

Imprinted with thousands of years of history, emeralds extracted from the Muzo mines are now also a brand of precious gemstones



stablishing itself as the trademark of emeralds, MUZO represents a product that is a source of national pride for Colombia. This metamorphosis has been taking place since 2009 under the auspices of the companies in the MUZO group, who own 100% of the mining concession of the same name since 2014. The unique character of this emerald is now also enhanced by its traceability. Today, MUZO has secured its whole production chain, integrating all the sectors of activity from emerald extraction to distribution, implementing best practices in the natural and social environment in which it operates. To reaffirm the historical supremacy of its gemstones, the brand bases its philosophy on the alliance of authenticity and intense creativity.

### MUZO EMERALDS, A MAGNETIC AURA

This gemstone is characterized by the nearly perfect hexagonal geometry of the rough stone, its dimensions and its color: a powerful and intense green, illuminated by a ray of yellow. It is one of the four precious stones from the mythic mines, along with Mogok rubies, Kashmir sapphires and Golconda diamonds. None of these mines are still in production, with the exception of the Muzo mines.

The unique spirit of this precious stone has sparked the most extraordinary passions throughout history, from the Spaniards in search of Eldorado at the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, to the Mogul emperors, who believed it was the stone of the prophet Mohamed. It has always been celebrated by jewelers in sumptuous pieces. As a testimony to its excellence, the MUZO emerald is found in many of the world's most prestigious museums and private collections.

# A REVOLUTIONARY MINING OPERATION

The Muzo mine has five underground corridors, including the one known as the Rampa. Excavated in a convolution descending as far as 1300 feet underground, this corridor is outfitted with all the modern methods of operation. Each mine is equipped with a ventilation system and sophisticated instruments designed to ensure the visual, digital and physico-chemical traceability of the emerald.

This revolutionary mining operation has also implemented revolutionary social and salary policies for its employees. Today, MUZO offers miners excellent conditions for personal and professional satisfaction. Local communities also benefit from support through social, medical, and educational programs.



## INTEGRATION OF TRADES AND PROFESSIONS: FROM EXTRACTION TO DISTRIBUTION

In this logic of vertical integration, MUZO controls extraction of the rough stones, cutting, and distribution of its emerald collections.

In the workshops in Bogota, Colombian lapidaries excel in their ability to read into the rough stones as well as in traditional gem cutting. The local know-how is regularly associated to French lapidaries' expertise. These two-fold craftsmanship enrich one another. Punctual collaborations with New York and Hong Kong workshops add to this expertise.

MUZO manages its own image, its distribution, and the excellence of its stones by selecting partners who meet its high standards.

#### **MULTI-CERTIFICATION**

Thanks to detailed tracing of the stones from the moment of extraction, MUZO is the only company in the world that is able to issue an in-house gemological certificate of origin and traceability (certified ISO 9000).

It records the location, date and time of the extraction, as well as weight, treatment, photo, etc. In addition to the in-house certification, Muzo has its stones certified by international laboratories such as Gemtech, Gübelin, SSEF and GRS.

From the rough stone to the finished cut, MUZO guarantees complete transparency in its practices and its ethics.

### VIBRANT CREATIVITY

MUZO affirms its mastery of the art of gem cutting with a collection of several thousand exceptional cut emeralds, layouts (perfect assortments in terms of cut and/or nuances of color), pairings, solitaires...

MUZO is beginning a new chapter in its contemporary history with a collection of fine jewelry composed of unique pieces created in collaboration with the most talented designers: Antoine Sandoz, Studio Naio, Shaun Leane, Solange Azagury-Partridge and Elie Top.

To ensure that its heritage is preserved and passed on, MUZO is also creating a private collection of rare and emblematic pieces of jewelry and art objects belonging to its history.

MUZO will launch its emerald brand at the upcoming Baselworld exhibition in March 2016. With a showroom centrally located in Geneva, MUZO will be present at all the major international fine jewelry and fashion events throughout Europe and the globe.

