



Payal Mehta, founder of the international bespoke couture jewelry brand Payal New York, will return for the second year as the exclusive jeweler for Le Bal des Débutantes. She is distinguished as the first independent jeweler and the first female designer to partner with the international event.

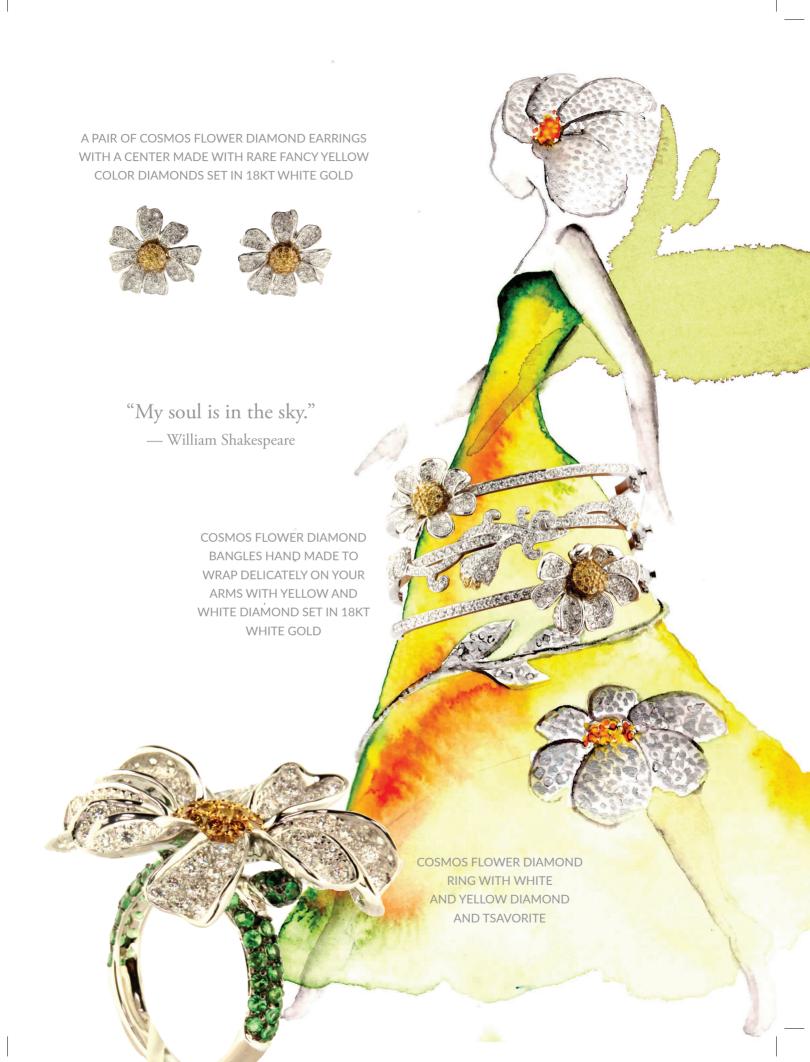
For many, Le Bal is a fairy-tale debut into the world of haute couture. To honor this tradition Mehta crafts custom pieces of couture jewelry for participants to wear at the ball. Each piece is imbued with the elegance of the occasion, as well as the individual style and personality of the debutante. For 2016, Mehta has additionally created a special limited edition collection inspired by "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which invokes the ethereal fairies and moonlit gardens of Shakespeare's dreamlike world. These bespoke pieces are an essential part of the experience, a statement designed to enliven each debutante's presence and poise.

Mehta's unique approach comes from her rich depth of knowledge and a life immersed in jewelry and design. Mehta grew up studying math and physics with a strong interest in interior design, then expanded her studies into art history and metal working. In 2009, Mehta applied her considerable skills and experience to form Payal New York with ateliers in New York and Dubai. "I wanted to design jewelry with a personality. Pieces that made a bold statement, were elegant, wearable and, most importantly, effortless," she explains.

