

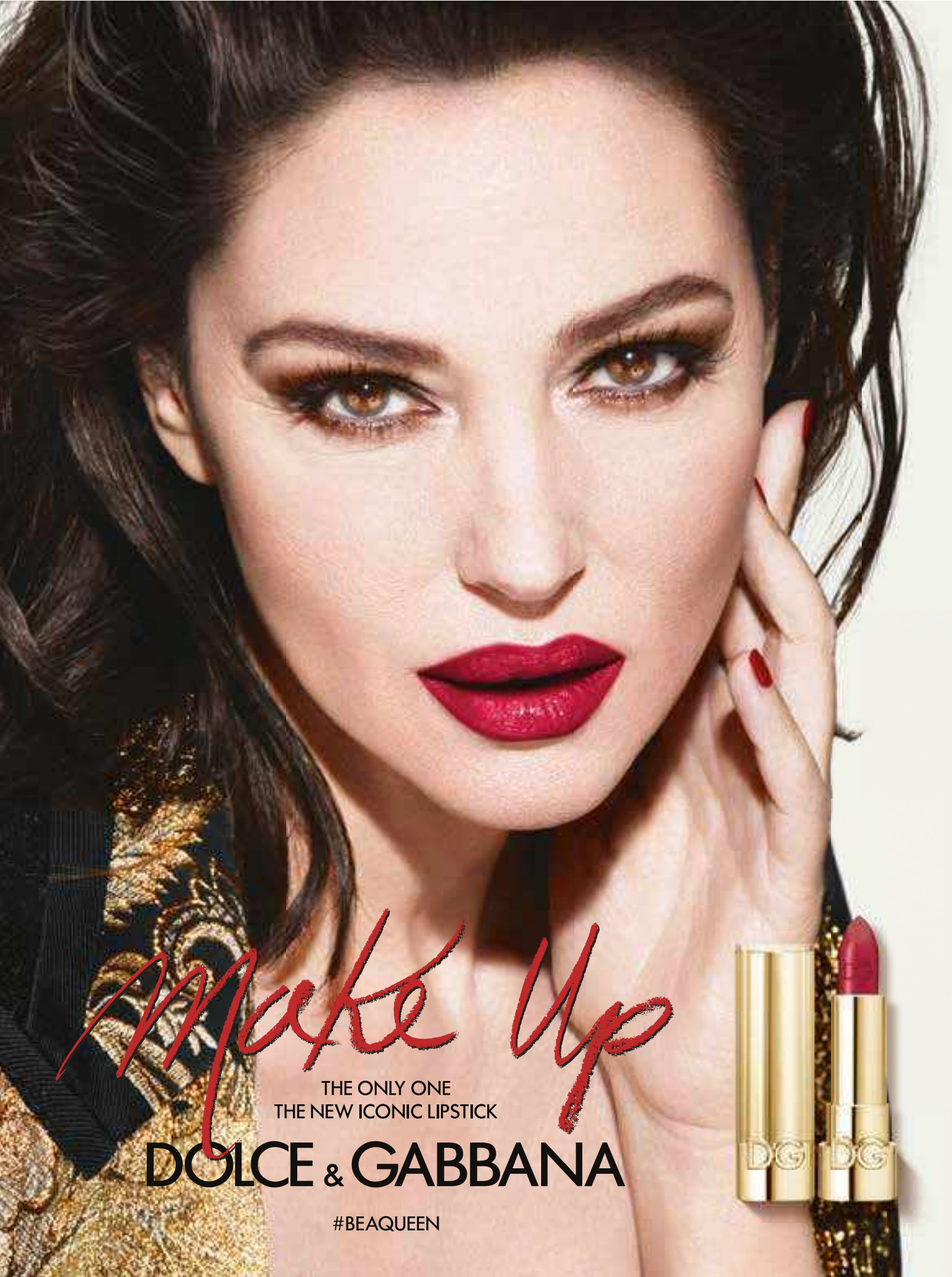


Make Up

SOLAR GLOW
THE NEW HEALTHY GLOW POWDER

DOLCE & GABBANA

#BEAQUEEN



Make Up

THE ONLY ONE
THE NEW ICONIC LIPSTICK

DOLCE & GABBANA

#BEAQUEEN



the saddler's spirit



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ELLE
INTERNATIONAL
a division of **lagardere**

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EDITOR'S LETTER



Left: Model Roz as photographed by Yasmine Kateb
Above: We Celebrate 75 years of ELLE!

DEAR READER,

While many of us may still be feeling a little stifled these days, there's one facet of life that remains unbridled and free – the arts! This issue celebrates creativity in all its forms; the beauty that stems from it, the catharsis it provides, and the hope it inspires. Our cover stars are well versed in several art forms, including the art of self expression which they do to great effect in our shoot wearing the latest collection from the always-edgy and dynamic Kenzo. From the influence and representation of fashion on the lives of women (in Elle Celebrates 75 years of

Fashion), to regional artists of light, color, and design making our world brighter, and from the power of capturing a moment in time in Arab Cinema, to the meticulous craftsmanship required of Haute Couture fashion and jewelry alike – we see you and we salute you for helping to make this world a better place.



Dina Spahi

dina.spahi@ellearabia.com

IN...Elle View

ELLE B. MAMBETOV

Currently making international waves, fashion designer Elle B. is the star of this month's 'Elle View' as she talks about the lessons learned on her unbelievable journey and her amazing comeback story. A London Fashion Week designer at the age of 26, Mambetov's just revealed her luxury new womenswear line Elle B. Zhou in a jaw-dropping online virtual presentation with the help of supermodel Shahad Salman. www.ellebmambet.com **MY ADVICE FOR MAKING IT IN FASHION & DESIGN IS...** be yourself. Design what is a reflection of you and what you feel connected to, rather than chasing trend forecasts, or modeling your brand after something that is popular on social media. Be innovative, push boundaries, and find a way to be resilient. **I'M DRIVEN BY...** hope. I just keep hoping, no matter what. If I would base my life and career off of memory of the past, I would have quit a long time ago. But hope is what drives me.



ON THE...Cover
CARMEL HARRISON

Carmel is a stylist by nature and has been working with luxury brands on editorials for the past 7 years. Previous roles include former Editor in Chief of Emirates Woman and ELLE Arabia until this summer when she took Covid-19 as a now-or-never time and opportunity to go freelance as a Creative Director and Stylist and launch her own ready-to-wear label Second Summer. Harrison shot the stunning cover story featuring Lana Al Beik and 'Karrouhat' dressed in Kenzo. **FIRST ITEM OF CLOTHING THAT IMPACTED ME...** was a pair of Vivienne Westwood pirate boots (my first ever designer piece). Back then, they were all made-to-order and I remember being the most excited putting down my deposit for a pair in the store in Leeds. I still have the boots today they are so special to me, I wore them non-stop for about four years!



IN...Culture
JON S. MALOY

Jon is a creative director who's worked for some of the world's most recognizable brands - Chanel, Tom Ford, Dior, and Louvre Abu Dhabi to name a few - helping them craft culturally relevant and empowered campaigns. With over a decade dedicated to the luxury and beauty industry in Paris, London, NYC and now Dubai, Maloy has helped organizations deliver some of the most unique brand experiences in the region. His work lives at the intersection of art, entertainment & technology. Check out his fascinating essay 'The Strange Case of Dr. Luxury & Mr. Art'. **I BELIEVE ART IS...** life. Without Art there can be no inspiration. **WHEN I'M NOT WRITING...** you can find me in my creative department talking, working, and laughing with some of the most inspiring people I know.



IN...Fashion

JORDAN ROBERTSON

Born and raised in a small town in Scotland, Jordan moved to London at the age of 18 in search of a real creative fix, started assisting the big names in the industry and really getting involved. From London to Sydney and now Dubai, Jordan travels often, working backstage at fashion week under the wing of the iconic Guido Palau. When not in Dubai working, you'll find him in either New York, London, Milan or Paris. Check out his work in our 'Rainbow Rebels' shoot and follow his creative journey on instagram; @jordanrobbohair. **I BELIEVE STYLE IS...** whatever you want it to be, there is no wrong or right and we live in a world now that's accepting of that. Your choice of clothing reflects your personality so let it show! Be who you want to be.



IN...Life

SUERAYA SHAHEEN

Sueraya Shaheen is known for her documentary style portraiture rooted in fine-art. Born in Beirut, to Syrian parents, she is immersed in the region's art scene & co-founded Tribe, a platform for Contemporary Photography from the Arab World @tribephotomag. Shaheen is the go-to-photographer for artists portraits, and has spent over 10 years building an archive of portraits of artists

from the MENA region. The series as a whole is titled ENCOUNTERS and has been exhibited in London, Mexico City, Houston and Bahrain. **WHEN I'M NOT TAKING PHOTOS...** I try to practice just being present and enjoying the moment and my surroundings, but to be honest, it's tough; my basic instinct is to photograph what I see. I've become so used to doing it its hard to stop, a bit of an addiction! I write it off as 'going to the gym' to practice taking photos to master my craft.



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The Cover

THE COVER
Lana Al Beik and Basil Alhadi in KENZO
Photographer: Abdulla Elmaz
Concept & Styling: Carmel Harrison
Hair: Jordan Robertson
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Jessica and Rita Kahawaty on their delicious venture, Mama Rita



Uncharted TERRITORY

Uncharted territory; that is where we are now. When I first started my career in fashion I was making sheer French lace garments with hopes that Miley Cyrus would snag one of my pieces for her next wrecking ball experience. Yet, when I found myself falsely imprisoned after a former friend impersonated me and my business to commit fraud, there I was, sitting in a prison cell, fighting for my freedom. It was uncharted territory. Heartbroken, as I watched my life go in up smoke, I was forced to simply watch those flames engulf my life's work. I questioned what was left for me. My identity was wrapped up in who I was as a designer and the work I was doing. Yet, being falsely imprisoned leaves you with nothing but time; to experience all the thoughts, feelings, and emotions that have gone unheard for so long. Life had become a whirlwind that flashed before my eyes. One minute I was coming off of the most successful London Fashion Week showcase of my career; and the next I was taken without a warrant from my home in London and thrown into a maximum security prison. It was uncharted territory. It would be because of my mother, and her contacting the U.S. Congress, that I was soon released, put on a plane and sent back to the United States. Following my release I decided to convert to Islam... uncharted territory. Not being raised in the faith, I had no idea what it meant to identify as a Muslim. I wondered if I cover, would I wear a hijab? I worried I wouldn't be able to make friends, or that I'd be rejected

A London Fashion Week designer at the age of 26, **Elle B. Mambetov's** unbelievable journey from catwalk to cellblock and back to the forefront of fashion is a comeback story with a happy ending as she reveals her luxury line that promises to change the perception of modest fashion into something truly unique, sophisticated, and inspiring

by the culture - fears arising from unfounded truth. As a fashion designer, I hadn't previously thought about making garments to be worn modestly. It was difficult for me to navigate, to wrap my mind around not only my new identity, but how that would translate into my designs. I wanted my fashion brand Elle B. Zhou to be reflective of my own journey. It was uncharted territory again. I wanted to challenge myself to be bold in fashion, to still represent myself as a Muslim, but to also make sure that women like me are a part of the conversation in fashion. My goal is not to sacrifice what is fun, bright, or beautiful because of my faith; but to incorporate all of those things into garments that I can also wear. As we all stay brave during the Covid-19 global pandemic, I dare everyone to remember the uncharted territory moments in your own life that took you by surprise, but that you survived. It's easy to feel all hope is lost, or that you need to surrender to societal pressures to make it in fashion. But I've found that my authenticity is now better received than the fantasy I once tried to portray through the brand. Covid-19 has presented a great opportunity for the fashion industry to think outside the box and reconnect with innovation. My business has entered the digital world, creating benefit presentations for charity. There was a time when I felt stymied by the circumstance of life. Now, to be executive producing another digital presentation starring Egyptian Actress Huda El Mufti and working again with Efi Davies of Toni & Guy to create a hair look for Huda, life has come full circle.

COLLAGE BY TPASADAN



THE TOTE

DOLCE & GABBANA'S NOW-ICONIC SICILY BAG IS REVISITED THIS SEASON IN A MATELASSE VERSION IN A RANGE OF HUES INSPIRED BY ITS NAMESAKE ISLAND. THE PLAY OF QUILTING AND STITCHING ON THE SICILY MATELASSE CREATES A RHOMBOID GEOMETRIC PATTERN, GIVING MOVEMENT TO THE BAG'S STRUCTURAL LINEARITY.



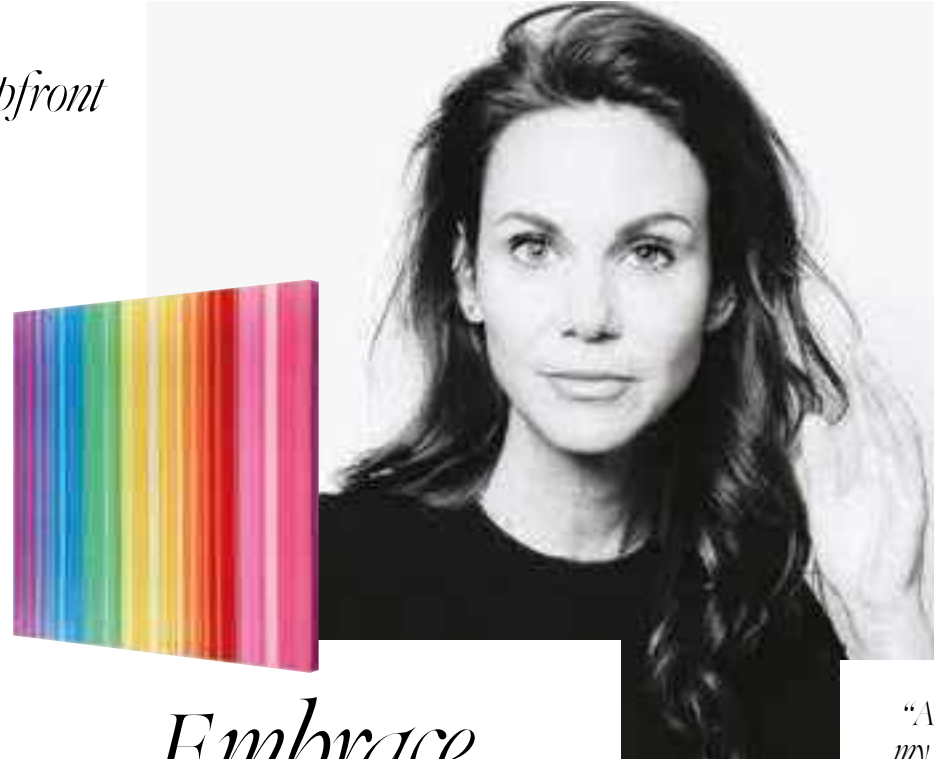
THE
HOBO

A SUBTLE TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN DIOR'S BELOVED DOG, THE DIOR BOBBY IS DECORATED WITH THE INITIALS "CD" AND A DELICATE BUCKLE. THE HOBO-STYLE BAG, AVAILABLE IN THREE SIZES AND FOUR COLORS, OOZES SELF-CONFIDENT ELEGANCE.



