

## Katie Poterala

Katie Poterala currently lives and maintains a studio in her charming native home, Greenville, South Carolina, where she is surrounded by the influential textures, colors, places and adventures of her childhood.



Her infatuation with meaning, value and history is a driving force in how she views the world and influences why and how she creates. Jewelry was always an object of fascination, even at a young age, and continues to be a dynamic inspiration in Katie's collections. Her ongoing observations of the physical world surrounding her influence both her experience and her designs.

Through her jewelry, Katie seeks to translate some of the beauty and truth she's discovered in nature and observation. Her work implies a sense of history, and is sensitive to the delicate relationship between beauty and decay, as well as our relationships to precious objects. She combines the opulence of faceted stones and gold with provocative surfaces, colors, and textures that mimic the spontaneity found in natural growth and oxidation processes. A focus of her work is the reinterpretation of the jewel -- often by removing it, replacing it, or otherwise reincorporating or setting it in unexpected and captivating ways. The work blends the precious and non-precious with a feeling of authenticity.

Katie's pieces circumvent the status quo, demonstrating that jewelry and objects can be more than just commodities: they offer intimate, tactile, visceral experiences. They transcend the fast-paced, disposable world we live in and offer a place of quiet contemplation—a much needed escape from reality.