Lainey Papageorge
A Retrospective
40 years of jewelry design

October 11 – November 8, 2014

The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia
FOREWORD AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is with great pride that The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCA GA) presents Lainey Papageorge: A Retrospective, 40 years of jewelry design. Ms. Papageorge is a remarkable woman with a gentle and creative spirit that is evident in every carefully crafted work of art. Her special connection to nature, her sculptural approach, and her use of metals, stones and bones offers the viewer an insight into her true essence as a visual artist. This exhibition includes nearly 120 works, the majority of which are from private collections. As the viewer studies the chronology of the works, the evolution of her various forms becomes evident and the individual personalities of her longtime clients is recognized.

We hope that you will enjoy this catalogue. Many thanks to Annie Osburn for the insightful interview with Ms. Papageorge and to MOCA GA staff Shana Barefoot Scott and Amy Kicklighter for their graphic design work and Eric Kaepplinger for his installation design. Finally, I would like to offer a warm thank you to my dear and longtime friend, Lainey Papageorge, a true precious gem.

— Annette Cone-Skelton, President/CEO/Director/Founder
The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia

The jewelry designs of Lainey Papageorge orbit the gems and minerals that have inspired her for the past 40 years. As a child, walking for hours among the creeks of the Fernbank Forest that bordered her home in the Druid Hills area of Atlanta, Papageorge’s artistic journey began. It was on these walks that she made a connection with the beauty of rocks and crystals. While at Emory University, she explored self-expression through modern dance. Her training in movement and choreography would later become a natural bridge to creating jewelry for the lines and shapes of the human body.

Following early years as an apprentice under a master jeweler in Stone Mountain, Georgia, and doing jewelry repairs in a small antique shop in Seattle’s Pioneer Square, Papageorge found her calling. Her perspective grew from the mechanics of jewelry making into the heart of a designer. Four decades later, Papageorge’s studio jewelry still echoes the essence of that most ancient tradition of human adornment.

Known for evoking a meaningful response to her work, Papageorge reflects her own dedication to master craftsmanship. The crystalline structures held within gems peak her interest as a designer – a gentle reminder to stay connected to that quiet place within. Moments of meditation spent on a warm slab of granite at her studio retreat in the Finger Lakes region of New York have inspired Papageorge to explore the healing properties of the stones that give ballast to her jewelry. Papageorge’s body of work also reflects her travels to the Pacific Northwest, East Coast, the Mediterranean, Cumberland Island, Hawaii, and beyond.

In retrospect, Papageorge’s life as a consummate jewelry designer began in 1976 when she boldly moved from Seattle and traveled the Inside Passage to Skagway, Alaska, armed only with a box of metalsmithing tools. Years later, she founded the renowned Illumina Gallery in Atlanta in 1987, featuring the work of more than 80 gold and silversmiths worldwide. Since 2007, she has created custom work and commissions as Elaina Designs from her Drewry Street Studio in Atlanta.

3 Moon Over My Home at 9th and Spring Street (Alaska Series) 1978-79. Pendant: diamond, gold nuggets, 18KT. Aegean link chain: 14KT. Fabricated by LP.
Celebrating her long and rich career, The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCA GA) presents this 40 year retrospective of the jewelry designs of Lainey Papageorge. Spanning early work, which incorporated landscapes of tiny scenes of silhouetted spruce trees and gold nugget mountains studded with gems for the Alaskan tourist trade, to her rock and bone series from the shores of Seneca Lake, to her signature series of Orbit bracelets and necklaces, Papageorge’s jewelry blends gems and minerals with 18KT and 14KT pink, green, apricot, white, and yellow gold in a powerful and bold brilliance that have become her hallmark.

