curiosity in my pieces. For people to tap into their energy and to feed their imagination.



# Susan Dees

SusanDeesDesigns - Instagram











# First Give-A-Way

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Holly and Chris Gage

*20 g of Prometheus  
Copper Clay*





# What does a cohesive jewelry line look like, and how do we achieve unity within different jewelry lines?

- ✦ A common or universal theme.
- ✦ Similar color combinations or usage of color.
- ✦ A common or signature technique.
- ✦ A similar family of textures or patterns.
- ✦ A repeat of elements and shapes.
- ✦ Regular use of common or unique materials.





I became interested in jewelry design during my trips to Sedona, Arizona, which is known for spiritual experiences and healing energy vortexes. I would visit the numerous crystal shops and purchase gemstones to help me with my physical ailments or emotional support on my spiritual journey. Over twenty years of studying the metaphysical properties of gemstones has helped me to heal bones, hearts, and spirits.

I realized that I wanted to wear and show off my precious stones, not just carry them hidden in a pocket or in a pendant cage. I launched "Life's A Gem" with my first collection of mandala pendants featuring gemstone accents, which each have a theme: "Dreaming" enhances creativity and helps navigate change amid new adventures; "Uplifting" helps overcome depression and mental illnesses; "New Beginnings" helps with recovery from addictions; and "Balance" supports your yoga practice by facilitating meditation and promoting coordination.

In addition to using brightly colored natural gemstones with healing properties, I work with other organic materials such as silver precious metal clay (PMC), wire, leather and rocks, and I texture and stamp sheet metal. The use of symbols, such as spirals which represent female life energy, and Native American icons, such as the Four Elements (Earth, Air, Water, and Fire), enhance the meaning of each piece. The colors and textures of trees and sunsets appear in my designs, and I apply my favorite pastime of imagining pictures in clouds, to finding patterns and images in jaspers and agate. And I delight in creating rainbow patinas to add even more color to complement a wide variety of fashions.

I have been published in national magazines, am certified as a PMC teacher, and received third place in the Healing Phoenix Lapidary Opal Design contest. In addition, I enjoy teaching workshops in wire wrapping, beading, and precious metal clay.

Each design is carefully crafted to unite symbolism and healing stones to support wellness and spiritual journeys, and expresses a bold statement of colorful individuality.



# Lisa Barnes

[LifesAGemJewelry.com](http://LifesAGemJewelry.com)













I've been an artist all my life, first a graphic designer and later a children's book illustrator. The beauty of nature is my continual inspiration. I love the delicate colors and lines in flower petals, the veins and shapes of leaves and the spiraling tendrils of climbing vines. I'm also attracted to the late 1800s and early 1900s, Art Nouveau, damask and the small patterns of vintage quilts. I don't know if it's my Dutch heritage, but I also love Delftware. My work combines all these influences by featuring motifs from nature mixed with small, vintage patterns and soothing, muted colors.

I hand-fabricate each piece of jewelry from copper or silver and polymer clay. I like the contrast between shiny and matte that these mediums allow. I use the Japanese mokumé gané technique where layers of different colored polymer clay are impressed with designs and then sliced to reveal a pattern. I also use translucent polymer clay which allows light to pass through it like thin porcelain.

# Phyllis Cahill

[PhyllisCahillDesign.com](http://PhyllisCahillDesign.com)











