

Do you feel your history in painting helped with your jewelry design?

No, not really. I feel they are two separate things. But because I am good at drawing, I can imagine jewelry creations more easily. Stones are actually what give me most of my ideas.

What's your favorite stone? Diamonds.

From where do you bring them?

A lot of places actually, but Belgium mostly.

**Do you have a favorite cut?**I like the classical round cut, which is also known

"I believe jewelry has to be very well done. There are several steps to the process like designing and molding, but the finishing must be just perfect"



as the brilliant cut. Pear and heart shape diamonds are also among my favorite cuts.

Why the round shape?

I like the round shape because it represents the continuity of life; it's eternal.

At what point did you decide to open your shop? When I finished my studies, I started designing jewels and built a portfolio that interested jewelers. A few years later, I started my own line under the label "Hala Tayah Jewels" and organized two jewelry shows a year during Christmas and the summer time.

The response towards the shows was a success that encouraged me to open my own boutique.

Can you tell us more about the "Keep Lebanon Close To Your Heart" collection?

The "Keep Lebanon Close To Your Heart" collection is a patented limited series of 10,452 handmade necklaces for both women and men. Crafted by skilled artisans and designed as a tribute to the nation of Lebanon, the collection is a genuine statement that proudly showcases every Lebanese person's will to freedom and life.