# ĀZLEE



# Zambian emeralds exude Hollywood glamour in ĀZLEE x Gemfields *Origins* collection

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Gemfields has teamed up with Los Angeles-based jewellery label ĀZLEE to create Origins, an eightpiece capsule collection inspired by the landscape of Zambia and its world-renowned emeralds. Comprising rings, necklaces, pendant charms and earrings, all featuring responsibly mined gems from Gemfields' Kagem mine, this brand-new collaboration is like a love letter to these iconic green jewels, which are forever synonymous with the sense of hope and renewal associated with spring.

Gemfields is a world-leading responsible miner and marketer of coloured gemstones and the majority-owner and operator of both Kagem in Zambia (thought to be the world's largest producing emerald mine) and the Montepuez ruby mine in Mozambique. Gemfields strives to be a leader within the industry and aims to bring benefit to the gemstones' places of origin: mining

with transparency, legitimacy and integrity and funding initiatives to improve local community health, education and livelihoods.

Founded by Baylee Zwart in 2015, ÄZLEE takes its inspiration from ancient jewellery practices, Art Deco architecture and the natural world to form a singular design vision. Mindful of adhering to responsible practices and minimising its environmental impact, ÄZLEE creates timeless, highquality jewellery infused with nature and a sense of 1980s glamour. Versatile and modern, ÄZLEE designs have been worn by Emma Watson, Rihanna, Bella and Gigi Hadid, Zoë Kravitz and Scarlett Johansson.

Each piece in the new AZLEE x Gemfields *Origins* collection was crafted in the Los Angeles atelier by master jewellers, using recycled 18k gold, with a portion of proceeds from each sale being donated to charities supporting efforts to rebuild following the fires that devastated the Los Angeles area at the start of this year. Previous collections have supported marine conservation charities.

Describing the collaboration with Gemfields, Zwart explains: "To frame the emeralds, I chose our core sculptural element, the staircase, which was inspired by the architecture of ancient structures and pyramids. I explored new iterations, playing with softer profiles of this concept to nod to Zambia's winding rivers." Many pieces in the *Origins* collection use a spread of diamond pave to accentuate the colourful beauty of the emeralds, while the lines and shapes of the pieces echo the patterns of Zambia's mountains and rivers.

The Contour Emerald Pave Diamond Ring nods to the Art Deco past, as do the Staircase 3-Tier Pave and Emerald Hoops. The Fluid Staircase Earrings with Emerald Drops (with or without pave) perfectly showcase ĀZLEE's signature staircase silhouette. The collection includes two playful charms designed to dangle from a pendant: the Contour Emerald Pave Diamond Charm and Fluid Staircase Emerald Pave Diamond Charm. The two necklaces – the Contour Staircase Emerald Woven Necklace and Le Nouveau Emerald Cascade Necklace – both exude 1980s Hollywood glamour and sophistication.

"We are proud to have partnered with Gemfields to offer our clients pieces that feature high quality gemstones of trusted provenance," says Zwart.



**TOP ROW LEFT TO RIGHT:** AZLEE X GEMFIELDS: CONTOUR EMERALD PAVE DIAMOND CHARM; FLUID STAIRCASE EMERALD PAVE DIAMOND CHARM; CONTOUR STAIRCASE EMERALD WOVEN NECKLACE; FLUID STAIRCASE PAVE EARRINGS WITH EMERALD DROPS.

**BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT:** ÄZLEE X GEMFIELDS: FLUID STAIRCASE EARRINGS WITH EMERALD DROPS; CONTOUR EMERALD PAVE DIAMOND RING; STAIRCASE 3-TIER PAVE AND EMERALD HOOPS; LE NOUVEAU EMERALD CASCADE NECKLACE.

"The arrival of spring this year gives reason to seek a talisman for hope, growth and new beginnings, and Gemfields is delighted to partner with ĀZLEE, whose clever emerald jewellery pieces offer an appealing choice. There's a softness and warmth to the gold forms that frame each Zambian emerald, evoking a sense of treasure with unabashed 1980s glamour. The emeralds in each designs are well positioned to dance in the light and radiate optimism - particularly so in the drop earrings - and these desktop-to-dancefloor, boardroom-to-bar designs almost demand to be enjoyed!" says Emily Dungey, Gemfields' Marketing and Communications Director.

