

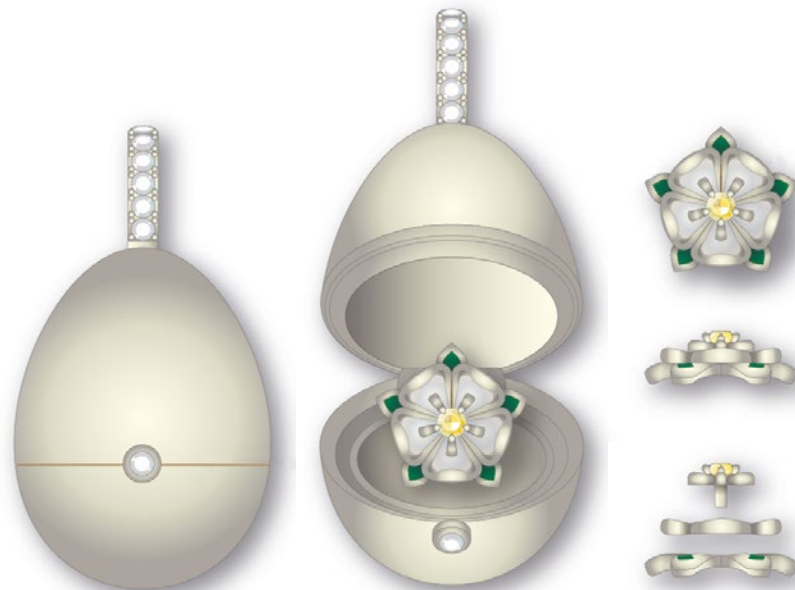
DREAM COME TRUE FOR YORKSHIRE JEWELLERY DESIGNER

In an exclusive collaboration with Fabergé, award-winning jeweller Kay Bradley has designed her own 'Yorkshire Rose' egg pendant to launch the iconic brand at her historic store in York this Easter.

As a little girl Kay Bradley fell in love with Fabergé eggs. She collected many ornamental replicas and displayed them on an old oak delph rack from her parents' North Yorkshire antiques shop. Raised in a household of culture, literature, art and music, with parents who successfully started their own pre-owned luxury jewellery and antiques business, Kay's fixation on the iconic Fabergé name never waned.

"It became a kind of obsession," she recalls. "I loved the sheer beauty of Fabergé eggs, with their opulent gold décor, exquisite colour palettes and intricate detail. I was captivated by their whimsical charm and intrigued by the treasures hidden within. Even as a child I knew that Fabergé eggs were breathtaking pieces of art."

It is no exaggeration then, when Kay describes her work in collaboration with Fabergé today as "a dream come true" and the pinnacle of her career as an award-winning fine jewellery designer and retailer. In an exclusive partnership with the iconic jewellery house, Kay has designed a solid gold egg pendant that in true Fabergé style



is inspired by history and nature, and will be launched at Easter.

The stunning piece contains a delicate, hand-enamelled Yorkshire Rose in homage to the rich heritage of Kay's home region and reflects her strong ties to the historic city of York, where she runs her independent boutique jewellery business, Bradley's Jewellers, in a grade II-listed former apothecary building on Low Petergate.

She explains: "The Yorkshire Rose is such a powerful emblem to the region and its people. I'm so lucky to walk to work past the magnificent York Minster with its stunning, stained glass Rose Window, and I'm reminded daily of its symbolic significance and its simple beauty."

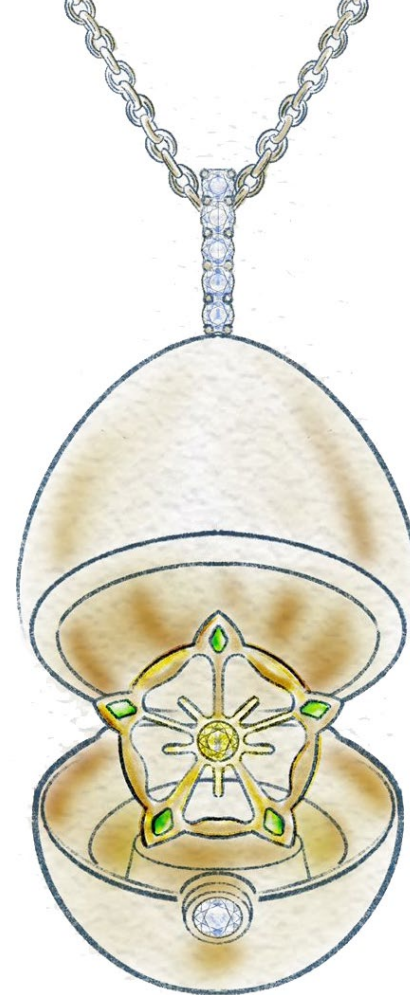
"I had a dream about the egg – I envisaged the tiny Yorkshire Rose and I could picture the pendant in my hands – so I had to immediately create my ideas on paper before someone else did! It still feels like a

