

## THE ODYSSEY CONTINUES BRENDA SMITH



Brenda Smith is an artist, metal smith and award-winning designer currently residing in Atlanta, Georgia. Her work has been exhibited in many galleries and jewelry stores and has recently been recognized for her "Celebration Earrings," the award-winning design entry in the International Pearl Design Competition sponsored by The Cultured Pearl Association of America. Nine countries competed in this contest.

Her work has also been featured in jewelry publications such as "Color-n-Ice," *Lapidary Journal's*, "Jewelry Artist" magazine and Canada's Jewellery Magazine, "Jewellery Business." Celebrity stylist, Michael O'Connor, featured Brenda's Celebration Earrings at this year's Academy Awards.

A former creative director with more than 25 years of advertising, design and teaching experience under her belt, she easily transitioned from graphic arts to innovative jewelry design. "Jewelry design is simply another form of art utilizing metals and gemstones as the medium." "I also enjoy teaching jewelry design since it is a win-win situation," she says. "It keeps me thinking creatively in a communicative way, be it verbally or visually."

Brenda's work is influenced by a myriad of thoughts, symbols and unique materials. She strives to create jewelry that fuses exceptional design with powerful symbols and inspirational messages. "The design is inside just waiting to emerge as wearable art. It is a part of who I am."

She earned her BFA from Kent State University and her MBA from Kennesaw State University. She is currently a member of AGTA, CPAA, SNAG, Women Jewelers of America, Georgia Goldsmith Group, the Gem and Mineral Society, and is on the Advisory Board for the School of Visual Arts, Kennesaw State University.