

ANNA HU

HAUTE JOAILLERIE



MODERN WOMEN

CINDY SHERMAN

ALEXANDER MCQUEEN: SAVAGE BEAUTY

HILLEN BRANDON

JEWELS OF THE TSARS

ART AND LOVE IN RENAISSANCE ITALY

ART THROUGH THE AGES

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by Gao Chunning

EXQUISITE

Better Link Press

Anna Hu Biography

Anna Hu is an international jewelry designer, born in Taiwan and educated in the U.S., who approaches her art with a distinctly East meets West philosophy and aesthetic that is heavily influenced by both cultures. She has studied at the Gemological Institute of America, F.I.T., Parsons School of Design (Masters, 19th century French Jewelry) and Columbia University (Masters, Arts Administration). After working for Christie's, Van Cleef & Arpels, and Harry Winston, she founded her namesake brand, Anna Hu Haute Joaillerie, at the age of 30 and opened her first boutique one year later in New York's famed Plaza Hotel.

A prodigy cellist, Anna's design inspirations are often rooted in her deep devotion to classical music, though she also draws from her heritage and nature, and occasionally references Impressionism and Art Nouveau. Anna is as much a scholar as she is an artist and her designs reflect that rarity and sophistication. She works exclusively with French-trained artisans, who are masters of old-world craftsmanship and stewards of new-world innovation. Her ateliers in New York and Paris are among the world's finest.

Anna presented her first global exhibition at the Louvre's Les Arts Décoratifs in Paris in July 2012 at the age of 35 and celebrated the launch of her first book, *Symphony of Jewels, Opus 1*, published by The Vendome Press and Thames & Hudson. It's a limited edition art book featuring 100 masterpieces from Anna's illustrious body of work. Her goal is to publish 10 opuses in her lifetime, each featuring a curated selection of one-of-a-kind works of jewelry art, with *Opus 2* set to debut globally in 2017.

Recognized internationally for her work, Anna has received *ELLE China's* "International Jewelry Designer of the Year" award, alongside Christian Louboutin and Viktor & Rolf, and the China Institute's "Artistic Vision" award in New York; the first time it has ever been given to a jewelry designer. Her creations have been worn by style-influencers including Madonna, Gwyneth Paltrow, Natalie Portman, Emily Blunt, Scarlett Johansson, Naomi Watts, Uma Thurman, the acclaimed contemporary artist Cindy Sherman, and the Queen of Bhutan. She has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *W*, *The New York Times*, *ELLE*, *InStyle*, *Robb Report*, *The Financial Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *Vogue Gioiello*, and leading Chinese publications including *South China Morning Post*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vogue*, *ELLE*, *L'officiel*, *InStyle*, *Marie Claire*, and *Soon*.

In 2013, Anna broke the world auction record for the highest price paid for a contemporary jewelry artist with her *Cote d'Azure Brooch* featuring a 58.29-carat Burmese sapphire at the Christie's *Magnificent Jewels* sale in Geneva.



Anna Hu Career & Brand Timeline

- 1977 Anna Hu is born in Taiwan to a family deeply rooted in the jewelry business.
- 1990 Awarded National Champion of Cello in Taiwan.
- 1991 Accepted into Taiwan government's Gifted Program and moves to U.S. as an Exchange student at the Walnut Hill School in Boston. Plays with Yo-Yo Ma.
- 1995 Scholarship student at New England Conservatory of Music. Studies with its President, Mr. Laurence Lesser.
- 1997 Receives Jewelry Design Certificate, Graduate Gemology from the GIA in New York.
- 1999 Attends Jewelry Design program at FIT in New York.
- 2001 Receives Masters in Art History from Parsons School of Design (thesis: Transformation from Art Nouveau to Art Deco Jewelry in France).
- 2002 Interns at Christie's New York in the jewelry department.
- 2003 Works at Van Cleef and Arpels in the stone purchasing department.
- 2004 Receives Masters in Arts Administration from Columbia University.
- 2005 Works at Harry Winston in the jewelry merchandising department.
- 2007 Founds Anna Hu Haute Joaillerie, a French-Chinese fine jewelry brand specializing in one of a kind jewelry made by French-trained artisans using the best stones in the world.
- 2008 Opens brand's first boutique at The Plaza Hotel in New York, which wins an architectural grand prize at the Association for Retail Environments Design Awards.
- 2009 Madonna wears Edelweiss cross necklace, earrings and ring to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala in New York.
- 2009 Drew Barrymore wears pearl ring and earrings to the 61st Primetime Emmy Awards, where she is nominated for Best Actress.