Motivated by the process of discovering and capturing what she sees among the stones, Papageorge’s jewelry maintains a unique fingerprint. Her kinship with other jewelry designers has created masterpieces working in collaboration with Kent Raible, Janet Alix, Paula Crevoshay, Maija Neimanis, and Jeff and Susan Wise. Above all, Papageorge is known for her interplay of color with a wide variety of materials. Bone, shell, mica, quartz, creek rocks, pearls, turquoise, aquamarine, emerald, ruby, sapphire, opal, spinel, diamonds, and the exquisite Paraiba tourmaline are just a taste of what rests on Papageorge’s workbench. Bringing a depth to her designs is the joy of working closely with clients and developing deep personal relationships. Throughout her career, she has listened to the stones, watching them, as she says, only truly come alive in the human hand.

Collectively, this MOCA GA 40-year retrospective of Papageorge’s body of work includes seldom seen pieces on loan from faithful collectors to splendid recent pieces. The exhibit puts Papageorge’s body of work in context for the first time, making it possible to see the breadth and scope of her career. While her masterful use and love of color is evident from the start, Papageorge’s choice of materials reflects her ingenuity to pull from the world around her and bring vision to three-dimensional form.

— Essay by Annie Osburn
Jewelry arts writer, author, and publisher

7 Tree and Moon, 1974. Pendant: moonstone, engraved copper, sterling. Fabricated by LP.
8 Setting Sun (Alaska Series) 1976. Ring: carnelian, fire agate, 14KT. Fabricated by LP.
9 Snow Cut Mountain, Moon and Star (Alaska Series) 1975. Bracelet: sterling, brass, hand-engraved. Fabricated by LP.
11 Kinetic T-Square, 1978. Earrings: onyx, amber, heishi nut, rubber washer ring, 14KT. Fabricated by LP.
13 Bags and Bows, 1980. Earrings: baroque pearl, 18KT. Fabricated by LP.
14  *U Turn*, 1974. Earrings: pearl, sterling. Fabricated by LP.
16 *Night Sky*, 1979. Earrings: sapphire, lapis lazuli, 18KT. Fabricated by LP.
17 *For Katherine*, 1981. Pendant on Aegean link chain: diamond, gold nugget, 18KT. Fabricated by LP.
20 *Made for Myself*, 1984. Earrings: natural Mississippi River pink pearl, imperial topaz, natural gold nuggets, 18KT. Fabricated by LP.
23 *Sunset on Seneca Lake*, 1990. Orbit necklace: labradorite, indicolite, rubellite, tanzanite, amethyst, moonstone, 14KT. Fabricated by LP.
24 *Shooting Stars*, (*Seneca Lake Series*) 1983. Earrings: garnet, labradorite, Mexican opal, 14KT. Forged and fabricated by LP.

For Susan, 1984. Hinged neckpiece: diamond, 18KT. Forged and fabricated by LP.


29 Ocean, (Cumberland Island Series) 1990. Earrings: paraiba, chrysoprase, boulder opal, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.

30 Alexandra, My Moon Child, 1993. Pin: blister pearl, quartz, aquamarine, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

31 Owl Angel, (Seneca Lake Series) 1993. Pendant: paraiba, turquoise, carp vertebrae, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

32 Water at Sunset, (Seneca Lake Series) 1991. Orbit bracelet: tourmaline, imperial topaz, andalucite, dyed pearls, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

33 Marion, Lady with a Big Heart, (Seneca Lake Series) 1993. Pin: goethite, rhodolite garnet, rock, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

34 Three Sisters, 1996. Ring: labradorite, zircon, sapphire, beryl, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Finding Balance Between the Worlds, 1998. Ring: boulder opal, spinel crystal, tsavorite, 18KT. Cast and fabricated by FMA.

Seneca Lake, 1986. Aegean link neckpiece: foil glass beads, raccoon penis bone, fish vertebrae, ammonite fossil, 14KT. Fabricated by LP.
Angel with Bone Wings, 1996. Brooch/Neckpiece: coral, fossil pyrite ammonite, Oregon sunstone, quartz, pearl, carp cheek bone, 14KT. FMA.

