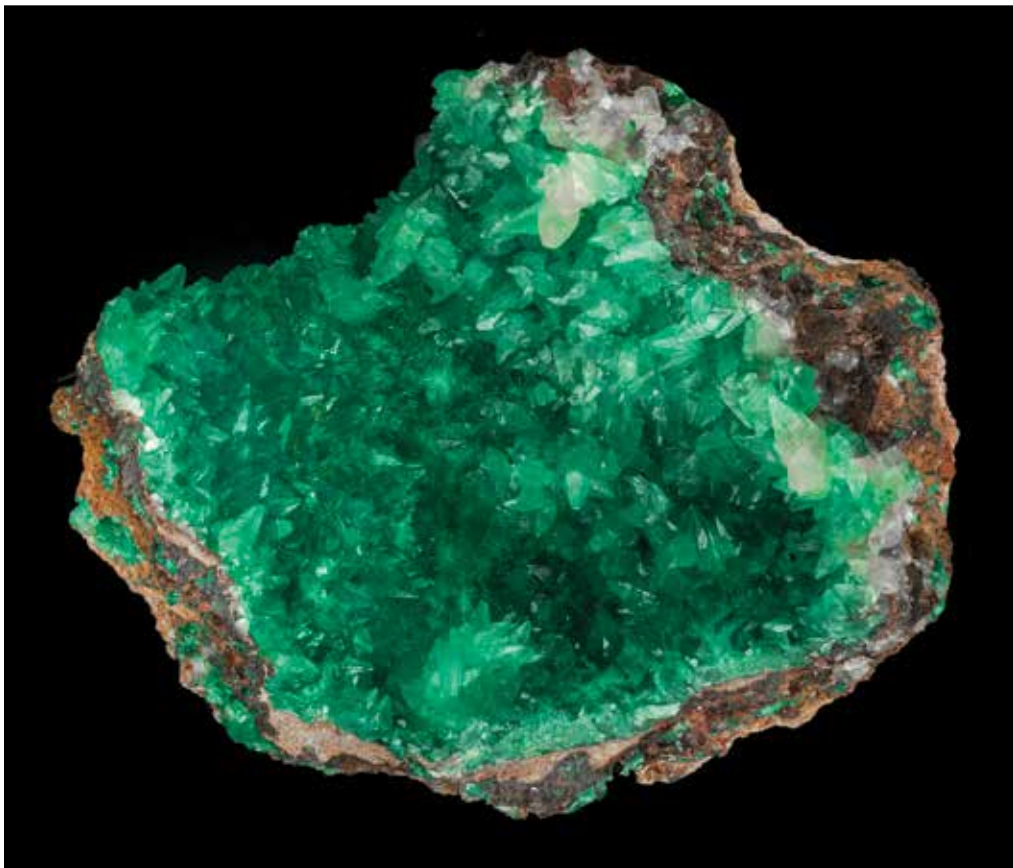


Mark Shedrofsky



I have spent over 35 years in the building stone world, working with marbles, granites, limestones, quartzites and schists from countries spanning the world. My passion for stone has granted me the good fortune to work with many of the world's most precious and beautiful marbles, and to collaborate with the world's best fabricators on world-class projects. These days, when I visit a building stone yard and find myself staring at a slab of granite, the two dimensional crystals of quartz, feldspar and muscovite within appear three dimensional in my mind's eye. I like to explain the gem and mineral world to my friends on the "other side" as the marble business on steroids. Simply put, the added third dimension is a natural evolution of my life-long love affair with stone. The previous 30 years of my life have prepared me to build my collection of gems, minerals and fossils with a unique perspective and expertise—these are the materials that have surrounded me for years, just now in new guises.

When people ask me what I like to collect after being in the gem and mineral business for five years I find it difficult to answer, as I rarely have the ability to limit myself when considering a beautiful specimen of any kind. Today, as it has been throughout my life, what I enjoy the most is collaborating and developing mutually beneficial relationships with the miners, dealers and collectors who share my passion for all types of stone.



Calcite crystals colored green by malachite inclusions, 12.1 cm, from the Czar mine, Bisbee, Cochise County, Arizona. Ex Bill Larson collection, Tom Spann photo. This specimen appeared on the cover of the Arizona-VII Issue of the *Mineralogical Record* (July–August 2015)



Fluorite with calcite 9 cm, from the Minerva No. 1 mine, Cave-in-Rock, Hardin County, Illinois. Tom Spann photo.



