

## Ba-lena is Here: A Whale of a Jewelry Statement

Nature-inspired Italian jewelry designer Maddalena Bearzi is proud to introduce BA-LENA, a unique handmade necklace designed to help save wild whales

MARINA DEL REY, CALIFORNIA, USA, December 16, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/
-- Whales and dolphins are astounding animals, in many ways similar to us.
Maddalena Bearzi, Italian jewelry designer and also a field marine biologist and book author, has spent half of her lifetime in company of these creatures in the wild.

A whale diving freely into the open ocean impassioned the designer to create this limited edition series of handmade pieces. All of Maddalena Bearzi jewelry is nature-inspired and tells its own story. Ba-lena ("Whale" in Italian) is a unique and organic-looking handmade necklace but also a statement against whales and dolphins being kept in captivity around the world.



Ten percent of the sale from ba-lena will be donated to <u>Ocean Conservation Society</u> toward the protection of whales and dolphins in their natural environment.



"wear ba-lena, support ocean conservation & protect the whales"

Maddalena Bearzi

Ba-lena is available in a combination of silver + gold or silver + bronze.

Other handmade jewelry by this designer - such as the Aria, Pianeta and Terra collections or her innovative textile pieces can be found in her online shop at

http://www.maddalenabearzi.com. Each piece – always

inspired by a natural theme - bears a unique, Italian name - a refreshing alternative to mass made products. The artisan jewelry collections include rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets and many unisex designs that accommodate a range of personal styles and budgets.

The designer uses materials and methods (such as reclaimed metals and upcycled components) that avoid depleting or destroying the Earth's resources, exemplifying that style and sustainability go hand in hand.

All pieces are individually handcrafted by the artist in her Los Angeles studio.

The original craftsmanship of Maddalena – who is also a marine biologist and author – already lists exclusive Los Angeles names such as Garde, RTH (just featured in the New York Times), and art museum shops among retailers carrying her line. Her work has also been displayed in galleries and recently showcased in Dornob and Designboom.

About the Designer - Maddalena Bearzi is not only an Italian jewelry artist, but also a renowned marine biologist and President of the non-profit organization Ocean Conservation Society. As a scientist and author, she has traveled extensively for over 20 years studying wild dolphins and other animals and learning new ways to express herself. She has published two books, hundreds of scientific and popular articles and is currently a National Geographic official blogger.

Maddalena began to pursue her passion for jewelry craftsmanship on her own, and later studied metalsmithing at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has learned techniques from master silversmiths and jewelers Gordon Wainwright and Harold O'Connor.

"A deep respect for nature has been an inspiration for my life's work as a biologist

and writer. My passion for the natural world is now also being channeled into new forms of self-expression via jewelry making," says the designer

To learn more about BA-LENA and other one kind organic jewelry handmade by this designer:

http://www.maddalenabearzi.com info@maddalenabearzi.com (310) 591-0331

P.O. Box 12860 Marina del Rey CA 90295 USA





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Maddalena Bearzi Maddalena Bearzi One Of A Kind Organic Jewelry 310-5910331 email us here

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