

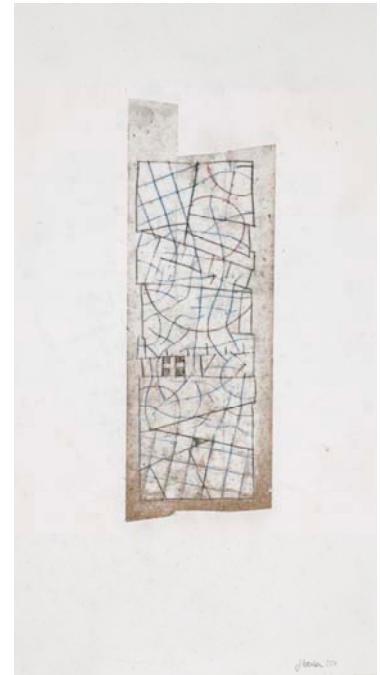
THE DRAWING ROOM 16R Newtown Lane, East Hampton, New York 11937 T 631 324.5016

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## JOHN IVERSEN the space between



*Mixed up*, 2011, assorted golds and silver bracelet, 2 3/8 x 7 1/4 in



*Mixed up*, 2011, mixed media drawing, 14 x 7 1/2 in

From April 8 through May 23, The Drawing Room is pleased to present an exhibition of jewelry and related works on paper by John Iversen. The installation will focus on the sculptural aspect of the sterling silver and gold bracelets and brooches from Iversen's most recent *Crackle* series, complemented by his signature *Jack* earrings. A group of early abstract works on paper and working drawings for several new jewelry pieces expands the view of Iversen's ongoing formal investigations and the expressive use of materials that have brought his innovative work in precious metals critical acclaim for three decades.

Iversen commented recently on the segmented cuffs and brooches he creates in red, yellow, green and white gold and silver: "This work has been evolving ever since I started making jewelry, learning how to make saw cuts." Employing the thinnest available saw blades, Iversen embarks on deconstructing a rigid sheet of metal by following a preliminary line drawing. Each sketch evolves into a linear template used when the myriad tiny elements are reassembled through a hinging technique that imbues the work with a fluid movement that allows it to conform to human contours. Iversen relishes the secret aspect of these hidden gold accents that animate the back of each piece. The nuanced textural effects that lend luminosity to the primary surfaces of his jewelry are achieved through filing, engraving, grinding and oxidation. In his final arrangement of each puzzle-like composition, Iversen introduces mysterious voids that heighten the sublime visual impact of these works and provide remarkable evidence of his masterful engineering.

A suite of metal leaf collages comprises some of the earliest works that Iversen made upon establishing his first New York studio. Eager to get started on his own inventive jewelry, yet without the resources to acquire the tools and precious metals that were required, he delved into the compositional potential of shimmering geometric forms on paper. Contemplating these spare collages of irregular circular and square shapes imbued with color and texture through oxidation and other abrading techniques, Iversen recognizes them as predictions of the breakthrough in his jewelry that evolved in his East Hampton workshop over the past few years.

John Iversen opened his East Hampton studio after moving from Manhattan to Sag Harbor twelve years ago. Raised in Germany, he began his training in early 1970s during a four-year apprenticeship in Vancouver, Canada with Karl H. Stittgen, an uncle who was a progressive jeweler of the period. Before moving to New York in 1978, he continued his studies in Germany at the Staatliche Zeichen Academy's College for Jewelry Design and Manufacturing. His work is in numerous public collections, among them the Museum of Art and Design, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Yale University Art Gallery. In June his work will be presented at the Design Miami / Basel fair.

**Hours: Friday, Saturday & Monday 11–5, Sunday 11-4.**

For further information and reproductions, please contact Lindsay Reichart at 631.324.5016 or [info@drawingroom-gallery.com](mailto:info@drawingroom-gallery.com).