The  $\overline{A}ZLEE \propto Genefields$  *Origins* collection ranges from USD 7,950 to USD 26,000 and is available from 8 April 2025 on  $\overline{A}ZLEE$ 

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ENQUIRIES

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### NOTES TO EDITORS

## About **ĀZLEE**

Elevated designs crafted with intention. Founded in 2015 by Baylee Ann Zwart, ĀZLEE merges ancient practices of jewelry design, Art Deco architecture and the romance of the natural world into a singular vision of modern luxury. Drawing from historical romanticism and inspired by ancient civilizations, ĀZLEE reinterprets timeless references into a line of contemporary fine jewelry designed for the every day, made to last for generations. Balancing the tension between distinct elements in both materials and form, masculine lines and feminine shapes, each piece is a modern work of art echoing the past, infused with nostalgia.

ĀZLEE incorporates carefully sourced materials and innovative practices to reduce its environmental impact, redefining luxury to include a kinder, more thoughtful approach towards nature and a focus on timeless quality. Each piece is crafted in recycled 18k gold in Los Angeles. Since ĀZLEE's inception, a portion of each sale has been donated to an ocean-related cause. ĀZLEE has made donations to The Marine Mammal Center, Surfrider Foundation, Heal the Bay, Oceana, and Sea Legacy, and has sponsored beach clean ups in partnership with Surfrider Foundation Los Angeles, as well as sponsored One Water Day with Heal the Bay. With the devastating fires in LA and out of the love for its community, each piece of ĀZLEE jewelry sold in 2025 will help support the Pasadena Humane Society & the American Red Cross. Throughout its history, each piece of jewelry sold has benefited ocean-related causes, but this year with ĀZLEE's studio, home & team based in LA, ĀZLEE will be shifting its focus to rebuilding its community. The same intentionality runs through all aspects of the brand, including the intimate experience of creating custom, bespoke pieces. Zwart guides each client through a thoughtful and collaborative design process, where personal preferences and histories are transformed into one-of-kind, lasting pieces.

Elevated, versatile and modern, AZLEE has been worn by Emma Watson, Rihanna, Bella & Gigi Hadid, Zoë Kravitz, Scarlett Johansson and has been featured in Vogue, Vogue Paris, W, Elle, Bazaar and international publications around the world.

## About Gemfields

Gemfields is a world-leading responsible miner and marketer of coloured gemstones. The operator and 75% owner of both the Kagem emerald mine in Zambia (believed to be the world's single largest producing emerald mine) and the Montepuez ruby mine in Mozambique (one of the most significant recently discovered ruby deposits in the world), Gemfields believes that those who mine gemstones should do so with transparency, legitimacy and integrity.

Gemfields introduced a technologically advanced coloured gemstone sort house at its operation in Mozambique, with state-of-the-art equipment, like optical sorting machines. In addition, a proprietary grading system, a pioneering auction platform and an active marketing presence have all contributed to Gemfields playing a significant role in the rise of African gemstones. Underlying this achievement has been the strong belief that coloured gemstones should create a positive impact for the country and community from which they originate.

Responsible mining for Gemfields means implementing industry-leading policies and practices across operations, transparency in its auction sales process, an active role in working groups to modernise the sector, projects to improve health, education and livelihoods for the communities around its mines and conservation efforts (#conservationgemstones) to protect Africa's great wildlife and biodiversity.

Gemfields Foundation is the charitable arm of Gemfields, through which donors can contribute funding to directly support community and conservation projects in Africa, magnifying the scale of the work already carried out by Gemfields itself.

Fabergé – an iconic name with an exceptional heritage – is a member of the Gemfields Group. The beauty of Fabergé's designs and craftsmanship helps to raise consumer awareness of responsibly mined coloured gemstones.

As well as supplying a significant share of the world's rough rubies and emeralds, Gemfields initiates activations to build desire for coloured gemstones: for example, collaborations with international jewellery brands and other creative partners. Often surprising, unexpected and unique, these collaborations are chosen to promote consumer awareness and increase the appeal of coloured gemstones, raising their profile, and, in turn, providing greater benefit to their place of origin in Africa.

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