

Trends



Mattioli



Roberto Coin

# Chocolate – An International Taste Treat

Brown is the new *black* in jewelry design, and there is no better example than the delicious chocolate jewels that are being created around the world.

>> Kyra Brenzinger, Contributing Writer



Brumani

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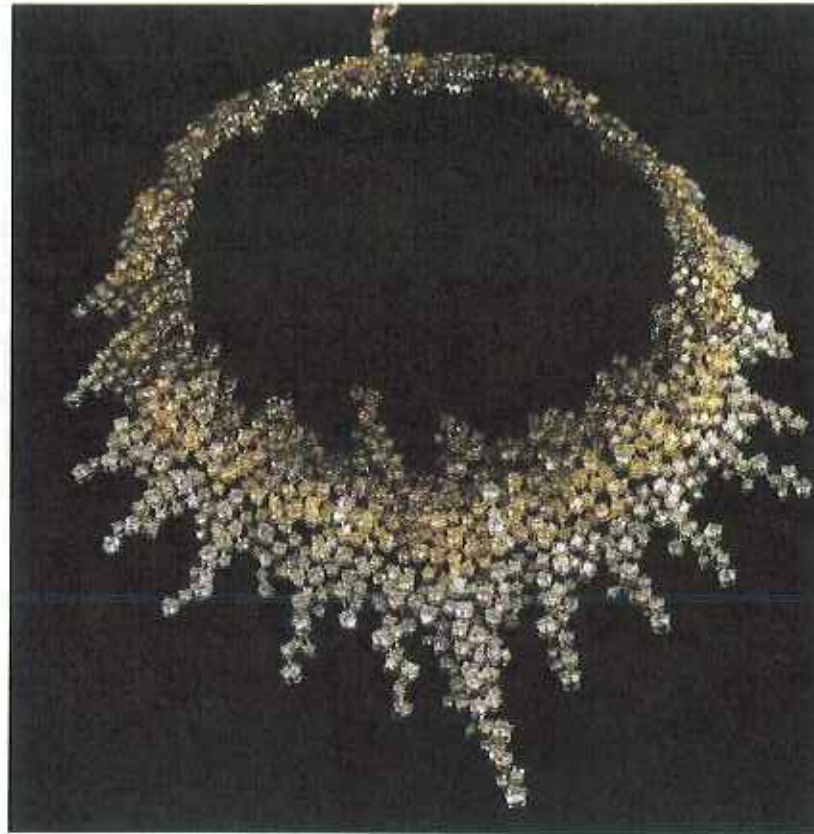


Manali Couture





Lorenz Bäumer



Damiani



Garavelli



Yael Sonia



Gadi Designs

Just ask most jewelry designers and retailers and they will confirm that chocolate is not just for eating. Whether in pearls, gemstones, or diamonds, chocolate is the must-have color for the 2008 season. Fawaz Gruosi of Swiss-based De Grisogono, couldn't agree more. He has created cuff bracelets featuring chocolate brown diamonds as well as magnificent necklaces in chocolate pearls and diamonds. Pearl expert, Alain Boite, of the Place Vendôme in Paris, confirms this major trend.

## Chocolate is the must-have color for the 2008 season.

"It started a couple of years ago and is continuing. For natural-color chocolate pearls, they are available in the Tahitian variety."

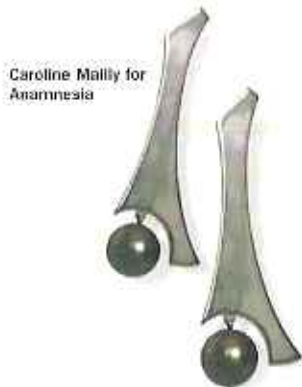




Femini



Benedikt Aichele



Caroline Maillly for Anamnesia



De Grisogono



Daniela Baumgartner



Misaki

CHOCOLATE PEARLS

Among some of the other French designers, who have taken up the call for chocolate pearls, are Daniela Baumgartner with her long sautoirs, Caroline Maillly for Anamnesia, Benedikt Aichele with his "Planète Désir," Isabelle Souppé for In Fine with an innovative pendant, and Louis with the "Reiens-Moi" collection.

The taste for chocolate has also spread across the oceans.

In next door Italy, chocolate pearls are favorites of brands such as Femini, Roberta Porriati, and Mattioli, which also uses brown mother-of-pearl in his fashionable creations. The taste for chocolate has also spread across the oceans and is interpreted in delectable necklaces and bracelets by Israeli-based Yvel, one of the first designers to use chocolate pearls in his collections, and USA-based Mark Silverstein, who surrounds his delicate pearl earrings and rings with diamonds.





Loris



Yvel



Heposi



Roberta Porrali



Mark Silverstein Imagines



Isabelle Soupe for In Fine



Trends



Roberto Coin



Pippo Pieroz



Guy Ellia



Manoel Bernardes



Zil Jewels



Wempe

CHOCOLATE DIAMONDS AND GEMSTONES

While diamonds may be forever, trends are constantly changing. And the trend today is for brown diamonds. The popularity is quite surprising since, at one time, this color was considered next to worthless. The brown hue apparently comes from the presence of nitrogen or hydrogen atoms that are substituted for carbon atoms in the molecular structure.

In many creations, brown or chocolate diamonds are often associated with other fancy diamonds or brown-tone gemstones. Among the gemstones falling into the chocolate category are smoky quartz, tiger's eye, agate, chalcedony, citrine, jade, topaz, and zircon.

Italian designer Roberto Coin highlights chocolate diamonds in his "Fantasy" collection, while he takes a whimsical look with his "Chocolate" pendant that someone has taken a bite out of. The Italian creator, Pippo Pieroz, also adds whimsy to his brown and white diamond frog ring. German jeweler Wempe pairs diamonds with smoky quartz, as does USA-based Gadi Designs. Place Vendôme artist, Lorenz Bäumer, takes inspiration from Nature for his "Outsin" ring featuring a large chocolate diamond in the center. Also from France, Guy Ellia mixes chocolate and other fancy diamonds in his pieces, as does USA-based Manak Couture.

Aside from diamonds, creativity in "brown" is seen in pieces by Brazilian creators Brumani, Yael Sonia, and Zil Jewels, as well as Italian designer Garavelli.

So, whether you like your chocolate in dark or light shades, or mixed with other colors, one thing is sure: Its tasty appeal is international.

