

Bazaar ACCESSORIES

J E W E L B O A

*As Hemmerle
debuted their latest
collection at TEFAF*

*New York last month, Bazaar
speaks to the family behind the
Munich-based House on their
inspirations, and their love
of unusual materials*

A cauliflower
fashioned out of white
diamonds, white gold, and silver.

Ancient Egyptian motifs recreated in
rubies, sapphires, and tsavorites. Enchanting
and thought-provoking, the jewellery designed
by Hemmerle is unparalleled in its technique and
storytelling.

Not only is every piece they produce one-of-a-kind,
but each has a surprise element within it.

"We want to give a gemstone a precious home.

We try to create a design around the stone.

If you only use gold, silver, or platinum

[in which to set], you become

limited by what you can do

with colour," says Christian

Hemmerle, the fourth-

generation

jeweller

who

now runs the House

with his parents and wife, Yasmine.

Founded in 1893 by brothers Joseph and

Anton Hemmerle, the family specialised in crafting
medals and royal orders for the Bavarian royal family.

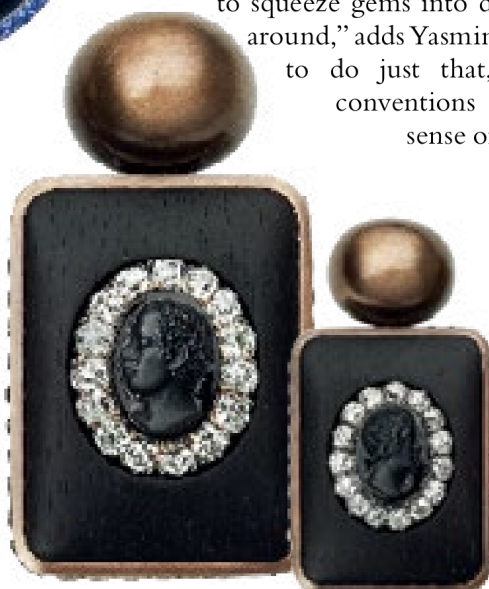
In 1995, Joseph's grandson Stefan and his wife Sylveli took
over and transformed it into the innovative institution it is today.

"My father-in-law is someone who's attracted to so many things,
even a paperclip," says Yasmine. "I remember that I went to a gem
show with the family around the time I first started working with them,
and asked then, what I should be looking out for. Their answer surprised
me—"We will look, and we will let our inspiration be guided by what we
find." The couple began working with iron and brass, which were unusual
materials to choose in their line of business.

Most recently the team has started to anodise aluminium
(an electrochemical process that converts the metal surface into
a colourful finish). "Once you start experimenting, it is difficult to
stop," adds Christian, who also dabbles with copper, stainless steel,
brass, and silver that he mixes with extraordinary gemstones.

"The gemstone drives the inspiration. You shouldn't try
to squeeze gems into design, it should be the other way
around," adds Yasmine. And the Hemmerles continue
to do just that, continuously challenging
conventions with their inimitable
sense of design and wit. ■

(From above) Hemmerle
earrings set with sapphires,
aluminium, and white gold;
earrings in cameos,
diamonds, ebony, bronze,
and white gold; and
Harmony bangle in jade,
tsavorites, ebony, silver,
and white gold, all prices
upon request.



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By Sitara Mulchandani
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