



Jiro Kamata

Jiro Kamata was born in Japan and moved to Germany in the '90s to study at the Hochschule für Gestaltung in Pforzheim, where he met his classmate Laura Lapachin. After graduating, he continued his studies at the Academy of Fine Art in Munich under Professor Otto Künzli.

He has been with Ornamantum since its inception and has been featured in several solo exhibitions as well as at numerous international fairs. His nontraditional and innovative style addresses themes of reflection, optics, and light and shadow. Working around these concepts for the past 20 years, his most recent work includes bold rings with a reflective color PVD coating on the surface of camera lenses which are set like gemstones.

His pieces can be found in the collections of world renowned museums such as the Swiss National Museum, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Victoria and Albert Museum, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and many others. Recently, a pipe piece from Ornamantum's "Up in Smoke exhibition" was acquired by the Toledo Museum of Art in Ohio.

Kamata's intensity and integrity make his work some of the finest examples of innovative jewelry in the world. A marriage of technical expertise and conceptual rigor is balanced in works that span a long trajectory with Ornamantum. On reflecting on their time in School, Laura says "I remember working on a project during our studies in Germany... While I and most of the other students were busy experimenting and building models, Jiro would sit and ponder for days. And as due date approached, he would know exactly what he had in mind and set forth in the eleventh hour to create something completely unexpected, meticulously crafted and completely thought out conceptually."