

JEWELRY

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CROWNING GLORY

Gems That Go Beyond The Tiara

STAR QUALITY

Ten Designers to Watch from L.A. to Beijing

PRESENT PERFECT

The Most Romantic Gifts

LORD OF THE RINGS

The Reign of the Colored Diamond

FLIGHTS OF FANCY

Breathtaking Jewels to Lift Your Spirits



Roman Conquest

Rome jeweler Fabio Salini has built his business on rock crystal, which he says "gives a piece brightness and freshness. You see it, but you don't." The same cannot be said of Salini's showstopping chokers, which boast 18-karat white gold bars lined with sapphires and rock crystal (about \$58,000), shiny black onyx blocks embellished with rose-cut diamonds or crocodile bands decorated with carved jade and ruby (about \$1,700). Salini, who has worked for Cartier and Bulgari, started his own line a decade ago and opened his first store in a 15th-century building last year. He designed the vaultlike space and the furniture himself, and oversees every aspect of the business. The attention to detail has paid off: Salini counts Queen Rania of Jordan, who owns 15 pieces, among his biggest clients, and he once designed a mother-of-pearl, yellow sapphire and diamond cross for Pope John Paul II to bring to a religious site in his native Poland. —J.R.



Fabio Salini 18k white gold, onyx, and diamond choker; \$50,000, fabiosalini.it; Salini in Rome

