

It has been eight years since myself, Katrina Schjerbeck, and Karen Gilbert opened Lulo. We took a big leap of faith in creating a new business, in a new town, as new friends and new mothers in a new recession! The name Lulo was a combination of our children's names Lukas and Lola. The process of growing the business alongside incredible artists and customers is integral to our life today and one we continue to enjoy. So it is about time, we begin a monthly feature of the extraordinary artists we show in the space. We hope to share insight in their creative process and offer a broader visual view of their work on our website <u>http://gallerylulo.bigcartel.com/</u>.



## Karen Gilbert

This month we highlight Karen Gilbert. Co-owner of Lulo and one of our artists. Known for her distinct aesthetic and unique approach to mixing materials such as oxidized sterling silver, stainless steel, glass, enamel and precious stones. Her work is always changing, with thoughtful approaches to the versatility of how it is worn.

Gilbert's sculptural nature of her jewelry finds inspiration in the microcosm of our everyday world, exposing "*the smallest as a visual representation of the larger complexity*". Karen lives and works in Sebastopol. More available work and details on our shop page <u>here</u>.



Karen uses fused silver wire which entraps glass beads through a chain



Karen is known for her use of mixed materials, such as glass tubes with beaded chain, as seen in left image and intricate beads and oxidized silver, as seen in right image.



Gilbert's earrings are light and with movement. Here she mixes semi precious stones in deliberate asymmetric forms.



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