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**PORTFOLIO**

**Fashion + Jewelry**

**Barkev's Blog Post**

**17 February 2015**

**Even Gold Blushes: Rose Gold Engagement Rings (and Why and How We Blush)**

First popularized by French jewelry giant Cartier during the Roaring Twenties, rose gold has seen a resurgence in popularity, particularly rose gold engagement rings, which seem to have eclipsed platinum as the current “rings of choice” across the USA thanks to their exquisite color and vintage feel. Cartier’s legendary Trinity band, which comprised one rose, one white and one yellow gold band, was worn by French filmmaker Jean Cocteau, who wore two Trinity bands side by side on one of his pinkies.

Rose gold is also known as pink gold. While it appears more exotic than yellow or white gold, the secret to its color can be found in the pennies in just about any piggy bank or jar of coins – copper! Pure gold (24-karat, 99% or more gold) is too soft to be worn on its own, so it must be mixed with an alloy so it can be shaped into jewelry and worn. Rose gold is the result of combining humble copper with gold; the copper makes the gold appear to “blush.”

What makes people blush? We tend to blush whenever we’re embarrassed or exposed. For example, if someone to whom you’re attracted to responds in kind, you may very well blush. When you are unnerved, your body releases adrenaline, a natural stimulant that accelerates your heartbeat and your breathing. Adrenaline also causes your blood vessels to dilate – this includes the veins in your face: more blood flows through them than usual, turning your cheeks rose.

It’s not always embarrassment that makes us blush. Many things bring color to our cheeks, including flattering compliments, a beloved’s longing...a rose gold engagement ring. Barkev’s has been producing exquisite rose gold engagement rings in Southern California since the 1980s. Stop by any shop where our rings are sold and let one of our experts help you find the perfect rose gold engagement ring. One that will make her truly blush.

**Barkev's Blog Post**  
**2 October 2014**

**Grand Canal, Big Wedding**

**George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin Marry in Venice, Italy**

As if a sunny autumn Sunday morning in Venice isn't lovely enough, newlyweds George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin brightened the atmosphere of La Serenissima even further on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September as they stepped onto a water taxi in front of the plush Aman hotel wearing matching platinum wedding bands to join their wedding guests for a lavish brunch after spending their first night as man and wife.

The couple's wedding bands glittered in the morning sun and were a perfect match for Amaluddin's engagement ring, which features a 7-plus carat emerald cut diamond and two tapered baguettes set in platinum. Clooney, who presented the ring to Alamuddin in April, helped design it.

Clooney and Alamuddin threw a fabulous wedding dinner on Saturday night, the 27<sup>th</sup>, where celebrity guests including Bill Murray, Matt Damon, Ellen Barkin, Anna Wintour, John Krasinski, Emily Blunt and Bono, enjoyed a five-course meal of lobster, risotto, sea bass and beef served on 24-karat gold china.

You might not be planning something as elaborate for your nuptials, but we can still help you select a set of rings that will send her heart sailing for decades to come. Our rings are handcrafted with pride in Southern California and sold by helpful experts who know how big a decision this is for you. And even if Bill Murray and Matt Damon won't be at your wedding, we'll still treat you like a VIP – and we'll help you find the rings that will make your fiancée feel like a star.

**World Theatre Laboratory**  
**Press Release**  
**2 October 2009**

**WORLD THEATRE LABORATORY ANNOUNCES ITS  
SPRING-SUMMER 2010 COLLECTION**

**Design Studio Will Participate in "Tell a Story", October 9-11**

**Flagship Store to Open on Naxou Street in Nicosia Later This Fall**

**NICOSIA, CYPRUS** – 2 October 2009: World Theatre Laboratory, a unique clothing design studio in Nicosia, Cyprus, today announced it will present its Spring-Summer 2010 collection, the studio's fifth, at the "Tell a Story" International Designers Tradeshow on October 9-11 in Nicosia.

The World Theatre Laboratory Spring-Summer 2010 collection comprises three distinct lines: a casual line, in which cotton canvas takes the lead and silk georgette plays a supporting role; a group of cocktail dresses featuring silk jersey supported by silk satin and raw finished silk organza ruffles for great dramatic effect; and a series of cotton-linen dresses for any time of day.

"I designed this collection with the current global economic reality in mind," said World Theatre Laboratory founder and designer Nandia K. "The current fiscal environment demands high quality pieces with a classic feel, the kind of clothes that can last for many seasons. My Spring-Summer 2010 collection is absent loud colors – its protagonists are champagne, cream, light brown and white."

