

GEMS FOR GENERATIONS

If it's time to think about creating some family heirlooms, six home-grown jewellers are on hand to create bespoke pieces for clients to hand down to their children

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VINOD MORE OF THE JEWEL BOX

www.thejewelbox.com

THE JEWEL BOX is one of Singapore's first bespoke jewellery ateliers, having been in operation in Singapore since 1993. Over the years, founders Vinod More and his wife Sangeeta have received various challenging tasks from their clients. One of the memorable ones was to conceive a "cat ring" around a 9-carat spessartite garnet. Mr More recalls: "The client had this large stone for a long time and had been looking around for the right design for it. She wanted the cat to surround the stone but wasn't sure how."

Mr More and his team created several sketches of the cat. They finally settled on a design

which had a black cat looking intently at the stone while its long tail wraps the stone securely around it. The cat is made of black enamel, but its eyes are in green tsavorite garnet lined with 18k white gold. "We made sure its paw, mouth, eyes and ears had a level of detail and realism that satisfied the client."

When creating a piece of jewellery that can be passed down to future generations, it needs to be "appealing, elegant, and not over-the-top", says Mr More. "We want designs that people won't tire of easily, and stay with them and their loved one for a long time. And more than anything, we want them to be worn with pride."

Mr More has a broad artistic sensibility and has created designs for clients across the world. His inspirations include flora and fauna, spiritual concepts and various aesthetic traditions. One of his current in-house designs is a stunning ruby and diamond handcrafted elephant bangle that features eight miniature elephants, each with a different pose, expression and dress. The one-of-a-kind bangle is tagged at S\$35,000.

Mr More says: "What's most rewarding about the job is understanding the client's brief and working with our master craftsman to fulfil it to the client's satisfaction."