

*Jewellery*  
*by*  
*Brian Dodds*

Brian Dodds was born in New Zealand in 1949. He began making jewellery at the age of 16, then later studied design in Sydney, Australia. By 25 years of age he had already worked in interior design, had been a photographer in the Vietnam war, and had worked in the design studio of the British Leyland car company. His passion however always remained with jewellery.

Being dissatisfied that design ideas always seemed to revolve around standard jewellery making techniques, he decided to travel widely studying various traditional styles in many countries. Later he settled in Japan and made a name as a jewellery artist making collection pieces for jewellery companies, galleries and private clients. A health condition brought him back to New Zealand in 1987 leading to extensive research into natural medicine and healing.

In 2012 a desire arose to pick up the jewellery tools again.

The following is a selection of pieces.

*Artists message*

*Exquisite jewellery must achieve a sensitive balance between the natural beauty of the gems, the expression of the artist, and the clients desires. That balance is the essence that I strive for in all my jewellery.*

*Brian Dodds*



*PENDANT*  
*Sterling Silver, Paua shell, Coral, 24K, gold,*



*EARRINGS*  
*Pure Silver, Shibuichi*  
*(Silver & copper alloy)*



*RING*  
*Garnet, Pure Silver, Shibuichi*  
*(Silver & copper alloy)*



*RING*

*Coral, Pure Silver, Sterling Silver,  
Shibuichi (Silver & copper alloy)*



*EARRINGS*  
*Sterling Silver*



*OPAL RING:  
Crystal Opal, 9K Gold., diamond*



*OPAL RING:  
Crystal Opal, Sterling Silver, 9K Gold.,  
124K Gold., Ruby, Diamond*



*OPAL RING:  
Crystal Opal, 24k, 18k, 9K Gold.,  
Sterling Silver, Burmese Ruby*



*OPAL RING:  
Black Opal, 18K Gold,  
Sterling Silver/shibuichi  
mokumegane*



*Mans Wedding ring  
14k yellow, 14k rose and 14k white gold*



*Paua ring  
Fresh water pearl, Paua,  
24k yellow, Stg silver .*





*RUBY RING*  
*18 K Gold., faceted ruby, diamond*



*AMETHYST RING:  
Amethyst, 18k, Gold.,  
Sterling Silver, Shibuchi  
(Japanese Copper/silver alloy)*



## *Wedding Rings*

9k rose gold, 18k yellow, Stg Silver, Copper

### *‘Mokume gane’*

**Japanese metallic wood  
grain effect**

The Japanese developed this technique in ancient times to make samurai swords with multiple layers of steel. The quality was unequalled in the West.

In recent times this technique has been applied to jewellery making producing remarkable results from the contrasting colours of gold, silver and copper alloys. With the application of patinas the effects are further enhanced.

Although very labour-intensive, jewellery made using 'Mokume Gane' is becoming very popular.

# *'Mokume gane'*

Japanese metallic wood grain effect

## Method

Two or more pieces of different metals are rolled out into thin sheets, meticulously sanded and cleaned, then layered together ready for bonding. The layers are joined through either soldering or heat fusion. The heat fusion method is very difficult but once completed the jewellery process can be quite straightforward. The soldering method is easier to achieve but any imperfections later become almost impossible to repair. Once the piece of metal with multiple layers is completed, it is forged, filed and worked to allow different layers and colours to come through.

No two pieces will ever be exactly the same



*EARRINGS*

*Sterling Silver, Shibuichi*



*Womans Wedding ring  
18k yellow, 9k, rose gold and  
Stg silver accent*



*Mans Wedding ring  
18k yellow, 9k, rose gold and  
Stg silver accent*



*Womans Wedding ring  
18k yellow, 9k, rose gold , copper ,  
ruby and Stg silver*



*Mans Wedding ring  
18k yellow, 9k, rose gold , copper  
and Stg silver*



*PENDANT*  
*Amethyst, 18k, 24k gold, diamond*  
*Sterling Silver, Shibuichi (Silver & copper alloy)*



*Mokume gane detail*



*PENDANT*  
*Amethyst, 18k gold , copper and Sterling*  
*Silver Mokume-gane*



*Opal Ring*  
*Semi-black Opal, Japanese*  
*fresh water Pearl, 18k gold ,*  
*24k gold and Sterling*  
*Silver*





*PENDANT*

*Crystal Opal, Ruby, Silver, Shibuichi, 18k, 24k*



*EARRINGS*

*Coral, Pure Silver, Sterling Silver, Shibuichi*



*PENDANT*

*Moldavite, Ruby, Silver/ Copper Mokume –gane, 18k,*



*RING*

*Nephrite Jade, Silver925, 24k, 9k gold*



*EARRINGS*  
*Carnelian , Sterling Silver and Copper,*  
*Mokume –gane*



*RING*  
*Garnet, Silver 925, Copper/Shibuichi*  
*Mokume –gane*



*RING*  
*Tahitian Black Ruby, Pearl,*  
*24k gold, 18k yellow gold and*  
*Sterling Silver*



*RING*  
*Tahitian Black Pearl, 24k gold*  
*and Sterling Silver*

This completes examples of jewellery  
that were made recently.

The following pages are of jewellery  
made 25 to 30 years ago in Japan where I  
used the artist name of 'Brian Dee' as Brian  
Dodds was difficult to pronounce for  
the Japanese.



*PENDANT*  
*Japanese Fresh Water Pearls,*  
*faceted Ruby, Diamond, 18 K Gold.,*



*NECK BAND*  
*Imperial Topaz, Diamond,*  
*18 K Gold., Platinum 900*



*RING*  
*Japanese Fresh water Pearl, 18 K Gold.,*



*RING*  
*Japanese Fresh Water Pearl, Ruby, 18K.gold,*





*NECK BAND*  
*Japanese freshwater pearl, Diamond,*  
*Ruby, 18 K Gold., Platinum 900*



*PENDANT*  
*Japanese Cultured Pearls,*  
*faceted Amethyst, Diamond,*  
*18 K Gold., Platinum 900*



*RING*  
*Turquoise,*  
*Sterling Silver,*



*PENDANT*  
*Sterling Silver,*  
*Agate*



*PENDANT  
Malachite,  
Sterling Silver*



*NECK BAND*  
*Sterling Silver*





*RING*  
*Moonstone, Sterling Silver*



*PEARL RING*  
*Japanese Fresh Water Pearl, 18 K Gold.,*  
*faceted Sapphire, Diamond*



*NECK BAND*  
*Paua, Pearl. 18k Gold,*  
*Diamond, PT 900.*





*Detail view of  
NECK BAND*





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