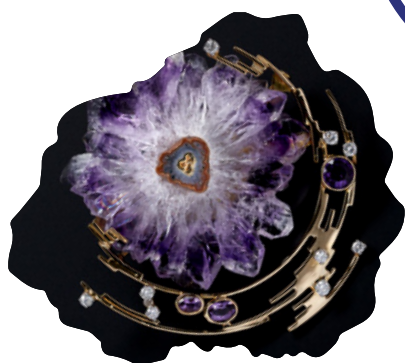


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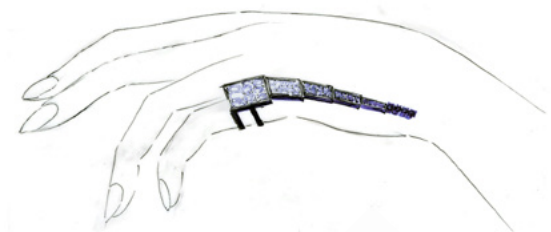
JEWEL



# WHO IS JEAN VENDOME?

**Vendome? He adopted this name at the beginning of his career, as a tribute to the famous Parisian square where you can find the biggest names in jewelry. But Jean Vendome's real name was Ohan Tuhdarian.**

Ohan Tuhdarian was born in Lyon on 18 April 1930, to Armenian parents. He grew up near Paris and discovered his **calling as a jeweler** at a very young age. "I started when I was 5 years old. I was given brushes, paint, colours, and I recreated everything I saw." As a teenager, he learned the craft from his uncle, who was also a jeweler. He also attended drawing and **gemology classes**, and was able to **learn all the stones by heart**.





In 1950, Jean Vendome released his first jewelry collection. He amazed everyone by transforming a gold nugget into cufflinks. From then on, his work was exhibited with some of the greatest artists of the 20th century, such as Salvador Dalí (1904-1989), famous for his "melting watches" painting, and Georges Braque (1882 - 1963), a genius as famous as Picasso. The jeweler didn't stop creating until his death in 2017. During his career, he made over 30.000 rings, necklaces and bracelets.

Each piece he made is recognizable straight away! This is because Jean Vendome had his own special touch: he paid special attention to shapes and architecture, a subject that really inspired him. He could also use his imagination and take inspiration from a block of ice or a skyscraper. His main passion was minerals and he collected them with a passion: tourmalines, rainbow stones, so-called "phantom" quartz... Even crab claws can be transformed into jewelry! Jean Vendome was never afraid to mix different kinds of materials and he acted "like a painter with his palette».

# MOLDAVITE

**Even though its name is really similar to Moldova, a country in between Romania and Ukraine, it doesn't come from there!**

It is named after the longest river in the **Czech Republic**, which is called the **Moldau**. The most beautiful specimens of Moldavite found to date come from this region.

**Moldavite** is a kind of natural glass that was created when meteorites hit the earth's surface several million years ago.

**What is glass?** Glass is made up of silica (like sand for example) which has been heated to a very high temperature: over 1300°C. For moldavite, it was the impact of a very hot meteorite into the earth's surface that caused the silica to be transformed into glass.

**Moldavite** is a very distinctive translucent bottle green color. Its surface is often grooved and it looks like it has been engraved.



# MOLDAVITE

• JEAN VENDOME, UNION BROOCH/PENDANT, 1987, YELLOW GOLD, MOLDAVITE, CITRINE, YELLOW SAPPHIRE, DIAMONDS •





# MOLDAVITE

JEAN VENDOME, FRISELIS RING AND EARRINGS, 2003, YELLOW GOLD, MOLDAVITE, PERIDOTS



# MOLDAVITE

JEAN VENDOME, BROOCH/PENDANT, YELLOW GOLD, CULTURED PEARLS, MOLDAVITE



# AGATE & FLAME AGATE

**This stone is named after the river Akhatês, in the south of Sicily.**

**Why?** Because that is where the gem was found in ancient times. Today it can be found all over the world: in **Brazil, Bulgaria, the United States, India, Mexico and Pakistan.**

**Agate** is a variety of **chalcedony**. It is often **translucent**, so the light passes through it but if you put a piece of paper with writing on the other side of it, you wouldn't be able to read the words. Agate is never plain, it typically has areas of different shades and colors. These areas of color look like a landscape if you let your imagination run wild. This gem is a true collector's item and has been used in jewelry, especially in thin slices, since the 1970s.

Belonging to the large family of agates, **flame agate** is a dark red agate.





