



**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](http://stenmarkjewels.com) or call 0408 029 744.*