



Galerie Biró – Autorenschmuck

Julia Maria Künnap Travelling Light



ISSUE N° 9

Exhibition online-catalog 2025

All pieces are for sale

Prices on request



Julia Maria Künnap

Die Arbeiten der estnischen Schmuckkünstlerin Julia Maria Künnap zeichnen sich durch eine außergewöhnliche Transformation harter Materialien in Formen aus, die an fließende Bewegungen erinnern. In ihrem künstlerischen Schaffen verbindet sie die Beständigkeit von Edelsteinen mit der Flüchtigkeit des Augenblicks. So entstehen Objekte, die scheinbar im Begriff sind zu schmelzen oder an die flirrende Oberfläche von Wasser erinnern.

Künnap gilt als eine der innovativsten Vertreterinnen zeitgenössischer Edelsteinbearbeitung. Ihre Arbeiten sind gekennzeichnet durch eine präzise Verbindung traditioneller Facettiertechniken mit freier Gravur. Auf diese Weise entstehen einzigartige Schmuckstücke, die die Grenze zwischen festem und flüssigem Aggregatzustand visuell wie konzeptuell herausfordern.

Im Jahr 2004 schloss Julia Maria Künnap ihr Studium der Schmuckkunst an der Estnischen Kunstakademie bei Professorin Kadri Mälk ab. Weitere Studien führten sie an die Konstfack – Universität für Kunst, Handwerk und Design in Stockholm. Darüber hinaus absolvierte sie 2006 ein Artist-in-Residence-Programm an der Alchimia School of Contemporary Jewellery in Florenz sowie 2019 ein weiteres an der Jakob Bengel Stiftung in Idar-Oberstein.

Für ihr künstlerisches Schaffen wurde Künnap mehrfach ausgezeichnet, unter anderem 2018 mit dem renommierten Herbert-Hofmann-Preis. Ihre Arbeiten befinden sich in bedeutenden öffentlichen Sammlungen, darunter das Museum of Arts and Design in New York sowie das Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.



Julia Maria Künnap

The work of Estonian jewellery artist Julia Maria Künnap is distinguished by the remarkable transformation of hard materials into forms that evoke the fluidity of motion. In her artistic practice, she unites the permanence of gemstones with the ephemerality of the moment, resulting in objects that appear to be melting or resemble the shimmering surface of water.

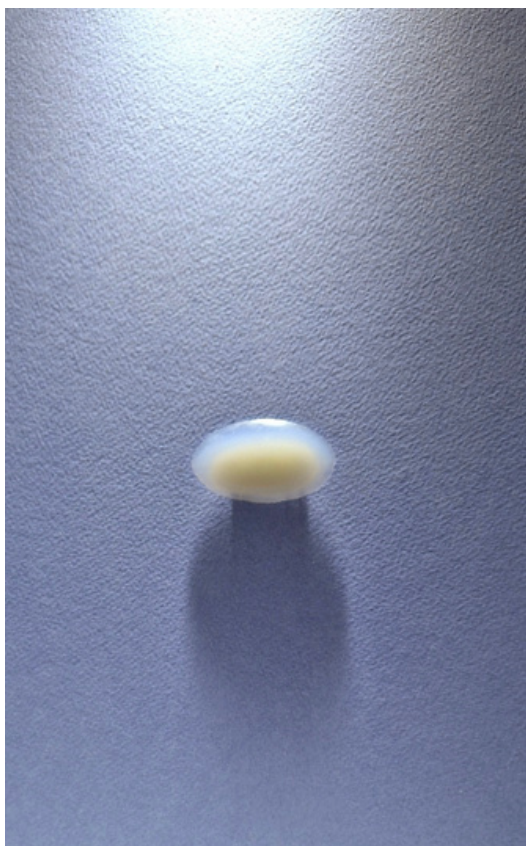
Künnap is regarded as one of the most innovative figures in contemporary gemstone carving. Her work is characterized by a precise combination of traditional faceting techniques and freehand engraving. In doing so, she creates unique pieces of jewellery that challenge the boundaries between solid and liquid states both visually and conceptually.

In 2004, Julia Maria Künnap graduated from the Estonian Academy of Arts with a degree in jewellery under the mentorship of Professor Kadri Mälk. Her academic pursuits continued at Konstfack – University of Arts, Crafts and Design in Stockholm. She further honed her practice through artist-in-residence programs at the Alchimia School of Contemporary Jewellery in Florence (2006) and at the Jakob Bengel Foundation in Idar-Oberstein (2019).