# FLAME AGATE

AGATE

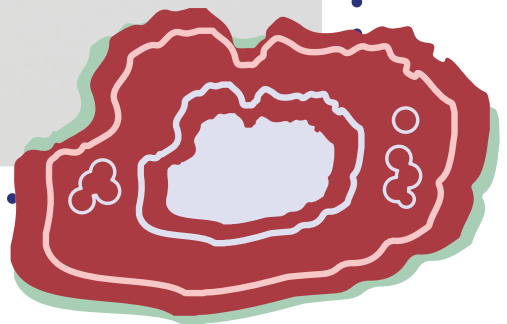
JEAN VENDOME, TRYPTIQUE (TRIPTYCH) PENDANT, 1987, YELLOW GOLD, AGATE, DIAMONDS, SAPPHIRES



# FLAME AGATE

AGATE

JEAN VENDOME, MAGRITTE BROOCH, 1980, YELLOW GOLD AND AGATE





# TOURMALINE & WATERMELON TOURMALINE

**Talking to a gemologist about tourmaline is like opening up a box with a rainbow inside.**

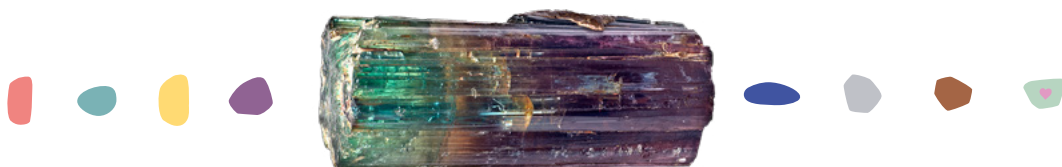
Tourmaline comes in all different kinds of colors. Its rough shape resembles a striped baguette or a needle. The name tourmaline is said to come from the Sinhalese language in Sri Lanka: **"Thuramali"** or **"thoramali"** which means **"stone of mixed colors"**.

According to Sri Lankan legend, tourmaline crossed a rainbow on its way down to Earth. This explains why the stone can be so many different colours.

Tourmalines have a glazed appearance and come in a wide variety of colors. Its name can change depending on the color of the stone. Some names are: **Rubellite** (pink to red), **Verdelite** (green), **Liddicoatite** (yellow), **Siberite** (violet blue), **Indigolite** (blue), **Achroite** (colorless), **Dravite** (brown), **Watermelon** (green with a pink centre).

Tourmaline mainly comes from Minas Gerais in Brazil, Sri Lanka, Russia, the United States and India.

The stone quickly became a favorite of jewelers, especially for use in sacred jewelry. In the 17th century, a red tourmaline was added to the Russian crown. Two hundred years later in China, Empress Tzu Hsi became passionate about pink tourmaline. She decided to reserve all of the tourmaline production in Southern California for herself. She used tourmaline to make brooches, buttons for her clothes and even used it on her watch straps.



TOURMALINE &

INTERVIEW ON TOURMALINE

JEAN VENDOME, PENDANT, YELLOW GOLD, PHANTOM QUARTZ, TOURMALINE AND DIAMONDS

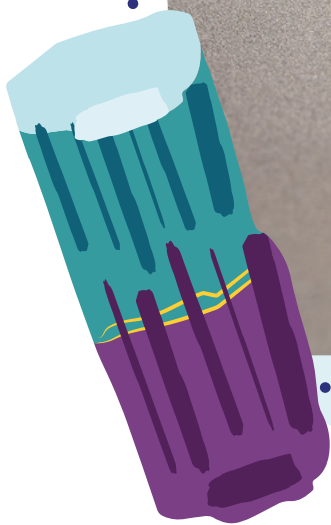




# TOURMALINE &

## AN INTERVIEW ON TOURMALINE

JEAN VENDOME, FENÊTRE (WINDOW) RING, 1968, WHITE GOLD AND TOURMALINE





# TOURMALINE &

## AN INTERVIEW ON TOURMALINE

• JEAN VENDOME, ROSE BROOCH, 1974, YELLOW GOLD, TOURMALINES •



# RUTILATED QUARTZ

**Quartz is one of the most common minerals on the earth's surface, yet it is anything but ordinary.**

In the big **Quartz** family, there is one quartz in particular that grabs our attention: **the rutilated quartz**. This gem has been around since ancient times and is mainly used as a decorative stone.

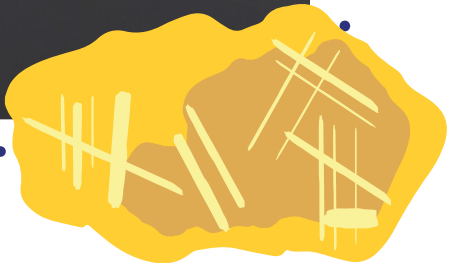
And with good reason! **This material varies in color from pale beige to deep black and from brown to chestnut, with areas of transparency.** Most importantly, this sometimes colorless material has golden or reddish needles, which explains the term "**rutilus**", meaning "**red**" in Latin. Its color is due to the titanium that creates the needles. Poetically, the needles are also called "**angel hair**" or "**Venus hair**". This is because Renaissance painters - such as Botticelli - decided that Venus was blonde.

