



"I believe in pink. I believe that laughing is the best calorie burner. I believe in kissing, kissing a lot. I believe in being strong when everything seems to be going wrong. I believe that happy girls are the prettiest girls. I believe that tomorrow is another day and I believe in miracles." – Audrey Hepburn

Photos: © Jenna Clifford

Fabulously Feminine Morganite

ALLURING HUES

With its alluring pink hues, and girlish blush, Morganite is fabulously feminine. A member of the Beryl family, like emeralds and aquamarines, it was originally known as pink beryl, rose beryl, pink emerald and cesian beryl. In 1911, that changed when gemmologist George Kunz of Tiffany & Co., suggested that it deserved to be recognised as a gemstone in its own right. Named in honour of the millionaire bank tycoon and mineral collector John Pierpont Morgan, this gem is prized not simply for its hues, which remind one of dawn breaking across the heavens, but for its rarity as well.

Known as a pastel-coloured gem, Morganite boasts hues of the softest pinks, tinged with violet, peach and orange. If heat-treated, those colours intensify into deeper pinks and purples, as the heat drives off the yellow or orange tint, resulting in a stable colour that won't fade. When choosing a Morganite stone, look to colour first as this is the most important criteria when determining its quality. The size of the stone is also important as it impacts on the richness of the stone's colour. One truly appreciates the beauty of its hues when viewing larger stones.

As Morganite crystals can be very large, it is more common to see larger faceted stones, unlike many other coveted gemstones. While the Morganite stones can be cut in all the modern shapes, it is the skilful hand of the lapidary (gemcutter), which allows the subtle colours of the Morganite to radiate from the stone.

With its romantic colouring, it's no surprise that this gemstone is believed to nurture feelings of love and increase tenderness in a relationship. It is also thought to enhance one's communication skills and provide patience and focus during stressful periods.

Today, the majority of Morganite comes from deposits in Brazil, Madagascar, Afghanistan and California. It has excellent wearing qualities with a good hardness of 7.5 to 8 on the Mohs scale.

available in fine pink hues, however, some gems are decidedly pink whilst others tend to be more lilac or have a hint of orange. Mother Nature has provided the right gemstone colour for each of my clients and their various complexions. As a gemstone, morganite is not terribly expensive and for this reason, combined with its translucent beauty and radiance – it is gaining popularity, especially in Europe." Shayna Clifford-McAllister, manager of the Guildford boutique in Surrey, England agrees, "We have seen this demand reflected not only in South Africa, but in the enquiries we receive from our British and French clients through our Guildford boutique.

The person who chooses this gemstone opts for the 'la vie en rose' outlook even in the dullness of everyday life"

Jenna says that Morganite has a gentleness and a softness about it which is very unique, "It is widely used in gemstone therapy for stress-related problems, radiating as it does a pleasant feeling of relaxation, calm and joie de vivre. The colour of morganite emanates charm, esprit and a touch of tenderness. I associate morganite with abundant love, passion and peace, it has an excellent vibration. The sight of a morganite will almost always put our clients in a good mood."

"Morganites are always beautiful on their own, however, depending on the design I like to pair them with other gemstones – either contrasting colours (such as green tourmaline) or complementary colours (such as pink sapphires)," says Jenna. "Mostly, I like to frame a morganite main stone with diamond trim or with pink sapphires, as can be seen in many of the morganite centre stone pieces we have recently launched, most of which are once off bespoke collector's items."

Jenna draws inspiration for her designs from her surroundings - from gardens, paintings, architecture and animals - all of which influence her work, and together they help her to formulate design ideas. "More than this, it has always been my philosophy that good jewellery must be worn 'day into night', jewellery should not just exist for special occasions – it needs to be worn daily so that the power of your chosen gemstones can remain with you always."

"Jenna is not governed by tradition and in creating our jewellery she does so with intention and consideration for the detail, every design is inspired by a special symbol or powerful numerology. These jewels are an unorthodox expression of her unique creativity", says Shayna. ■ Lindsay Grubb

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

Jenna loves working with morganite as she believes it to have a beautifully unique composition. "As an artist I delight in the different colour dimensions that this gemstone family offers. It is mostly



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1 Phoenix Morganite Engagement Rings: Mastercrafted in 18ct gold (750) set with diamonds and an elongated pear shape morganite centre stone, the Phoenix engagement ring is suited to a woman with a fire in her belly, the non-conventional, non-traditional type. Jenna comments, "A pear shaped main stone shows a woman to be an individual, yet she still has a soft side for traditional romance".

1

2 This powerfully symbolic "Karma" dress ring is mastercrafted in 18ct white gold (750) and set with diamonds, an emerald cut morganite main stone, and two pear shaped morganites which point outward and towards the wearer. Designed with purpose and intention, Jenna designed this ring to remind the wearer of the laws and principle of Karma which according to Buddhism suggests that it is the result of our own past actions and our own present doings which determine our fortune or foe.

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3 Mastercrafted in 18ct white gold (750) set with diamonds and a 4.50ct cushion shaped morganite centre stone. The outer bands of this ring are set with round pink sapphires, to contrast the diamonds and soft morganite main stone which has a peachy pink hue. Beautifully mastercrafted roses form trilogies according to the power number of three, on either side of the ring's shoulders.

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4 Mastercrafted in 18ct gold (750) set with diamonds and a 1ct pear shaped morganite centre stone. This morganite engagement ring is very delicate and evokes a vintage antique feeling with its pear shaped main stone and filigree detail shoulders which intertwine to form an infinity symbol on the bands of the ring.

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5 The Carina morganite engagement ring is inspired by astral radiance and mastercrafted in 18ct gold (750). Set with diamonds, pink sapphires and a morganite centre stone, Carina features a cut out star shaped flower and open gate work which allow for the skin to be sensually revealed through the face of the ring when worn.

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6 Mastercrafted in 18ct white gold (750) set with an emerald cushion cut morganite and diamonds. The Kayla ring features the powerful symbol of the Vesica Pisces, notably one of the most profound geometrical images of ancient and modern times. Essentially the intersection of two, overlapping spheres, the Vesica Pisces (including the interior portion of it, and/or the more common two dimensional version) represents, among other things: The joining of God and Goddess to create an offspring, a symbol for Jesus Christ, in art a pointed oval used as an aureole in medieval sculpture and painting.

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Photos: © Jenna Clifford



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JENNA CLIFFORD

bespoke design. superior craftsmanship.

Jewellery featured in 18ct white gold with diamonds and pink sapphires

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