THE
SATCHEL

A NEW ESSENTIAL, SAINT LAURENT'S SOLFERINO SATCHEL IS A VISION IN BOLD BLUE! WE LOVE ITS RIGID SHAPE, ADJUSTABLE STRAP, AND MECHANICAL CLOSURE IN THE SHAPE OF THE JEWEL-LIKE LOGO. AVAILABLE IN TWO SIZES AND A CHOICE OF MATERIALS AND COLORS.



Embrace... THE POWER OF COLOR

Stefania Nazzal's wildly successful The Spectrum and Ombre series explore the power of colors, energies and balance through the theory of light, "specifically the rainbow phenomenon, which I was drawn to at a young age," she explains. "I use the same 7 base colors but with different chromatic composition based on Newton's findings. The vibrant colors and effects are achieved by using a particular and unique medium which also strongly relates to a part of my childhood.

Each PVC string is mounted on wood and nailed into frame."

Currently based in Dubai, Nazzal began her journey in the art world in 1998 following an internship with Sotheby's contemporary department, and since 2008 has fully dedicated herself to her art.

"My creations stem from a combination of self-taught processes as well as through training at the Cyprus Academy of Art, intense programs at St-Martins college of Art, London, UK and an ongoing mentoring program with Phd Egyptian artist Riham El Sadany."

On incorporating inspirational text in her pieces... "I wanted to create a deeper connection between what you see and what you feel. By creating a visual effect within the base of the artwork, and finishing it with a poetic narrative; this taps into the first few seconds of the discovery of my emotions. The reaction has been great as people say that the verses imbue added meaning to the piece, and several have asked for customized pieces." **The importance of art is...** "To enjoy it! Whatever kind of art it is and whatever the message." **If you weren't creating, you'd be...** "Dancing! Music is my other passion."

*"Art to ME is
my passion and
MY form of
expression, time
stops when I
create"*



ISABEL MARANT

RE/DONE

SAINT LAURENT

GOLDEN GOOSE

Walk... IN STYLE

The sneaker 'trend' is no more; it has morphed into the sneaker 'way of life'! We're currently eyeing these new, sleeker shapes for Fall.



Explore... THAT

More brands than ever are available at our fingertips with the launch of Majid Al Futtaim's **THAT** multi-brand **mobile app** for men and women. With its firm focus on contemporary and cutting-edge designs, THAT draws in over 150 established and emerging brands, with a number of exclusive designers all hailing from Scandinavia, USA, UK, South Korea, Middle East and beyond. The new app will include brands such as Alanui, Chiara Ferragni, Common Projects, Hellesy, Hussein Bazaza, JW Anderson, Kirin, N21, Olympia Le Tan, Opening Ceremony, Barbara Bologna, Ireneisgood, IISE, Khaite, Kirin, Les Petits Jumeurs, Marni, Nita Suri, Palmer Harding, Simone Rocha, Un Dimanche a Venise, Y/Project, Tibi and Victoria by Victoria Beckham, to name a few.

IN ADDITION TO THE APP, MAJID AL FUTTAIM HAS LAUNCHED THAT POP-UP STORE, AN IMMERSIVE RETAIL SHOPPING EXPERIENCE AT MALL OF THE EMIRATES, DUBAI

Discover... THE SCULPTURES OF FLAVIO LUCCHINI



Flavio Lucchini has throughout his life explored the close link between fashion and art. Having launched Vogue Italy in 1965 and a slew of other magazines, the 90s saw Lucchini begin to blur the lines between fashion and art by creating sculptural pieces out of brass, iron and steel. Lucchini himself was in Dubai earlier this year for the opening of his exhibition at Oblong Contemporary Art Gallery, a cross cultural platform to promote art across the Middle East and Europe, and his collection is definitely worth checking out before it ships out.



Visit... CONTEMPORARY ART IN SWITZERLAND

If you're able to travel to the greenscapes of Switzerland this Fall, make sure to take in some of the fantastic Art events taking place.

• **AilyosArt Nature, Leysin** - The Ailyos Art et Nature concept is installed in the setting of the Vaud Alps. This open-air art gallery promotes the work of local artists invited to let their imagination run wild on the valleys, lakes, buildings and landscapes of the Aigle, Leysin and Col de Mosses region. A profound experience that creates a bond between art, nature, the environment and the individual, 'Ciel et Terre' (Sky and Earth) runs until October 31.

• **Nature & Industry, Art Walk in Vallée de Joux** - The L'Esson art gallery's itinerary outside its walls runs until 25 October. The walk starts from L'Esson gallery to Le Sentier in Vallée de Joux, rejoins the canal de l'Orbe and follows the river to the end of the lake. The works of 34 artists can be discovered along the 3.5 km trail. Industrial development, unspoiled nature, agricultural land and recreational areas live side by side in the territory of the Vallée de Joux. This is a unique feature for this region in Switzerland, hence the theme Nature & Industry.





THE FOLLOWING YEAR, TO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS IN THE INDUSTRY, A MAJOR RETROSPECTIVE FASHION SHOW EXHIBITED THE FIRST 10 YEARS OF ARMANI PRIVÉ: AN ICONIC MOMENT THAT ENCAPSULATED GIORGIO ARMANI'S HAUTE COUTURE DREAM IN A SEQUENCE OF MASTERPIECES OF REFINEMENT AND SKILLED CRAFTSMANSHIP



THE ARMANI PRIVÉ COLLECTIONS CONSTANTLY ECHO A DREAM, THE MEMORY OF FARAWAY PLACES AND ATMOSPHERES, THE PALETTE CHANGING EVERY TIME, ADDING INTENSE COLOR NOTES TO NEUTRAL TONES

GIORGIO ARMANI AND THE TALE OF HAUTE COUTURE

His name has been synonymous with exceedingly good taste, great Italian design and as a leader in fine craftsmanship for 45 years. Having reached the pinnacle of women's wear and menswear, Giorgio Armani eventually set his sights on the world of Haute Couture. Launched in 2005, Giorgio Armani Privé is the Haute Couture collection born of a vision of contemporary creativity, and expressed through sophisticated silhouettes, luxury fabrics and skilled craftsmanship, as well as jeweled embroideries crafted by the hands of seamstresses and needlework artisans. The first Privé fashion show saw its debut in Paris, against an elegant background. The most delicate, gossamer chiffon, encrusted with crystal, jet and pearl embroidery defined weightless silhouettes that defied gravity, fruit of the painstaking, meticulous needlework created in the couture atelier in the halls of the historic building of via Borgonuovo 11, in Milan. Every collection since has revealed a new story, a new interpretation and perspective on the art of Haute Couture. Happy Anniversary Mr. Armani!



BECAUSE HAUTE COUTURE IS THE HIGHEST MEETING POINT OF UNRESTRICTED IMAGINATION AND BEST CRAFTSMANSHIP, EVERY DETAIL MUST BE PERFECT

'Haute Couture is FASHION turned into ART,' says Giorgio Armani.

FOR EACH WHS T-SHIRT OR TOTE PURCHASED, MICHAEL KORS WILL DONATE 100% OF PROCEEDS TO THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM TO FURTHER SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED OF HELP



© DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN

The Cause... FOOD IS LOVE

LEADING UP TO *World Food Day* ON OCTOBER 16, AMERICAN DESIGNER *Michael Kors* CONTINUES HIS QUEST FOR A WORLD WITH *zero* HUNGER

Eight years ago, Michael Kors launched his Watch Hunger Stop initiative with the United Nations World Food Program to raise funds and awareness around worldwide hunger. By creating covetable items to support the initiative – from a gold watch to the more recent graphic T-shirts – Kors has made it easy (and stylish) for his fans to give back. This October, his special-edition WHS capsule features a unisex white pocket tee and a blue denim tote designed and produced with the aim of minimizing environmental impact. Shop the covetable new pieces instore and online at michaelkors.com



“Since its inception in 2013, the collaboration has helped deliver 19 million meals to CHILDREN in need”



ASSOULINE



Pssst... FOR YOUR COFFEE TABLE

Presented in all its stark beauty, Assouline's new tome on Alula (home to Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, Hegra) delves deep into the destination's ancient mystique, transporting readers to a cultural oasis and living museum with more than 200,000 years of human history.

E L L E



COURTESY OF GUCCI BY DAN ILECCA

HOUSE CODES ARE REVERED AND REINVENTED THIS SEASON, AS WITH GUCCI'S ULTRA-FEMININE JACKIE 1961 BAG IN SWEET PINK, PAIRED WITH A TAILORED COAT AND ATHLETIC SOCKS.

FASHION MEMO

Online launches, BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AND A REGIONAL COLLABORATION – THIS MONTH'S FASHION *news is abuzz with action*

COMPILED by DINA KABBANI



ON OUR RADAR

If you love a regional collaboration, you will love Halm x Kristina Fidelskaya's; the two Dubai-based (female-owned) brands have created a line of four limited-edition bags featuring Fidelskaya's popular 'Dream' backpack and 'Bino' handbag. In delicious neutral shades of ebony and kanel (cinnamon in Swedish), the bags are bold timeless and promise to carry seamlessly from season to season. Available online at balmmonline.com & kristinafidelskaya.com



A GOOD CAUSE

This month, online and in stores worldwide, Balenciaga will include a special capsule collection in support of breast cancer titled 'We are Pink'. The series of unisex products includes jewelry and ready-to-wear clothing all stamped with a looped pink ribbon and will see 10 percent of proceeds donated towards the funding of breast cancer research methods.



TAKE A BOW

Don't want to buy anything new? No need. Take your cue from the street style set and slap a bow on pieces you already own – bags, sweaters and dresses – or around your ankles with your favorite shoes. It really is that simple.



ADD TO CART

First it was the UAE and now Saudi Arabia; yes, Louis Vuitton fans in the Kingdom can finally shop their favorite pieces (from ready-to-wear for both men and women to leather goods, watches, jewelry, and more) all from the comfort of their couch. The site, in both English and Arabic, also offers a variety of personalization services (hello monogrammed initials!) such as hot stamping and engraving and will feature pre-launches exclusively through the unique digital experience. me.louisvuitton.com



Who: Second Summer Label
What: Launched by sisters and lifelong friends, Carmel Harrison, Jodi Gill and Amy Wheatley, the label offers timeless escapist staples in beautiful linen and cotton, designed to embrace Ibiza's free-spirited way of life
Wear: Build a trans-seasonal wardrobe that is made to last with pieces such as the Ashram one shoulder top, Hacienda linen shorts and Eivissa linen dress
Buy online at secondsummerlabel.com

SECOND SUMMER LABEL



CHANGE IS A FOOT AWAY

Sustainable shoes exist, but it can be challenging to find a pair that's both high quality and stylish, too. That's why Level Shoes has launched The Conscious Collective, a unique sustainability in-store pop-up featuring brands that are doing ethical shoes their way. Think footwear that's one step ahead!

Stella McCartney



SIMON MILLER



Dodo Bar Or



Emilio Pucci



Colville



Gucci



Marni



MARNI



Nike



Isabel Marant

TOTALLY *Trippy*
SURREALISM IS HAVING A MOMENT – A BIG, BOLD AND VERY LOUD ONE INDEED – AS CLASHING COLORS AND UN-COORDINATED PATTERNS MAKE FOR A FITTING UNIFORM THAT REFLECTS THE CHAOS OF OUR TIMES



Louis Vuitton



Marques'Almeida



ALEXANDER MCQUEEN



Stine Goya



Dr.Martens



Anya Hindmarch



Retrofête



La DoubleJ



Moncler Richard Quinn



Kirin



Stella McCartney



Marine Serre



Givenchy



ON THE STREETS OF LFW



Chanel

Chloé

Vita Kin



Le Monde Beryl

Marine Serre

Gucci

Richard Quinn

Statement COLLAR

HOW DO WE LIKE OUR COLLARS THIS FALL? SUPERSIZED, PLEASE! THINK GARGANTUAN, SPILLING OUT FROM UNDER A CHECKERED BLAZER OR OVERSIZED PETER PAN-LIKE, TUCKED INTO WIDE-LEG JEANS, SERVING NEVERLAND REALNESS



Horror Vacui

JW Anderson



Fendi

Chopova Lowena

Zeynep Arçay

Comme Des Garçons

Ganni

Proenza Schouler



PACO RABANNE



Balmain

Riana + Nina

Christian Louboutin



Moschino

Saint Laurent

Etro

Ann Demeulemeester

HOME Comforts

NOT READY FOR THE WORLD JUST YET? TAKE YOUR HOME TO GO IN PIECES THAT REMIND YOU OF ITS COMFORTS. TAPESTRIES, UPHOLSTERY FABRICS AND CARPETS, THERE'S SOMETHING HOME SPUN FOR EVERYONE



Oscar De La Renta



25

MINIATURE MARVELS

THE *magic of Dior's* HAUTE COUTURE
F/W20-21 COLLECTION IS REVEALED
ON DOLL-SIZED *masterpieces*

The precious techniques, meticulous savoir-faire and craftsmanship that go into each and every Haute Couture creation is phenomenal and must be seen up close and personal to truly appreciate. So when Haute Couture Week was presented earlier this year on a digital platform, Dior looked to the past. Inspired by the Théâtre de la Mode, a roving exhibition of small-scale fashion mannequins by French couturiers that traveled between Europe and America right after the Second World War, the Dior haute couture ateliers crafted miniature versions of the entire 37-piece Haute Couture Fall/Winter 2020-2021 Collection. These miniature creations – each crafted by hand as if they were real haute couture garments, just at a third of the size – are now housed in a magical trunk embodying 30 Avenue Montaigne as it embarks on its world tour.

For the collection itself, Creative Director Maria-Grazia Chiuri chose to focus on the work of Surrealist artists such as Lee Miller, Dora Maar and Jacqueline Lamba, who championed – in their lives and in their surrealist works – a different femininity. The influence from paintings by Leonora Carrington and Dorothea Tanning, likewise, can be seen in the spectacular gradations of red, luminous hues and dreamworlds. The “day looks” include draped

suits in men's fabrics of exceptional architecture, the classic Dior Bar Jacket, and embroidery inspired by Jacqueline Lamba's paintings. The eveningwear is a stunning masterclass in craftsmanship with ruffles, draping, fringes, beads, lace, tulle and feathers, as showcased here, meticulously designed and worked.