The needles spread through the stone during growth and as a result, each stone has a very unique look.



# RUTILATED QUARTZ

JEAN VENDOME, ÉTOILE (STAR) NECKLACE, 1998, WHITE GOLD, YELLOW GOLD, RUTILATED QUARTZ IN A STAR SHAPE, TOURMALINE, YELLOW SAPPHIRE



# RUTILATED QUARTZ

JEAN VENDOME, BROOCH, YELLOW GOLD, YELLOW DIAMONDS, DIOPTASE, RUTILATED QUARTZ



# PHANTOM QUARTZ

## Phantom quartz is a special kind of quartz.

When we look at it up close, it looks like it has different shapes inside. This is because the stone goes through a very special growth process, and “grows” in stages. When it isn’t growing, other elements attach themselves to its surface. Then, when the growth starts again, these elements become trapped and make contour marks.

**Phantom quartz** is mainly a collector’s stone - it is almost never found in jewelry. However, Jean Vendome knew exactly how to give this gem a special place in his work.





# PHANTOM QUARTZ

• JEAN VENDOME, EFFIGIE (EFFIGY) PENDANT, PHANTOM QUARTZ, WHITE GOLD •



# PHANTOM QUARTZ

• JEAN VENDOME, RING, YELLOW GOLD, PHANTOM QUARTZ, DIAMONDS, GREEN BERYLS •



# PHANTOM QUARTZ

JEAN VENDOME, BROOCH/PENDANT, CIRCA 1990, YELLOW GOLD, EMERALDS, TOURMALINES, APOPHYLLITE, PHANTOM QUARTZ AND QUARTZ CRYSTALS



# AMETHYST

**Amethysts are found in the form of geodes, which are cavities within rocks. They can be enormous - big enough for a human to stand on!**

**Amethyst is found mainly in Brazil, Uruguay, Zambia and Mexico.**

According to Greek mythology, **Dionysus, the god of wine**, wanted the nymph **Amethystos**, but she did not want him. She asked for help from **Artemis, the goddess of hunting**. To help the nymph escape Dionysus' advances, Artemis transformed her into a white rock. Furious that he had been humiliated, Dionysus poured wine onto the rock, which turned it purple.

It then became common to drink wine from cups made of amethyst. Firstly because it made the color of the wine brighter, and secondly, because it was easier to gradually replace the wine with water as the guests got drunk. This is probably where the idea that amethyst helps to reduce drunkenness comes from.





# AMETHYST

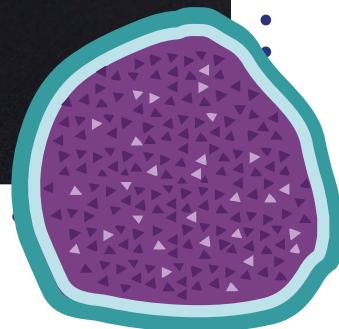
• JEAN VENDOME, BROOCH/PENDANT, YELLOW GOLD, DIAMONDS, AMETHYST FLOWER •





# AMETHYST

JEAN VENDOME, DOUBLE S RING, 1968, WHITE GOLD, AMETHYST AND AQUAMARINE



# AMETHYST

JEAN VENDOME, VITRAIL (STAINED-GLASS WINDOW) NECKLACE, 1990s, YELLOW GOLD, AMETHYST, DIAMONDS



# OPAL

**Opal is a fascinating gem. It sparkles with thousands of colors. The bursts of colors make it look like a magic stone.**

In ancient times, it was considered to be the most beautiful gem to exist. In many countries it is seen as **a good luck charm, a sign of fortune, beauty and health**. According to legend, an opal would turn pale in front of an evil person and blush red in front of a good person.

But since the 19th century in France, it has been associated with a curse. The truth is that opals are **very fragile and that makes them difficult to attach to jewelry**. Jewelers and gem setters would have wanted to avoid using opals, and so spread the rumor of the curse.

Opal is found in **Australia, the United States, the Bohemian region, Ethiopia, Mexico, Hungary, Canada** but also in **France in Puy de Dôme, Cher, Dordogne, Var** and even **Paris**.

Opals come in a variety of color schemes with different background colors, such as **black, grey, white or colorless**.