Clam Shell, 1996. Brooch: fossilized opal clam shell, paraiba, emerald, tanzanite, diamond, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Winged Being, (Seneca Lake Series) 1996. Pin: tourmaline, found bone, variscite, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Merkaba, 1997. Earrings: tourmaline, zircon, moonstone, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Little Girl Zoë, 1997. Bracelet: holly blue agate, paraiba, boulder opal, tanzanite, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.


Divine Mother and Three Sisters, 1997. Ring: Columbian emerald, paraiba, boulder opal, hauyanite, 18KT. Cast and fabricated by FMA.

Building Blocks of the Universe I, 1997. Brooch: black opal, tanzanite, Brazilian paraiba, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Floating in the Caribbean, 1997. Earrings/Pin/Enhancer: indicolite, paraiba, 14KT. Cast and fabricated by FMA.
13 **Woman with Rainhat**, (Yoga Rock Series) 1998. Pin: Italian coral, moonstone, banded jasper, labradorite, 14KT. Fabricated by LP.

48 **Elfina for Lucinda**, 1992. Pin/Slide: rutilated quartz, fossil walrus tusk, rock, topaz crystal, quartz, amethyst crystal, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
**49  Inky Black Night on Seneca Lake**, 1998. Ring: boulder opal, sapphire, 14KT. Cast and fabricated by FMA.

**Jellyfish** (Cumberland Island Series) 1999. Earrings: labradorite, black opal, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

**Lemon Shark** (Cumberland Island Series) 2000. Ring: tourmaline, gold nugget, fossil shark tooth, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

**Honoring the Monsters of Our Shadow Side** (Cumberland Island Series), 2000. Pendant: tourmaline, fossil shark tooth, gold nugget, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

**Great Mother Sustains Us All**, 1999. Pin: Koroit opal, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.

**Nike XII: Rosey Summit**, (Yoga Rock Series) 2000. Earrings: indicolite, tourmaline, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

**Walk the Straight and Narrow Path**, 2000. Bracelet: sterling, citrine, indicolite, sapphire, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

**Depths of the Subterranean** (Cumberland Island Series) 2000. Pin: diopside, drusy uvarovite garnet, fossil shark tooth, 14KT. FMA.

**Air Ether Being** (Yoga Rock Series) 2002. Pin: ametrine, citrine, rutilated quartz, champagne diamonds, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Dressed to Kill (Cumberland Island Series), 2000. Pin: puffer fish fossil, carved jasper, tourmaline, great white shark tooth, sterling, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.


Salt Marsh VIII: Low Tide, Bare Bottom (Cumberland Island Series) 2002. Pendant: sapphire, inclusionary quartz, ammonite fossil. 14KT. FMA.

Moon Rising Over the Atlantic Ocean (Cumberland Island Series) 2001. Pin: gem silica chrysacolla, mabe pearl, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Orbit Necklace for Dorothy, 2001. Orbit necklace: imperial topaz, aquamarine, opal, spinel, tourmaline, paraiba, sunstone, tanzanite, 14KT. FMA.

The Marsh (Cumberland Island Series) 2001. Earrings: tourmaline, moss agate, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Green Man Glow, (Yoga Rock Series) 2001. Earrings: pyrite crystal, aquamarine crystal, labradorite, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Pull of the Moon (Cumberland Island Series) 2002. Pin: carved imperial jasper, tourmaline, cast weathered moon shell, sterling. FMA.

Two Girls Dancing in the Light, (Yoga Rock Series) 1999. Earrings: Brazilian paraiba, tourmaline, hematite, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Woman on Top of the World, 1999. Brooch/Enhancer: Brazilian paraiba, apatite, pyrite, ammonite, andalusite, tsavorite, hematite, sphene, 14KT. FMA.

