

# Family STONE

AN HEIRLOOM  
EMERALD GETS  
A SECOND LIFE.

By Elizabeth Cantrell



**CLAIRE  
WINTER  
KISLINGER &  
ALEXANDER  
PIERS SMITH**  
PACIFIC PALISADES,  
CALIFORNIA  
October 21, 2017

When Alexander Piers Smith proposed to Claire Winter Kislinger, he did it with a placeholder band, knowing that his bride would want to include her mother, jeweler Cathy Waterman, in the process. "One of the best gifts he gave me was the opportunity to design with my mom," Claire says. The two dreamed up a ring centered on a Colombian

emerald that once belonged to Claire's grandmother. About a year before the engagement, Cathy found the stone in a forgotten pendant and put it aside. "The generational connection just made sense," she says.

The platinum ring also incorporates baguette-cut and round diamonds, with a thorn motif. "Almost anything beautiful is sur-

rounded, in some manner, by thorns," says Cathy, who always puts an evil eye icon on the back of her rings for "a little extra luck." Luck was in the couple's favor last October, when they surprised their guests—who thought they were going to a black tie engagement party—with a full-blown wedding at a private estate in Pacific Palisades. «



**SECRET CODES**  
From top: Alexander, in Tom Ford, and Claire, in Alexander McQueen; Claire with her mother; the custom ring; the couple kept their nuptials under wraps until the big day.

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