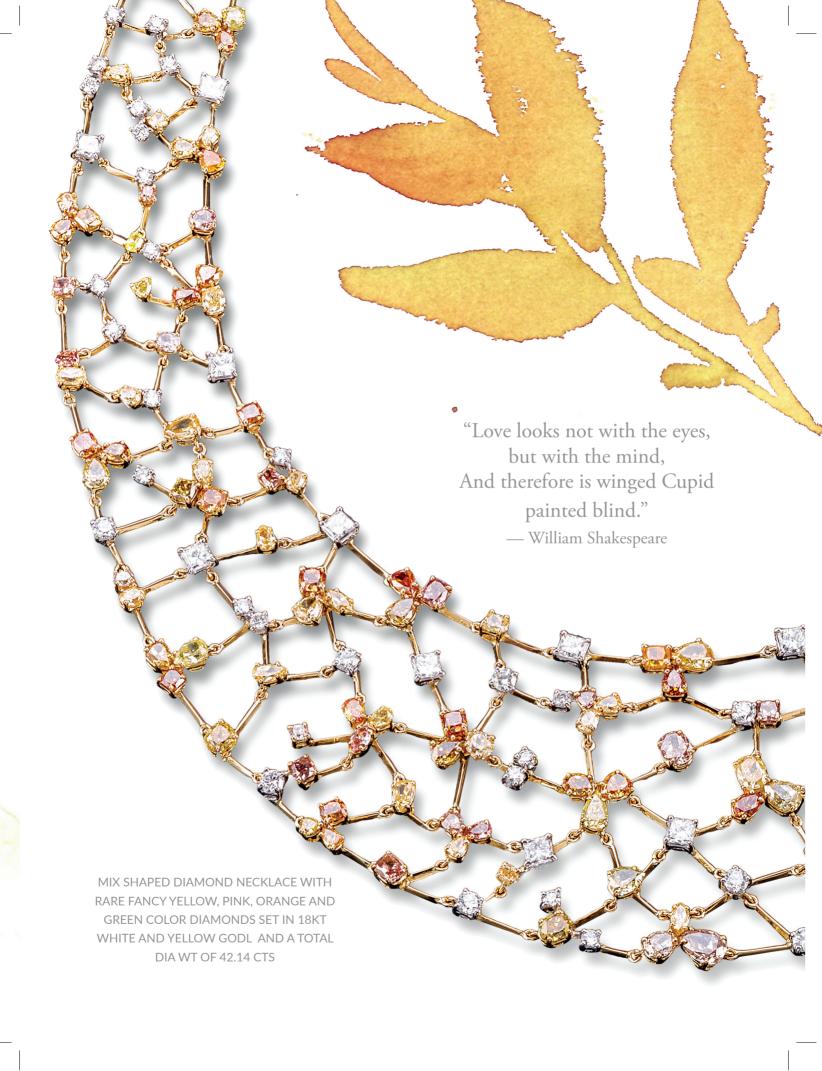
Mehta approaches each piece from both an artistic and scientific perspective, as wearable works of fine art, characterized by a distinct blend of precision and creativity and crafted in the finest fair trade materials. Payal New York has since garnered an international following of top collectors for its stunning limited edition collections of unique, vibrant pieces, as well as custom couture designs. Most recently, pieces from Mehta's collection were featured at the National Jewelry Institute's exhibition of prized jewelry as art at the Louvre. Her one-of-kind designs and exquisite craftsmanship stood out tremendously. "Creating jewelry as wearable works of art fulfills my sense of purpose," Mehta notes. "Form follows function in everything I do."

Her process of creating custom works as an expression of the individual is uniquely suited for the occasion. The collaboration between Le Bal and Payal New York is multi-dimensional, immersing participants in the design process. Debutantes are invited to join the designer at her ateliers in New York and Dubai for personal consultations in which they contribute to the realization of a unique piece. Like every debutante, the bespoke pieces and exclusive collections of Payal New York are entirely unique, and extremely collectible. They are a reflection of character and personal style in precious materials.

ON THE COVER, A PAIR OF COSMOS FLOWER DIAMOND EARRING WITH SPECIAL CUT MARQUISE SHAPED DIAMONDS, BRIOLETTES AND TSAVORITES SET IN 18KT WHITE GOLD















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VOGUE

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