“Surrealist IMAGES manage to make visible what is in itself invisible. I'm interested in mystery and MAGIC, which are also a way of exorcising uncertainty about the FUTURE,” says Maria Grazia Chiuri of F/W2020-2021 Haute Couture COLLECTION.



*Produced ENTIRELY by hand
at the Dior Ateliers, the folds
dressing these MINIATURES
celebrate the beauty of the
CREATIVE gesture, which is the
essence of couture.*



Beautifully shot by photographer Sophie Carr, we take a closer look at the painstaking workmanship that goes into the making of the miniature feathered gown. The house has also released a must-see whimsical fashion film, 'Le Mythe Dior', directed by Italian filmmaker Matteo Garrone, that follows the journey of the Haute Couture collection in miniature form inside the trunk.



*Dior's Haute
Couture collection
in miniature form
inside the trunk,
which embodies 30
Avenue Montaigne.
Dior has used
miniature couture
in the past: in
boutique windows,
at exhibitions, and
in their ateliers.*

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

"With this COLLECTION, I wanted to celebrate the House codes and explore the concept of volume, which really interests me, as a design premise that is specific to fashion. I have reprised ball GOWN shapes INFORMED by those of the founding couturier. I highlighted, in a contemporary way, the structured cuts that define the ARCHITECTURE of Dior Couture." MARIA GRAZIA CHIRI



While Janan Shihadeh has lived around the world, her love of art has remained steadfast in all its forms. The Palestinian-born, UK-educated artist began her career painting building facades, but for the past 7 years has become better known as the queen of luxury handbag customization. Her work includes painting for Queen Rania of Jordan, Vanessa Williams, Mo Salah and more. On the path that has taken her from working on large scale surfaces to the minutiae of painting on a bag, Shihadeh says she's been pulled in many directions over her career. "I started with building façade murals in Washington DC, then got married and was swept off to Cairo where I worked on painting interior ceilings and walls. Then, for 25 years I had six decorative painting companies that did murals, trompe l'oeil, furniture design, antique reproductions, stationary and a candle business." Once she moved to Dubai, all that changed as she bid farewell to her businesses, and found herself for the first time in a

long time with plenty of time on her hands. "A client of mine waited for years for me to paint her Birkin, but I never had the time until I moved to Dubai." She has since painted on over 2,000 handbags and jackets for clients, and has worked with Harvey Nichols UK on a bag collection, as well as with Louis Vuitton UAE. "I also enjoyed working on the 'She's Mercedes. She's Janan' campaign for a customized G wagon, and with Iwan Maktaby where I painted a vintage carpet around the theme of global warming." On the design process, Shihadeh says that most clients have an idea of a bespoke design, while some get inspired by another bag she's painted. "In which case, I try to coax them into doing something unique to them." Once she starts, it takes two to 7 days to complete the project that will

last a lifetime. "I use specialized leather paints that are fadeproof and waterproof." Every project is a labor of love, and she has done it all – from dainty butterflies to brilliant gold soccer shoes. "There's one design, though, that I'd love to do; I'd love to paint a Goyard trunk with Tintin chasing Milou around the bag!" It's precisely that passion and joy that has made her work sought after around the world. "I'm in love with the process of painting & creating bespoke, unique pieces that make clients happy."

My World

BUTTERFLIES & *tattoos*, DISNEY PRINCESSES & POODLES; we explore THE COLORFUL, BESPOKE WORLD OF Janan Studio



"I love that each piece is unique and reflective of the client's personality"



"I love to work in good light and amazing music, with my beloved dog by my side"



IMAGES: SUPPLIED

AGENT of CHANGE

IT'S GOT *the cool kid* FACTOR WITH ITS OFF-THE-KILTER DESIGNS, AND YET, ROCKS A *sustainable edge* that PROMISES NO COMPROMISES. MEET THE GIVING MOMENT – A *brand made to* FIT FOR THE WORLD WE LIVE IN TODAY AS WELL AS THE FUTURE. FOUNDER DOMINIC NOWELL-BARNES *breaks down just* HOW *he's disrupting* FASHION, ONE ETHICAL STEP AT A TIME



Dominic Nowell Barnes



HOME BASE "The UAE is where I call home. I feel like there is a certain energy here that's inspiring and uplifting. As a community, we are majority expat and have all come here with hopes and dreams of a better future. The only difference between producing here and somewhere else, was cost. As a brand that is focused on giving and not primarily profit, it was an easy decision to produce all our clothes here."

MISSION STATEMENT "The original focus for this project was centered around giving back. We donate \$4 (the cost to provide food and shelter for one adult or child for a week) from each and every item we sell to the Dubai Cares & Harmony House charity. Our vision was that everyone wants to donate to charity but sometimes it just gets forgotten about. We wanted to make it so that the giving happens automatically as you shop."

PLANET EARTH "There is always a true cost to any product and so it was important for us that whilst we are giving back, we also weren't taking form the planet in a negative and unsustainable way. We wanted to disrupt the fashion space by focusing on sustainability over profit."

MATERIALS & INNOVATION "We have developed two fabrics. The first, the Softskin fabric for activewear, is made from polyester, manufactured entirely from recycled water bottles and is certified sustainable. The second, a fleece bamboo for our loungewear, has a similar feel to cotton but is made from organic bamboo which is a fast-growing grass, so its naturally sustainable."

DRIVING FORCE "I have always believed that any brand's success is due to its people. Mindset and attitude are so important, especially in a startup business and so most of our decisions on recruiting are based on mindset and attitude. With the right mindset, you can achieve anything."

IN THE WORKS "We are launching plus sizing to run alongside our modest collection. We also have a sustainable children's range launching next month so that the whole family can dress sustainably together!"

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

WORDS, PHOTOGRAPHY & STYLING by DINA SPAHI

CLOSET Confidential

JOUMANA JALLAD
SHANSHAL

THE CO-FOUNDER OF STONE FINE JEWELRY CERTAINLY CUTS A STYLISH SWATH WHEREVER SHE GOES. SHE STARTED HER CAREER IN FINANCE IN NEW YORK CITY BEFORE HEADING TO JORDAN TO LAUNCH THE FIRST BUSINESS PUBLICATION AND HER OWN MULTI-BRAND JEWELRY BOUTIQUE. NOW BASED IN DUBAI, MOTHER-OF-TWO JOUMANA CONTINUES TO EXPAND HER BUSINESS WHILE LEADING THE WAY IN ENCOURAGING FEMALE-LED REGIONAL TECH COMPANIES.

Style Ethos Versatility. I tend to wear feminine and relaxed clothes in the daytime. For the evening, I opt for a more structured look. I love the detailing that a tailored aesthetic embodies. **Trademark Look** I love jackets. They're my ultimate fashion staple. **Precious Pieces** Anything that has sentimental value, whether a playful off-the-shoulder Zara top or an evening dress worn for a special occasion. It is more about the association - and somehow the pieces are given more meaning and evoke fond memories. **On Her Wish List** Pre-owned jewelry pieces. Whenever I am in New York, Rome or Paris, I always try on vintage jewelry. I love the sharp lines of an art-deco piece or the bolder designs of the 1960s and 1970s high end jewelry. **Next Purchase** Silk shirts. I always feel that I don't

Just a sample of Joumana's jacket collection!

have enough. They're so useful for meetings, whether in person or on zoom...and probably another (Balmain or IRO) jacket! **Wardrobe Staple** Oud Perfumes - in all shapes and sizes. **Obsessed With** anything leather and everything jewelry. **For Instant Chic** Chanel booties. **Favorite Vintage Piece** A gold bracelet with diamond embellishments I found in the Turkish bazaar. I wear it over and over. I also love this Zuhair Murad dress I bought ages ago particularly because it has a vintage feel; the tulle effect evokes a 1950s ballet. **Day To Night Transition** A statement piece (long necklace or bold earrings & rings) from our jewelry line, and a pair of heels. **What Does Style Mean To You?** So many things: a feeling, a way of being, comfortable luxury. **Impact Of This Year** It's all about wearing and living more simply. **How Has It Altered How You Shop?** It has been nice to step away from it. I think if we looked into our closets we would realize we have all we need, and a lot more. It's all about re-creating and rediscovering pieces. **Brave New World** I think we all have a responsibility to buy more sustainable designs. I also believe in "buying local" where the supply chain is shorter and more efficient. And we truly have amazing talent in the region - I love wearing Kage, Nafsika Skourti, Kaleidoscope (I get stopped every time I wear her kaftans), Aysha Depala, Syma, Dee by Dalia, Free Being, Mojo and so many others.

"I think if we LOOKED into our closets, we would REALIZE that we have all we need - and a lot more. It's all about RE-CREATING and rediscovering pieces."

JOUMANA'S HIT LIST
• JACKET - I CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH
• BOOTIES: CHANEL IS ALWAYS A WINNER
• STACKED NECKLACES AND RINGS, FROM MY LABELSTONE FINE JEWELRY
• COMFORTABLE SHOES ARE A MUST
• MY GYM CLOTHES!

A few of our favorite pieces from Stone Fine jewelry

The accessories that make the look

Shoes, shoes and more shoes...

With Tristan and Ringo, in a leather jacket embellished by Janan Shihadeh

Check the new website bystonejewelry.com



The Au Trianon
Haute Couture
S/S20



FOCUS ON:

MADE IN *Lebanon*

WITH 10 years of FABULOUS FASHION UNDER THEIR BELT, *Azzi and Osta* ARE LIVING PROOF OF LEBANON'S *creative genius*. HERE, *the duo* opens UP ABOUT *rebuilding after* BEIRUT'S latest tragedy

THE DAMAGES Our headquarters, which housed our ateliers, showroom and offices, has all been damaged. We occupied three beautiful historic buildings and a wonderful courtyard that had a massive olive tree, and they are all currently at risk of collapsing. At the moment, it is total loss and devastation. Two of the three buildings have been officially marked as dangerous and irreparable; rubble is everywhere, every single room we renovated, redecorated and brought character into is gone.

A PASSION FOR CREATIVITY It is our (as Lebanese) innate attraction towards creativity, inspired by our vast contrasting landscapes throughout all of Lebanon that has us as a people, constantly seeking creativity. Lebanon and Lebanese have an affinity to stay advanced and to wonder the world and bring back the best of it, with time making it our own; it's just one of the ways that has made our culture so diversified and nurtured by art and creativity.

STAYING PUT All creatives in Lebanon have a strong sense of belonging; despite the devastation, we all want to stay in this beautiful land, see it prevail, rebuilt and show its beauty to the world. We believe we all have the determination to make it through.

RISING FROM THE RUBBLE We are partially operational and have set up our atelier in a temporary location to try and meet all our client orders and to finish our latest RTW collection.

A GLOBAL STANCE The world can support Lebanese creatives by facilitating channels for designers to reach the resources they need, opening up to collaborations, and to continue to tell the stories of these brands and the talent that they stand behind.

THE JOURNEY This new location was a dream; we called it our 'magical village in the city'. It is a rare place, if not, the only one in Beirut where you still have three century-old traditional Lebanese buildings standing together, with a large cobblestone courtyard, a century old olive tree in the middle, a small fountain, and even a well. We felt incredibly privileged to have had the opportunity to be the tenants of such a unique place full of charm and history. It took four months to turn it from a restaurant into a dream fashion universe, and it was all completed one week before the explosion with plans for a big reveal in September in time for international fashion week. Most of it won't be possible to rebuild, and will probably take a very long time to re-preserve the historical buildings.



The beautiful century old headquarters in rubble



IMAGES: SUPPLIED

E L L E

Bottega Veneta
bag. Photographed
by Emilia Valerio,
Styled by Laura
Jane Brown



ACCESSORIES

NOW IS THE TIME TO CELEBRATE VIBRANT, EYE-CATCHING, MOOD-ALTERING COLOR! BE BOLD AND SURROUND YOURSELF WITH PIECES THAT MAKE YOU HAPPY, LIKE BOTTEGA VENETA'S STUNNING LIME GREEN CHAIN POUCH - AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY IN ALLIGATOR SKIN IN THE UAE & KUWAIT.

IMAGE: SUPPLIED



CHAIN REACTION

Bring a cool, POLISHED TOUCH AND LAYER UP YOUR LINKS (REMEMBER, *more is always more*) PLAYING WITH SIZE AND CLASHING WITH MATERIALS. THIS LOOK IS *all about* EXCESS.



WINTER WEAVE

TEXTURE *grabbed at* STRAWS THIS SEASON WEAVING ITS WAY INTO BAGS, shoes and belts. Our tip: *invest NOW*, THIS IS A PIECE THAT'LL CARRY OVER TO *summer* TIME SEAMLESSLY





Eric Javits

Stand Studio

BALMAIN

Sophie Babai

PILLOW TALK

BOTTEGA VENETA STARTED *it first*, AND EVERYONE *followed suit*. YES, PADDED AND CLOUDLIKE IS WHAT'S ON OFFER FOR FALL AND *these are* THE DREAMIEST *amongst* THEM ALL



Gucci



Valestra



Balenciaga



Ganni



Balmain



Bottega Veneta



Proenza Schouler



Emilio Pucci

Dolce & Gabbana

Givenchy

Ports 1961

Saint Laurent

SEEING RED

FROM *frames to* COLORED LENSES, MAKE ATTENTION-GRABBING EYEWEAR *the focal point* OF YOUR LOOK



GIVENCHY



Jacquemus



Alain Mikli



Rimowa Eyewear



Dior



Tablecloth,
Summerill & Bishop

Cushion,
Emilio
Pucci

Cuff, Loewe

Art, around & AROUND

The rules are, there are NO RULES IN ART AND IN FASHION ALIKE! IN YOUR WARDROBE AND IN YOUR HOME, SURROUND yourself with BRILLIANT COLOR AND DESIGN



Carafe, Cabana Magazine,
Carolina Herrera



Walls Of Change- The Story Of The
Wynwood Walls Book By Assouline



Earrings, Off White

Cieling Tiles,
Fundamental
Berlin



Sboes, Kat Maconie



Chair, Seletti Wears
Toiletpaper



Rug, Carnival by Paul Smith

E L L E



JEWELRY

BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL HARDWARE ADDS A MODERN EDGE TO ANY LOOK. THE NEW LV VOLT JEWELRY COLLECTION BY FRANCESCA AMFITHEATROF PUTS THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE CAPITAL L AND V LETTERS IN A WHOLE NEW WAY. THE UNISEX COLLECTION DRAWS ON THE HOUSE'S CODES AND TAKES THEM TO THE NEXT LEVEL. TOGETHER, THE ICONIC INITIALS FORM AN ARRAY OF GRAPHIC AND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS THAT ARE A TESTAMENT TO LOUIS VUITTON'S CRAFTSMANSHIP.

