



A m a n i S k a l a c k i

Kansas City, MO

Artist Statement

I have been fascinated by buttons and beads since I was a child. My mother often found me sitting quietly on the floor searching through boxes and jars of my grandmother's sewing notions. I marveled at their intricate colors, patterns and textures. It seemed that some pieces were just meant to be combined with others. My early fascination has blossomed into a collection of handcrafted jewelry. The pieces I create are made from bits and pieces of vintage jewelry, antique buttons and glass beads. Their beautiful lines, when blended with modern elements, result in one of a kind and limited edition pieces. I have recently expanded my collection to include Drunken Blooms, a line of jewelry made of recycled fabric (silk, rayon, cotton etc) that has been hand cut and dyed in wine, spirits and spices. The Blooms are essentially an extension of my interest in bringing out the beauty in the "misfits"...the discarded objects that are just waiting to be transformed into treasures. The show, In Bloom includes a new collection of work as well as pieces that were created in collaboration with Birdies Bridal for the recent West 18th Street Fashion Show.

About the *Hardwear* Collection

This collection of larger pieces was loosely inspired by F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby." and the complex themes of the 1920s. The result is a series of bold art deco pieces that personify both Daisy's splendor of wealth and excess and Myrtle's gritty reach for life's every minute.

Blue Gallery

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