# OPAL

• JEAN VENDOME, BOULE (BALL) RING, 1972, YELLOW GOLD AND MATRIX OPAL •



# OPAL

JEAN VENDOME, RING, 2001, YELLOW GOLD, TRAPICHE EMERALD, BOULDER OPAL, DIAMONDS





# AMMONITES

**Are ammonites snails in rock form? No, they are actually fossils of sea creatures.**

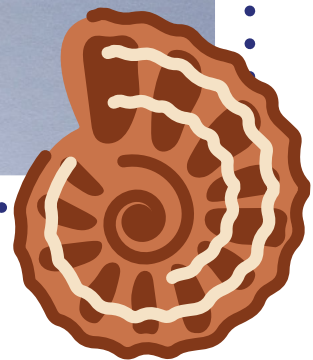
**Ammonites** are cephalopods like octopus, cuttlefish, and nautilus. They were organic and bio-mineral matter, living beings such as shells, which slowly mineralized. These fossils can **take us very far back in time** as they can be millions of years old.

**Ammonites are found in all sizes, from 1cm up to 2 meters !** Their spiral shape looks like the curling horns you would find on a ram, and this inspired their name. The scientific name ammonite comes from the **Egyptian god Amon**, who was depicted with ram's horns: the "horns of Ammon".



# AMMONITES

JEAN VENDOME, AMMONITE PENDANT NECKLACE/BROOCH, 1968, YELLOW GOLD, WHITE GOLD, PINK GOLD, AMMONITES



# DINOSAUR BONES

**We know that dinosaurs have been extinct for a long, long time.**

They were alive a very long time ago, between 240 and 66 million years. But thanks to their bones that have **fossilized over time**, we have a record of them.

**Dinosaur bone was a material that Jean Vendome found very interesting.** He incorporated pieces that were carved from a fossilized dinosaur bone into cufflinks for General de Gaulle. What could be a better symbol of strength for the World War II hero and former President of the Republic, than the bones of an ancient giant?



# OS DE DINOSAURE

JEAN VENDOME, MOCK-UP OF CUFFLINKS DESIGNED FOR GENERAL DE GAULLE, CIRCA 1965, YELLOW GOLD, FOSSILIZED DINOSAUR BONES



# CRAB CLAWS

**If you take a look at jewelry from around the world, you will often find materials that come from the sea.**

In Africa or Oceania for example, we find a lot of shells. Mother-of-pearl is also used on many ornaments.

**It is much rarer to find crab claws!** And for a good reason: preserving crab claws requires a lot of technical skill. They are very fragile once their flesh has been removed, so their very fine and delicate structure easily splits or collapses. Jean Vendome was able to prevent these risks and use this unusual material in his works.





# CRAB CLAWS

JEAN VENDOME, LE DORMEUR (BROWN CRAB) NECKLACE, 1991, SILVER, CRAB CLAWS, GARNETS



# CRAB CLAWS

• • • JEAN VENDOME, RENCONTE (ENCOUNTER) NECKLAGE, 2007, YELLOW GOLD, SILVER, LAPIS LAZULI, CULTURED PEARLS, SAPPHIRES, CRAB CLAWS • • •



# ONYX

**According to mythology, the goddess of love Venus, was asleep one day. Whilst she was sleeping, her son Cupid cut her nails. The small pieces scattered on the ground.**

As anything that comes from a divine body cannot die, the Fates, the master deities of human destiny, collected her nails. They turned them into stones and **named them onyx, which means nail in Greek.**

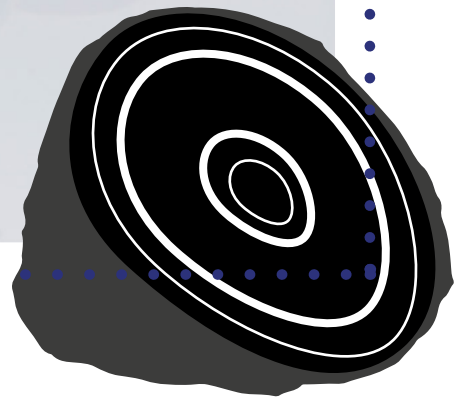
Onyx belongs to the chalcedony family and is an intense deep black color, opaque and very shiny. It is mainly found in Brazil, Mexico and Uruguay, but also in South Africa, Germany, Austria, the United States, India and Italy.

Its uses have varied over time and according to different civilizations. In ancient times, onyx was often engraved to make seals. In Europe during the Middle Ages, the stone was associated with evil because of its black color. In some Arab traditions, it is a symbol of sadness. In the 19th century in the West, onyx was used to decorate mourning jewelry. In the 1920s and 30s, the Art Deco movement used onyx in combination with other stones to create a graphic effect, attaching it to geometric shapes and creating contrasts.



ONYX

JEAN VENDOME, EARRINGS, YELLOW GOLD, WHITE GOLD, DIAMONDS, LAPIS LAZULI, ONYX



ONYX

• JEAN VENDOME, OBLIQUE NECKLACE, 1984, YELLOW GOLD, TOURMALINES, ONYX •







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