Serpent (Cumberland Island Series) 2003. Pin: padparacha sapphire, pyrite, garnet, turquoise, malachite, tourmaline, spinel, 14KT. FMA.
Opal Two Step (Yoga Rock Series) 2002. Earrings: blue opal, chrysocolla, carnelian, boulder opal, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Eye of the Shark, (Cumberland Island Series) 2002. Earrings: tourmaline, fossil shark teeth, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Louise’s, 2002. Orbit Necklace: rhodolite garnet, indicolite, Brazilian paraiba, amethyst, tourmaline, aquamarine, chalcedony, tanzanite, 18KT. FMA.

Green Fire, 2002. Orbit Bracelet: tourmaline, boulder opal, chrysoprase, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.


Fox on Tiptoes, (Yoga Rock Series) 2003. Pin: carved carnelian, chrysacolla, cuprite, boulder opal, gold nugget, sterling. Fabricated by FMA.

Blue Butterfly, 2003. Earrings/Pin: azurite, chrysacolla, cuprite, apatite, tsavorite, Mexican opal, sapphire, paraiba, topaz, zircon, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Sea Creatures (Cumberland Island Series) 2006. Earrings: chrysoprase, azurite-malachite, boulder opal, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

Marsh Grass Frond, (Cumberland Island Series) 2003. Pin: tourmaline, fossil shark tooth, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Sky Cathedral IV (Alaska Series) 2001. Pin/Slide: carved quartz, quartz with gold vein, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.

The Keeper (Cumberland Island Series) 2002. Pin: carved jasper, ruby, fossil puffer fish and shark tooth, paraiba, Montana agate, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Heart of Gold, 2004. Ring: sapphire, quartz with gold vein, vesuvianite, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
The Goddess For David, 2004. Watch Fob: sunstone, sapphire, freshwater Blister pearl, 14KT. Cast by FMA.
Building Blocks of the Universe II, 2005. Brooch/Earrings: beryl, zircon, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Setting Sun on Ocean, (Alaska Series) 2005. Pin/Enhancer: goethite, Brazilian paraiba, spinel, tourmaline, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Palomina Stallion at Dungeness, 2005. Brooch: citrine, drusy onyx, garnet, imperial topaz crystal, shark tooth, rutilated quartz briolette, 14 & 24KT. FMA.
Women’s Web IV, 2006. Necklace: blue flash moonstone, spinel, sapphire, pearl, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Dark Night with Stars Peeking Through, (Yoga Rock Series) 2006. Earrings: carved onyx, diamond, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Sacagawea for Lucinda, 2006. Pin: bruno jasper, garnet, Italian coral, Mexican opal, sterling, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Summer Solstice Dancing Divas (Yoga Rock Series) 2006. Earrings: indicolite, tourmaline, sapphire, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
92  *Pinky Still Dancing* (Yoga Rock Series) 2006. Slide/Pin: tourmaline, sapphire, spinel, ruby, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.

93  *Woman with the Moves*, (Yoga Rock Series) 2008. Pin: tourmaline, quartz with pyrite, ruby, abalone shell, freshwater pearls, sterling. Fabricated by FMA.
94  Screech Owl (Yoga Rock Series) 2006. Ring: Mookaite jasper, sapphire, 14KT. Cast by FMA.
95  Water Oak Acorn Top (Wave Action Series) 2010. Earrings: South Sea pearl, 18KT. Cast by FMA.
96  Golden Tears, (Yoga Rock Series) 2007. Earrings: fossil pyrite, quartz with gold vein, sapphire, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
98  He Found My Heart, 2007. Necklace: tourmaline, pearl, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
Three Sisters, 2005. Ring: hematite, sapphire, zircon, 14KT. Cast by FMA.

