

# Style

FEB 2014



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# IN WITH THE NEW

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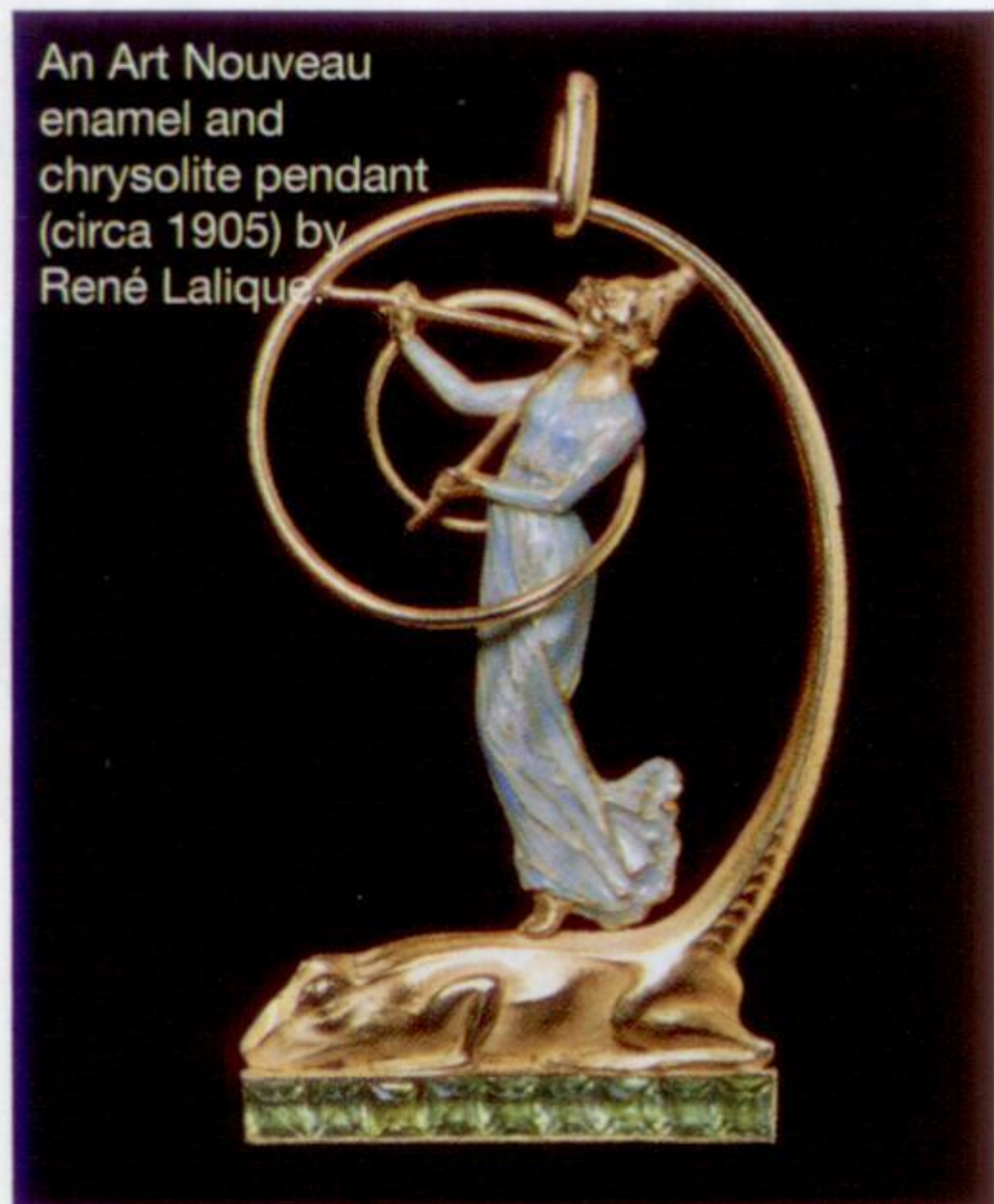
**NATURAL  
SELECTION**  
WHY  
DISHEVELLED  
IS THE NEW  
BLACK

**SOMETHING  
BORROWED**  
ONE WARDROBE,  
TWO LIVES



# Past Glories

Ex-Christie's jewellery specialist Brenda Kang sources for beautifully crafted vintage treasures from across the globe for Revival — a brand that she had launched to share her love for jewellery from bygone eras. by Charmaine Ho



An Art Nouveau enamel and chrysolite pendant (circa 1905) by René Lalique.

as well — a revival of jewellery from certain periods. At Christie's, I saw a lot of beautiful large sapphires, very rare pink-blue diamonds, but they've never moved me the same way vintage does. When I came back home, I saw a dearth of vintage jewellery, when there's so much choice around the world, in London, Paris, New York...

