



**MEETING MR MIYAKE**  
A RARE INTERVIEW WITH A  
TRULY MODERN DESIGN ICON

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THE CULT SHOP

# mish

Magpies flock to this intimate NoHo jewellery salon for its fanciful creations and exquisite bespoke work

Set behind purple-lacquered doors on NoHo's bustling Bond Street, you'll find Mish, the eponymous jewellery salon and studio of the very dapper Mish Tworkowski (pictured right). The designer is noted for his exuberant, sought-after creations and innovative bespoke work, in particular his organically inspired designs.

He learnt to sketch and mould "by osmosis" at an early age, while spending time at a family friend's jewellery firm. But it was during his years as a jewellery specialist at Sotheby's in New York and London that he garnered a stylish following who sought the fanciful treasures he created on the side – and who continue to be some of his most loyal patrons. Tworkowski is the sole designer of the salon's creations, and he

works with a team of six to make pieces for an international clientele.

After 10 years in a carriage house on the Upper East Side, Tworkowski and his partner – the shop's architect, Joseph Singer – moved to this mid-19th-century space in 2011, adding hand-painted walls inspired by petrified wood, a striking art-deco lilac suede sofa and a 1940s Barovier chandelier. The boutique's bronze vitrines display Tworkowski's jewels and nature's inspiration is evident – take the chunky gold Wakaya cuffs with shell shapes, based on those found in Fiji, embellished with brown diamonds (\$168,000 and \$166,000, pictured below left), and a rose-gold Honeywood cocktail ring with a Mandarin garnet (\$64,000). A vault holds some 400 additional treasures, including lariats of topaz nuggets with tassels of pearls and diamonds (\$28,000). Modern art collectors, meanwhile, seeks out Mish for his bold, mineral-specimen pieces, such as blue shattuckite earrings (\$18,600).

It is, however, Mish's bespoke commissions that are the most exciting. From a request by Isabella Rossellini to rework her mother Ingrid Bergman's strands of pearls into stone-encrusted bracelets and a chain necklace for her daughter, Elettra Wiedemann, to crafting custom-made tiaras, Tworkowski delights in creating "functional sculpture" for a discerning clientele.

This collaborative process includes everything from visits to a client's home





country to museum forays. “I get to know my customers very well – their stories, favourite places, colour preferences and their level of formality,” he says. After initial consultations, an on-site watercolourist then creates renderings on signature chocolate-brown paper, so that a client can visualise each commission.

As a result, his works are both personal and inventive. He has, for example, reimagined a customer’s priceless Suzanne Belperron ring to fit her more relaxed lifestyle, while other

standout designs include Asian-inspired keepsakes (\$36,000), featuring the camellias, koi and stone lanterns loved by a Tokyo-based couple.

His creations may be uniquely varied, but every one of his pieces showcases Tworkowski’s exquisite artistry and contemporary flair. “In the end,” he says, “I hope that I am creating a client’s power amulet – something that they feel is special but that they can wear all the time.” **CHRISTINA OHLY EVANS**

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