

Continental Wholesale Diamonds Shines on Tampa

Bob Ong April 15, 2014



Continental Wholesale Diamonds

Tampa Bay has laid claim to many things that are cherished by many such as food, beaches, and now diamonds? The diamond market has always had the image of residing in large urban environments but Continental Wholesale Diamonds has taken Tampa by storm.

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Andrew Meyer, the Managing Member of Continental Wholesale Diamonds, was a wholesaler in the diamond business for over forty years with a family lineage that dates over 100 years of diamond experience. Never having sold a retail diamond, Meyer was always the “factory manufacturer” of these coveted gems. Continental was actually his client for years when most recently, he acquired the business and decided to eliminate the middle role and sell direct.

With this new approach, it enables Continental to creatively design, cut, and choose the appropriate diamonds for his custom diamond requests. There is a lot of art and science to diamonds and Meyer is no novice. With his expertise and eye for quality and aesthetics, Meyer can offer a quick glance to determine the fundamentals of diamonds. The four C’s as he describes are: clarity, cut, color, and carats that ultimately determine the fifth C which is cost.

Various jewelry can be created with earrings, pendants, necklaces, and rings that differing cuts of diamonds can be made for. Meyer talks about the color which is actually ideally “lack of color” that the diamond connoisseur seeks. It is here that makes the diamond shine. Proportions of the diamond or the “cut” reflect how well the diamond shines when light hits it. As light hits the diamond, it bounces around and should come out through the top.

Hearing Meyer speak about diamonds is tantamount to listening to a historian and scientist rolled into one. He talks about Marcel Tolkowsky, a Polish diamond cutter and engineer who is regarded as the father of modern “round brilliant diamond cut” and in 1919, wrote a PhD thesis establishing the American Ideal Cut (or standard benchmark for diamond cutting). In the year 2000, The American Gem Society actually determined that Tolkowsky’s method of cutting diamonds was correct dating back to 1919. So color and cut are the two most important aspects of diamond understanding and appreciation.

Meyer was also educated in the field of diamonds and has sat on many industry boards i.e. The American Gem Society and The American Gem Society Laboratory. He also does much in the way charitable foundations such as Jewels for Children, an organization that raises \$5 million annually which coincides with Meyer’s vision to give back to the communities.

Meyer has an interesting background and studied in whatever his endeavors may include. As a pilot his passion for flying is a chapter unto itself. An avid golfer, he also makes sure to take the time to relax and enjoy his recently minted Florida roots.

For more information on diamonds in Tampa Bay and the making, buying, or appreciation about them, visit

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