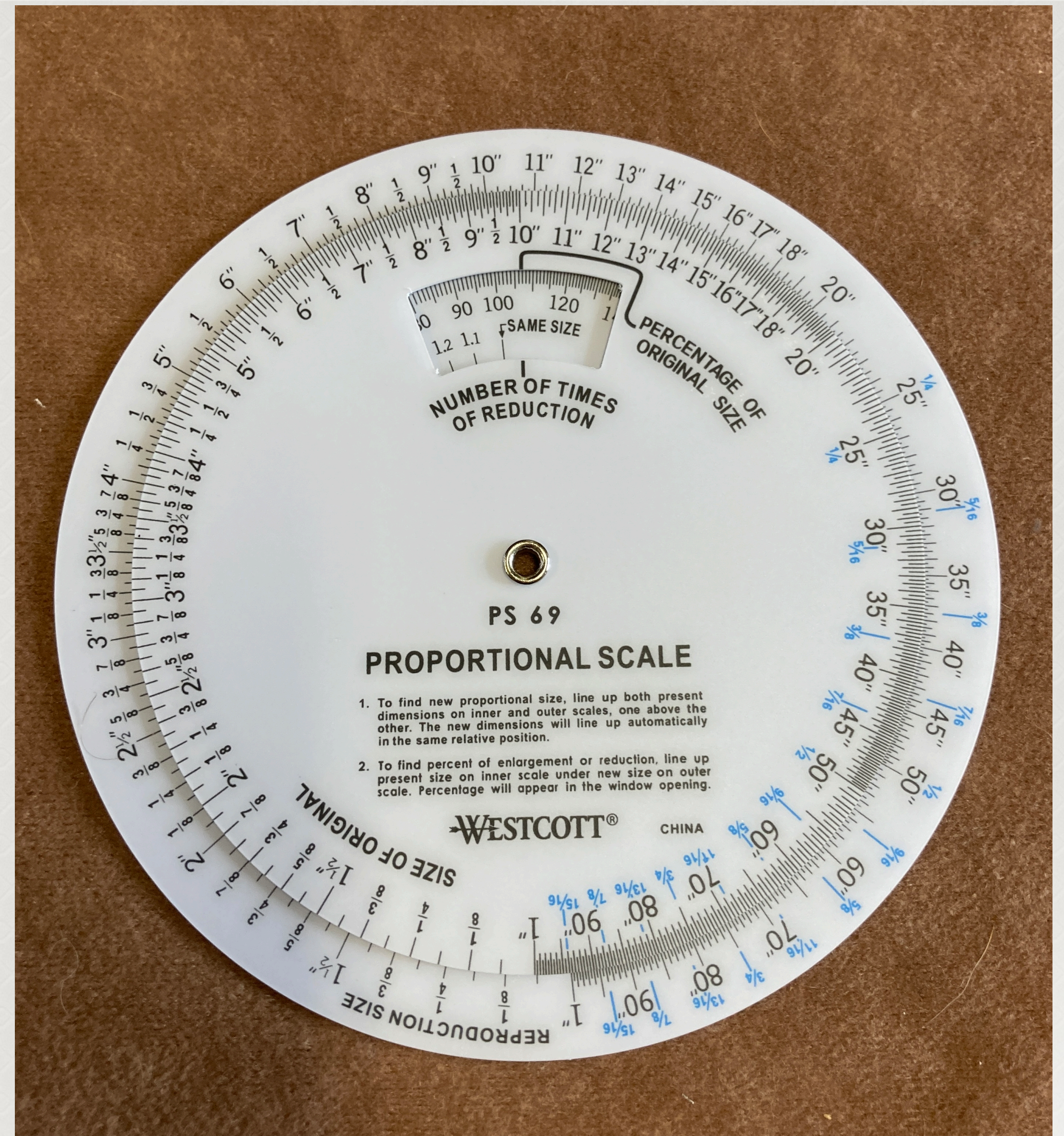


# Second Give-A-Way

Sponsored by  
Holly and Chris Gage

## A Proportional Scale

*Does the math for you on  
calculating shrinkage*





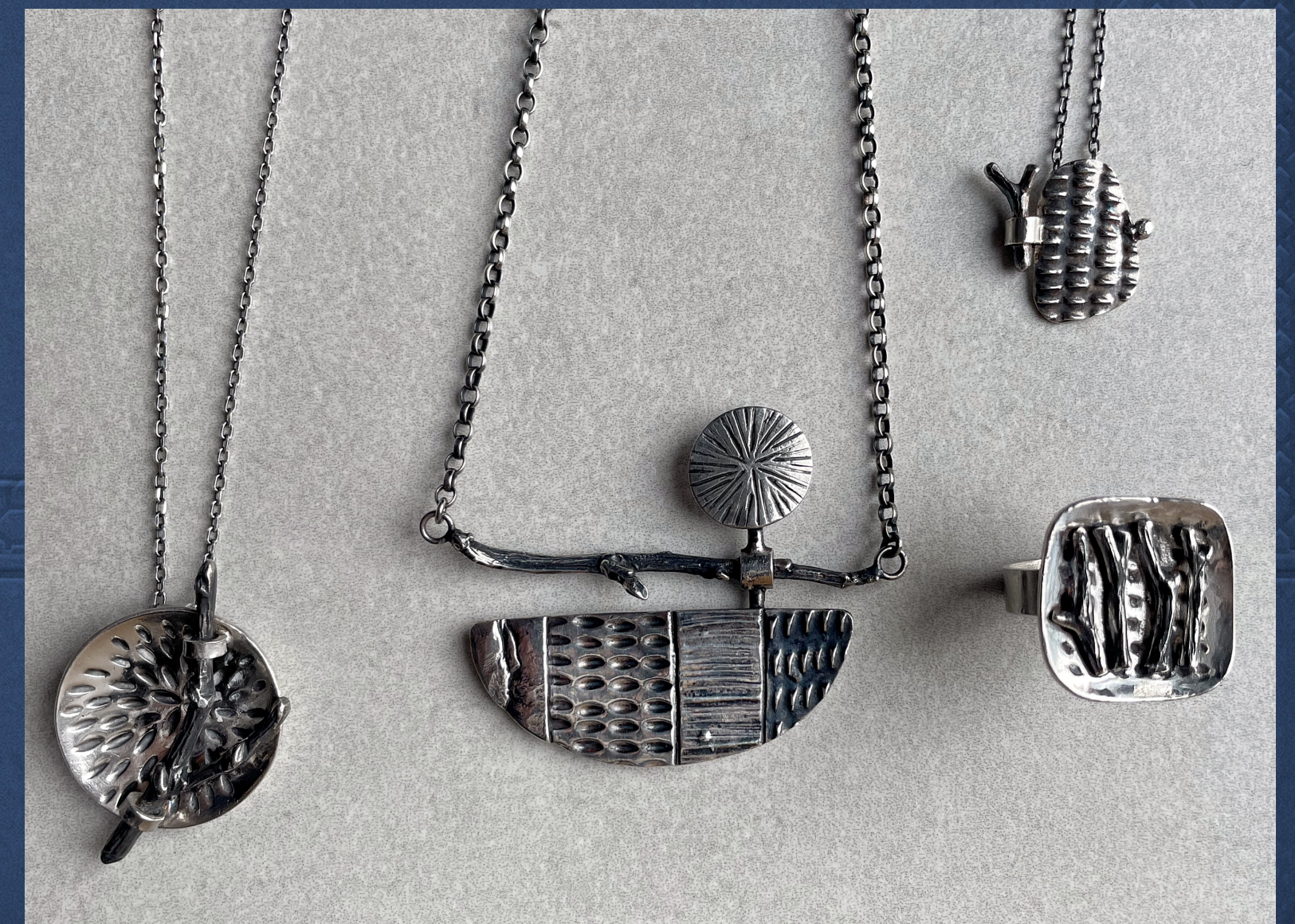
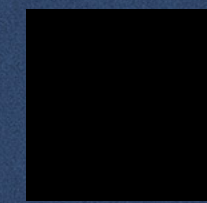
I am originally from Russia, now living in Ireland, surrounded by the most beautiful nature. I am an Architecture graduate and worked in different areas of design, visual arts have been my passion since I was a child. My silver jewellery making adventure started in Ireland in 2015, and I was instantly captivated by the magic of working with metal. Being able to create with such a strong and durable material as silver which becomes submissive in my hands, allowing to materialise my ideas into the world, fills me with incredible energy and feeling of the power of transformation.

I find a lot of inspiration in nature and I love including its elements in my jewellery. Walking in the woods or on the seaside is one of my favourite ways to recharge. I like bringing a little keepsake from a walk that I particularly enjoyed: a twig, or a seashell, or an interesting-looking rock. Including natural elements in my pieces reminds me of the soothing effect of being in nature, and is also a way to recreate the “keepsake” ritual.

