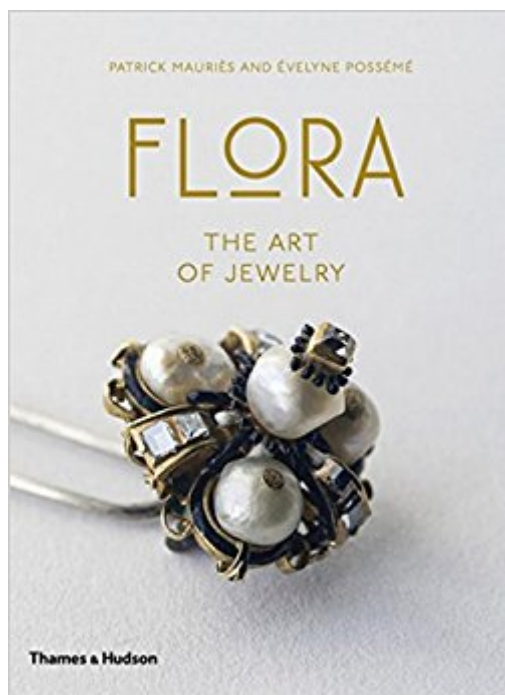


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# Flora



## Synopsis

A dazzling collection of jewelry imitating flowers, from the seventeenth century to today. For many centuries, flowers have provided a source of inspiration for jewelers. The sumptuous selection of floral pieces in this book have all been selected from the magnificent jewelry collection of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, and range from the seventeenth century to the present day. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, flowers were imitated in enamel or used as motifs for elaborate bodice ornaments made of gemstones. Brooches, pendants, and rings took the form of bouquets or flower baskets. The stylized blooms of the Empire style were followed by the highly naturalistic blossoms of the later nineteenth century. Flowers continued to flourish in the sinuous shapes of Art Nouveau, the geometric designs of Art Deco, and the sculptural simplicity of modernism, with great artists including René Lalique and Georges Fouquet constantly reworking nature's forms for their style-conscious clientele. Now, contemporary designers such as Claude Lallanne, Lorenz Bäumer, and JAR continue to create floral jewelry for today's trendsetters. Beautifully photographed by renowned photographer Jean-Marie del Moral, these intricate works of art will delight all lovers of jewelry and nature. 100+ illustrations

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“This is a charming little book that reveals how flowers have long been a source of inspiration for jewelers...The authors, well-known jewelry experts and historians, examine remarkable designs that celebrate flowers and nature in this book.” - Association for the Study of Jewelry and Related Arts

Patrick MauriÃ's is an aficionado of private collections and cabinets of curiosities. He is the author of Cabinets of Curiosities, Fornasetti, and Jewelry by Chanel. Evelyn PossÃ©mÃ© chief curator at the MusÃ©e des Arts DÃ©coratifs in the Art Nouveau, Art Deco, and antique and modern jewelry department. Jean-Marie del Moral is a photographer. He has contributed to many books and publications such as Vogue andÂ Travel and Leisure.

I was on page 30, when I felt compelled to stop reading, run to my computer and write this review! This book is AMAZING! As a jeweler, whose forte is botanicals, this book sang to me. I absolutely love the closeups and applaud the decision, by the authors, to photograph the (normally) hidden side of the jeweler's art. Photographing jewelry, in this manner, offers us paeans an almost voyeuristic look into the underpinnings of the work: linking methods, pin stem design, hidden bails, setting techniques, etc. As a jeweler, this is exciting to see. If you aren't a jeweler, looking this closely at jewelry will give you some idea of the difficulty and skill required to produce such lovely work. The book is almost as good as being able to handle the work itself, examining its construction and seeing the marks made by the jeweler's hand. As I mentioned, at the beginning of this review, I didn't get too far into the book but, from my quick scan of the other pages, I could see that most of the images are of older works. The latest date, that I saw, was from 2002. So, if you only want to look at recently made jewelry, this book is not for you. But, for me, Flora is like a chocolate, hot fudge and caramel sundae topped with homemade whipped cream. Yum!

If ever there is a book that lets you look into the way jewelry is really made to have the quality and look, this book has it. The pieces are uniquely beautiful, and tasteful, it showcases what a good piece of jewelry should be and how it should have been made, Aside from the great historical value and design it has.

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