



Josephine de Staël
L'AMOUR DE L'AMOUR

A close-up photograph of a bouquet of roses. On the left, there are several large, vibrant yellow roses. On the right, there are several large, vibrant orange roses. In the center of the bouquet, a small, round, decorative tin is visible. The tin has a blue and green pattern with small floral motifs. Overlaid on the entire image is a large, white, elegant cursive script that reads "ES".

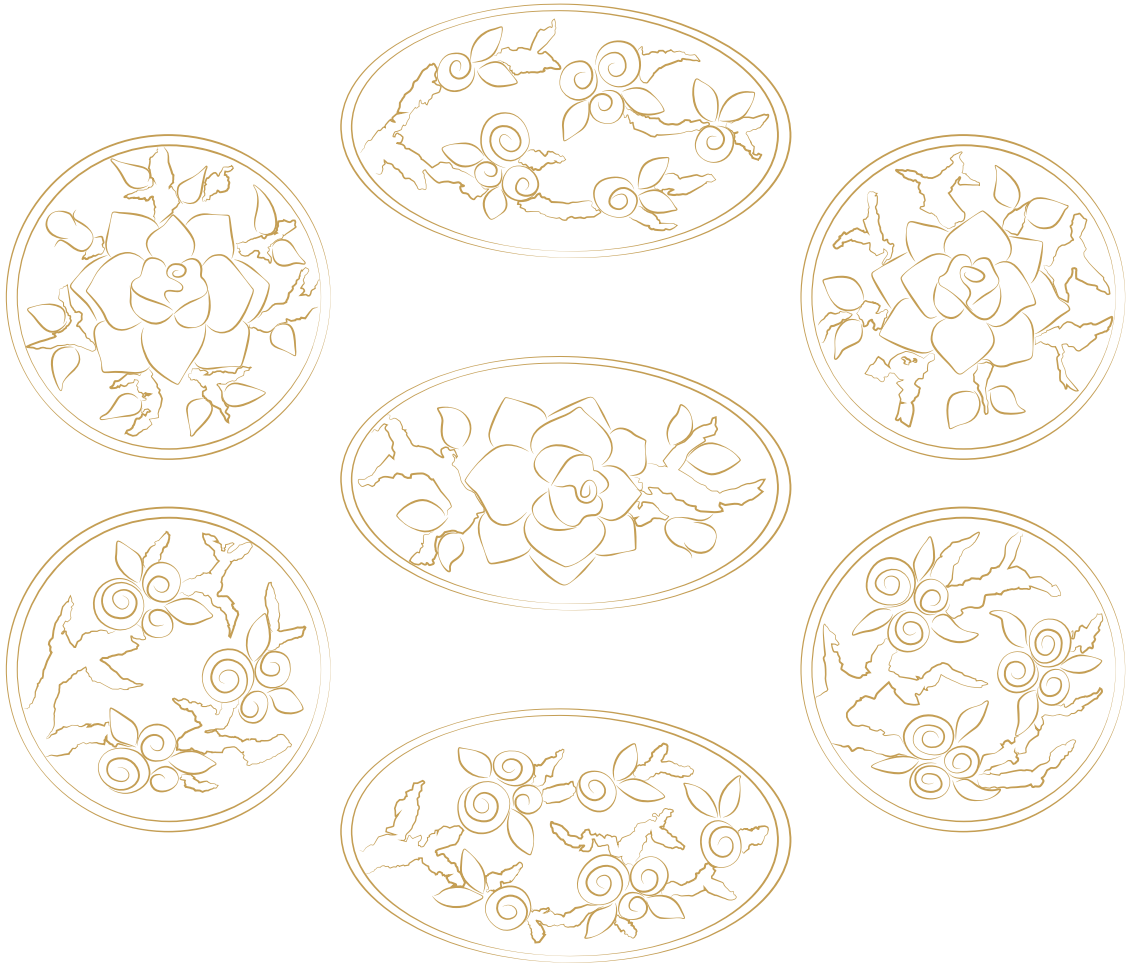
ES

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*Aimez bien vos amours ; aimez l'amour qui rêve
Une rose à la lèvre et des fleurs dans les yeux ;
C'est lui que vous cherchez quand votre avril se lève,
Lui dont reste un parfum quand vos ans se font vieux.*

Germain Nouveau



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Joséphine de Staël fine jewellery revives the ancient technique of vitreous enamel, whose origins can be traced back to the ancient Egyptians. Joséphine specialises in the cloisonné technique, which she learnt from Georgian artisans, and combines this with the delicacy of the fine jewellery techniques she learnt in Paris to create unique pieces that reflect the tradition and continual evolution of this historic art form.

The handmade process of creation can take up to ten hours for each piece. It begins with forming the silver cloisonné wire into shapes, which sit on a fine silver base; then wet enamel powder is placed into the fields constructed by the wires, before a first firing. Counter enamel is applied on the back to even out the tension on the metal. Four or five layers of thin enamel are applied with firings in between, before the piece is ground down to an even surface and polished. Joséphine prides herself on the elegance and light heft of her work. She has developed a method to ensure maximum translucency and delicacy in the finished piece. Finally, pieces are set in a thin silver frame with brooch attachment. All of the metal and

enamel work is carried out by hand, using the best Japanese enamels to achieve the most beautiful colour range in her work. This highly technical process, using only the most precious raw materials, results in colourful jewels that last forever.

Joséphine's second collection, **L'Amour de l'Amour**, was inspired by Germain Nouveau's poem, which begins with the description of a rose. As we emerge from the global pandemic, celebrating love in the world around us has never been more important.























This 'lover's eye' is inspired by the eye miniatures that emerged in Britain around 1785 and were en vogue for half a century. This was a time before photography when British culture was infatuated with seeing and being seen so that looking became significant and codified. The lover's eye embodies the gaze of the lover with different glances conveying different emotions and messages, resulting in a jewel that is intimate and precious.

The lover's eye pendant was created using overglaze enamels used in traditional enamel painting, which Joséphine is studying with the renowned enamel portrait miniaturist Gillie Hoyte Byrom.



























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Dr. Joséphine de Staël is an enamel artist and jeweller. She spent her twenties in Paris, where she carried out her research on Parisian fine jewellery that culminated in her PhD in History of Design from the Royal College of Art, co-supervised by the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Half way through her research she 'went native' as she decided to train as a jeweller herself at Paris' oldest and most prestigious jewellery school, the Haute Ecole de Joaillerie. She obtained the French national CAP (Certificat d'aptitude professionnelle) in fine jewellery in 2018. During the school holidays Joséphine trained with one of the great masters of enamelling in Limoges (the historic centre of goldsmiths and enamellers in France), Jean François Dehays. From the very first lesson she was enthralled by the complexity of the technique and the magic of the colours achievable with vitreous enamel. Joséphine's childhood experiences accompanying her mother on anthropological fieldwork to the South Pacific inspired her to take on a role of artisan anthropologist, travelling to Georgia to study the cloisonné technique in its country of origin.



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