

FIRE AND ICE

BY PHILLIPA RISPIN

IT'S A GIFT-GIVING TIME OF YEAR.

Are you stumped about what to bestow upon your loved one? Serge Sakayan has a few suggestions: diamonds, diamonds, and diamonds.

Sakayan has long succumbed to the allure of gems. He began his love affair with jewellery in the 1980s, working in his father's jewellery store in Cairo. When he came to Canada, he started work in the design department at Birks but soon set up his own atelier, designing for clients in Montreal, Ottawa, and Quebec City. In 2001, Sakayan went into business for himself and now presents his exclusive creations by appointment. He also designs and crafts unique pieces on commission.

Jewellery has traditionally been a gift for women, but Sakayan notes that fashion jewellery for men is increasingly popular. "Some men go for pendants, such as crosses," he says, adding that such a strong statement might not be for every man. "Rings have started to be very popular for men. A masculine wedding band with diamonds can still make a fashion statement."

In these dark days around the winter solstice, Sakayan's creations with the flash of diamonds and the warmth of gold will add cheer to the scene. "Anything with diamonds makes people happy," says Sakayan. "It makes them feel precious, just like a gem." ♦

If you'd like to add a little sparkle to someone's life—even your own—contact Sakayan at 514-395-9505 to make an appointment.

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1. An antique style has been given a modern look in this engagement ring featuring three pear-shaped diamonds surrounded by smaller diamonds in an 18-karat white gold setting. The setting can also be done in platinum. \$15,000.
2. Also inspired by the couture is this dazzling 18-karat white gold bow studded with white diamonds. If you prefer a warmer tone, it's also available with yellow diamonds set in yellow gold. \$4,500.
3. Sakayan calls this ring for women the "tiger." It's a white tiger, composed of 18-karat white gold set with round diamonds, but you can also get a more traditional tiger effect with yellow gold. \$3,800.
4. You don't have to be Eve to feel the serpentine lure of these 18-karat white gold and diamond pendants ending in a flash of blue. Left: blue topaz. \$1,050. Right: sapphire. \$1,300.
5. Discreet diamond accents make these men's wedding bands a cut above the ordinary. They are shown set in 18-karat white gold; pink gold is available also. \$3,200.