Inesite with xonotlite, 6.5 cm, from Wessels mine, near Kuruman, Kalahari Manganese Field, Northern Cape Province, South Africa. Tom Spann photo.

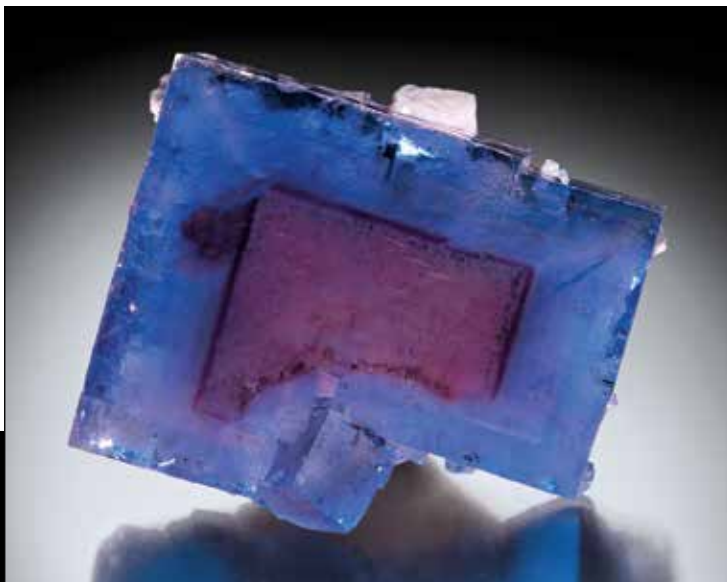
Mimetite, 10 cm, from Hat Yai District, Sonklha Province, Thailand. Tom Spann photo.





Fluorapatite with quartz, 4 cm, from the Pulsifer quarry near Auburn, Androscoggin County, Maine. Tom Spann photo.

Fluorite with calcite 6.5 cm, from the Minerva No. 1 mine, Cave-in-Rock, Hardin County, Illinois. Tom Spann photo.



Malachite on quartz, 15 cm, from the Mashamba West mine, Kolwezi District, Katanga, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Tom Spann photo.



Quartz, 32 cm, from Crystal Ridge, Garland County, Arkansas. Tom Spann photo.



Quartz with fluorite and spessartine, 6 cm, from the Wushan Spessartine mine, Tongbai, Yunxiao County, Zhangzhou Prefecture, Fujian Province, China. Tom Spann photo.



Rose quartz with eosphorite, 6 cm, from Lavra da Ilha, near Taquaral, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Tom Spann photo.

Rose quartz on colorless quartz, 11 cm, from Lavra Berilo Branco, Sapucaia do Norte, Galileia Minas Gerais, Brazil. Ex Steve Smale collection; Tom Spann photo.



Barite on calcite, 8.9 cm, from Elk Creek near Dalzell, Meade County, South Dakota. Tom Spann photo.



Quartz with hematite, 14 cm, from the Jinlong Hill, Longchuan County, Guangdong Province, China. Tom Spann photo.



Sulfur, 6 cm, from the Agrigento District, Sicily, Italy. Tom Spann photo.



Pyromorphite, 6 cm, from the Bunker Hill mine, Kellogg, Shoshone County, Idaho. Ex Sandor Fuss collection; Tom Spann photo.



Wulfenite on smithsonite, 13 cm, from the Tsumeb mine, Tsumeb, Namibia. Ex Marshall Sussman collection; Tom Spann photo.



Opalized petrified wood, 19 cm, from Virgin Valley, Humboldt County circa 1975. Tom Spann photo.



Azurite, 8 cm, from the Milpillas mine, Cuitaca, Sonora, Mexico. Tom Spann photo.



Leaf gold, 6 cm, from the Mount Kare mine, Papua, New Guinea. Tom Spann photo.



The Palm Tryptich: The palm is a *Sabalites powelli*, an extinct species in the family Arcaceae. The mural also contains 13 fossil fish, including seven *Knightia eocaena*, two *Diplomystus dentatus* (adult and young), three *Priscacara liops*, and one *Mioplosus labracoides*. This stone was quarried from the famous 46-cm layer of the Green River Formation, Lincoln County, Wyoming. Size: 1.2 meters tall \times 3.1 meters wide.