

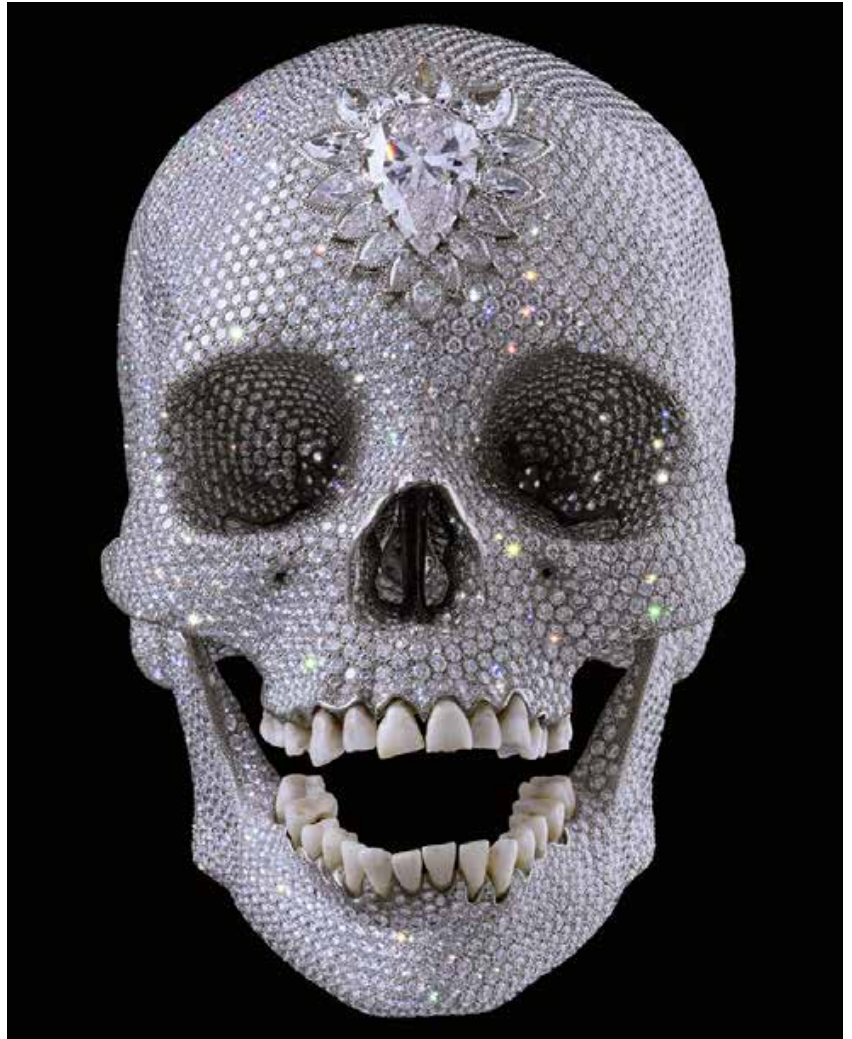
BENTLEY & SKINNER

(BOND STREET JEWELLERS) LTD.

Jewellers, Goldsmiths and Silversmiths



Damien Hirst's Diamond Skull "For the Love of God",
photographed by Prudence Cuming Associates.
Damien Hirst and Science Ltd.
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Established in 1881, Skinner & Co. were invited to supply jewellery to the Royal Family in the latter reign of Queen Victoria. Today Bentley & Skinner remain jewellers by Royal Appointment to both HM the Queen and HRH Prince of Wales, continuing to seal their reputation as a true British institution.

Located in the heart of London amid countless other quality jewellers there is only one Bentley & Skinner, a bastion of style, elegance, quality and old world charm that has earned them their unrivalled reputation amongst their peers and clientele worldwide. Specialising in fine antique jewels, Faberge and silver, their legendary and incomparable collection of stunning engagement rings is admired worldwide. Bentley & Skinner offer a range of antique and modern jewellery that simply cannot be found anywhere else.

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Their expertise and enviable position at the forefront of jewellery manufacture and innovative goldsmith techniques has allowed them to create incredible pieces such as Damien Hirst's world famous "For the Love of God". This unique work of art is a faithful copy of an original human skull, cast in 2,156 grams of platinum and set with 8,601 perfect diamonds; it is the largest diamond piece to be commissioned since the Crown Jewels.

Bentley & Skinner's prestige and reputation meant they were the obvious choice to provide an exquisite Georgian tiara set with old brilliant-cut diamonds weighing an estimated 38 carats to the much loved British TV hit drama Downton Abbey, seen and admired by millions throughout the world.

Between them, Bentley & Skinner combine two hundreds of years of experience with their dedication to the craft of jewellery helping you to purchase or hire a special piece of jewellery or to exchange or dispose of an unwanted jewel. Their innate sense of running a British family business is based on values of service and care to their clientele and on providing the absolute best. They offer an outstanding repair and remodelling jewellery service, helping their clients to preserve and create heritage heirlooms. Their attention to detail is unsurpassed and a visit to Bentley & Skinner is an experience like no other. Visit Bentley & Skinner in Piccadilly and take a step back into the treasure trove of British jewellery at its finest.



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History

1881 – Alfred Ernest Skinner founded A E Skinner & Co. in Orchard Street, W1

1890s – Alfred Skinner summonsed to the palace to show jewellery to Queen Victoria, subsequently receiving his first Royal Appointment to King Edward VII.

1922 – A E Skinner & Co. moved to 34-35 Old Bond Street

1934 – John Sheldon purchased jewellers Bentley & Co. situated on 65 New Bond Street.

1980 – Directorship of Skinner & Co. passed to Richard Skinner from his father, Lionel Skinner

1985 – Directorship of Bentley & Co. passed to Mark Evans from his great Uncle, John Sheldon.

1989 – Skinner & Co moved to 30 Old Bond Street.

1992 – Bentley & Co. moved to 8 New Bond Street and engaged Paul Greer as the new manager, a position that he holds today.

1998 – With no children to continue the family business, Richard Skinner decided to seek a merger with another firm of jewelers. This was most successfully effected with the well-established, family-owned firm of Bentley & Co, situated close by at 8 New Bond Street. Later that year, Mr Evans, managing director of Bentley & Skinner (Bond Street Jewellers Ltd) was honoured to be granted the Royal Warrant of Appointment as Jewellers & Silversmiths to H M Queen Elizabeth II and HRH The Prince of Wales.

2007 – The creation of Bentley & Skinner's most challenging commission – Damien Hirst's For the Love of God – was completed. The famous diamond skull acts as a dazzling celebration of the jeweller's art.

2009 – After 75 years in Bond Street, Bentley & Skinner moved to its fine new premises at 55 Piccadilly.

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