

# Deb Karash

Vale Craft Gallery

230 West Superior Street, Chicago IL 60610  
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Jewelry, for me, is an intimate art form. It becomes closely entwined in our lives through the act of being worn, given and passed on to the next generation. Jewelry makes a public statement and draws attention to the wearer, creating opportunities for connection between viewer and wearer. The layers of metal, color and texture allow me to draw the viewer in by creating a sense of mystery and depth. Color and pattern stimulate emotions and memories. Surface, color, and texture are as important to my work as are the forms themselves. I draw inspiration from natural textures, fiber, stone, mixed media painting and sculpture. I'm constantly grateful to be able to make my living doing something that I love so much. I hope that the joy of creating will always be evident in my work.

The Process: The colored surface is copper, which is textured, formed and then treated with a chemical patina. Over this patina I draw with colored pencils, using five to ten different colors. This helps to create a rich surface and subtle variations in color. A sealer is applied after each layer of color, and then finished with a coating of wax. Ultimately, a bottom layer of sterling silver is attached to the finished copper with brass rivets. Each piece requires approximately 30 steps to finish.