When creating I adopt an ironic and playful approach, similar to post-modern art, mixing and recomposing visual elements, exploring duality and juxtaposition of natural and “man-made” features and textures.

I work in silver using traditional silversmithing techniques, and in silver metal clay, an innovative material created with pure silver particles, and offering infinite possibilities as it is soft and malleable, but turns into pure silver after firing at elevated temperature.

If I think of the reasons why I create jewellery, there are many. Creativity is something that makes me feel complete and connected to the universe, fills my life with purpose and freedom. Since I was a child, in my family we always practiced the approach ‘If you want something unique - make your own’, so it came only naturally that my passion for unusual jewellery led me to create my own. I tend to be quite introverted and I spend a lot of time in my head. Creating is a way to let my thoughts and ideas outside, set them free into the world.



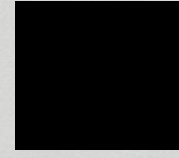
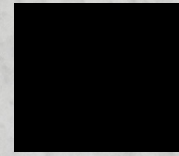
# Anastasiya Stepnova

[Marketstreet.ie/store/37blackbirds](https://Marketstreet.ie/store/37blackbirds)











My love of the fleeting beauty and endless variety of flowers inspires me to preserve their beauty in silver.

My metalwork journey began with wire-wrapping and cold connects, but being impatient, I soon learned to soldier. Soldiering satisfied my desire for quicker results, but I was interested in taking my work to the third dimension. Metal Clay became an answer to my quest for a moldable, sculptable silver, and after it is kiln-fired, it becomes sterling or fine silver.

Generally, my Metal Clay work consists of sculptured, realistic flowers and trees. Searching for new inspiration, I studied the lacy filigree of Edwardian jewelry, the scrolls and whorls of Victorian and Art Deco wrought iron work, and the stylized flower portrayal and symmetry of Art Deco decorations. These vintage vibes imbue my latest collection with movement and interesting open work.

For my stylized floral design focal pieces, I fabricate texture plates. Rolled Metal Clay forms flourishes in a filigree-like frame. The pieces are embellished with mini Cubic Zirconias which are reminiscent of jewels that were the hallmark Art Deco period and add tiny pops of color. This collection is modern, floral jewelry paying homage to the bygone eras.

Due to my varied interests and curiosity, I have dabbled in other media, such as UV cure resin. I love this medium, because I can dabble in brilliant colors. I have a collection of trees in all four seasons; geometric designs, inspired by cloisonne; beach scenes; whimsical fairie gardens; and Halloween scenes.

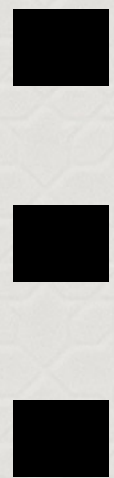
Please visit my website [Jo.com](http://Jo.com) often for the everchanging collections in each media!



# Jo-Anne Sofianek Frazier

[JewelrybyJo.com](http://JewelrybyJo.com)











# I'd like to Thank our Artist for Joining Us

Anastasiya Stepnova  
Jo-Anne Sofianek Frazier  
Lisa Barnes  
Phyllis Cahill  
Susan Marie Thrasher Dees





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Until Dec. 31  
at [HollyGage.com](http://www.HollyGage.com)

# The Art of Designing a Signature Jewelry Line

**Thursdays**

**January 6 - March 10**

**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM EDT**

**(6:00 pm GMT, 12:00 pm CDT,  
11:00 am MDT, 10:00 am PDT)**

**[HollyGage.com](http://www.HollyGage.com)**



# Last Give-A-Way

Sponsored by



Healing Phoenix Lapidary

*2-Sided Cultured Opal*

*by Chris Gage*

*29 x 14 mm*

*Auctions on Fridays 10 - 10 est*

[Facebook.com/healing.phoenix.lapidary](https://www.facebook.com/healing.phoenix.lapidary)







# Thank You!



*Chris and Holly Gage would like  
to express our appreciation for your  
support and kindness.*

*We expect the idea of  
Paying It Forward will continue  
to be a part of our lives.*

