



**FIVE
MINUTES
WITH ...**



With a long list of career achievements already to her name (including general manager of communications for Chanel), Susie Stenmark is now focusing her talents on designing jewellery.

What led you to become a jewellery designer?

No item of apparel, no handbag, no shoe – I'd almost go as far as saying no artwork – makes my heart beat as fast as jewellery does. It's been that way since I was a child and spent my pocket money on arm-loads of bangles.

What are the inspirations for your jewellery?

Exploring the concept of adornment is very inspiring to me. It's the idea of decorating yourself, of making yourself more beautiful with jewellery that has a meaning to you – even if that meaning is just to be playful or to feel glamorous. Architecture, nature, and, above all, colour

also inspire me. I do believe you should gild the lily.

Is there a philosophy behind your brand?

I want to become part of the great tradition of jewellery making by employing classic techniques, but especially by using classic motifs.

Jewellery should beautify – you won't see any skulls or crossbones in my collections.

There are so many amazing gems and stones in the collection; where do you source them?

I travel regularly to the coloured-stone capitals of the world, India and Thailand, where every shade and variety of every gem you can

imagine are available. It's like a candy store for me!

Will you be launching seasonal collections?

I will add to my collection seasonally, because I want to entice a woman with something new, but I also aim to create future classics that will be available on an ongoing basis.

What are your favourite pieces in the collection?

I love the casual swing of the long basket-weave necklace in pink opal, and I'm currently so in love with my snowflake ring in red sapphires and diamonds.

For more information, see stenmarkjewels.com or call 0408 029 744.