

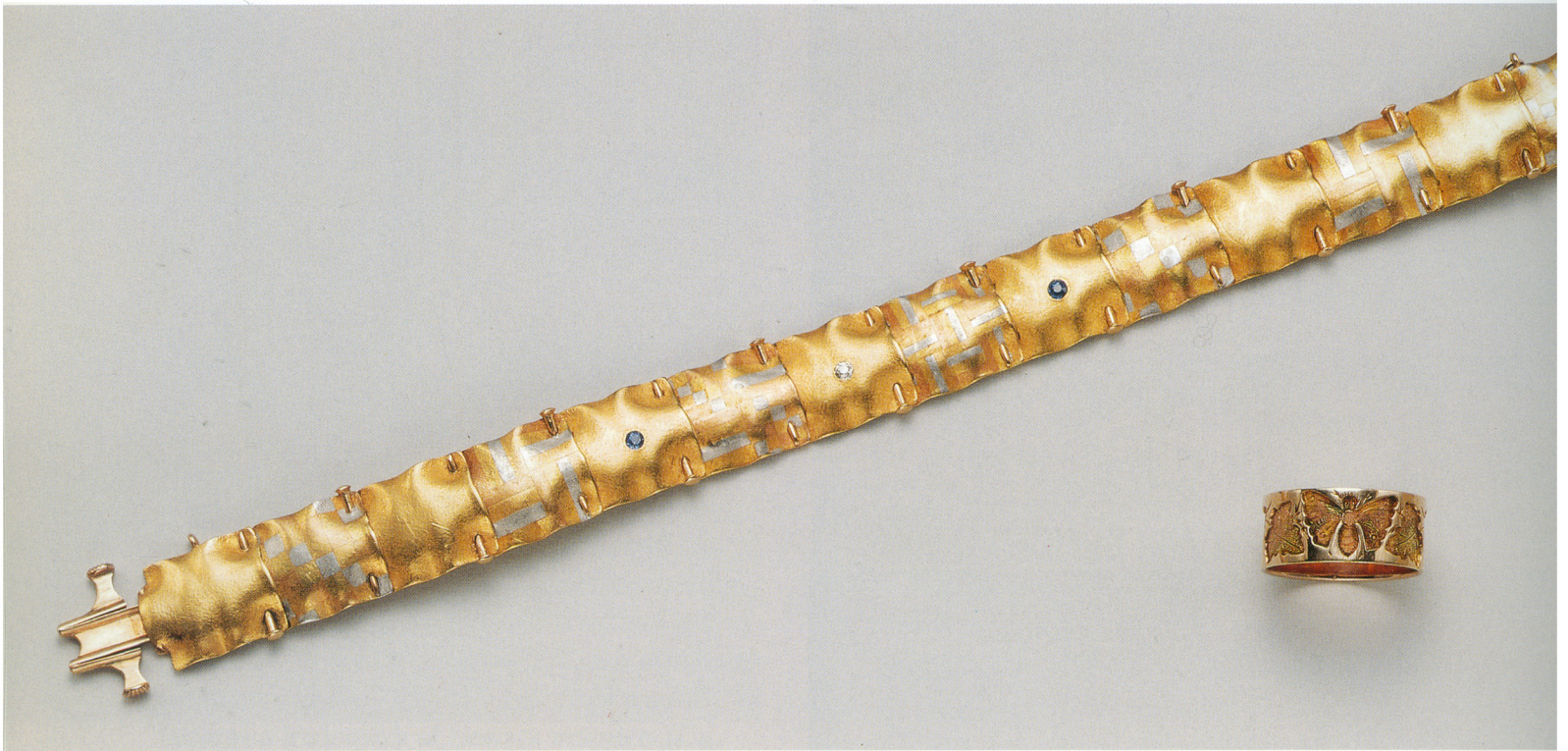
The Glitter & The Gold



FASHIONING AMERICA'S
JEWELRY

plaque—essentially a locket panel—depicting a woman with an ornate diadem set with diamonds (Fig. 108). Such headdresses echo Sarah Bernhardt’s costumes on the stage as Cleopatra and Theodora in the 1890s. A third famous Bernhardt role, that of the title character in Edmond Rostand’s *La Princesse Lointaine*, also involved an elaborate headdress, but with large flower blossoms behind the ears.⁸⁵ This image, too, popularized by Mucha’s posters, made its way into American jewelry (see Fig. 77, the

Alling & Co. scarf pin, as well as Fig. 40). More typical are the one-piece hollow bangles by Bishop & Bishop and Riker Brothers, with die-rolled or hand-engraved decoration, sometimes set with stones (Figs. 108, 109). Reed & Barton’s New York store placed a holiday season ad in 1906 in *Vogue*, offering gold bracelets like this for \$50. A couple of diamonds or sapphires might raise the retail cost to \$110.⁸⁶ Fritzsche & Co. produced a hinged bangle in the form of a bent horseshoe nail as its entry in the popular



106. Jewelry of multicolored gold, by A.J. Hedges & Co., 1879–1890. Bracelet, gold, ruby, diamond, and sapphire, collection of Christopher English Walling; ring, private collection, New York.