Women’s Web III, 2003. Hinged cuff bracelet: boulder opal, emerald, tsavorite, paraiba, ruby, spinel, sapphire, tourmaline, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
106 Firefly I, (Andrea Riddle Series) 2012. Pendant: citrine, quartz with gold vein, coin pearl, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
107 Irene II: Apricots from Greece and Floyd, 2012. Ring: spessartite garnet, orange sapphire, Nigerian garnet, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
109 Women’s Web V, 2013. Pendant: black opal, paraiba, sapphire, ruby, tsavorite, 18KT. Fabricated by FMA.
112 RE-Design for Annie, 2013. Pin: emerald, amethyst, diamond, 14KT. Fabricated by FMA.
113 Crater at Kilauea Volcano, Moon and Venus, (Hawaii Series) 2014. Cuff bracelet: pearl, zircon, sunstone, sapphire, sterling, 14KT. Fabricated by H/T/P.

Luna’s Ears, 2013. Necklace: psilomene, smokey quartz, citrine, onyx, labradorite, ammonite fossil, sterling. Fabricated by H/T/P.
Installation view of jewelry cases and video interview by Annie Osburn “Lainey Papageorge: 40 Years Dancing with the Mineral Kingdom”
Installation views of the six jewelry cases from Lainey Papageorge: A Retrospective, 40 years of jewelry design
ARTIST STATEMENT

Res-o-nance

Noun
1. The quality in a sound of being deep, full and reverberating.

When I design jewelry I experience resonance. Gems are pure color set in stone, vibrating at their own frequency, and if I listen closely it feels like a sound. The harmonics of color are the power in my artist's palette. No one taught me how to design, and I consider myself fortunate in that regard. Never having been guided or taught about art from someone else's viewpoint, I have had to figure it out on my own, piece by handmade piece. Even after forty years, each design begins with a fresh awareness and a stinging desire. A desire to make something succinct and beautiful with its own signature of resonance, worthy enough to adorn a human body.

As a young child, I was lucky to have been left free to wander the gurgling stream that ran through our backyard in Atlanta, sorting, discriminating, comparing the stones at my feet. As I gathered rocks, I learned to recognize patterns of resonance. Whole days spent listening to the stones focused visual discernment and empowered my artist's inner voice. I could not know that I was polishing the lens for my future profession.

Soon after graduating from college I developed a passion for the fire and steel tools involved in the process of making silver jewelry. In Alaska, I taught myself to solder gold from an intent to combine colored stones with Yukon gold nuggets. The nuggets felt like creek rocks from my childhood as I found my artist's voice.

In 1980 I made an appointment to show my Alaska inspired jewelry to Blanche Reeves, owner of the famed Signature Shop in Atlanta. With my dozen pieces spread on her desk, Blanche put her feet up beside them, leaned back in her Swedish designer chair, and began to speak in her gravelly voice not to me but to the ceiling, "Lainey, how would you like to be my first Artist in Residence at The Signature Shop?" Her recognition of my talent was a pivotal moment as she became my first mentor, while introducing me to her brilliant patrons.

One does not ask to be born an artist, but if one is lucky enough to live at a time and place where there are a faithful bevy of discerning patrons, then the blessing comes full circle. My life as an artist cannot be divided from the stones or the people who wear them, for it is one and the same, full, deep and reverberating.

— Lainey Papageorge
LAINEY PAPAGEORGE
b. 1951 in Atlanta, Georgia / lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia

Jewelry & Art Experience
Jewelry Designer/Owner of Elaina Designs Studio, Atlanta, GA (2000-present)
Jewelry Designer/Owner, Green Door Studio, Ithaca, NY (2006-present)
Independent Purveyor of precious gemstones (1987-Present)
Owner/President of Illumina Jewelry Gallery, Atlanta, GA (1987-2000)
Owner/Silversmith, One Pound Sterling, Seattle, WA (1975-1976)
Movement Education Teacher, Paideia School, Atlanta, GA (1971-1975)

