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# Knitted, Knotted, Twisted, And Twined: The Jewelry Of Mary Lee Hu



## **Synopsis**

Over the past 40 years, Mary Lee Hu has affirmed her distinctive voice in the world of jewelry with her elegant, voluptuous creations. Using wire the way hand weavers use threads, Hu has blazed a trail as both artist and innovator, exploring the nexus between metalsmithing and textile techniques, often through the recovery of historical precedents from an ancient past, and inspired by her innate aspiration to perfection and her stubborn curiosity. Hu's apparently effortless and graceful creations, resulting from twining, weaving, knotting, and braiding, investigate both the possibilities and limits of wire by melding fiber art and jewelry, structure and pattern, light and line. Knitted, Knotted, Twisted, and Twined features exquisite earrings, rings, brooches, and neckpieces drawn from public and private collections internationally. The book traces the evolution and refinement of Hu's processes and skill from her earliest experimental pieces in the late 1960s--capturing the spirit of a time when craft and lifestyle were so passionately intertwined--to the confidence and movement of her contemporary creations.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Bellevue Art Museum (April 23, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 061556156X

ISBN-13: 978-0615561561

Product Dimensions: 10.1 x 0.9 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,359,772 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Jewelry Design #380 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Jewelry #1137 in Books > Arts & Photography > Fashion > History

## **Customer Reviews**

Mary Lee Hu taught metalsmithing at the University of Washington until her retirement in 2006.

I bought this book because I am working on beaded bangles this year and I've been stymied by the need for more structure in my designs. This book has many excellent designs for bracelets, earrings and neckpieces, all made with precious metal wire. There are a couple of interesting essays about

the artist's journey to where she is today. There is even some information about how to work in wire, although a lot of the beauty of the artist's work is due to the integration of the wire with custom forged connectors and clasps, which is not discussed. I missed this exhibit at the Bellevue Arts Museum but it was still very worthwhile to get the book.

Mary's book is overflowing with grace and beauty. She takes gold to another dimension, that she has explored and mastered. She loved teaching...it was a great travesty, for the University of Washington, to eliminate their amazing jewelry program, so masterfully taught by Mary. Her new adventures with Wally will take her to future heights.

I found this wonderful artist's work and then looked on to see if she had a book. The book was very informative about her background and her processes of design. The photographs of her work are wonderful. I was inspired by her wire work and loved this book.

#### Gift

The book is fantastic, as Mary Lee Hu is like a artist and a women

I have always admired Mary Lee Hu's work and was delighted to find a book devoted to her art. There were plenty of photos and interesting information.

This book is an exceptional look at the premier artist in this style of metalworking. Mary Lee Hu presents an exhaustive, comprehensive treatise on the joys of working with wire of all kinds. Her work is elegant, fun and masterfully executed. The production values of the publication are top notch. The only thing better is seeing her work in person and wearing it!

I loved the book and the work of the artist but I wish there was more info in the technical section.

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