Shades of Green

ACCESSORIES

Muzo Emerald Colombia's new designer collaboration program unearths some of the most envy-inducing stones around.

Deep in the Andean jungle sits the Muzo Emerald Colombia mine. Long sought-after for their vibrant shade of green and unique radiance, Muzo's emeralds have an industry reputation for being the best in show. Now, with the aim of bringing even greater recognition to one of Colombia's most stunning natural resources, Muzo has enlisted two dozen of the most exciting talents in fine jewelry, who share the company's high ethical standards and whose craftsmanship allows the stones to shine.

In addition to supporting up-and-coming designers, Muzo is committed to ensuring gender equality in the historically patriarchal world of mining. It also provides training programs and works to improve living conditions for the entire community. And since no dynamite is used in Muzo's mining process, lest the quality of the stones be compromised, the organization has taken great

care to protect the local environment through reforestation and erosion-control programs.

It's an ethos that particularly appealed to jewelry designer Alexandra Mor, who, since 2016, has sought to create a more meaningful eco-conscious practice. "Sustainability as a way of life is deeply crucial to the future of our planet and must include the preservation of our environment, indigenous heritage, and craftsmanship," Mor says. "My collaboration with the Muzo mine, and the opportunity to design using the Muzo emeralds, was an integral part of my commitment to those values. Designers are the new activists."

—Naomi Rougeau

1. NARWHAL NECKLACE, VENYX X MUZO. 2. RING, WILFREDO ROSADO X MUZO. 3. BLOOM EARRINGS. COOMI X MUZO. 4. RING. SELIM MOUZANNAR X MUZO. ALL. MUZOSTORE.COM.