From Friday, 9 October through Sunday, 11 October, World Theatre Laboratory will participate in "Tell a Story", the International Designers' Tradeshow, where 40 of the most creative young designers in Cyprus will present new accessories, clothing, graphic design, jewelry and objects to the public. Tell a Story will take place at 11 Zannetou Street in Ayios Andreas, Nicosia, from 11:00 to 21:00 each day. For more information, please visit <http://www.tellastorytradeshow.blogspot.com/>.

The World Theatre Laboratory flagship store, on Naxou Street, Nicosia, will open later this fall. "I am thrilled with the progress we are making on our flagship store," said Nandia K. "The interior walls of the shop actually unfold in glossy pleats – there's a palpable synergy between the space and the 'feel' of my clothes."

**World Theatre Laboratory**  
**Press Release**  
**25 May 2009**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WORLD THEATRE LABORATORY PRESENTS WINTER 2010 COLLECTION**

**NICOSIA, CYPRUS** – 25 May 2009: World Theatre Laboratory, a unique clothing design studio in Nicosia, Cyprus, today announced the presentation of the studio’s Winter 2010 collection.

The collection is a back alley, magical theatre performance in black and blue, comprised of warm, enveloping wool coats and jackets and light silk dresses, skirts, trousers and blouses, as well as comfortable wool mix knitted jumpers and trousers – there are also lighter jackets in velvet or leather, which are perfect for fall and winter. The collection was presented in February of this year in Nicosia.

Taking into consideration the current global economic downturn, designer Nandia K. has created a collection of mostly deep blues and black, in order to create classic looks that can go from day to evening that will still be chic and wearable for many years to come.

“My designs continue to evolve,” concluded Nandia K. “Every collection is an experiment. I am determined to do something different at every turn”.

Nandia K, who studied Philosophy and Literature at Duquesne University, designs World Theatre Laboratory clothes in the confluence between art, design and theatre. Nandia is fascinated by the communicational power of costumes and the way that clothes help us express ourselves and communicate our self-perception.

**About World Theatre Laboratory**

Founded in June 2007 in Nicosia, Cyprus by designer Nandia K, World Theatre Laboratory is a unique clothing design studio where art, design and theatre meet in one-of-a-kind clothing collections that bring Haute Couture fabrics to prêt-a-porter wardrobes that move effortlessly from day to evening. The studio’s Winter 2010 collection is its fourth.

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## **World Theatre Laboratory**

Nandia Cleanthous founded World Theatre Laboratory in Nicosia, Cyprus in 2007. She recently produced her Winter 2009-2010 collection, her fourth.

World Theatre Laboratory clothes are unique, practical, handmade and ready to wear. The studio's blouses, coats, dresses, jumpers, trousers and skirts are made with Haute Couture fabrics such as cashmere, cotton silk, silk and wool, usually from England and Italy.

### **Nandia Cleanthous – Design Autobiography**

I became a designer after reading *Constructing an Actor* by Constantin Stanislavski; in the book, Stanislavski demonstrates the communicational power of the costume. I believe that clothes help us express ourselves – particularly our perception of ourselves – to others. We can use fashion to reveal and conceal aspects of our personality, to invoke certain thoughts and emotions to others. I tend to believe that clothes have a “quasi-metaphysical” effect on our personalities and on our psyches; that we have an emotional response to their color, texture, the craftsmanship, the feeling of the fabric on our skin, to the aura of the designer and the maker.

A pattern for an old-fashioned skirt I studied in fashion school inspired me to make coats, jumpers, trousers and skirts after I experimented with the pattern and modified it until it was no longer similar to its original iteration. There are an infinite number of “starting points” in one's imagination. What I love is when I find a way to take an idea so far that the resulting object is practically unrecognizable from its inspiration. I find the source of my ideas everywhere in the world around me.

Sometimes I fall in love with a particular piece of fabric and try to find the best way to use it. I have been inspired, in no particular order, by a tea set by Piet Hein Eek, a fresco by Raphael and a chair by Patricia Urquiola. Music often helps my mind wander toward fresh images.

I like any designer who challenges a society's aesthetics and mores, who interprets the world in a personal way who speaks with his or her own particular voice, like Coco Chanel, who changed fashion to accommodate the modern woman. I like people who make their own clothes, who staple and glue and tape them, who are willing to play and create. I guess I'm an aesthete, in that I want to be surrounded by beauty, craftsmanship and good taste. I believe that beauty is something one creates with good taste and vision and I usually find that people who have these qualities tend to present themselves quite beautifully.

I would describe my clients as strong women with independent personalities. Most of them are professionals, many with arts and humanities degrees, and students. They are looking for well-made, well-priced clothes that stand out. I have all of this in mind when I design my collections.