Künnap's artistic achievements have been widely recognized. In 2018, she was awarded the prestigious Herbert Hofmann Prize. Her works are held in prominent public collections, including the Museum of Arts and Design in New York and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

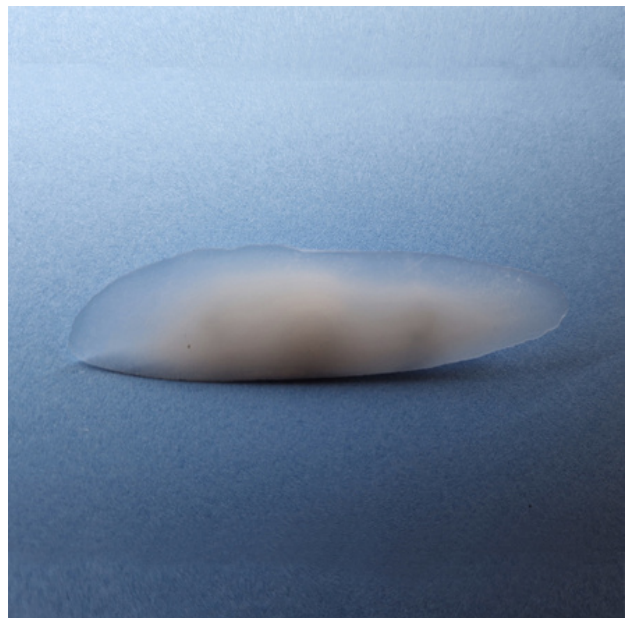


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PASSANGER III
Brooch, 2025
chalcedony, 18k white gold



PASSANGER VI
Brooch, 2025
chalcedony, 18k white gold



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sold

PURPLE RAIN

Pendant, 2025

amethyst, 18k white gold



BUBBLE GUM VIII

Ring, 2022

rose quartz, gold



PASSANGER II

Brooch, 2025

chalcedony, 18k white gold



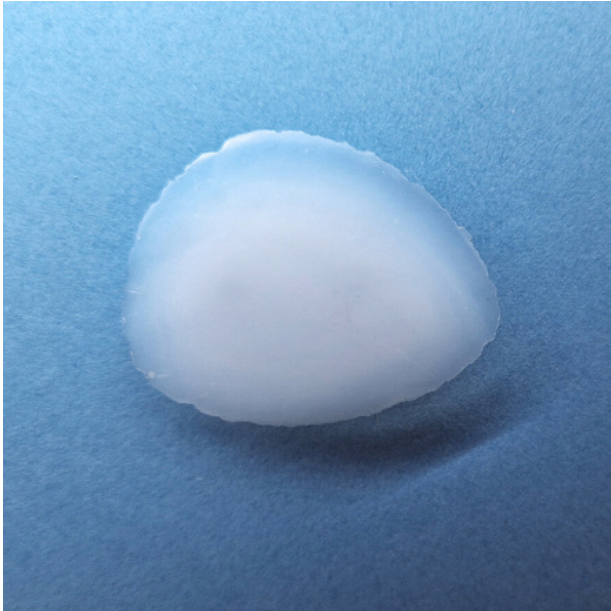
YOU NEVER SAID IT WAS EASY

Brooch, 2022

smoky quartz, 18k yellow gold



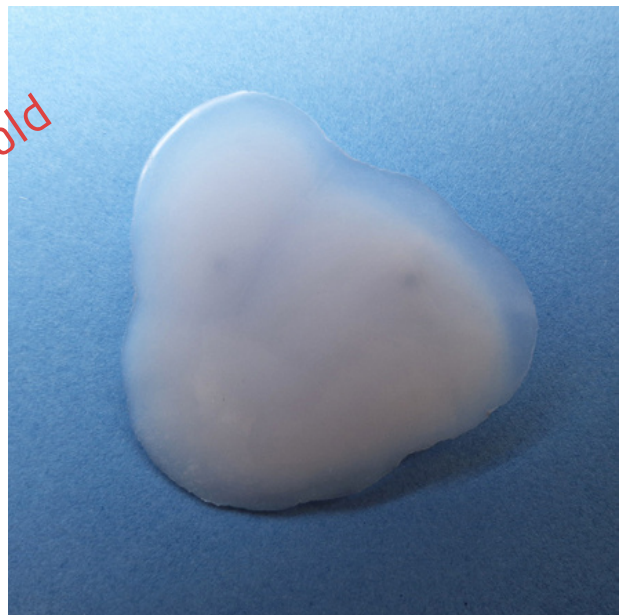
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PASSANGER VIII
Brooch, 2025
chalcedony, 18k white gold