LV VOLT, LOUIS VUITTON

TWEED D'OR necklace in yellow gold and platinum, set with cultured pearls, diamonds and one oval-cut imperial topaze of 20.40 carats. TWEED D'OR earrings in yellow gold, platinum, cultured pearls and diamonds.

An ICON, Reimagined

WITH THE REMARKABLE *High Jewelry* COLLECTION, TWEED DE CHANEL, THE HOUSE BEGINS A NEW CHAPTER IN *the history* OF TWEED

Jewelry

"Embellished with STONES and diamonds, tweed BECOMES a precious fabric"



Tweed Couture bracelet



Tweed Cordage ring



Tweed Contraste 'secret' watch

An essential element of her wardrobe, Gabrielle Chanel was the first fashion designer to borrow tweed from menswear and adapt it to the womenswear she created for a woman like her - someone who traveled, drove cars, practiced sports. Tweed made a lasting impact on her stylistic vocabulary - in her eyes it possessed all the necessary qualities: carded wool is soft, foamy, comfortable; once uncombed it retains its irregularities and its natural appearance. From the Scottish borders to the workshop at Place Vendôme, Chanel has created a truly remarkable High Jewelry collection devoted entirely to this fabric. The 45-piece Tweed de Chanel collection sees precious materials interwoven, articulated and finely wrought in the manner of a tweed weft, with suppleness and comfort being found in the very structure of the pieces. Each setting has been pared back to minimalist extreme to reduce the asperity of the grain, making every piece soft to the touch.

A TECHNICAL FEAT

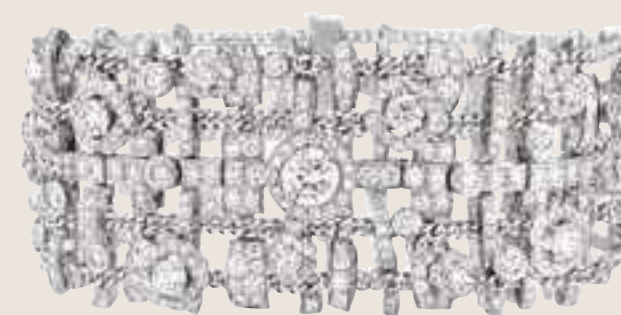
In order for gold and diamonds to be rendered as supple as handwoven Scottish woollen cloth, the Chanel High Jewelry workshop developed special articulation techniques, breathing the vitality of movement into solid gold and honoring the beautiful irregularity of tweed. Diamonds, pearls and sapphires are layered and intertwined on several plains, creating necklaces, rings and bracelets with textured effects.



Tweed Graphique brooch



Tweed D'ete earrings



Tweed Brode bracelet



Jewelry

HANDS OF STEEL

SLIM, RECTANGULAR *and a tad sparkly*, THESE QUINTESSENTIAL WOMEN'S WATCHES LOOK JUST AS WELL WITH *a white t-shirt* as WITH A GOWN

Tiffany 1837 Watch, Tiffany & Co.



Reverso Duetto Watch, Jaeger-LeCoultre



Première Mini Watch, Chanel



Twenty~4 Watch, Patek Philippe



CHANEL

Happy Sport Watch, Chopard



Tank Solo Watch, Cartier



Hampton Watch, Baume & Mercier



Dolce Vita Watch, Longines



The minimalist's choice; think no added complication inside or out, zero moon phase dials to worry about, and not a time zone display in sight. Here, simplicity is key where beautiful lines and proportions mean that only the elegance of design shines through.

Jewelry

Saguaro Earrings in white gold with diamonds, Messika



Art Deco Watch in platinum with Mother-of-Pearl and diamonds, Harry Winston



Geometry & Contrast Brooch in white gold with onyx, emerald and diamonds, Cartier



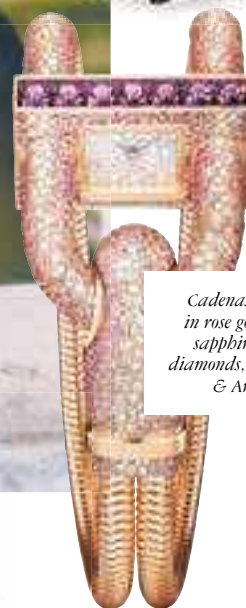
High SPIRIT

The roaring Twenties. A world of flappers, feathers, parties, and all that jazz – Art Deco jewelry, its ultimate enigma and the Great Gatsby's Daisy Buchanan (aka Mia Farrow), its most iconic muse. Think futuristic motifs and bold geometric shapes when picking a design, and wear with the same bold confidence that embodied the high-spirited nature of those fabulous times.

Vendôme Argentique Necklace in white gold with diamonds, onyx and Mother-of-Pearl, Boucheron



Cadenas Watch in rose gold with sapphires and diamonds, Van Cleef & Arpels



Raggio Di Luce Ring in platinum with diamonds, Bulgari



MUGLER



LOUIS VUITTON



GIVENCHY



CHANEL

Gatsby Vibes... COVETABLE COPIES

Characterized by geometric patterns, metallic finishes, and visual drama, it wasn't difficult to spot the 1920's inspired pieces on the F/W20 runways.



A DESIGN *Extravaganza*

Bulgari's Barocko HIGH JEWELRY COLLECTION IS AN
ODE TO ROME'S ETERNAL *magnificence and beauty*



*Examples of the stunning
drawings by Spanish
artist Ignasi Monreal*

*"Harmony,
GRACE and
beauty stand
out in the
BAROCKO one-
of-a-kind pieces,
VIBRATING with
the vivacious hues
of a CHARMING
kaleidoscope"*



Bulgari celebrates life and beauty with the magnificent and exuberant Barocko, the esteemed Roman jeweler's latest take on a bold and brave approach to high jewelry creation. Inspired by Rome's Baroque artistic and architectural heritage and suffused with vibrant colors, fanciful shapes and exquisite details, Barocko is an unapologetically joyful and extravagant collection that is masterfully, awe-inspiringly-crafted under the guidance of creative director

Lucia Silvestri. Many of Rome's iconic landmarks are cited as inspiration, from the Fountain of the Four Rivers sculpted by Lorenzo Bernini to the Horti Farnesiani complex on the Palatino hill and the bronze statue of Archangel Michael located on the top of the Castel Sant'Angelo papal fortress. Barocko's three lines are aptly-named Luce (light), Colore (color) and Meraviglia (wonder), and indeed the collection has an abundance of all that – and more!

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

High Jewellery
Bracelets

In Italy, beauty is not to be feared, it is to be revered!" says Sabina Belli, Pomellato's CEO. "This collection reflects the Italian art of living, where one does not make a distinction between everyday jewelry and ceremonial jewelry, between the jewels that one wears and those that one leaves in the vault." With this in mind, Pomellato's first High Jewelry collection, La Gioia di Pomellato, does not invent a new story but rather celebrates its own, magnifying the house codes of brilliant color and gem combinations, sensual volumes, and avant-garde techniques to new heights. Since it was founded in Milan in 1967, Pomellato's innovative "prêt-à-porter jewels" revolutionized the historically conservative field of jewelry with its unabashed love for color and out-of-the-ordinary gemstones, extra-large links, and irregular gem settings, always carefully hand-carved. This new 165-piece La Gioia di Pomellato High Jewelry collection sublimates its unique emblems of style to create a fantastic reinterpretation. "Our DNA is what nourishes the inspiration of our High Jewelry," explains Vincenzo Castaldo, the Creative Director of the brand. "La Gioia speaks in the Pomellato language but in an even more unrestrained, more reckless, more sophisticated way." ELLE Arabia spoke with Mr Castaldo about the new collection, what inspires him and his favorite color...

Nudo Earrings with Peridot

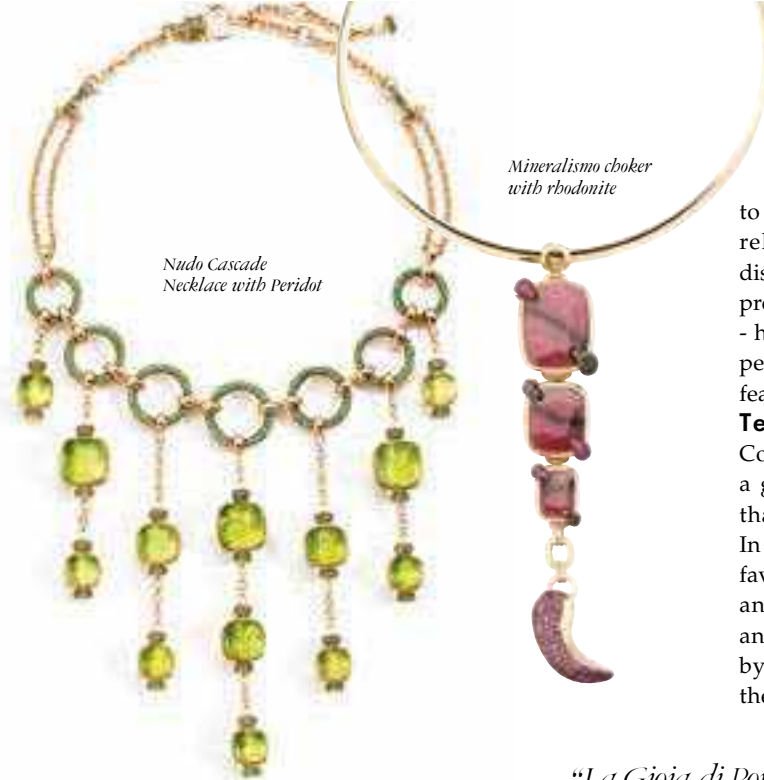
La Gioia di Pomellato
Gourmette Cameleon

Riviere Peridot Menthe

A FANTASTIC Reinterpretation

THE *High Jewellery* COLLECTION LA GIOIA DI POMELLATO *magnifies the house's* ICONIC CODES TO NEW HEIGHTS

How have you translated Pomellato's codes into High Jewelry? We wanted to celebrate our own story. We wanted to find our own voice, our own way to do High Jewelry. When we started working on the collection, the intention was not to create a conservative and traditional High Jewelry collection, it's true that La Gioia applies all the traditional well-known High Jewelry techniques that are our precious know-how, but we also mix hand-made modeling and traditional jewelry-making techniques with innovative and contemporary tools and solutions in order to give maximum freedom to our creative expression. So 'La Gioia di Pomellato' is a sublimation of our aesthetic codes from sensual volumes, to our never-ending love for chains, our masterful irregular pavés and of course the unique combination and association of colors. All with a sense of freedom, superb craftsmanship and a little touch of madness.

Nudo Cascade
Necklace with PeridotMineralismo choker
with rhodonite

to and which marked my transition to a more intimate relationship with the brand. Ritratto celebrates the distinctive features of Pomellato: the important volumes are protagonists as well as the claws that - with feminine malice - hold the large exclusive cut. Ritratto highlights the strong personality of Pomellato, now more than ever confident, fearless and proud.

Tell us about your love for color and design

Color is a defining trait of Pomellato and the choice of a gemstone is often driven by the vibration of its color that can infuse a jewel with a special aesthetic vision. In particular, for La Gioia we have selected some of our favorite gemstones from tourmalines and spinels, tsavorites and garnets, rubies, tanzanite, aquamarines, sapphires and emeralds amongst others. I am always spellbound by the beauty and subtlety of their nuances. Moreover, the design is also important: living in a city like Milan,

where design is imbued everywhere and designers such as Giò Ponti or Achille Castiglioni have also left their influence on everything from the arts to craftsmanship.

What is your favorite stone or metal to work with?

I have always had a true passion for green and therefore a predilection for the family that includes green gems, from emeralds to chromo tourmalines, from tsavorites to demantoid and color change garnets. Also the projects with mineral gems (Ritratto and Armonie Minerali) were two

surprising adventures full of discoveries; they allowed me to take a journey into the natural beauty and variety of colors of these gemstones that totally fascinated and captivated me.

What's been the most challenging aspect about creating and designing a HJ collection? The most challenging aspect and the final result - that is what I love about this collection - is that la Gioia is perfectly aligned with our prêt-à-porter philosophy, it's not intimidating, it's lively and with a playful attitude. They are all special pieces, some of them with a red carpet attitude, but La Gioia always lets a woman free to interpret it with her style and personality.

What's the star piece in this collection? The Gourmette Caméléon is one of my favorite pieces and I could admire

the colors changing through the links of this necklace for hours. It is a celebration of two Pomellato's beloved themes: color and chains. Color, in particular, is one of our passions and here we wanted to explore and combine some of the most sophisticated, subtle and precious shades you can find in natural gemstones.

This jewel is a work of art: an extraordinary selection of gemstones with 27 different nuances. You can also imagine a kind of world tour picking up each color from wonderful landscapes, from Brazil to Sri Lanka...

How do you continue to evolve while staying true to the brand?

There are no rules, it's a kind of dialogue and a constant relation with your dreams and emotions and the Brand's DNA. It's about seeing and transforming feelings and intuitions into volumes and shapes, and writing new chapters in the story to make it more and more seductive, enticing and beautiful. In all this process, coherence is very important.

How do you see the journey from the launch of Pomellato to now, 53 years later?

