

SPECIAL: *Tools!* ■ Ready to Ship Your Holiday Sales?

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18 FAVORITE TOOLS

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*scenic
enameled
pendant*
AND MORE!

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BARBARA HEINRICH

"I love the cool blue-purple tanzanite color, and when I zero in on a particular gem and palette I buy what I can. Last year at the Tucson gem shows I came across a larger than normal amount of really good tanzanite. We just went for it! Tanzanite is found in only one place in Tanzania and I feel like I need to buy it now. Who knows if it's going to be there in another five years?"

Heinrich, known for her unique multi-textured finishes in 18K gold, amassed all kinds of faceted tanzanite like square, cushion and round, cabochons, and beads in different shapes and high quality. "I found material with interesting inclusions, which I love because it shows it's a natural stone, like my work reveals it's handmade, but the stone has to be attractive to me," adds the Pittsford, New York designer.

"A large part is availability. Before I had been focusing on warmer tones. But I love the cooler colors in this palette. I'm also selling gems like lapis and purple sapphire in a broader presentation, and working on more complex designs mixing blues and greens."

barbaraheinrichstudio.com

ABOVE
Barbara Heinrich
Necklace
66.50ct tanzanite, 18K gold, toggle clasp

LEFT
Barbara Heinrich
Earrings
Pear-shaped tanzanite, 18K gold, diamonds
PHOTOS: TIM CALLAHAN



TIP: Be very careful when setting tanzanite not to break it.

"You get spoiled with diamonds and sapphires, but tanzanite is about a 7 on the Mohs scale. You can't hit it with anything."

Barbara Heinrich
Crisscross Ring
18K yellow gold, 1.50 ct cushion cut tanzanite, diamonds
PHOTO: TIM CALLAHAN

