

Dear Patron,

I am writing to you hoping to give you a better insight into my artwork and why I do what I do. I'm a Crafter! It's in my blood!! My Grandmother and Great Grandmother were painters, my Mom a Stained Glass artist. Both my Dads enjoyed building. One Grandfather was a Woodworker, while the other was an Inventor, always experimenting, with me curiously peeking over his shoulder. These were great influences on me. When my Mom taught me her craft in Stained Glass and got me the tools, I loved it and worked on it until I got married. When my family started growing I had no safe place to work within my house, so for about ten years I found joy in raising my kids and doing crafts with them.

A fictional novel led to my fascination in jewelry design, so I took a wire wrapping class and was immediately taken with it. I was "hooked." About one month later, I couldn't hold back, and bought my first supplies. I even participated in several local craft shows. Several months later I read a book on fusing with Silver and I knew what my future would be, hence naming my business GemFusion. I fused fine silver learning great skills with my torch, but began including gold and Sterling Silver in my work as well. took classes needed in stone setting and oxidizing, and others like hinge making and designing, but I am mostly self taught preferring to experiment and work alone. It was the gold jewelry I inherited from my Mom and Grandmother that influenced my working with gold and silver together. I was raised to wear either, not both together. But my "fun" jewelry was silver, and my "nice" jewelry was gold.

My intention was to incorporate both, using silver as my base, and gold to accent stones or the picture I wanted to create on pieces like my "Panels." My first Panel was one of the bottom of the ocean, including a starfish. Another I made had an endangered Green Sea Turtle I wanted to bring awareness to in support of their fight for survival. I love experimenting using my torch, pushing the silver to it's extreme just before becoming a puddle of metal, in order to find just the right texture for that particular piece. Every one is unique, so I don't always know what it will become. I hope this helps you to better connect with my form of art.

Sincerely,
Tyler of GemFusion

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler" followed by a horizontal line.

P.S. I'm including a list of the 10 various silvers and golds I use. I cannot do without any of them, because they all have a purpose in my work.

Sterling silver

Fine silver

Argentium silver

Precious metal clay silver(PMC)

Gold filled silver based

Bimetal 18kgold and Silver

14k gold

18k gold

24k Gold

Keum Boo