

**Craig Spark 'Fever', an exhibition of jewellery
April 20th – May 13th**

Gold is the most identifiable material associated with jewellery, however until recently, Craig Spark has avoided using this material. The abundance of yellow coloured costume jewellery and chunky bling in the fashion world, along with the strong cultural associations of wearing gold has made him, and a lot of contemporary makers, suspicious or apprehensive of working with the material.

Rebelling against the lure of gold, Spark has previously worked with a variety of materials including paper money, fabric, cloth, C.A.D and aluminum. While working on a commission last year, the magical attraction of the material brought Spark under its spell. Since this time, he has in his own words "set out to make friends and form a relationship with gold". Fever is an exploration into the character of gold and represents a shift in attitude in Spark as a maker towards his own work.

Throughout the wearable pieces that form this exhibition, there is a lightness in the way he uses the material, repetition in the process of making chains, and the undeniable glow and allure of gold. The work comes alive when worn, and Spark intends the pieces to be unencumbered by the preciousness of the material, ideally worn to the milk bar as well as to the ball. Exhibiting this work is a process of showing that he no longer is hung-up about gold, and in-fact through working closely with the material, Spark and gold have become the very best of friends.

***Pieces of Eight** is Melbourne's newest contemporary jewellery and object gallery, currently showcasing the work of local emerging artists. The diverse collection comprises of original and limited edition works which range from the exquisite to the unexpected. Through our onsite workshop, we can also take on commissions, and work with our clients to custom-make an original design.*

Craig Spark is one of the artists who works from our on-site workshop.

For more information contact Melanie Katsalidis 9497 8121 or
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