

From

The Collector

to You...

Beryl...

In the exciting world of jewelry and gemstones, color can stop us in our tracks.

Color appeals to our feelings, making us happy or energized or even relaxed. How many of us have paused in front of a jewelry store window to gaze at the fiery green of an emerald ring or to admire the sparkling blue of an aquamarine that reminds us of the deep blue sea or because we must have a closer look at the sweet pink blush of a morganite pendant? We have all admired these amazing gems but did you know that they all belong to the same family? They are all beryls. Whether blue, green, pink or yellow, their chemical and physical properties all correspond.

Millions of years ago the earth provided the appropriate pressure and temperature conditions to form these precious crystals. Beryls are beryllium-aluminum-silicates that are colorless in their purest form. The structure of beryl allows it the ability to store various foreign substances that cause its color to dramatically change.

Beryls can be found all over the world but are mainly located in South America and Central and West Africa. They can also occur in Madagascar, Russia and the USA.



Emeralds (Beryl)

Photos by Jeff Scovil

◆ Emerald

Emerald is probably the most famous of the beryl family and certainly one of the most fascinating gemstones. The beautiful, intense, radiant green color of emerald reflects life and new spring growth and therefore is the perfect choice of a birthstone for the month of May. The magnificent green is fresh and vivid and is known to relieve stress and eye strain. In fact, until the 18th century, European gem engravers would gaze at emeralds when their eyes became tired.

The name emerald comes from the Greek word "smaragdos," which means green stone. The first known emerald mines were near the Red Sea in Egypt. These mines, sometimes referred to as Cleopatra's Mines, were already exploited by Egyptian pharaohs between 3000 and 1500 B.C., by the

time they were rediscovered in the 19th century. Colombia is now the country where most fine emerald is found. The two most well known and important mines are Muzo and Chivor, which were also mined by the Incas in pre-Colombian days. Colombian emeralds are prized for their especially fine, shining green color unimpaired by any kind of bluish tint. The color is so esteemed that obvious inclusions are considered acceptable.

Beryls... continued on page 2



Gabriel Mattice

For those who are not yet aware, Pala International is a purveyor of fine gemstones and is The Collector's parent company. Because of this, The Collector is fortunate to call upon the knowledge and experience of long time staff associate, Gabriel Mattice.

A graduate gemologist from the Gemological Institute of America, Gabriel has worked in sales and acquisitions since 1988 and with a focused interest in gemstone origins, Gabriel is jointly responsible for the selecting and purchasing of Pala's extremely unique gemstone inventory.

She has traveled to premier gem deposits in locations as far afield as Burma and is one of very few women allowed to travel to the "Mogok Valley of Rubies" in what is now known as Myanmar.

As well as international trade venues, Gabriel works closely with both high-end jewelers and a select group of very discriminating collectors. In addition, she has contributed to projects in conjunction with various museums such as the Natural History Museum of Harvard, American Museum of Natural History and is presently an advisor for the building of a private collection which is based on rare gemstones of 45 carats and above and will be unveiled in late 2006.

Unlike its other beryl family members, emeralds are typically included with numerous crystals, cracks or fissures. An emerald in a deep and lively green with many inclusions has a higher value than a near flawless pale green emerald. The inclusions are thought of as tender little green plants in the "jardin" or garden of the emerald that prove the gem has grown naturally in the earth.

With these common inclusions comes the common practice of treating emeralds with colorless oils or resins to fill any cracks or fissures in the stones. This is a general trade practice that improves the clarity and the beauty of the emerald. This means that the care of an emerald is very important. It cannot be cleaned in an ultrasonic bath and rings should be taken off before the wearer comes into contact with cleansing agents. Warm soapy water is all that is needed to keep emerald jewelry clean and safe.

◆ Aquamarine

One of the most well-known and beautiful members of the beryl family is aquamarine, which is the birthstone for March. We get the name aquamarine from the Latin equivalent of "sea water." Aquamarine shines in all colors of the water ranging from light and dark blue to blue-green shades in various tones due to traces of iron. The deeper blue is the most desirable and valuable.

