

## Beyoncé gifts stunning butterfly ring to the V&A

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Today, the V&A announces the gift of an exquisite ‘papillon’ ring, generously donated by Beyoncé Knowles-Carter. The ring, in the shape of a butterfly, was designed by London-based jeweller G (Glenn Spiro) in 2014. The star was photographed wearing the ring in a series of intimate pictures taken by her husband, rapper Jay Z.

Glenn Spiro’s ingenious and exquisitely-crafted butterfly adorns the back of the hand as if poised for flight. Its delicate titanium wings are encrusted with vivid green tsavorites and edged with diamonds. They flutter with the movement of the wearer’s hand, radiating an exotic, shimmering beauty. The ring is an example of naturalism in contemporary fine jewellery. Spiro’s atelier is housed in the mirror-lined rooms that once belonged to royal couturier Norman Hartnell in London’s Mayfair. Spiro is famed for his vibrant and technically superb designs and his passion for gemstones, which surfaced at the age of 15 when he was an apprentice at Cartier.

Beyoncé is an international icon of the modern world, and one of the most successful music performers of all time. The ring is on display in the William and Judith Bollinger Jewellery Gallery from today (May 11th 2018), alongside jewels associated with some of history’s most notable women including Elizabeth I, Catherine the Great and the Empress Josephine. Jewellery Curator Clare Phillips said: “*Beyoncé is a figure whose personal style the V&A is proud to represent, and a gift from whose personal collection we are honoured to receive. The papillon ring she has gifted is an exquisite example of contemporary jewellery design by one of Britain’s master jewellers.*”

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### Notes to Editors

For further PRESS information please contact the V&A press office on +44 (0) 20 7942 2502 or email Callum Walker on [c.walker@vam.ac.uk](mailto:c.walker@vam.ac.uk) (not for publication).

**A selection of press images are available to download free of charge from [pressimages.vam.ac.uk](http://pressimages.vam.ac.uk)**

**About the V&A**

The V&A is the world's leading museum of art, design and performance, with collections unrivalled in their scope and diversity. It was established to make works of art available to all and to inspire British designers and manufacturers. Today, the V&A's collections, which span over 5000 years of human creativity in virtually every medium and from many parts of the world, continue to intrigue, inspire and inform.