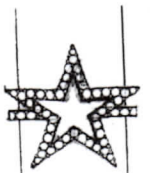
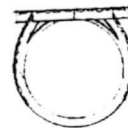
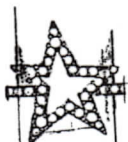


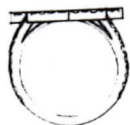
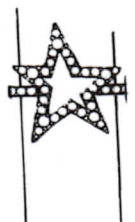
THE SKETCHES



A five-point star was the initial brief for this design



Payal adapted the star to make it asymmetric, and reduced it in size



A star in the making

5

THE GRAZIA STYLE AWARDS are fashion's most glittering event of the year, and to celebrate the occasion, Payal Mehta, founder of Payal New York, created a one-off design for Editor-in-Chief Alison Tay. As it was the night of dreams, it was only fitting that Payal would realise Alison's dream ring.

"From the start, Alison was set on having an open star," recalls Payal about the process. "She wanted something very minimal as she doesn't wear too much jewellery and she was very specific."

When it comes to making a bespoke piece of jewellery, the personality of the wearer is as important to Payal as the design specifics. "When you meet Alison, you feel her – she's very smart, sharp and to the point – so I had all these qualities in mind plus my research about stars and what they symbolise in different cultures and

religions as my starting point," Payal reveals.

And this is where the magic happens. "Alison had a symmetrical ring in mind, but after I drew a couple of designs, I really felt it should be asymmetrical. I wanted one part of the star to be larger than the rest to signify Alison's greatest quality – her strength. She's an achiever, a go-getter and knows exactly what she wants. She's very inspirational. I told her this, and she was amazed.

I designed three different variations with different stones and materials, so they looked and felt different, for Alison to choose the one she was drawn to."

Alison remarks, "This was the design I've always dreamt of wearing. Having seen Payal's Constellation collection and knowing her affinity for stars and the night sky, I was certain, I'd found the perfect jeweller. However, I was astonished by her intuition, and how she interpreted my personality so accurately."

Payal adds, "When I saw her wearing the ring at the *Grazia* Style Awards, I was so happy and relieved. I felt so fortunate to get to know her and to see her reaction made me so pleased."



The finished design is an asymmetric five-point star with a micro-pavé setting

• Prices start from Dhs10,000
For your personal appointment with Payal, email payal@payalnewyork.com