

## **Heartrings**

These rings are a demonstration of the Lost Wax technique. A technique where a model is fashioned in wax, complete with spruce channels. The mould is then created by coating the wax model with plaster and left to dry, creating a solid outer shell. The plaster mould is heated sufficiently for the wax to melt and flow out. The wax model therefore no longer exists, except as a negative cavity into which the metal is to flow. With each casting a unique form is made, and the mould has to be destroyed to free the casted piece.

However, these rings were never made in wax, they were blood veins taken directly from a pigheart. As the veins are an organic tissue they were burnt away just as the wax would have been. The negative cavity left behind was then filled with gold and silver. You could say that the process is an inherent part of the work, a cremation process of the flesh from which something immortal is created.

The filling of metal into the cavity, makes a perfect copy of the lost vein. In doing this the impermanent nature of the veins is changed. The rings become precious and wearable, contrary to the impermanent nature of flesh and stands as a reminder.