

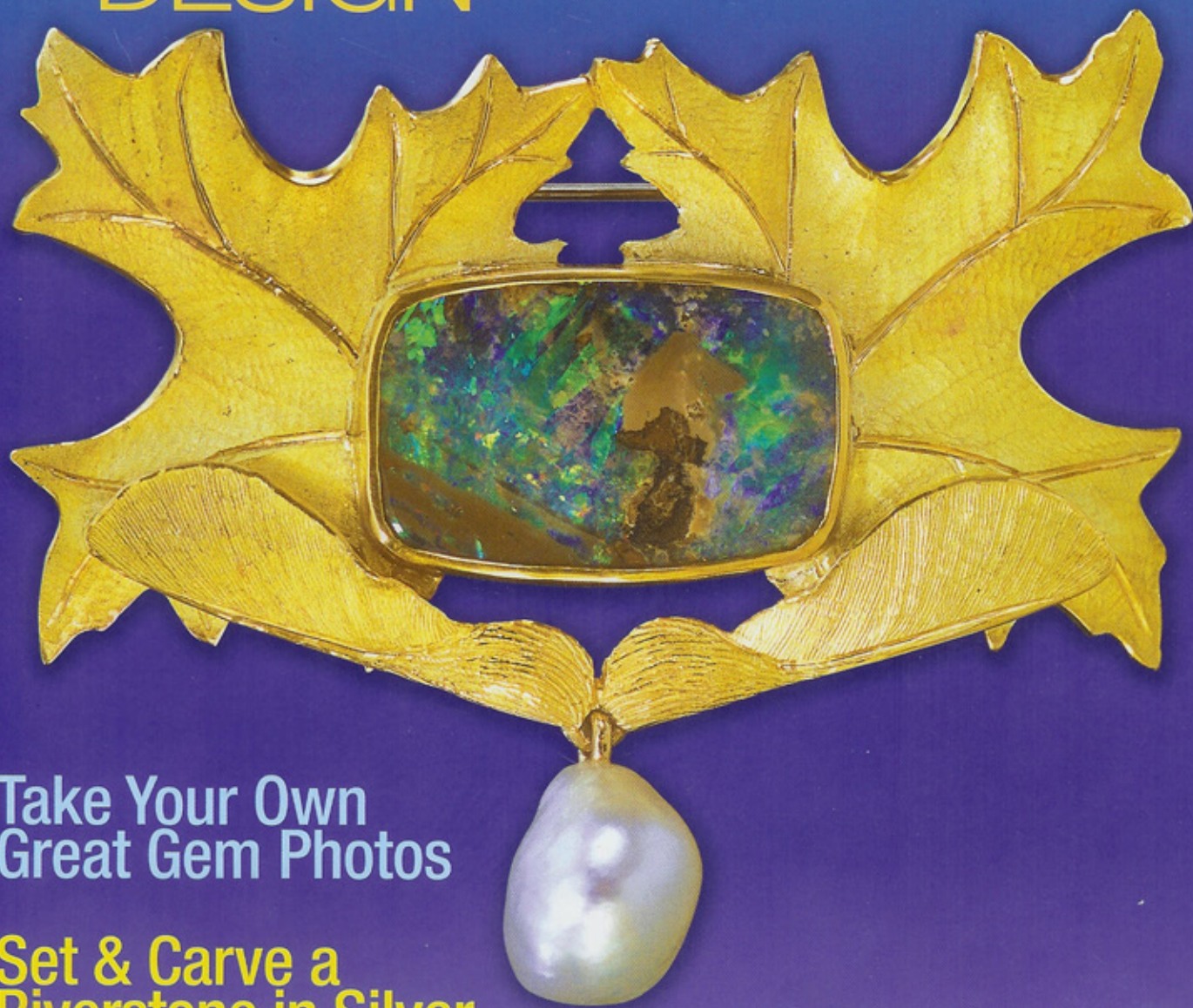
Rivet an Easy Copper/Silver Ring

April  
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# Jewelry Arts & LAPIDARY JOURNAL

APRIL 2006

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## Rare and Rarer

A color-change variety of the mineral species diaspore, first found in Turkey in the early 1980s, is now being mined commercially under the trade name Zultanite. Promoted for its brilliance and earthy hues that shift under different lighting conditions, the gem ranges in color from brown to greens and pinks with brownish overtones. Stones sizes are typically between three and five carats, reports Zultanite Gems LLC, marketers of the gem. The deposit is in a remote are of Anatolia at an elevation of over 4,000 feet and spans thousands of acres. The examples at right, the largest of which weighs 11 carats, are shown as they appear in daylight (green) and incandescent light (pink) — though the images were manipulated to show the colors in a photograph.

While the color-change diaspore may be rare, gem-quality painite is even rarer — so rare that a California Institute of Technology Web site had been numbering the known cut stones until it reached 25. After a find last summer in which Caltech's Division of Geological & Planetary Sciences in Pasadena, and Pala International of Fallbrook, CA, were involved, the numbering stopped, as additional stones continue to be cut. Finds were made at several localities in Myanmar's famed ruby-producing region, Mogok. Painite, too, may be green to brown to pink but Cal Tech scientists examining the material report that the color does not change according to lighting conditions, as does the Turkish diaspore. Instead, the angle at which a gem is viewed affects the color seen, a result of the gemological phenomenon known as pleochroism. Shown is a 0.7 carat painite from Thurein Taung owned by Alexandra Woodmansee. More information on the finds is available at <http://minerals.gps.caltech.edu>.



Photo c: Robert Weldon



## Capital Crafts

The 24th Annual Smithsonian Craft Show, being held Thursday and Friday, April 20 and 21, will showcase the work of 120 craft artists working in 12 media: basketry, ceramics, decorative fiber, furniture glass, leather, metal, mixed media, paper, wood, wearable art . . . and of course jewelry. Held in the National Build-

ing Museum in Washington, D.C., the event offers visitors the opportunity to see works of both new and established artists, as well as the chance to meet the artists themselves. Shown are Namu Cho's *Damascene* pin, (right), Cornelia Goldsmith's *Butterfly Brooch*, (above), and Roberta and David Williamson's *The Gift* pin (top right). For more information, visit [www.smithsoniancraftshow.com](http://www.smithsoniancraftshow.com).