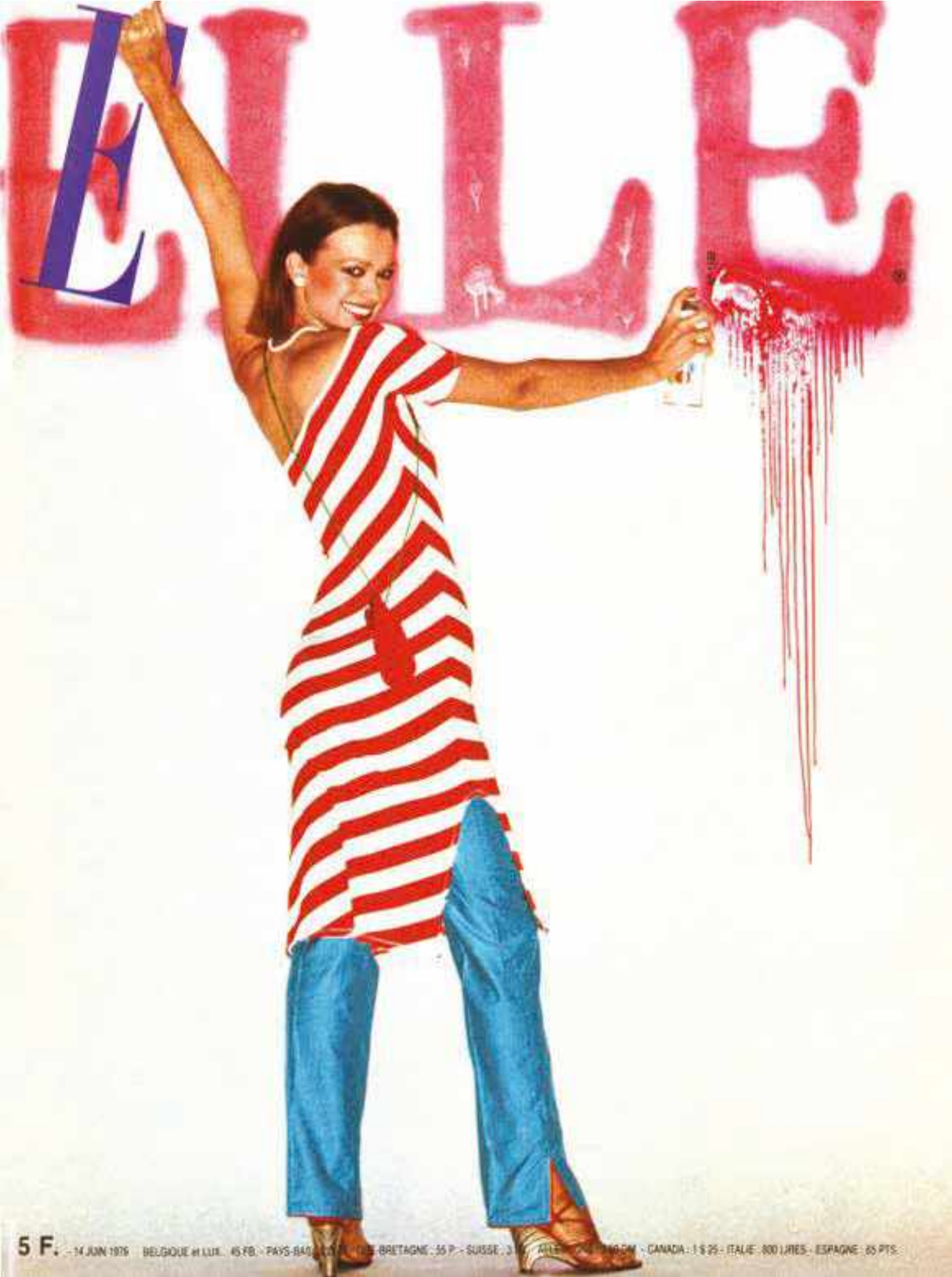
Pomellato has a wonderful story and it has always fascinated me how it has been able to distinguish itself from the beginning, introducing the philosophy of 'prêt-à-porter' in the field of jewelry. Thanks to a deep knowledge of goldsmith techniques and tradition it has been able to break the rules and find its own style.

What were some unexpected surprises on the journey? I think that during this journey the best surprise was to discover that we have been able to get so close to the woman's universe to interpret its continuous evolution and build a bond that is stronger than ever today.

Who and what inspires you? I would say design and fashion have always provided great inspiration. But actually, everything can be inspiring. It is about the way you observe what is around you and sometimes even a casual or unexpected shape, an effect or a combination of elements can give you the spark of inspiration.

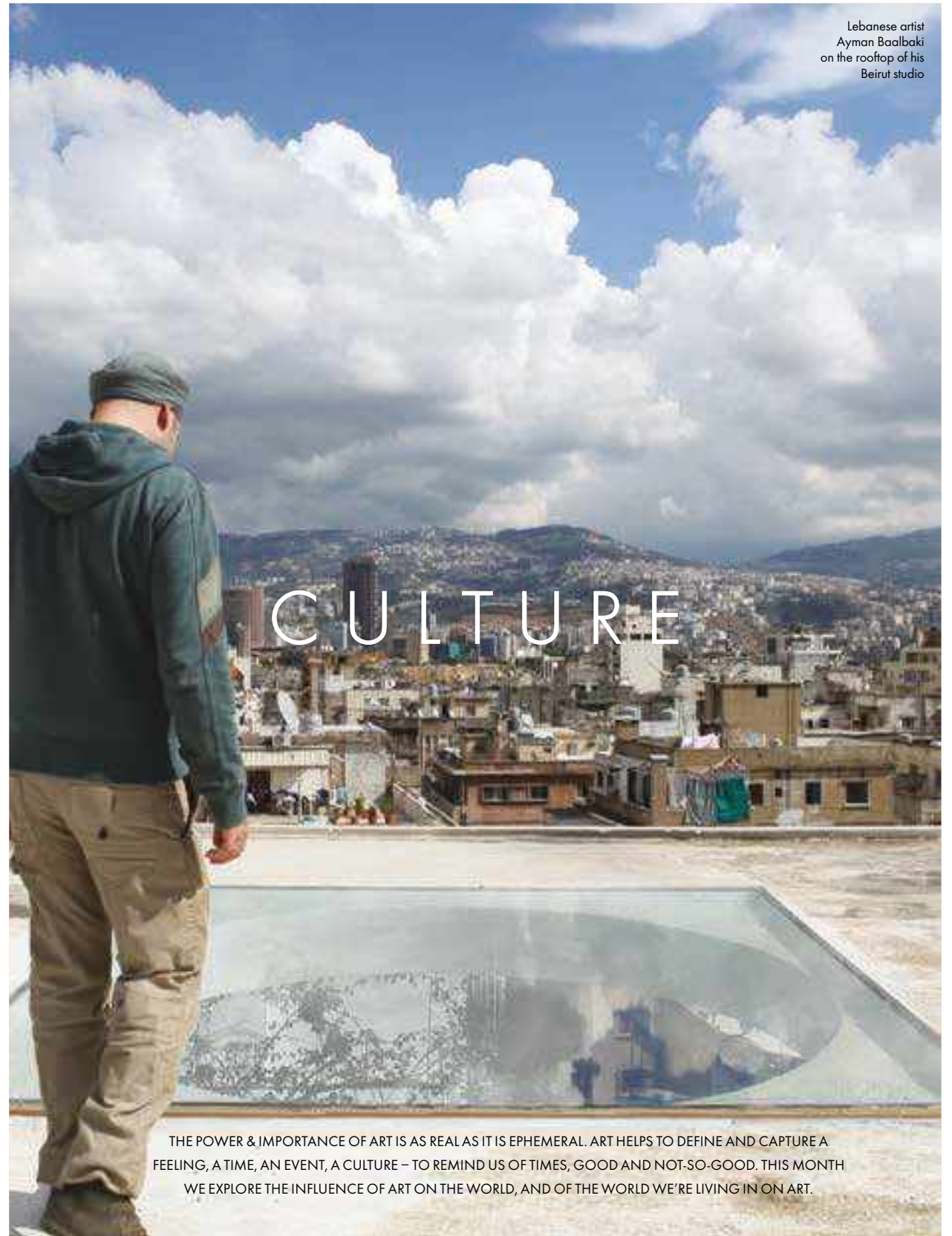
What was the first piece you ever made? Ritratto is definitely a ring to which I am particularly attached

Left: Plastron Nudo Necklace;
Right: Mineralismo bracelet with rhodonite



ELLE

Lebanese artist
Ayman Baalbaki
on the rooftop of his
Beirut studio



CULTURE

PHOTO BY SUERAYA SHAHEEN

THE POWER & IMPORTANCE OF ART IS AS REAL AS IT IS EPHEMERAL. ART HELPS TO DEFINE AND CAPTURE A FEELING, A TIME, AN EVENT, A CULTURE – TO REMIND US OF TIMES, GOOD AND NOT-SO-GOOD. THIS MONTH WE EXPLORE THE INFLUENCE OF ART ON THE WORLD, AND OF THE WORLD WE’RE LIVING IN ON ART.

THE *strange* CASE OF DR LUXURY & MR ART

WORDS *by* JON S. MALOY

LA FONDATION CARTIER IN PARIS, FONDAZIONE PRADA IN MILAN, MUSÉE SAINT-LAURENT IN MARRAKECH AND THE FONDATION LOUIS VUITTON ON THE OUTSKIRT OF THE FRENCH CAPITAL ARE ALL TEMPLES BUILT TO CELEBRATE THE INTIMATE LINK THAT UNITES BOTH LUXURY AND ART. SO MUCH SO, THAT SOMETIMES, THEY APPEAR TO BE TWO FACETS OF A SAME PERSON. AT TIMES SHAPING YOUR DREAMS AND DESIRES THROUGH LOUD AND BOLD MARKETING, AT OTHERS JUST WHISPERING INTO YOUR EAR AND MAKING YOU ASK "WHY?" HERE ARE THREE MOMENTS IN TIME WHEN TWO WORLDS UNITED BY INTEREST BUT DIVIDED BY MOTIVE CAME TOGETHER TO CHALLENGE THE CULTURAL STATUS-QUO.

Elsa Schiaparelli & Dali: *The day high fashion became* *Art. (1930-1950)*

Coco Chanel described her as an "artist who makes clothes". In the 1930's Elsa Schiaparelli's collections were a constant back and forth between herself and surrealist artist Dali. It's the exchange between the two that makes the collaboration so meaningful and unique. Dali inspired by the innovative creations of Schiaparelli would paint "Vêtements de nuit et jour" in 1936. An homage to the radically new design language introduced by the high fashion house.



In turn, the Italian designer owes to the Spaniard's exuberant imagination some of her most iconic work: The "skeleton dress" or the "shoe hat", but it's without a doubt the "lobster dress", presented during the Haute Couture Summer 1937 collection, that will forever capture the imagination of the world. Schiaparelli and her out-of-the-box thinking inspired runways for an entire generation of up-and-coming designers like Christian Dior and Hubert de Givenchy who would follow in her footsteps.



Yves Saint-Laurent and *Mondrian: The dress that made* *the artist famous. (1965-1989)*

A great art collector and patron, the French couturier regularly found inspiration in the works of artists he cherished. This resulted in creations such as the dresses in tribute to the American painter Tom Wesselman in 1966, Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh, Georges Braque, Henri Matisse, and Pierre Bonnard...



Today, this icon on display at the YSL Museum in Marrakesh has penetrated the realm of pop-culture to the point of becoming the object of reinterpretations by contemporary artists displayed in museums across the world.



The iconic Mondrian dress, part of a series of 10 items from the YSL Haute Couture F/W 1965

But none has captured the spirit of the times like the iconic Mondrian dress designed in 1965. The Haute Couture F/W "Hommage à Mondrian" show was rightfully seen as revolutionary. Unlike the style of the time, Saint Laurent offered straight and colorful dresses that shook up the codes and introduced the world to what was to come: two decades of unbridled creative freedom where art, music and fashion became one.

Louis Vuitton and *Murakami: Beyond* *the hype. (2000-2020)*

You would be hard-pressed to find a luxury brand with more art related credentials than Louis Vuitton. For the past two decades, they've delivered consistently and at scale some of the most exciting and daring initiatives in the field of contemporary art. They have collaborated with artists such as Scott Campbell, Yayoi Kusama and Dubai-based artist eL Seed to create unique capsule collections.



Louis Vuitton's collaboration with Dubai-based street artist eL Seed on a series of art pieces painted on of the Maison's icons was sold at auction at Christies (source).

However, the one collaboration that will stand the test of time is the one that kick-started Louis Vuitton's journey of exploration with Takashi Murakami.



The Japanese artist Takashi Murakami found wide success in the global fashion and art world when introducing the Superflat movement - a fusion of art and animation, a commentary on the changes taking place in Japanese society as it hurdled towards Western consumerism. Ironical when you think that it is reported that at the time, 40 percent of Japanese owned a Louis Vuitton. With this series, the luxury product transitioned for the first time from being just another canvas on which an artist could express himself to becoming the message itself.

The marriage between art and luxury has given every generation something special to look out for: A detailed snapshot of who we are as a society and how far we've come. Believing that they are one and the same would do justice to neither. While artists are more than just brilliant artisans, when it's all said and done, the truth about how this fascinating union came to be is perhaps a little simpler than we think - "Designers and artists speak the same language and sometimes they want to share their ideas and work together." Mr Bernard Arnault - CEO & Chairman of LVMH Group.

"My ART is entertaining for the most part. The colors and EXPRESSIONS I put into these pieces light people up. The other PART is for me, it's a slow study of my INTERNAL self. It's the diary I pour my emotions into, in order to UNDERSTAND myself and make sense of the wild world inside OF US"



The one thing I can't resist? Buying junk at flea markets.



ZAINA'S ADDRESS BOOK

•FIRST MAJOR WORK OF ART
A MOSAIC PIECE OF A FEMALE FIGURE THAT'S AROUND 2 METERS HIGH. I NAMED HER URSULA AFTER MY TEACHER, THE ARTISAN WHO TAUGHT ME THE CRAFT IN ITALY.
•FOR INSPIRATION I HEAD TO THE WATER. WHETHER IT'S A RIVER, A BEACH OR A LAKE. AND THEN I WALK FOREVER AND LISTEN TO SOUL MUSIC.

Zaina has trained across Europe and developed a unique style that is characterized with bright colors and highly textured with 3D elements.



Zaina ALHIZAMI

IN A remarkable ABOUT-FACE, ZAINA LEFT THE CORPORATE WORLD TO IMMERSE HERSELF IN THE intricacies OF AGE-OLD techniques IN THE ARTS – SCULPTURE, PAINTING, MOSAICS – AND EMERGED WITH a style all her OWN

My paintings are purely reflections of myself in different states of mind. I'm a woman

of many layers, deep emotions and lots of questions. The paintings are full of little symbols with these representations; the layers of patterns, the clashing colors, the recurring shapes, etc. **Art is a very useful tool**, for both our own spirits and for others'. Let us use it to spread positive feelings, to spark curiosity, to entertain and to gather our communities together. I think art has always been and will always be vital for our health. Music, dancing, painting, cooking - you name it. If it moves you and takes over, it will also free you. **My greatest cheerleader is my cousin**, favorite human and once upon a time manager. He saw my creative possibilities before I could. He's also a therapist which made him a natural at encouraging me to rise up, to have faith. We teamed up to sell my work as soon as I was ready for that stage. **When I'm not painting** Because painting involves hours and hours of silence, when I'm not doing it, I'll be on long calls just chatting away with loved ones. **I was approached by a young Italian designer** who wanted me to create a couple of hand painted pieces for his brand (Remod) of fur garments. I didn't plan on making more than a couple but he had all these wild, funky, colorful pieces to choose from. So I chose a variety and made sure they were each unique and eccentric with characters of their own. **I love playing dress up**, but I've never really been fashionable and my "style" can be called unpredictable. My outfits vary depending on how I feel that day, the version of me I want to be that day. I mainly shop vintage or second-hand because of the sense of community and sustainability it offers.

