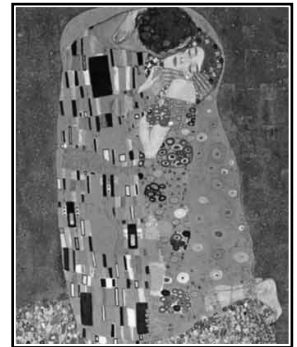


THE VIENNA COLLECTION

Gustav Klimt was part of the Vienna Secession, the artistic rebellion that began in Vienna coffee shops at the turn of the century. Klimt practiced the art of decorative stylization, which brought ornamentation back to life.



In what is considered to be his most successful attempt at the marriage of sensuality and symbolism, 'The Kiss', probably one of his most well-known paintings is still loved and admired today. In this painting, Klimt uses blunt upright shapes on the man's costume and open spirals on the woman's costume to symbolize the differences between the sexes.



Klimt is also known for using a lot of gold in his pieces. The gold gives each piece a sense of warmth and happiness. Emile Floge believed the painting was a representation of she and Klimt in 'truly golden happiness'.

The Vienna collection uses similar shapes and patterns in its intense surface design. Each piece uses 23 karat gold on striking colours, bringing ornamental design back to life in glass.