Lisa Roet’s artwork and extended project delving into wearable art addresses key notions of connection, sustainability, and ideas concerning aging, wisdom, and the fragility of life.

The expansion of Roet’s creative endeavour into the realm of bespoke wearable works of art, attracting the attention of audiences worldwide under the Label LR, is directly related to the artist’s ongoing visual art practice. As an extension of her work, Roet utilises jewellery as a medium to bring the human form closer to that of our distant relatives and provide her fine art a level of accessibility. Many recent pieces are the result of a project designed as part of the Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival (VAMFF) 2016’s Cultural Program Project Series and presented to Beijing design Week 2016.

Roet’s strong interest in the recurring motif of the hand as a point of communication is clearly emphasised in her jewellery. Made from precious materials, many of the pieces in the form of cuffs, rings and signature neckpieces, are cast from gorilla and orang-utan specimen skin rubbings emulating a “skin on skin” transferral. This sensibility is heightened with cut outs in some of the objects that reveal the skin of the wearer below, further referencing this dualism. Here works of art become enlivened as pieces to adorn the human body. A silver bracelet made from cast gorilla skin and palm lines is intended to appear grasping at the human wrist, a gibbon finger ring emulates wrapping itself around the finger of the wearer, and in another instance, a “Gibbon Hand Choker” can be seen to curl around the wearer’s neck. Here, hand on arm, finger looped on finger, and hand clasping neck, the nuances of humans and other animals start to merge as one.

The distinctive textural qualities of each object provide a strong sense of materiality to Roet’s wearable art. Direct references to the work of British naturalist, geographer, biologist, and anthropologist, Alfred Russell Wallace, can be drawn to Roet’s contemporary espousal of ethnographic content and enquiry. Captivated by evolutionary theory, Wallace spent much time in Sarawak, Malaysia, advancing his research during the mid 1800’s. His fascination with orang-utan skin specimens and skeletons procured for British collectors to fund his research – now held in the collection of the World Museum in Liverpool, England – were similarly studied for their qualities of closeness and likeness. Wallace’s courageous studies engaged in scientific enquiry that challenged commonly held spiritual beliefs. From an artistic vantage, so too, Roet aims to enliven linkages between simians and humans through her thought provoking objects. With an unparalleled creative output that fuses art, design, and science in a variety of media, Lisa Roet continues to draw inspiration from primate forms and captivate international audiences.
1. Gibbon hand choker  
   Polyurethane | 24 karat satin gold plated sterling silver

2. Gibbon hand cuff/bracelet  
   Polyurethane

3. Gibbon finger cuff/braclet  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

4. Gibbon finger nail ear studs  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

5. Gibbon finger pendant with chain  
   Sterling silver | Brass | 24 karat satin gold plated
1. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted cuff bracelet  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

2. Crown of thorns neck piece  
   Bronze | Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

3. Orang-utan finger nail thimble finger ring  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

4. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted ring set with smokey quartz  
   Smokey quartz 10mm rectangular stone | Sterling silver  
   24 karat satin gold plated

5. Amethyst set ear studs  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated | Amethyst 5mm
1. Gorilla skin texture imprinted bangle  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated | 10mm

2. Gorilla skin texture imprinted bangle  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated | 5mm

3. Gorilla head pin  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

4. Gorilla skin texture imprinted ring  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

5. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted ring  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

6. Gorilla skin texture imprinted ring, peridot set  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated | 10mm  
   8mm round peridot

7. Gorilla skin texture imprinted ring, peridot upside down set  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated | 10mm  
   8mm round peridot

8. Gorilla skin texture imprinted cuff  
   Sterling silver | Internal 24 karat satin gold plated

9. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted cuff (with holes)  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated
1. Gorilla finger nail thimble finger ring  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat classical gold plated

2. Gorilla head cuff links  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat classical gold plated

3. Gorilla skin texture imprinted bangle  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat classical gold plated | 5mm

4. Gorilla head ring  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat classical gold plated

5. Gorilla skin texture imprinted ring  
   Sterling silver | 24 karat classical gold plated | 10mm

6. Gibbon finger ring  
   Gorilla skin texture imprinted ring | Sterling silver  
   24 karat classical gold plated | 10mm
1. Gibbon hand, black
   Bronze sculpture | Jewellery holder

2. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted ring
   Sterling silver | Matt black chrome plated | Individual patterning

3. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted ring with smokey quartz stone
   Smokey quartz 10mm rectangular stone | Sterling silver
   Matt black chrome plated | 5mm

4. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted ring set with peridot stone
   Peridot 10mm rectangular stone | Sterling silver
   Matt black chrome plated | 5mm

5. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted ring
   Sterling silver | Matt black chrome plated | 10mm
   Individual patterning

6. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted stud earrings
   Sterling silver | Matt black chrome plated

7. Orang-utan skin texture imprinted earrings
   Sterling silver | 24 karat matt gold plated
Cover:
Crown of thorns cuff/bracelet
Sterling silver | 24 karat satin gold plated

Gibbon hand choker
Polyurethane | 24 karat satin gold plated copper

Back cover
Chimpanzee Bust, Gold HAM
Bronze | 24 karat Satin Gold Plated | 25 x 32 x 30 cm

Chimpanzee Finger Bracelet
Brass | Satin Gold Plated

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Screaming Pixel

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