In ancient times this beautiful gemstone was thought to give the wearer knowledge and foresight. It was believed aquamarine captured the essence and spirit of the sea. The Greeks often carved aqua into the image of the god of the sea, Poseidon, on a chariot, as protection against perils and monsters of the sea.

Aquamarine is prized for its beauty, rarity and durability. The beauty of aqua lies in its cool, clear colors and excellent clarity in even the largest sizes making it a wonderful gemstone for jewelry.

Photos by Jeff Scovil



◆ Morganite

The fine pink color of morganite emanates charm and tenderness and helps one see the brighter side of life. One who chooses a morganite can see "la vie en rose" even in the greyest times of everyday life. Beryl takes on this color when manganese is introduced. Some morganite is clearly pink while others can lean more towards purple or even a slight orange hue making this stone a perfect complement to any complexion. When determining quality, color is the most important factor.

Morganite was first discovered in the early 20th century by miners in southern California searching for pink tourmaline. The initial finds were thought to be tourmaline until laboratory testing identified manganese as the coloring agent. The finest morganites come from Madagascar and Brazil while California finds are more rare. This lovely stone did not always bear the name morganite. It was called pink beryl until the year 1911 when it was named in honor of banker and mineral collector, J.P. Morgan.



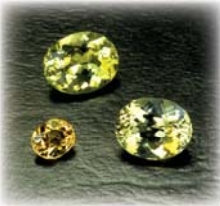
◆ Golden Beryl

With small traces of iron and uranium, golden beryl grabs one's attention with its spectrum of yellow hues ranging from a pale lemon yellow to a warm golden color. Like its blue cousin, golden beryl seldom has inclusions and the two are usually found in the same deposits.

Photo by Jeff Scovil



Photos by Jeff Scovil



◆ Heliodor

The same two trace elements of iron and uranium give heliodor its stimulating greenish yellow color. Discovered in 1910 in Namibia, the stone takes its name from the Greek words, 'helios' (sun) and 'doron' (gift). So heliodor is a 'gift from the sun' to man. Heliodors are generally considered a sub-variety of golden beryl due to the weaker color.

◆ Goshenite

Goshenite, the colorless variety of beryl, is named after the place where it was originally found, Goshen in Massachusetts. Colorless beryl is rare and has little significance as a gemstone except that it is the basis for all the other magnificent hues of the gem. It does have some historical significance though, having been one of the first materials to be used for eyeglasses in ancient times.



◆ Bixbite

Bixbite is the red variety of beryl and is the most rare of all the beryls. Where the ugly name came from is still a mystery. Bixbite is mined in only one location, the Wah Wah Mountains in Utah. Gem quality bixbite is rare. The mine generally only produces very small amounts of red beryl and those pieces are usually under a carat with many inclusions. Large bixbite specimens are very unusual and therefore quite expensive. The largest faceted gemstones are less than three carats in size. So although jewelry is not a common use for red beryl, it can be a beautiful variety of the magical beryl family.

Photo by Jeff Scovil

Beryls... continued on page 3

From the Executive's Desk...



My staff and I have recently returned from the spring international jewelry shows. Awash in the brilliant colors of nature, this season's trends reflect a strong sense of fashion utilizing combinations of different metals (be on the lookout for Palladium, a cousin of Platinum) and a variety of colored gemstones that dangle, swing or sway in sensuous rhythm of self-assured femininity. The resurgence of bold gold (in yellow as well as rose) paired with brightly colored gems in combinations of pastels and brights were showcased. Meanwhile designs in micro-pavé, a method of setting small stones, and hand engraving are still a very popular look. With nature as a constant source of inspiration, our new collections for summer and fall range from the playful to the superb.

With our extensive colored gemstone inventory, the rainbow of possibilities is endless. The colorful jewelry item of your dreams is waiting to be found or made especially for you at The Collector with our hallmark of quality and distinction. You can visit our virtual gallery on line at www.collectorfinejewelry.com Enjoy the view!

Jeanne Hancock Larson,
Executive Director

Introducing The Collector Fine Jewelry Email List

The Collector is excited to announce the beginning of a new opportunity for our loyal and much appreciated customers. We think you deserve something special and we would like to offer it to you when you subscribe to our new email list. By joining, you will be entitled to special promotions for email subscribers only, notification of any Collector events such as jewelry trunk shows or open houses and access to our interesting and informative newsletter online. If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, all you have to do is email us at list@collectorfinejewelry.com.

