

From: "Australian Opal Mines (Murray)" <murray@australianopalmines.com>
Date: October 24, 2011 1:08:21 AM EDT
To: "Heather BAKER (work)" <heather@australianopalmines.com>
Subject: **Andamooka Matrix Untreated OFFER 24 Oct 2011**

Turning chalk into precious stones.



World experts attest Lightning Ridge Black may be most satisfyingly perfect but treated Matrix is the most brilliant.

Treatment of the limestone matrix involves a fairly simple process of simmering the stones in a very rich solution of sugar in water, followed by a period of simmering in a bath of very concentrated sulfuric acid. The sugar penetrates the limestone matrix and the acid 'cooks' it turning the white sugar behind and around the 'pockets' of

opal, into a black carbon. The result is that the blackened matrix surrounding the pockets of opal, does not diffract light and the colors of the opal beam through. The quality of the finished stone is gauged by the brilliance of the fire, the richness and range of the colors. In practice, it's no more difficult than cooking dinner, with the exception that sulfuric acid is extremely dangerous. Some stones achieve a deep rich black while others may turn different shades of brown.

It is the opinion of many opal dealers that Andamooka matrix should enjoy a market price which is equivalent to that of other matrix or boulder opal, in that it should be somewhere between 10 and 20 percent of that of solid black opal. As with solid opal, various qualities of this material exist and similarly, the highest qualities are the rarest, possessing brilliance and richness of colors which are the equal to all but the finest 'solid' black opals.

You may buy finished stones or plan to cut and treat the rough yourself but don't buy rough and then have someone else treat it. It may be the only choice you have but you will be missing out on one of the most interesting, surprising, and satisfying experiences in your life!

If you want to learn more check out our site:
<http://www.shed.com/aom/storyfile/matrix.html>

We are happy to include a recipe for cooking matrix with your order, don't forget to ask.

Have some fun.

Heather
for
Murray

1. \$45 IMG_1079 Andamooka Matrix Opal 1oz
2. \$51 IMG_1041 Andamooka Matrix untreated \$30/oz 1.7oz
3. \$56.40 IMG_1004 Andamooka Matrix untreated \$30/oz 1.88oz
- 4-5. \$175 IMG_1080 Andamooka Matrix Opal great colours 7.85oz
- 6-7. \$590 IMG_1576 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds some Blues 50mm x 40mm x 22mm thick \$200/oz 2.95oz
- 8-10. \$680 IMG_1406 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 1.36oz
- 11-12. \$710 IMG_1579 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds & Greens 48mm x 39mm x 35mm thick \$200/oz 3.55oz
- 13-14. \$750 IMG_6532 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x3/8" thick \$300/oz 2.5oz
- 15-17. \$770 IMG_6529 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x.5" thick \$200/oz 3.85oz
18. \$800 IMG_1147 Andamooka Matrix Gem stones in rock (2) 4.1oz
19. \$800 IMG_1165 Andamooka Matrix (pair) 3.58oz
- 20-22. \$820 IMG_1588 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds some Blues

60mm x 35mm x 30mm thick \$200/oz 4.1oz
23-24. \$1,020 IMG_6543 Andamooka Matrix untreated 3.5"x1.5"x.75" thick \$200/oz
5.1oz
25-26. \$1,255 IMG_1411 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 2.51oz



1. \$45 IMG_1079 Andamooka Matrix Opal 1oz



2. \$51 IMG_1041 Andamooka Matrix untreated \$30/oz 1.7oz



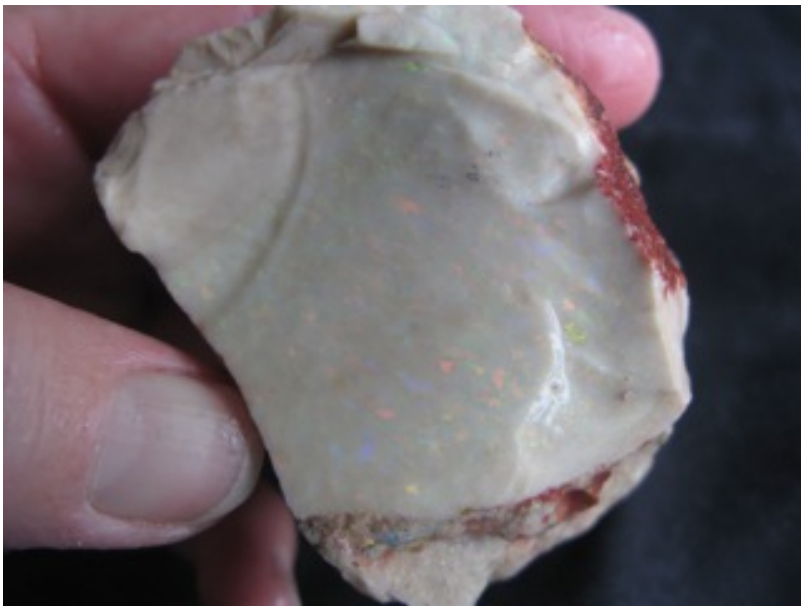
3. \$56.40 IMG_1004 Andamooka Matrix untreated \$30/oz 1.88oz



4. \$175 IMG_1080 Andamooka Matrix Opal great colours 7.85oz



5. \$175 IMG_1081 Andamooka Matrix Opal great colours 7.85oz



6. \$590 IMG_1576 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds some Blues 50mm x 40mm x 22mm thick \$200/oz 2.95oz



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8. \$680 IMG_1406 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 1.36oz



9. \$680 IMG_1407 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 1.36oz



10. \$680 IMG_1409 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 1.36oz



11. \$710 IMG_1579 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds & Greens
48mm x 39mm x 35mm thick \$200/oz 3.55oz



12. \$710 IMG_1587 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds & Greens
48mm x 39mm x 35mm thick \$200/oz 3.55oz



13. \$750 IMG_6532 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x3/8" thick \$300/oz 2.5oz



14. \$750 IMG_6535 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x3/8" thick \$300/oz 2.5oz



15. \$770 IMG_6529 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x.5" thick \$200/oz 3.85oz



16. \$770 IMG_6530 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x.5" thick \$200/oz 3.85oz



17. \$770 IMG_6531 Matrix untreated 3"x2"x.5" thick \$200/oz 3.85oz



18. \$800 IMG_1147.JPG Andamooka Matrix Gem stones in rock (2) 4.1oz



19. \$800 IMG_1165.JPG Andamooka Matrix (pair) 3.58oz



20. \$820 IMG_1588 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds some Blues 60mm x 35mm x 30mm thick \$200/oz 4.1oz



21. \$820 IMG_1590 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds some Blues 60mm x 35mm x 30mm thick \$200/oz 4.1oz



22. \$820 IMG_1592 Andamooka Untreated Matrix Reds, Golds some Blues 60mm x 35mm x 30mm thick \$200/oz 4.1oz



23. \$1,020 IMG_6543 Matrix untreated 3.5"x1.5"x.75" thick \$200/oz 5.1oz



24. \$1,020 IMG_6546 Matrix untreated 3.5"x1.5"x.75" thick \$200/oz 5.1oz



25. \$1,255 IMG_1411 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 2.51oz



26. \$1,255 IMG_1414 Andamooka untreated Matrix \$500/oz 2.51oz

Kind regards

Murray Willis

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<http://www.austopalmines.net.au>

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