Education
Evenings at Emory Concentration “Fine Gemstones” 1990
Penland School of Crafts, Metals Workshop, Bakersville, NC (1983)
Gemological Institute of America, Jewelry Repair, Platinum, and Fine Stone Setting, Santa Monica, CA (1980-81)
League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, Metalsmithing Workshop, Lancaster, NH (1977)
Apprenticeship with Master Goldsmith, Ron Coleman, Stone Mountain, GA (1973-1975)
BA, Emory University, Atlanta, GA (1973)

Studios & Artist-in-Residencies
Tula Galleries Studio Artist, Atlanta, GA (1985-1987)
The Signature Shop & Gallery, Artist in Residence, Atlanta, GA (1979-1985)
Corrington Museum of Alaskan History, Artist in Residence, Skagway, AK (1979-1980)
Co-Founder, Women Artists of Skagway Co-op, Skagway, AK (1976-1979)

Exhibitions & Honors
Lainey Papageorge: A Retrospective, 40 years of jewelry design, MOCA GA, Exhibition, Atlanta, GA (2014)
Dorothy McClatchey Permanent Collection, Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta, GA (2001)
Invited Curator for American Gem Trade Association Cutting Edge Award (1999)
Spectrum Award for Manufacturing Honors, American Gem Trade Association (1998)
Fibers and Fantasy, Alaska State Museum, Exhibition, Juneau, AK (1978)
This retrospective was possible because of the generosity of everyone who loaned jewelry for the exhibition: Susan Anderson, Yum Arnold, Maria Artemis, Lucinda Bunnen, Alizé Carrère, Annette Cone-Skelton, Lavona Currie, Toni Jo Dalman, Kathyrn Daughheetee, Martha Eskew, Todd and Dorothy Evans, Alice Franklin, Roni Funk, Kelley Granish, Louise Gunn, Jane Harmon, David Hudson, Cathy Lee, Peggy Kavaledge McClatchey, Ellen McCollister, Sheryl Meddin, Katherine Mitchell, Kate Moore, Starr Moore, Annie Peterle, Holly Pritchard, Catherine Rossiter, Chrissie Schelhas-Miller, Margaret Staton, Anni Stokes, Mary Staton, Alexandra Van Nostrand, Zoë Van Nostrand, Susan Weitman, and Joanie Whitcomb.

I am deeply grateful to the unnamed thousands of clients who have purchased my jewelry over the years. In addition, this retrospective would not be complete without acknowledging those who have made gracious efforts to support my art in particular, including those who are now in spirit: Ross Arnold, Marion Bailey, Kyra Becker, June & Linton Bishop, Kim Bourn, Lourdes Brache-Tabar, Dorothy & Jeff Brady, Martha Brewer, Marika Briggs, Vanessa & Paul Burks, Leslie Carrere, Bob & Joanne Clune, Matt Cole, Margaret Corbit & Wes Blauvelt, Kathryn & Shaun Conlon, Lisa & John Cowden, Alice & Paul Cyr, Redwood Dallke, Karen & Paul Dillon, Lisa Ellis, Martha Ellis, Todd Evans, Diane Farnham, Mollie Farnham, Richard Farnham, Julene Fairbanks, Jojo Falke, Gunilla Feigenbaum, Sharon Fisher, Bob Frank, Phoebe Franklin, Lily Friedlander, Laura Givertz, Laura Gottlieb, David Granish, Ann & Dr. Griffin, Mary (Birdie) Griffin, Bud & Heidi Griffin, Ann Greenberg, Carolyn & Bill Gunn, Orion Hanson, Steve Hanson, Dede Hatch, Lynda Hill, Bob Hipps, Newt Hodgson, Charlotte Irwin Jewel, Betty Johnson, Brie Johnson, Beth & Ellis Jones, Hazel & Ralph Jones, Mikel Jones, Rebecca Keel, Laura & Larry Kelly, Frank Kelly, Kay Kramer, Kate Lamoreaux, Judy & Scott Lampert, Dennis & Stella Lang, Larry Lee, Connie Lehman, Don Lewis, Bea Lingle, Jan Metcalf, Dorothy McClatchey, Buzz Morgan, Kelly & Karen Morris, Ed Moulthrope, Kimi Norberg, Annie Osburn, Evangeline Papageorge, Tom & Andrea Papageorge, Barbara Parker, Gail Peeler & Henry Sawyer, Lin Pollard, Sharon & Jim Radford, Gita Ramamurthy, Andrea Riddle, Tim Roark, Jimmy Rogers, Steve & Eliane Rosenberg, Allen & Ellen Rosenthal, Bobbie & Bill Rushing, Linda Ruth, Ann Schnur, Tom Shields, Beth & Tony Sibert, Susan Silver, Elise Skalwold, Tina Snead, Corinne Van Houten, David Van Nostrand, Larry & Lari Wallace, Terrell Weitman, Sheryl Wilkins, Constance Wilkinson, Alexander Wild, Jude Wood, Simon & Laurie Watt, Boyd Worley, and Susan & Marty Wuttke.