**In Singapore, the availability of vintage jewellery seems limited to just the auction houses.**

Yes, exactly. I would say my main competitors would be auction houses, but the advantage I have is that you actually get [a chance] to try

on these pieces. Revival makes it easier for people to, first of all, see [vintage jewellery] on a regular basis and to have someone explain to them what makes a piece an Art Deco piece. So it really came from wanting to share a passion that I have for this kind of jewellery and to develop the market in Singapore.

**How did this passion start?**

It started when I was travelling with Singapore Airlines. I was drawn to jewellery stores and flea markets to find old, unusual things; and it developed from there. I took a GIA course in gemology but [my passion] was brought to a new level when I was working at Christie's New York. We would appraise the hundreds of jewellery pieces that came through the doors each day; and we got to see amazing collections from important American and European estates. It opened my eyes.

**What are your aspirations for Revival?**

I'd like Revival to cultivate more [vintage jewellery appreciation] and to expose people to a point where they see beyond the bling — to the details, the quality and the history of the piece. I'd like for it to reach a point where vintage is widely accepted in the market — as engagement rings, or even birthday and anniversary gifts. And if they think: "Oh yeah, it's Brenda who first bought it here to Singapore and opened our eyes to it", that would be great, too [laughs]. •

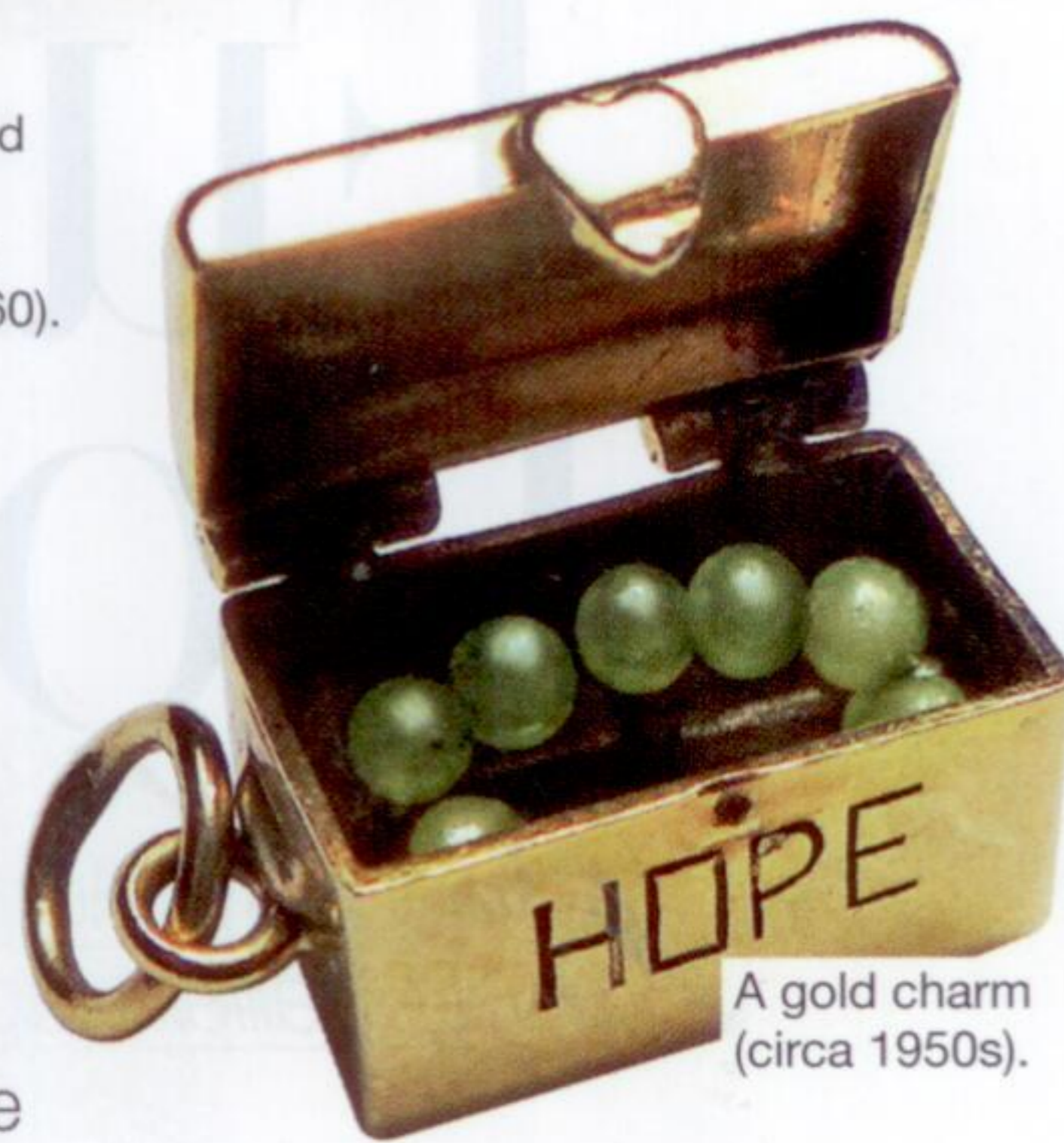
Visit [revivaljewels.com](http://revivaljewels.com) for more information.