dream; I can't quite believe that the little girl who fell in love with Fabergé so deeply all those years ago is today designing a bespoke commission, that holds such symbolic meaning."

Kay has designed the 18ct gold luxury pendant in three colour variations – rose gold, white gold and yellow gold – and each has a diamond-set bail, a yellow sapphire on the clasp and a delicate Yorkshire Rose hidden inside.

The special jewellery will be officially unveiled at a celebratory gala, held at historic Castle Howard, near York, in April. The ticket-only event will showcase a number of heritage Fabergé pieces never before seen by the UK public and on the evening, one lucky prize draw winner will become the first to own a 'Yorkshire Rose' pendant. A proportion of the prize draw proceeds will be donated to the York Minster Fund for the conservation and restoration of the cathedral.

"My customers are going to be blown away by the Fabergé collection! I know once they see and feel a Fabergé piece in person they will fall in love, just like I did."



The House of Fabergé was founded some one hundred and eighty years ago by Gustav Fabergé, but its name became synonymous with timeless luxury after his son Peter Carl Fabergé took over the business in 1882. Together with his brother Agathon, he transformed what was a very ordinary jewellery firm into an international phenomenon.

The history of the infamous Fabergé egg dates back to 1885, when Russian emperor Alexander III commissioned Fabergé to create a bespoke jewelled egg as an Easter gift for his wife, Empress Maria Feodorovna.

The gold and enamel egg opened to reveal a surprise inside: a golden yolk, that in turn opened to uncover a small golden hen. The hen also held a surprise – a miniature diamond replica of the imperial crown and a ruby pendant.

Such was its intricate beauty, that the emperor went on to commission a further nine Imperial Easter Eggs during his reign. The tradition was then continued by his son Nicholas II, and 40 more eggs were created as gifts for his mother and his wife until the end of the House of Romanov's three-century reign at the outbreak of the Russian revolution in 1917.

Of the 50 eggs made for the royal family, 43 are accounted for today. These 'objets de fantasie' are considered pinnacles of the goldsmiths' art and are today worth millions of pounds and treasured in museums and private collections around the world.



"There are many collectors of these fine pieces, and what more beautiful place can you come to view Fabergé in than the historic setting of York, with its glorious streets and the spectacular Minster in the backdrop."

Kay says: "Fabergé is the only jewellery brand in the world with so much history, intrigue, passion, and beauty. The sheer level of craftsmanship to create a Fabergé egg is in a league of its own, and each treasurable piece tells its own beautiful story. As I became a jeweller, I researched the brand deeper and became even more passionate about it, so when the opportunity arose to collaborate, I was ecstatic."

Today, Fabergé is owned by Gemfields, a world-leading supplier of responsibly sourced precious gemstones, and continues to craft stunning jewellery, timepieces and accessories that incorporates colourful jewels from its mines in Africa.

Kay began talks with Fabergé before Christmas. Both attended the prestigious

2021 Professional Jeweller Awards, where Bradley's Jewellers was named Fine Jewellery Retailer of the Year, and Fabergé accepted the award for Fine Jewellery Brand of the Year. Recognising a strong affinity between the two companies, she went into partnership with the luxury brand and chose to bring its iconic work to her jewellery store in York city centre. There she will showcase a range of egg pendants and charms, including her personal Yorkshire Rose pendant, as well as its signature 'Colours of Love' jewellery collection. In keeping with Fabergé tradition, the entire range will be officially launched at Easter.

The Fabergé pieces will sit alongside Kay's tailored range of fine jewellery, which includes her signature Rainbow Collection, Eco Rocks laboratory-grown diamonds and her York Daffodil and York Rose ranges, which like her Fabergé creation, draws its inspiration from the historic city.



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