

Atrium 1, Guy's Hospital, St Thomas Street, London SE1 9RT
Exhibition runs 7th December 2006–14th February 2007

In the near future, bone tissue cultivated outside a patient's body might be used in reconstructive surgery, to repair damage caused by injury or disease. As the science behind this process develops, it sparks curiosity, desire and speculation about alternative uses of this innovation. Biojewellery explores the future possibilities of an emerging medical technique, while also providing couples with a unique symbol of their love for one another.

A team of designers from the Royal College of Art and researchers from King's College London worked together to create rings for four couples. Bone tissue was cultured in a laboratory at Guy's Hospital, using chips of bone donated by the couples. This tissue was then combined with precious metals to create the rings. The resulting jewellery enables each person to wear the body of their lover on their hand.

This exhibition documents each stage of the project, from the donation and culturing of bone tissue, to the design of the jewellery and the actual making of the rings. The exhibition provides an intimate account of what can happen when our creative visions of science are brought to bear on its progress.

Biojewellery

Designing rings with bioengineered bone tissue