IMAGES: SUPPLIED



Above: A scene from 'Meskhal'
Right: Filmmaker Dania Bdeir

Dania Bdeir sees what everyone sees; tires burning in the street, birds flocking in the sky and workers on their cranes, and decides to take a closer look. A fan of acting since childhood, her father gave her a camera when she was 14 and it has been by her side ever since. Determined to make filmmaking her profession, she was accepted to NYU Tisch school of the Arts, where her imagination and sharp observation were unleashed. The tire burning in Beirut sparked the tale of Amer, a wide-eyed young boy who admires the world through his makeshift Meshkal (kaleidoscope) but is confronted to harsh realities when he sneaks inside a truck and lands in a protest with his dad, a state employee disillusioned by government promises. After Bdeir's father passed away, she shot *In White*, depicting

PHOTO: AHMAD HAMMOUDI



WORDS by MARIA LATI

The ART OF TIME

THEY *reveal* IT, SLOW IT, BEND IT OR *shake it*, OUR generation's ARTISTS ARE THE MAGICIANS of TIME

the frustration of Lara, a young woman living abroad who comes home to Beirut for her father's funeral and feels trapped by rituals and society's judgement. Sitting on her balcony, the filmmaker watched as a worker on his crane knelt down, and realized he just wanted to pray. Her latest short movie *Warsha* thus follows an anonymous crane worker who spends his days perched in the sky where he can finally let loose his love of performing. Bdeir recently befriended Beirut's pigeon raisers, a group of men competing to attract pigeons, for her first feature movie which follows a young girl who comes across these warriors of the sky while trying to escape a patriarchal system. Inspired by the inexhaustible troubles of her hometown Beirut,



Painting by Farah Atassi

Bdeir delves into what seem like anecdotic episodes and reveals the lives behind.

Slow down for a moment to watch the video released by the Beirut Contemporary Ballet in collaboration with The Slow concept space. As it streams, the graceful movements of the dancers transport the viewer into a world of beauty. **Mohammad Wafa Bouty** explains that this creative project was envisioned as a glimpse of hope in a country that is being shattered. When he discovered dancing at school, Wafa Bouty instantly knew this is what he wanted to do. He was accepted by the Higher Institute of Dramatic Art with no experience but his passion to show for. From there he later joined the Sima dance company, performing at the Damascus Opera house. Training

would go on as usual even when gunshots were heard outside, and dancing became his escape. His career really took off in Beirut when he joined Elissar Caracalla's troupe on Star Academy, and went on to perform on multiple shows at Casino du Liban, in Dubai, and on music videos. The recognition of his talent showed his conservative family in Syria that the path of dancing was legitimate and they are now excited to follow his latest projects through social media. A member of the Beirut Contemporary Ballet, the dancer also teaches his art and is working to establish a formal dance education in Lebanon. Interrupted by the Beirut explosion, the troupe went ahead with the latest project they had conceived, refusing to surrender. Their bodies and minds had to recover first, so they changed their plans and used the small window of time they had left to film a series of short one minute choreographies set in the village of Hammana, in a dark setting with flickers of light.

Farah Atassi's at first straightforward paintings are riddled with references that transport us throughout art history. Born of Syrian parents, art lovers, her childhood between Belgium and France was rhythmized with museum visits where she built a reservoir of references and inspirations. In her paintings, there is usually a first step into the perspective and then you are inside the scene of her imagination; modern odalisques are sitting half-dressed wearing stripes, gamers are throwing a ball back and forth in a composition alluding to

Picasso's 'Baigneuses et Baigneurs' and objects appear as central as people. In scenes of theater, concert and circus, instruments and figures pop amidst a playful palette of patterns reminiscent of the paintings of Europe's early 20th century avant-gardists, Mondrian and Malevitch, or psychedelic prints of the 70s by designers Pucci and Missoni. Her paintings begin with thorough research and planning, then Atassi lets her creativity run loose as she composes with colors.

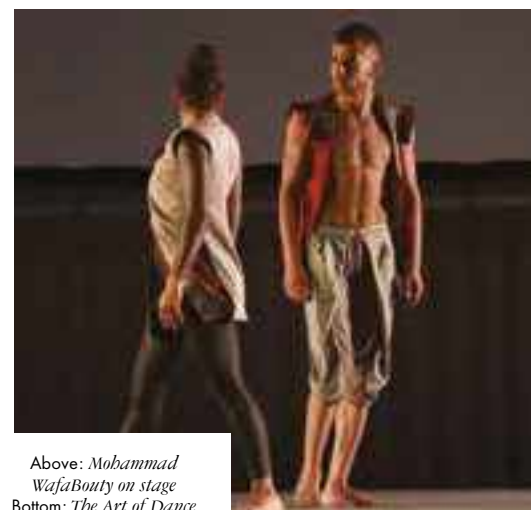
Her works have traveled across the globe for exhibits in Brussels, Moscow and Los Angeles. While on lockdown the artist prepared for her latest show at the Almine Rech gallery in Paris, ready to fly to Shanghai next. Atassi is also getting ready for the Fiac, and just published a retrospective book printed with material that allows the reader to observe the peculiarities of the reliefs, thickenings and other paint effects she uses which are another gateway into her scenography.

Her generation is at a crossroads and **Hayat Osamah** is ready to document the passage to a new era. Between her covers for fashion magazines, ads for brands she likes of Farfetch and Diesel, Osamah is working on projects that will follow her generation, from electronic music festivals to avant-garde fashion closets, souks and deserts, for the next few years as the 'scary and beautiful changes', as she describes them, in her native Saudi Arabia shapes their character and transforms their lifestyles. She got into photography at 18 years old when she got ahold of her first point and shoot digital camera, and started documenting her outfits. As the portraits shot by Osamah unravel; featuring her friends, passersby or the artists of her generation, they paint an unexpected, authentic picture of youth in Saudi; fashion savvy, edgy, funky and bold. She spent her time during lockdown days experimenting at home, with the tool she had on hand, the light of her bed lamp, true to her daring sense of fashion and photography composition, for her latest series 'sisters'. And the minute she could get out again, Osamahss went back to showing us the rich contradictions of her surroundings; raw nature and urban settings; storefronts, generous shared meals and coffee on a side street, trendy looks and traditional costumes all coming together in her photographs and in the streets of her hometown.

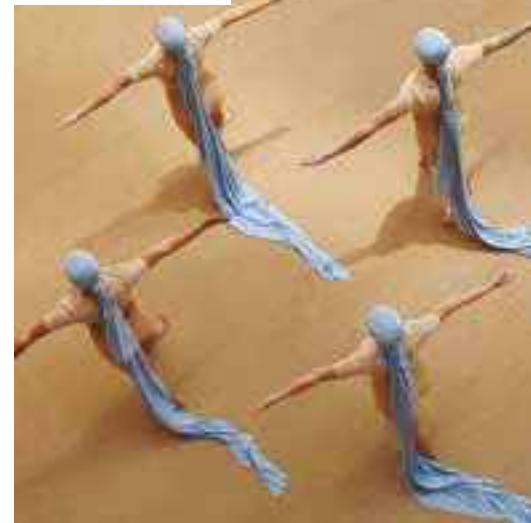
"Friends, PASSERSBY & artists paint an AUTHENTIC picture of youth IN Saudi"



Above: Hayat Osamah portrait
Left: A photo by Hayat



Above: Mohammad Wafa Bouty on stage
Bottom: The Art of Dance





Play

REFLECTION BY CHRISTINA AGUILERA FROM MULAN

Remember when every single person sang 'Let it go', well, it's time to let that go and move on to more classic tracks like those on the new Mulan album. Sung by ballad queen, Christina Aguilera (yes, she's finally back!), those married to the original version might take a little time to come around, but it wears on and then immediately, in Aguilera's voice, speaks to one's soul.



WATCH *see* PLAY

A THROWBACK *song to sing your heart out to*, AN ENTHRALLING SLEUTH SERIES AND A SHORT FILM ABOUT LIFE DURING QUARANTINE TO GET THE REMINISCING JUICES FLOWING (*if you care for a flashback*)

COMPILED by SWATI JAIN

See

DAY 47 BY DREE HEMINGWAY

With Covid-19 still going strong, it's easy to go through moments of serious lows and question whether everything will be normal again. Enter model and actress Dree Hemingway, who took everyone's neuroses (and her own) on being quarantined and made a short film that reminisces the early days of isolation, including long video calls and conversations with Siri to the unfortunate sense of loss experienced at home alone. Made in two days and shot by a three-person crew, this must-watch brings to life an artistic side of quarantine that everyone will connect to.

IMAGES: SUPPLIED



Listen

THE SHOEMAKER OF DREAMS

This new podcast series pulls back the curtains on the legendary life of Salvatore Ferragamo, chronicling his journey from Italy to Hollywood and back again. Broken into 22 episodes, each chapter is brought to life by friends of the brand, narrated by names such as Jessica Alba, Isabella Rossellini, Suzy Menkes and many more. Available on Spotify, SoundCloud and iTunes.



Watch

ENOLA HOLMES - NETFLIX

If you thought Sherlock Holmes was one smart sleuth, think again; his teen sister, Enola, is every bit as clever and daring as the famous detective. With a star line up including Millie Bobby Brown, Henry Cavill, Helena Bonham Carter and Sam Claflin, the all-consuming mystery film brings to life a quirky rebel with wit that even Sherlock himself couldn't compete against.

Follow

THE ON-THE-RISE ACCOUNTS THAT ARE FEEDING THE IMAGINATIONS OF OUR BUDDING REGION



YASMINA HILAL
@YASMINAHILAL_

An experiential Lebanese filmmaker, Yasmina concentrates on creating imagery that tackles social and political topics especially gender inequality in the region.



TALA WORRELL
@MOMORTELE

Brought up in Abu Dhabi and living in Brooklyn, this Lebanese artist's feed lifts a veil of perception through her artwork, using saturated color and motion



ASHLEY WENTLING
@ASHLEYWENT

Dubai-based chef, recipe writer and illustrator, Ashley brings a cathartic sensory pleasure of baking through her 'gram. Scroll through for deliciousness.

ROAD TRiP

LANA AL BEIK AND BASIL ALHADI 'AKA' KARROUHAT
ON THEIR JOURNEY IN STYLE AND FASHION

PHOTOGRAPHED *by* ABDULLA ELMAZ

CONCEPT & STYLING *by* CARMEL HARRISON

WORDS *by* DINA SPAHI



L

Lana Al Beik was always destined to be in the limelight, one way or another. It seems, however, that the Palestinian-Syrian film graduate and model will be leading the way on a number of creative fronts. In addition to becoming a highly-sought after model and influencer, Lana can often be found behind the camera making short films or studying for her Masters Degree in Art Leadership. Oh, and that is besides her full-time job as a project manager for a creative agency. "Modeling started for me when my friends, who were in art school, needed subjects to shoot," Lana explains of her unexpected foray into the field. As for her interest in filmmaking, that was born thanks in part to her sister who is an architect and designer. "I used to experiment with my sister's camera when I was in high school, and would shoot myself on a self timer trying out different silhouettes." From passion to profession, Lana says the journey was unexpected. "I started posting my friends' work and my experiments on Instagram, and at first it was mostly my friends and family who started encouraging me. Then it grew from there. I was surprised to see it unfold and to actually make something out of it!" The young artist, who we expect to be hearing from and seeing a lot more in the future, is one-half of the covershoot duo interpreting Kenzo's latest collections for men and women, in the glorious desert landscapes of Dubai. Here Lana talks about being in the public eye, her calling, and the sisterhood!

"It REPRESENTS edginess, comfort and BOLDNESS. It felt empowering to be in the PIECES"

How has being a public figure shaped you? I think you learn to appreciate the love you're given. As well as learning your responsibility about spreading the word about causes and issues that deserve more global attention, even if it's a small number of people listening.

What do you love about representing women in the Middle East? I think what I like most is that I can share moments from my professional life and see how we women naturally empower and celebrate each other. The feeling you get when surrounded by Arab women is so heartwarming.

Modeling is just one of the hats you wear, in addition to working at an agency, studying and filmmaking – which do you consider your true calling? I think my true calling is within filmmaking - in particular documentary filmmaking. It's something I really want to be doing more consistently.

How is where you are today different from where you thought you'd be? I never thought I'd become a model and work with the brands and publications that I work with today. I always thought I'd be the person behind the camera!

How was it like working with Basil on the Kenzo shoot?

Basil is such a sweetheart to work with. He has a great spirit and he's so funny. Being on set with him has always been a good time. Working with Kenzo was a carefree experience and it felt like an art project. A rebirth of the new brand direction and of us after the lockdown.

What do you feel is different about your style and look? I think everyone is unique. I love mixing vintage and contemporary items in my outfit! It gives it a special story to tell.

What does Kenzo represent for you? It represents edginess, comfort and boldness. It felt empowering to be in the pieces.

Any special projects in the works? I have a really exciting project coming out in December that I worked on last year, and a few here and there in the coming month!

A FEW WORDS

ON YOUR ROOTS...
MY MOTHER IS SYRIAN FROM ALEPPO, & MY FATHER IS PALESTINIAN FROM THE CITY OF AKKA. I DREAM OF VISITING MY HOMETOWN.

ON CAREER CHOICES...
I REALLY WANT TO KEEP DOING WHAT I'M DOING TODAY BUT TAKE IT ONTO A GLOBAL LEVEL. I WANT TO ALSO FIND MORE TIME FOR MYSELF TO WORK ON MORE DOCUMENTARIES, & TELL MORE STORIES. MY DREAM IS TO TEACH IN A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE!

ON CHILDHOOD AMBITIONS...
I ALWAYS KNEW I WANTED TO BE IN THE FASHION & FILM WORLD. I'M LOVING THE UNFOLDING PROCESS AND I LOVE THAT I HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO TO EXPLORE THESE FIELDS.