PASSANGER IV
Brooch, 2025
chalcedony, 18k white gold

sold





sold

LIKE A VIRGIN

Earrings, 2024

clear quartz, 18k white gold, palladium-silver



ON THIN ICE

Ring, 2024

topaz, platinum





PASSANGER VII

Brooch, 2025

chalcedony, 18k white gold



STILL NO ANSWER

Ring, 2021

smoky quartz, gold





WHERE WAS I
Brooch, 2017
cacholong, 18k yellow gold



A LITTLE CARELESS
Cufflinks, 2023
lapis lazuli, 18k gold



PASSANGER I

Brooch, 2025
chalcedony, 18k white gold



THE EIGHTEENTH

Cufflinks, 2023
citrine, 18k yellow gold



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PASSANGER V

Brooch, 2025

chalcedony, 18k white gold



WHAT KIND OF TREE WAS THAT III

Ring, 2019-22

Amethyst, 18k gold



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The PASSENGER brooches represent the most recent work of Julia M. Künnap and were created exclusively for this exhibition. These substantial stones have been ground to an almost ethereal thinness at their edges, a technique that intensifies the cloudy, diffuse quality of the white stone. The solid material appears to dissolve, suggesting a poetic reversal of the laws of physics.



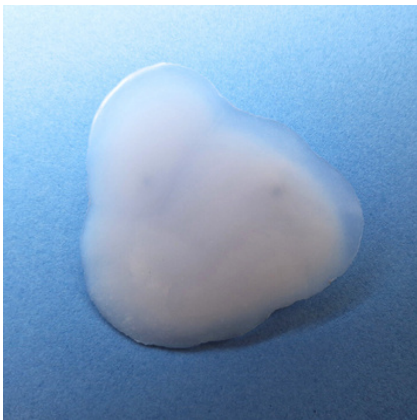
PASSANGER I



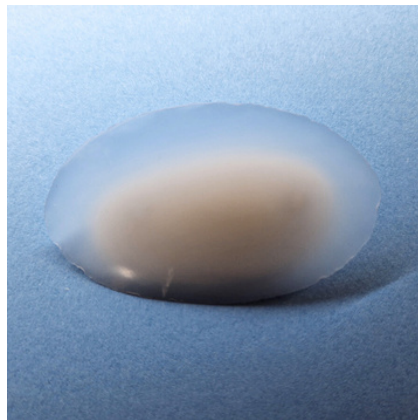
PASSANGER II



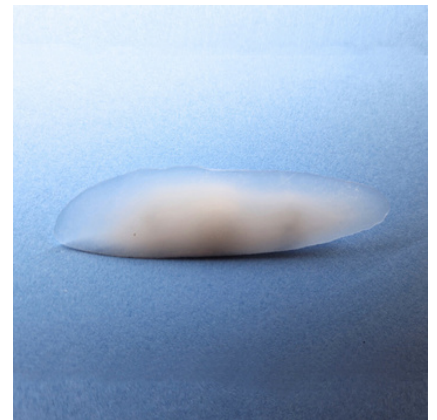
PASSANGER III



PASSANGER IV



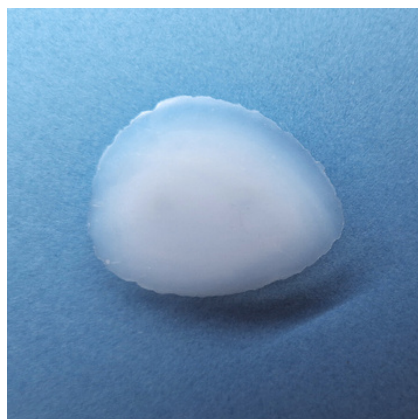
PASSANGER V



PASSANGER VI



PASSANGER VII



PASSANGER VIII

PASSANGERS overview



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Thank you for your attention

Designed by Kinga Zobel
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