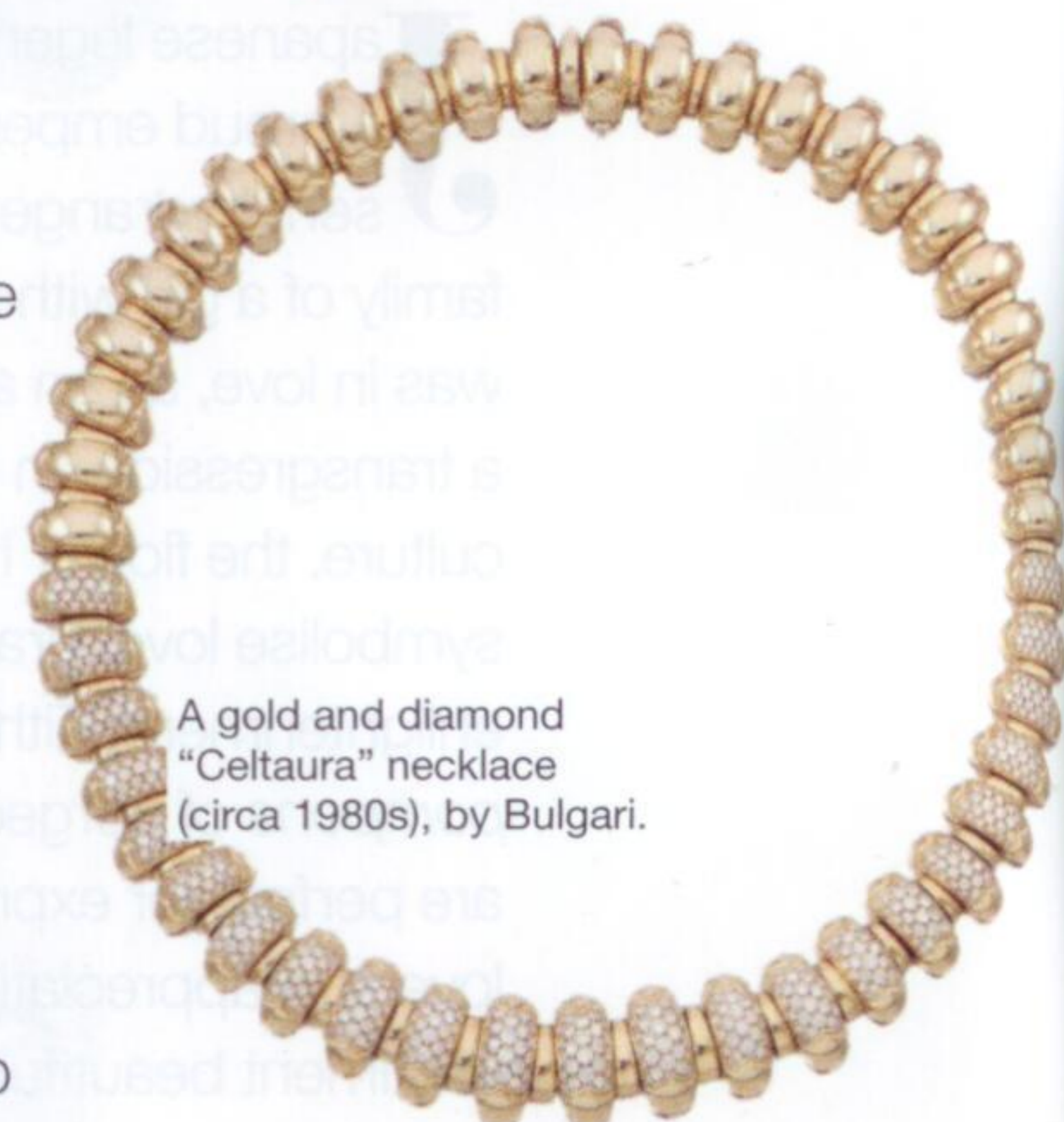
An Etruscan gold and hardstone cameo pendant locket (circa 1860).



A gem-set gold pocket watch (circa 1850s).



A gold charm (circa 1950s).



A gold and diamond "Celtaura" necklace (circa 1980s), by Bulgari.



A gold and ruby "Sunday's Child" hair comb (circa 1960s), by William Ruser.