“Kenzo SURPRISES! I love the variety and how they PULL off a YOUTHFUL but still elegant vibe”

B

Basil Alhadi is a phenomenon. Unable to describe himself, his work, his passion with a simple label, Basil conceived of the moniker 'Karrouhat' to both represent all his facets and as a platform for collaborations. Model, singer, filmmaker, designer, Basil embraces each with his unique style, but he is perhaps better known as a DJ specializing in Arabic reggae. "It's mixing Arabic lyrics with reggae music," he explains of the unusual marriage. "I've also been experimenting with adding Middle Eastern beats because they fit surprisingly well with reggae music." On his success in music, he reflects that "music is extension of me. It's one of the ways I use to express my feelings." Basil, who is one-half of our coverstory duo modeling Kenzo's latest collection for men, has quite a busy schedule ahead. "I wrote and composed a song called In the Space (fe elfada2) which is in the production phase. I'm also working on some interesting collaborations and fashion projects." We caught up with the multi-talented artist to talk about his creative journey, his unique musical style, and the new Kenzo collection.

What's the biggest misconception about the Arabic music scene?

The first misconception is when people think it's "Arab music". Arab music is not a genre; there are many genres within it. Arabic Music was not mainstream but that's changing. When I'm in Milan or Paris, I play different music from our region and the crowd vibes with it.

Singer, DJ, filmmaker, now model – with so many hats, is that why you launched Karrouhat? There's still more! I've always been ambitious and feel like we're on this planet to do everything we can dream of. As a child, I was always told you have to know what you want to be and you have to focus on that, but I had many paths I wanted to follow, and so I did. I was obsessed with music, I liked acting and filmmaking, basically anything related to art and performance so I decided to do it all, even fashion. When I was still in school I would go

to the tailors and make my own cloths. I was obsessed with the 70s fashion I'd see in my father's photos! In between discovering my love for all that is art and performance, I studied Telecommunication Engineering for my parents' sake (laughs). Eventually, I returned to my true path and in 2008 launched Karrouhat, at the time called "Karrouhat the factory", as a platform for creativity, and started making films, acting, modeling, started a band, performed as a DJ... I feel blessed and I always pray to keep it up as this industry can be very hard and emotionally very intense especially when staying true to yourself.

What does Karrouhat represent? Karrouhat for me means the checkered pattern. It represents everything: the many squares can each represent music, acting, engineering, papa, artist - but when you look at it from a distance you just see it as one pattern. Shady Alhady and I came up with the name and worked on the branding.

What were some unexpected surprises on your journey? Going to New York to study acting is up there! As is the time my second short film was selected to be in a festival, and being asked to walk in Paris Fashion Week. Then, of course, I love the fact that I get to DJ around the world.

What do you feel is different about your musical style? My music always has an Arabic edge, and it always will. I feel I've achieved a good understanding of how to mix musical genres and styles so that they come together naturally, and the crowd always responds well to that dynamic.

How would you define your fashion style? I would say that I am not afraid to experiment and express myself through fashion. I have always had an interest in fashion and am always on a mission to find unique pieces that speak to me. Very often, I like to refer back to my childhood when it comes to styling outfits and moods. But at the end of the day, fashion is an extension of me and is a way to express my mood and feelings.

Your "I love you wallah" T shirt is always sold out. How did that come about? The story goes: I always say 'I love you wallah'. In 2018, I was asked to give a talk with Apple and I ended the talk with a blank slide that had "I love you wallah" ~ Karrouhat written on it. The audience loved it. It was posted online and went viral, so I decided to print it on stickers and t-shirts... and the rest is history.

Tell us about the shoot with Kenzo and Lana...

The shoot was crazy fun! Even though shooting in the desert in the summer has its challenges (laughs), I loved the concept, the clothes and that classic car. Working with Lana was very smooth because we understand and respect each other. I was super excited to discover the new Kenzo collection because there's always a surprise with Kenzo! I can't wait to work more with them because I feel we are on the same wavelength and have the same level of energy.

What does Kenzo represent for you? Kenzo surprises! I love the variety and how they pull off a youthful but still elegant vibe.

RAPID FIRE
LISTENING TO... ALEKHWA BAND
PERFECT HAPPINESS IS... GOOD
PEOPLE AND NATURE
MY WAY OF LETTING GO AND
RELAXING... PRAYING AND
MEDITATING
MY CURRENT STATE OF MIND IS...
TO CHILL AND DISCONNECT
FROM EVERYONE
MY MOST TREASURED
POSSESSION IS... MY FAMILY
MY FAVORITE NEIGHBORHOOD
IS... AHMADI IN KUWAIT
FOR A PROPER TASTE OF STREET
FOOD, HEAD TO... LAFFAH





PHOTOGRAPHY: ABDULLA ELMAZ, STYLING: CARMEL HARR
SON: JORDAN ROBERTSON, MAKEUP: SHARON DRUGAN



The past two years have been a whirlwind – of light and of activity – for the Emirati artist as she sees her unusual and mesmerising work being commissioned for everything from brand launches to photoshoots, and from Ramadan celebrations to UAE National Day. “I’ve also recently worked on a campaign supporting local businesses, and submitted a piece on Covid-19 and the importance of staying safe and staying home,” says Alya Al Sanad. Whether working from the confines of a van as she did on a collaborative live light shoot with Mercedes, or projecting her work on a grand scale atop monuments, she is in her element as long as she has her trusty friend, her camera. “Without it, I would not be able to do what I am doing today. I can say that my camera is my friend; it is with me everywhere I go. I enjoy every moment of photography, the hard times, the good times and the most successful times.” With her trusty friend by her side since 2004, Al Sanad has elevated the art of photography and made it her own by learning how to manipulate the images, how to work with light, and how to project it to make the world her canvas. “The best way I can describe my creative process is working without borders, unlimited by my imagination.” It is this process, preceidly, that has captured the imagination of her growing legions of fans, clients, and art lovers around the world. ELLE Arabia caught up with the artist as she’s in the midst of completing a new project, to be unveiled on her instagram...

Ever since I was a kid, I’ve always enjoyed art and music. This enjoyment developed into a passion, and eventually became a part of who I am and how I express myself. **I believe that incorporating different mediums** gives you a wider range to experiment and allows for more creativity and the opportunity for originality. For example, the light calligraphy that I produce is a combination between photography and Arabic calligraphy, which allows my art to be a reflection of my identity and gives the work its uniqueness. **Light is the power** of any great picture, video or concert design. It can provide different psychological effects on people depending on how you play with it. Light also brings so much diversity into a picture. Using light to write with took me to another level of creativity and opened my eyes to a whole different element of photography and calligraphy. **Calligraphy allows you** to see words and phrases the way you see paintings. When I do calligraphy, it takes me to another place where I can sit for hours writing. It helps me to de-stress and to focus; I learned from calligraphy how to be patient, to practice and to perfect. **My heritage influences my work** in many ways. For example, in regards to the content, I choose the messages I want to share. In regards to the medium, I use Arabic calligraphy and photography which is a combination between my heritage and photography. **Growing up** in a society that believes that art is a hobby and it can’t be more than that made it very challenging at the start of my journey. At the same time, it gave me the courage to persevere and not give up. I always make sure that I create art that reflects what we are going through, to highlight the impact art can have on the world and how it’s worth a million words. **My advice to young artists** is to never give up on your dreams. Art has no limits so always experiment and ask for constructive feedback because it will help you grow. Besides, remember that the world around us keeps changing so never stop learning. **My first piece ever** was a conceptual photography art work titled “Letter From the land” and it was during a period when a lot of construction work was happening in Dubai and it showcased how that affected the environment. **I love photography, videography and calligraphy** but photography will always be my great love because traveling the world, capturing moments and creating art through my lens will always be my passion. Plus I’m happy when I capture weddings, birthdays and events of family and friends and share it with them.

Light FANTASTIC

EMIRATI ARTIST *Alya Al Sanad* IS
BRIGHTENING UP OUR WORLD WITH HER
UNIQUE *conceptional* PHOTOGRAPHY THAT
MERGES THE MAGIC OF LIGHT WITH THE
BEAUTY OF *Arabic calligraphy*



ALYA'S
ADDRESS
BOOK

I ADMIRE IN FILM TODD PHILIPS, IN PHOTOGRAPHY STEVE MCCURRY, JULIEN BRETON, AND FLORA BORSI, AND AS ARTISTS ABDULQADER ALRAIS, LATEEFABINT MAKTUUM, MAITHADEMAITHAN, ELSEED, WISAAM SHAWKAT AND MAJID AL YOUSUF.

I WOULD LOVE TO WORK WITH EVERY CREATIVE ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER, BECAUSE IT'S A WIN WIN SITUATION, EXCHANGING KNOWLEDGE AND CREATING AMAZING ARTWORK.

WHEN I'M NOT CREATING, YOU CAN FIND ME TRAVELING, EXPLORING THE WORLD!



I ALWAYS make sure that I create art that reflects what we are going THROUGH, to highlight the impact art can HAVE on the world



Film, REDEFINED

INCREASINGLY, *women behind* THE CAMERA ARE LEADING THE CINEMATIC CHARGE. ELLE ARABIA *talks to leading* FEMALE PRODUCERS WHO ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHANGING FACE OF *Arab cinema*, NOT JUST THROUGH THEIR MOVIES, BUT ALSO THROUGH THEIR *own personal* JOURNEYS

WORDS by ODELIA MATHEWS

When the Dubai International Film Festival kicked off in 2004, it put the UAE firmly on the map cementing itself as the biggest cinema market in the Middle East. During its glorious run until 2017, it reported that 40 percent of DIFF's 100-plus Arab films were directed by women and it had given birth to a robust industry of young, fierce, and relentless filmmakers eager to take their place on the world platform. One such case is that of Haifaa Al Mansour, the first female Saudi Arabian Director who won the Best Film Award for the movie Wadjda in the Muhr Arab Feature competition which went on to become the Kingdom's first submission to the 2012 Academy Awards for the Best Foreign Language Film. This year, her second film The Perfect Candidate made its official entry for the 2020 Oscars in the Best International Feature category, submitted by Saudi Arabia. "Losing the DIFF was quite a hit for us," explains Nayla Al Khaja, the UAE's first filmmaker and producer who has shot films like Once (2009), Malal (2010), and The Neighbour (2013) having won several awards at film festivals in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Italy. "On one hand we miss the networking, which was an extremely vital bloodline for us. There wasn't a place that had such a strong gathering of heavyweights like the DIFF. On the other hand, it also pushed us to look outside and aim at other festivals; something that a lot of other filmmakers including myself had not done before." What is common between women like Haifa Al Mansour and Nayla Al Khaja is that they've both, through their work and individual paths, inspired a whole generation of filmmakers by their stories, narratives, and advocacy for the role of women in cinema. In fact, they have inadvertently trailed a new path that lays bare the cultural aspects of society, often found trapped under emotions of women limited in their freedom and ambition to live their dreams despite challenges.



Nayla Al Khaja in the director's seat

Below: Nayla Al Khaja
Right: From the film set



THE ARAB WOMAN: FROM VICTIM TO HEROINE AND TACKLING TABOOS

Drawing parallels between their work, movies like Wadjda and The Perfect Candidate by Al Mansour and Malal, Animal, and Once by Al Khaja all touch on topics that are crucial to portraying the struggle of women in achieving their ambitions, having their voices heard, living in fear and repression, and representing the true reality of the culture they have lived with, and in. For these women, the battle on the world stage has been changing the portrayal of the Arab woman from victim to heroine by showcasing their personalities, dreams, ambitions, fears, and resilience. In Wadjda we meet a 10-year old girl who dreams of owning and riding a bike, and in The Perfect Candidate, we encounter a female doctor fighting Saudi's patriarchal society and challenging the system by running for the municipal council election. Similarly, in Malal, a young Emirati couple navigates through the repressed emotions of an arranged marriage, while in Animal we witness the horrors of narcissistic abuse experienced by a mother and a child in a family. From highlighting raw and repressed emotions to breaking stereotypes, female filmmakers are not hesitant to take on the challenges faced by the common Arab woman. "Nowadays, these subjects have been brought to the surface and we are seeing them more often. Arab filmmakers are thirsty to discuss these matters and the audience is asking for it as well," says Beirut-born Jessica Mansour, film director and actress whose short film Melody in the Shadow was screened at the Cannes Film Festival (2013) while her movie The Insult, in which she acted, was nominated for an



Above: Jessica Mansour
Right: From the Film The Insult



Academy Award in 2018. "They are considered taboos and in many Arab countries there is a high level of censorship, but this does not stop artists from expressing themselves and deconstructing taboos that exist in the Arab world. They are searching for freedom far from suppression," she explains. According to her, it is a wave of change that has already begun and will continue to grow over the years with cinema playing a major role in social cooperation, empathy, and justice. In a candid conversation with Jumana Zahid, an independent film producer who made her debut in 2018 producing her first feature film Zero Distance now on Netflix MENA, she expresses the influence of female filmmakers and their impact on the younger generation. "Wadjda was the first feature film to be directed by a Saudi woman, to go international and to show other young people that we too, can go out there," she explains. "The way it impacted the international community, also reflected upon us (the young film fraternity in Saudi Arabia). It was a moment of realization that we were also able to make it and it was okay to be a female filmmaker." Discussing the challenges faced by female filmmakers, 25-year-old Zahid who is also the Manager of the Red Sea Lodge, part of the Red Sea International Film Festival, says that acceptance at an international level is a game-changer in itself because the concept of filmmaking (in and from Saudi Arabia) is new, and the concept of females in the field is also new. "The demands of the job, women embracing their ambitions, and the older generation still battling to see the importance and impact that movies can have, are all challenges. When fear comes into play, people get

"The BATTLE on the world stage has been changing the PORTRAYAL of the Arab woman from victim to HEROINE"



Left: From the movie Zero Distance
Below: Jumana Zahid



defensive," she reveals as we chat about family and society pressures common to conservative societies wherein decisions for women are still made by male members in the family.

SUCCESS, STEREOTYPES & REPRESENTATION

Just before the pandemic hit, there were only two Arab films nominated for an Oscar in 2019 and these were Nadine Labaki's Capernaum and Talal Derki's 'Of Fathers and Sons'. In 2020 however, the number of Arab films lining up for an Oscar was much more including entries from Saudi Arabia (The Perfect Candidate) Palestine (It Must be Heaven) Lebanon (1982) Egypt (Poisonous Roses) Morocco (Adam) Tunisia (Dear Son) and Algeria (Papicha). That lined up, the question about female representation in cinema is often one shrouded in doubt and delusion with the benchmark frequently being international representation, screenings, and awards, as opposed to a box office commercial success – something that most successful filmmakers and directors struggle with, irrespective of gender. According to statistics, 26% of independent Arab filmmakers are women, compared to 4% in the West – 9% in America. In Morocco, Tunisia, and Lebanon, approximately 25% of all new directors are females. In Qatar, nearly 60% of emerging filmmakers are women who are changing the face of modern cinema. In an article published in The National, legendary Palestinian filmmaker, director and producer Mai Masri was quoted as saying that in the US, only "5 percent of directors are women and 12 percent in Europe. In Palestine and Lebanon, that figure is about 50 percent." This only proves that while Middle Eastern female Arab filmmakers are undoubtedly ahead of the game as compared to the West, success is only a matter of opportunity to be represented and accepted equally at international festivals – and now with Saudi Arabia making history, this is a bigger question to be answered. "Representation is not as it should be," agrees Jumana

Zahid when talking about only four Arab films featured as part of the Sundance Film Festival this year. She believes that the international community should look at the Arab region differently and be more supportive of the emerging and young talent, especially since Saudi Arabia opened its cinemas for the first time in 35 years. "The amount of films that get screened, granted, and funded (internationally) is not as much as it can or should be. This support will help elevate the craft and will help us to compete on that level," she explains.