ANNA HU

HAUTE JOAILLERIE

- 2009 Brand's debut at auction draws international attention. David Warren, Director of Jewelry at Christie's London and Dubai, notes, "For such a young contemporary designer, Anna Hu has already achieved a great deal ... I think she is someone to watch in the future -- big time."
- 2009 Oprah Winfrey wears *Spanish Sunflower* earrings on the December 2009 cover of *O: The Oprah Magazine*.
- 2010 *Wall Street Journal* profiles Anna as the "Diamond District Artisan."
- 2010 Collaborates with fashion designer Jason Wu for his Resort 2010 fashion show in New York.
- 2010 Guest Speaker at Harvard Business School on "The Art and Business of Fine Jewelry."
- 2011 Receives the China Institute's "Artistic Vision of the Year" Award, given for the first time to a jewelry designer.
- 2011 Hilary Swank wears Myth of the Orchid earrings and Duchess Hibiscus ring to 83rd Annual Academy Awards.
- 2011 Scarlett Johansson wears Dragon Flower ring and Ruby earrings to 83rd Annual Academy Awards.
- 2011 Madonna features Anna's jewels in her biopic, *W.E.*, inspired by the story of Wallis Simpson and King Edward VIII. Anna attends world premiere at the Venice Film Festival with Madonna.
- 2011 Featured in *Drawing Jewels for Fashion* by Carol Woolton (Jewelry Editor, *Vogue U.K.*).
- 2012 Gwyneth Paltrow wears Hearts of Winter cuff and Duchess Hibiscus ring to 84th Annual Academy Awards. Pieces highlighted as among the best jewelry in Oscars history by international media, including *Harper's BAZAAR*, *ELLE*, *InStyle*, and *CNN*.
- 2012 Gwyneth Paltrow wears Summer Bamboo earrings, Celestial Fire Lotus ring, and Golden Orchid Ring to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala.
- 2012 The Louvre's Musée des Arts Décoratifs presents Anna's first global exhibition,

Symphony of Jewels: Opus 1 in Paris.

- 2012 Winner of “*International Jewelry Designer of the Year*” at ELLE China Style Awards.
- 2012 Anna’s first book, *Symphony of Jewels: Opus 1*, is published and distributed in the U.S. by Vendome Press and internationally by Thames & Hudson.
- 2013 China’s flagship store opens in Shanghai’s Bund district.
- 2014 Natalie Portman wears Turandot earrings and Wallis Simpson bracelet to the Vanity Fair Oscars party.
- 2013 Featured speaker at the Goldman Sachs Luxury Good Conference in Hong Kong.
- 2015 *South China Morning Post* profiles Anna in “*Musician turned jewellery designer Anna Hu creates pitch-perfect pieces.*”
- 2013 Featured in *Twenty-First Century Jewellery Designers: An Inspired Style* by Juliet Weir-de La Rochefoucauld.
- 2013 Orpheus Jade Ring sells for \$2.59 million at Christie’s Hong Kong *Magnificent Jewels* sale (May), breaking the world auction record for a Chinese contemporary jewelry artist.
- 2013 Winner of “*Jewelry Designer of the Year*” at ELLE Taiwan Style Awards.
- 2013 Côte d’Azur brooch sells for \$4.57 million at Christie’s Geneva *Magnificent Jewels* sale (November), breaking the world auction record for a contemporary jewelry artist, previously held by JAR, and the highest auction price per carat for a Burmese sapphire.
- 2014 Taiwan’s flagship store opens at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Taipei.
- 2014 Featured in *Floral Jewels* by Carol Woolton (Jewelry Editor, *Vogue U.K.*).
- 2015 Gwyneth Paltrow wears Fire Phoenix earrings and Pétales d’Amour ring to 87th Academy Awards.
- 2015 Naomi Watts wears Modern Art Deco earrings in Sapphire and Wallis Simpson bracelet to 87th Academy Awards.

ANNA HU

HAUTE JOAILLERIE

- 2015 Emily Blunt wears Orchid Earrings in Sapphire and Moonlight Waltz Ring to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala.
- 2015 Uma Thurman wears Turandot Earrings in Emerald and White Diamonds to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala.
- 2016 Emily Blunt wears Modern Art Deco earrings in Emerald II, Ellington bangle in Emerald, Wallis Simpson bracelet, and Duchess Hibiscus ring to Cannes Film Festival.
- 2016 Guest Speaker at Columbia Business School on “Unveiling China’s Next Wave of Surprises”
- 2016 Guest Speaker at The Baker Retailing Center of Wharton School, the University of Pennsylvania.
- 2016 Saoirse Ronan wears Elizabeth I Butterfly brooch to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala.
- 2016 Ellie Bamber wears Butterfly Garden earrings, Modern Art Deco ring to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala.
- 2016 Special Guest of the Royal Palace of Monaco to meet H.S.H. Prince Albert II and H.S.H Princess Charlene and Honorary Guest at the 77th Bal de la Croix Rouge.
- 2016 Official Sponsor of the Aspen Art Museum’s WineCrush and ArtCrush Galas.
- 2016 Global Launch of 2016 Haute Joaillerie Collection at The Ritz Paris in partnership with Christie’s Magnificent Jewels for the Biennale des Antiquaires.
- 2017 Wendi Deng Murdoch and her daughters Grace Murdoch and Chloe Murdoch wear Rose Ribbon ring, Modern Art Deco earrings, Elizabeth I Butterfly brooch to the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute Gala.
- 2017 Exclusively invited by Christie’s as the first-ever contemporary jewelry artist to exhibit solo at its London headquarter.
- 2017 Launches the 10th Anniversary Worldwide Celebration Exhibition at The Ritz Paris in partnership with Christie’s Magnificent Jewels during Paris Couture Week.

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HAUTE JOAILLERIE

- 2017 Brand's debut at La Biennale Paris draws immensely positive feedback from connoisseurs around the world as well as international press attention from publications such as *The New York Times*, *Forbes*, *Robb Report*, *Vogue*, *BlouinShop Magazine*, etc.
- 2018 Officially launches in Parisian market with a permanent presence in The Ritz Paris and a private showroom/salon on Boulevard Saint-Germain.
- 2018 Becomes the first Asian contemporary jewelry artist whose signature creation – CHINA RED Magpie Brooch – is included into the permanent collection of The State Historical Museum in Moscow Kremlin.
- 2018 Honorably admitted into Le Comité Vendome Paris as the first Asian jeweler to be featured on the official couture calendar.

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