



# BIG ISLAND BIJOUX



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## CRAFT/PROFESSION

Kristine BOURCIER designs jewellery: necklaces, bracelets, rings and earrings, fashioned in silver and gold and embellished with pearls and precious or semi-precious gemstones. She also works in a big jewellery workshop where she specialises in resizing and restoring rings.



Kristine is an expert in the cutting, shaping and creation of delicate joins to ensure a flawless finish. She achieves this using jewellery cutters, shears, files and sanding tools, and also tiny mallets, hammers, pliers and ring mandrels to shape rings for a perfect fit. A jewellers torch is used to weld the joins.

## BACKGROUND

Kristine was born and grew up in the United States. When she realised she could make jewellery her special field of study, she threw herself into perfecting her knowledge and skills with a view to making her career in jewellery design. She began her professional life making jewellery and then working as design assistant for exclusive New York jewellery brand names. Kristine loves travelling and has shown her designs at venues in New York, Chicago, Budapest, Marseille, Abidjan and Madagascar.



She moved to New Caledonia in the early 2000s and began by teaching English, later giving courses in the visual arts and jewellery making techniques.

Kristine launched her Big Island Bijoux company in 2013 and divides her time between designing her own jewellery and doing restoration and repair work for a local brand. She regularly shows her jewellery at local arts & crafts events and you will find her designs in Noumea stores and, of course, at her own studio.

## INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

The natural world has always been a fertile source of inspiration for Kristine, who also draws on the diverse cultural traditions encountered on her travels to refine and enrich her art and the jewellery she designs.