I am indebted to the fine craftspeople who have manifested and executed my designs: Janet Alix, David Butler, Brian Cook, Paula Crevoshay, Charith Hansaka, Ben Kho, Don Montgomery, Maia Neimanis, Poornima, Kent Raible, Barry Russ, Tim Shoemaker, Ruwan Tharanga, Henry Vo, Jeff and Susan Wise and John Franciscus Zonneveld. Without you, these pieces would not have been rendered to such high standards of craftsmanship. I am grateful to Aalia Mujtaba, my most excellent, joyful and capable assistant, and to Fareed Abdulky, primary master goldsmith who executes many of my designs with devoted care and skill.
My family and chosen family are my bedrock. To my best friend, champion and beloved husband, David Hudson, my mother, Irene Phrydas, who was the first to encourage my talent by purchasing all of my early pieces, my father, Demetrius Papageorge, who always believed in me, to my three children, Orion Hanson, Alexandra Van Nostrand and Zoë Van Nostrand, who gave my life meaning and forgave my long work hours with love and endless understanding, my sister and artist-mentor in all things, Maria Artemis.

I am especially grateful to Annette Cone-Skelton for her guidance and willingness to pursue this first-time jewelry exhibition at MOCA GA and to the staff for mounting this challenging exhibition, Shana Scott, Eric Kaepplinger, Amy Kicklighter and Martha Brewer. Thank you to Drew Stauss for the professional jewelry photography done for this catalogue, to Annie Osburn for the essay about my work, to Dede Hatch for the portrait photo on page 28, and to Annie Osburn and Tim Bird for the excellent video interview and music that accompanied the retrospective “Lainey Papageorge: 40 Years Dancing with the Mineral Kingdom”.

My appreciation flows and goes with each of you. Always.

— Lainey Papageorge

Picture of Fareed Abdulky and Lainey Papageorge at opening reception for Lainey Papageorge: A Retrospective, 40 years of jewelry design
Major funding and support for MOCA GA is provided in part by


Funding for this program is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. Major support is provided by the Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs. Funding provided by the Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. GCA is a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

ISBN 978-0-9911497-3-5
Osburn, Annie, Lainey Papageorge: A Retrospective, 40 years of jewelry design

© Copyright 2015 MOCA GA
All rights reserved
The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, Inc.
75 Bennett Street, NW Suite A-2
Atlanta, GA 30309

Published by The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, Inc.
Catalogue designed by Shana Scott
Printed by Craftsmen
Photography of jewelry by Drew Stauss © 2014
Photography of jewelry (images 31, 42, 45, 106) by Elaina Designs © 2014
Photography of exhibition installation by Mike McKelvey © 2014
Portrait of Lainey Papageorge by Dede Hatch © 2014
Picture of Fareed Abdulky and Lainey Papageorge by David Hudson © 2014
Fonts used: Calibri Light, Century Gothic and Futura Condensed Normal