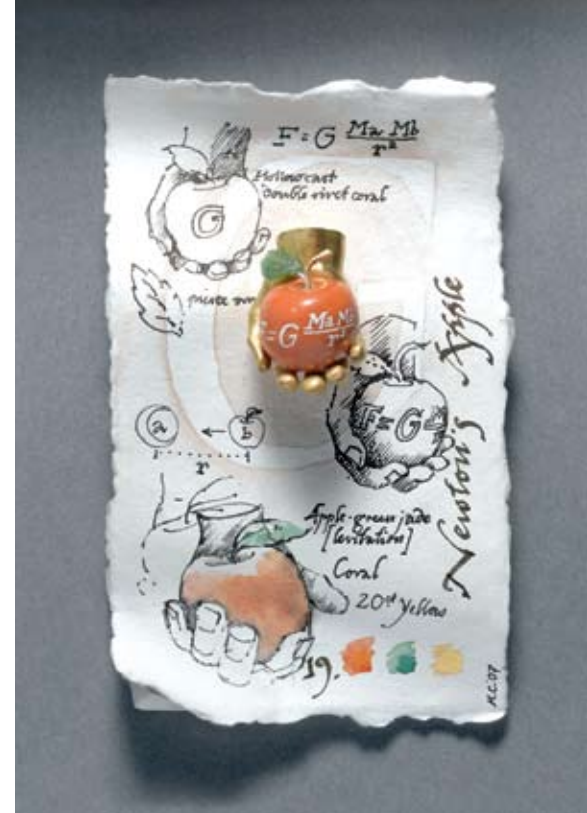


THE
Genius
of Kevin Coates



review: ALAN SAMONS



This book is not just for the connoisseur, but for everyone who loves beauty. Gathered together in an elegant silk-bound volume, the jewels and sculptural table pieces of this goldsmith extraordinaire are presented in lavish detail with accompanying essays and descriptions by experts in the field of jewellery.

Deeply imaginative, the pieces are inspired by images of antiquity, music (Mozart being of particular interest), geometry and pure fantasy. This is art at its zenith – it inspires, delights and seductively beckons the viewer into a fantasy world inhabited by dragons, elves and angels. Technical virtuosity tempered with humour, his creations beg deeper investigation, revealing hidden meanings not apparent at first. The detail is astonishing, taking into account the small size of some of the jewels. The one-of-a-kind jewels are fabricated in an array of metals and gemstones, often with hand-carved and inlaid precious stones forming a key feature. This book is a glimpse into the hidden mind of one of the



world's foremost goldsmiths. Coates has created tableware and jewellery for almost four decades and prefers to work as far out of the limelight as possible and has been described as Britain's 'archimagus' of goldsmithing – a most deserving accolade. The artist himself contributed a chapter dealing with the geometry underlying his work, an area that fascinates him to this day. A trained musician, his doctoral thesis was on the use of mathematics and geometry in the design of musical instruments. I don't impress easily, but I've read this book twice and often spend time enjoying the pictures. An artist like this only comes along very rarely to bless this world with their talent. Kevin Coates is one of them.



KEVIN COATES
 A HIDDEN ALCHEMY
 GOLDSMITHING: JEWELS AND TABLE-PIECES
 Author:
 Elizabeth Goring,
 Helen Clifford,
 Nel Romano,
 Françoise Carli,
 and Kevin Coates,
 with an introduction
 by Sir Roy Strong.
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