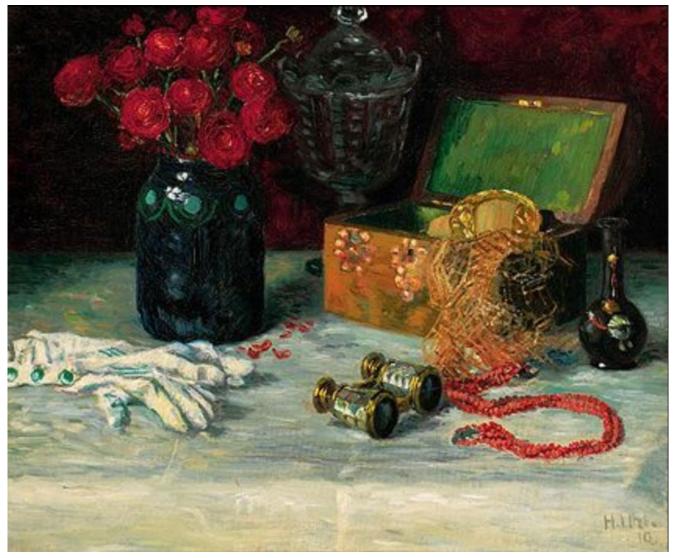
Estate Jewelry

By **Eric Rozenman** (March 2024)



Still life with Jewelry Box, Opera Glasses, Gloves, and Bouquet of Flowers, by Heinrich Uhl

They glittered, not the alluring sparkle
Of gems under jewelry store lights
But still, enough twinkle in that dim room
To hint at love warm
The lovers long gone

Grandchildren selling the house. Still, there they were Locked in a glass case On a green felt-covered table An engagement ring elegant in simplicity A princess-cut diamond, one-carat weight In platinum, flanked by quarter-carat diamonds On each side, rays from every facet Sparks of old love, old lovers. A set of earrings, small dangling circles Of diamond chips in silver And a gold necklace with a ruby delicately encircled By a playfully enameled collar. Playful, these diadems, trinkets, adornments Of a man's passion and A woman's endorsement Or so it seemed, so the rays twinkled Tiny lights winking silently. Who will wear them now And in what spirit? People wander through the house Sixty years old and no longer stylish Sturdy furniture dated Carpets worn by years of feet Large and small, passing A real estate agent asks herself Is this place worth a remodel Or is it a knock-down? A man stares at the jewelry And tears come to his eyes.

He tells himself unconvincingly he does not know why.

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Eric Rozenman is author of Jews Make the Best Demons: "Palestine" and the Jewish Question (2018, New English Review Press) and From Elvis to Biden, Eyewitness to the Unraveling; Co-Starring Nixon, Warhol, Clinton, The Supremes and Obama! (Academica Press).

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