We promise not to send any spam emails or give your email address to anyone else. You will only receive occasional announcements from The Collector Fine Jewelry. We hope to hear from you soon.

Appraiser Notes

by Jo Ellen Cole



Photos by Jeff Scovil

Evaluating Beryl

The mineral beryl is comprised of several different varieties, mostly according to color. As in most other colored stones, the quality and depth of color is paramount among valuation factors. Emerald is the best known of the beryl minerals and is prized for an even, rich, medium, very slightly bluish- or yellowish-Green color. Inclusions (or an emerald's "jardin" or "garden") are accepted as a matter of course with emeralds, as long as the inclusions are not too apparent or affect the stability of the stone. Emeralds more than any other gemstone are routinely oiled to homogenize the color. This has been practiced and accepted for hundreds of years.

Aquamarines are also members of the beryl family and color is again paramount in its evaluation. The best aquamarines are a light to medium slightly greenish-Blue, and often occur in large sizes. Aquamarines that have inclusions are not well tolerated and are heavily discounted, since many large stones tend to be absolutely flawless. The yellow beryl, known as heliodor, can occur in very large inclusion-free stones. The deeper the color, the better the stone.

Morganite is the pink to slightly orangish-pink variety of beryl. Its delicate hue tends to be very light and can fade when exposed to prolonged sunlight. In the mid-20th century large inclusion-free stones were available, but now the better pink hues with some inclusions are more accepted. Another pink beryl, pezzottaite from Madagascar, tends to be a deeper, raspberry pink and the few stones seen tend to be fairly included. A very rare and darker magenta-pink bixbite, from Utah, is also commonly fairly included.

For a professional appraisal or any further information, please contact: Jo Ellen Cole, GG., FGA. at 760-758-8315 or jocole2@cox.net.



Beryls... continued from page 2

◆ *Pezzottaite*

Pezzottaite is a newly identified mineral recognized as the fourth mineral of the beryl group. Marketed under the name raspberry beryl it was first recognized in September 2003 and named after an Italian geologist and mineralogist Federico Pezzota.

Known for vibrant colors, in shades of raspberry red to orange-red and pink, it is considered a collector's stone due to its rarity. First found in Madagascar the deposits have been mostly mined out. Pezzottaite has also been found in Afghanistan.



Photo by Jeff Scovil



912 So. Live Oak Park Rd.
 Fallbrook, CA 92028
 USA

PRSRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 FALLBROOK,
 CA
 PERMIT #372



Benitoite
California State
Gem

As we know, California is known for its pink tourmaline, so one might think that it would be the state gemstone. However, the state of Maine had already claimed tourmaline for itself so California needed to find another gemstone.

Benitoite was discovered in 1906 in the Diablo Mountains of San Benito County, California. This is the only place this stunning blue gemstone can be found and California claimed it as its official state gemstone just for that reason. Benitoite's unusual crystal structure of flattened triangles makes it popular as a collector specimen. Despite its beauty, benitoite is not commonly seen in jewelry. This is partly due to its hardness being just above that of opal and partly because of the lack of an abundant supply. Faceted stones over one carat are rare.

The Collector Fine Jewelry

Fallbrook: 912 So. Live Oak Park Rd.
 Fallbrook, CA 92028
 760-728-9121 760-728-5827 fax
 800-854-1598

Four Seasons Resort - Aviara:
 7100 Four Seasons Point
 Carlsbad, CA 92011
 760-603-9601 760-603-9431 fax

PRESIDENT

Bill Larson - bill@palagems.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jeanne Hancock Larson - jeanne@collectorfinejewelry.com

FALLBROOK MANAGER

Sandy Youngdale - sandy@collectorfinejewelry.com

FALLBROOK SALES ASSOCIATE

Stefanie Fremdling - stefanie@collectorfinejewelry.com

AVIARA MANAGER

Kate Donovan - kate@collectorfinejewelry.com

AVIARA SALES ASSOCIATES

Clara Dunitz and Rebecca Boyajian

Web: www.collectorfinejewelry.com

E-Mail: info@collectorfinejewelry.com