A POST-PANDEMIC REVIVAL LED BY WOMEN

With the world continuing to grapple with the Coronavirus, the filmmaking industry has come to a grinding halt leaving many young and aspiring candidates struggling to cope. "People who are graduating right now, face a very different world. Opportunities to work in the film domain are extremely limited and we are trying to navigate ways on how to film and be safe," says Al Khaja. However, she is optimistic in pointing out that the TV commercial business is blossoming and students who are keen to work in a production house will be exposed to the workings of the film world with ample opportunity to grasp the craft. For youngsters like Jessica Mansour, the fact that the industry is moving towards live streaming is a promising aspect. "Chaotic times like these hold many new film stories, new perceptions for cinema, and new ways for exploration. Many movies can be written and shot after all this, while having the needed financial support so that we can turn scripts onto screens, and this I believe will be the biggest challenge we will face," she says. To that end the Saudi Film Festival 2020 was live-streamed for its sixth edition in September (last month) and hot on its heels, is the inaugural of the Red Sea Film Festival Foundation – the first independent Saudi Non-Profit Organization with an official mandate to promote film culture and support filmmakers from the Arab world. "What's upcoming is game-changing and will flip the equation," says Jumana Zahid in her position as manager of the Red Sea Lodge which is supporting new talent through training, mentorship, and grants of up to \$500,000. "It will refresh the industry, open more doors, and create exciting new opportunities. What we need is a leap of faith from supporting organizations and the international community, to push the craft," she tells me.

With many bright, young filmmakers joining the playing field from the surrounding Arab states, it's only a matter of time that cinema will be redefined by the Arab female filmmakers' voice, speaking not just of emotions, struggles and cultural diversity, but also of peace, equality, respect and unity to face their Western counterparts as pioneers in their own right.

"Cinema PLAYS a major role IN social cooperation, EMPATHY, and justice"

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

*Elle forever
a women's history...*

Culture



...a History of Fashion

"THE BIRTH OF ELLE MAGAZINE, AT THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR, MARKED A NEW ERA FOR WOMEN, INVITING THEM TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES, TO REVEAL THEMSELVES... FASHION IMMEDIATELY HELD AN IMPORTANT PLACE IN ELLE, AS IT IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPLEMENT TO FEMININITY. FOR 75 YEARS, DESIGNERS, SUPERMODELS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS HAVE BEEN PRESENTING THE MOST BEAUTIFUL STORIES IN ELLE. IT IS THE BEAUTIFUL SAGA OF A GREAT ARTISTIC FAMILY, FAITHFUL AND JOYFUL, WHERE FASHION IS BOTH A SERIOUS AND PLAYFUL AFFAIR. 75 YEARS OF IMMORTAL IMAGES, BY THE GREATEST TALENTS. ELLE IS 75 YEARS OLD, AND IT IS FIRST AND FOREMOST ALL ABOUT WOMEN. ELLE WAS ONCE..."

TEXT by SYLVIA JORIF

1945 1960

ON 21ST NOVEMBER 1945, FRANCE EMERGED FROM THE WAR AND ELLE WAS BORN, CREATED BY HÉLÈNE LAZAREFF, THE FIRST FULL-COLOR WOMEN'S WEEKLY MAGAZINE. IT WILL BE IMPERTINENT YET CONCERNED AT THE SAME TIME. IT WANTS TO FOLLOW THE EVOLUTION OF WOMEN, IN THEIR SOCIETAL CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS IN THEIR FASHION DESIRES. THE ADVENTURE BEGINS!



Dior forever in the streets of Paris with this beautiful taffeta dress.

ELLE discovered, by chance, a charming 17-year-old girl and makes her their favourite model... From picture to picture, she became a real star: **BB**, the famous **Brigitte Bardot**.



The exquisite **Bettina** kick-started the ELLE adventure, a model adored by couturiers, until she became the favourite of **Hubert de Givenchy** who created the famous "**Bettina**" blouse for her.



JEAN SHRIMPTON BY ©DANIEL BOOM

1960-1970

THE ELITE OF THE 50S, DICTATED FASHION, THE FASHION OF THE 60S OBEYED THE STREET. THE YOUTHFULNESS OF THE FAMILY IS EVIDENT AND THE TREND IS REVERSED WHEN MOTHERS WANT TO DRESS LIKE THEIR DAUGHTERS. THE MINI SKIRT CAUSED A SCANDAL BUT IT WAS IMMEDIATELY ADOPTED. WE WANT TO WEAR JEANS AND PANTS TO BE COMFORTABLE: A SHOCK TO DECORUM. AND CREATORS WITH FUTURISTIC IDEAS SET THE COURSE.



HIROKO MATSUMOTO BY ©FOULI ELIA

Pierre Cardin's target dress, a marvel of accuracy and harmony, by **Fouli Elia**.

A great creative period for fashion, always very cheerful, animated by the mythical **Peter Knapp** who was the artistic director of ELLE and over beloved photographer.

As always it was **Peter Knapp** who introduced us to **Pierre Cardin**, one of his favorite designers, who would soon become ours too.



1988. The launch of **ELLE China**, a great novelty for this fashion-conscious readership. They are generous, it is often more than 200 pages long. It is so successful that it becomes a bimonthly magazine in **2012**.



The international adventure...

1985

A great event for the magazine which launches the planet **ELLE International** with the birth of **ELLE US**, the first edition of this great adventure which today counts **45 titles** throughout the world. **Gilles Bensimon**, a great faithful member of the editorial staff, is taking the fashion world by storm with this mythical photo in which all the top models are laughing out loud in **Azzedine Alaïa**: All the spirit of ELLE.

©GILLES BENSIMON

1990-2000

DESIGNERS ARE STARS AND THE FASHION LANDSCAPE HAS NEVER BEEN MORE DYNAMIC. THE BELGIAN SCHOOL IS FASCINATING, THE JAPANESE ARE ADORED AND THE BIG FRENCH HOUSES HAVE DESIGNERS WITH STRONG PERSONALITIES AT THEIR HEADS. FASHION SHOWS ALL ITS PROWESS, AND LET THE SHOW BEGIN!



Jean-Paul Goude invited himself to the 1996 Olympic Games and declared the fashion competition.

© JEAN-PAUL GOUDE

2000

THESE YEARS EXPRESS THE CULT OF PERSONALITY WHERE STARS BECOME MUSES, FASHION MODELS AND SEDUCTIVE ASSETS. IT IS THE WOMAN IN ALL HER SPLENDOR WHO STAGES HER FEMININITY. IT IS THE FULL POWER OF THE BIG LUXURY HOUSES WHOSE LOGOS BECOME EMBLEMS TO BE SHOWCASED

©JEAN-MARIE PERIER

We love **Laetitia Casta** so much, we ask her to strike every pose. Her perfect curves have always amazed us. She was very young when she did her first shoots with ELLE. Now she is a fulfilled woman...



2010

©JEAN-BAPTISTE MONDINO



Charlotte Gainsbourg, our French actress that the world loves, is a fashion fanatic. Here in **Balenciaga** by **Nicolas Ghesquière**.



2006, arrival of **ELLE Middle East**, great honor of the international editions which covers the countries of the **Middle East**.

Tami Williams
from Jamaica! The
smile of this lovely
young lady lit up
our cover.

2010 2020

THIS DECADE, THE ONE WE ARE LIVING THROUGH AND WHICH IS NOW DRAWING TO A CLOSE, HAS BEEN MARKED BY **MAJOR SOCIAL PHENOMENA**. FASHION, ALWAYS REFLECTING THESE MOVEMENTS, TAKES PART IN THESE REFLECTIONS AND SOMETIMES EVEN TURNS ITS CATWALKS INTO POLITICAL PLATFORMS. THESE ARE YEARS OF AWARENESS AND MANY CHARTERS HAVE BEEN SIGNED BY LUXURY BRANDS ON EMERGING THEMES SUCH AS DIVERSITY, INCLUSIVENESS, FEMINISM, ECOLOGY OR GENDER ISSUES...

©DAVID BELLEMERE

© MATT JONES

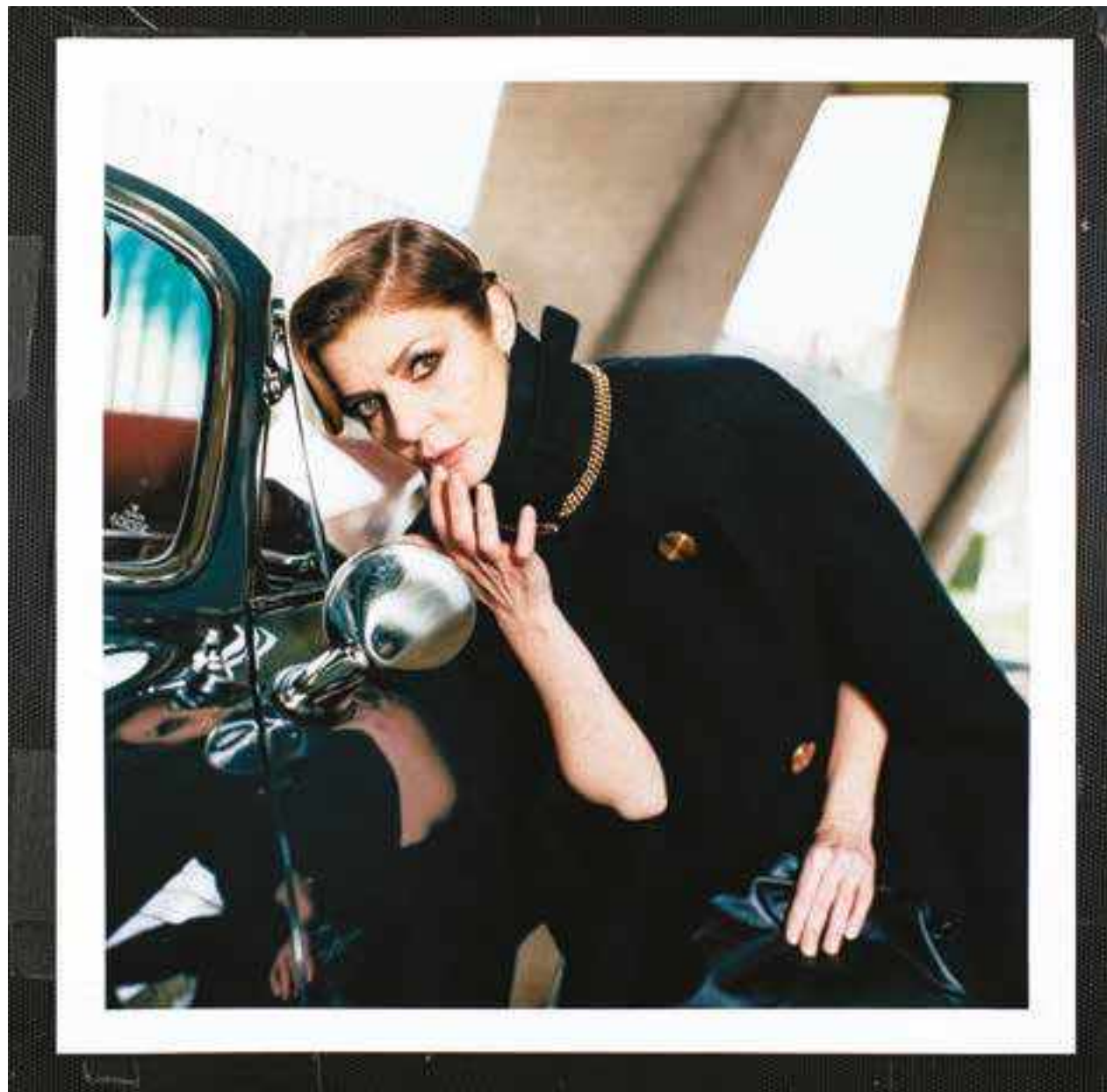
We love **Ashley Graham** for her radiant charisma. As an ambassador of "body activism", she knows how to fight the dictates of beauty with optimism and her lush forms are her most beautiful freedom.

DISCOVER ELLE ARABIA ON OUR

PRINT AND DIGITAL PLATFORMS



@ellearabia.com



Parisian Chiara Mastroianni, born in 1972, poses for the F/W 20-21 Loewe Campaign. Here she is wearing a military wool hood with golden ornaments

THE IRONY *of* FATE

LESSONS IN LIGHTNESS, AS ITALO CALVINO MEANT IT. Actress *Chiara Mastroianni*, EGERIA OF *French cinema*, PLAYS HER LATEST ROLE AS A TESTIMONIAL OF THE LOEWE MAISON. With *humor and a subtle SURREAL VEIN*, SHE TELLS US *about it in a world* EXCLUSIVE.

By ADRIANA DI LELLO

Good afternoon. We agreed I would have called you this time, right? My head is kind of living in the clouds..." This is how she greets me; her tone of voice is playful and she sounds charmingly absent-minded. She has a strong French accent, although her Italian is very fluent, here and there interspersed with Roman dialect which makes our conversation very funny. Chiara Mastroianni knows how to smile, she is not at all perched in her ivory tower. After some small talk, she asks me for updates on the Covid-19 situation in Italy. She listens carefully and starts informing me on what's going on in France when she gets interrupted. First, her son Milo asks for something in French. Then her cat goes wild hunting a piece of paper on the ground, as cats living in flats sometimes do, and starts running around the room. "I am so sorry," she justifies herself, "I'm at home and there is a bit of confusion. That's the way it goes when you need some quiet; they all magically appear out of nowhere to disturb you. By the way, I will push the cat out of the room if you prefer." It's okay. We are on the phone (the better option to interview someone these days) to talk about her new collaboration with Loewe. Having worked for French and non-French cinema elite since the age of seven with names such as Lelouch, Téchiné, Altman, de Oliveira, Figgis, Claire Denis and Christophe Honoré for whom she is a muse, the daughter of two of the biggest movie stars to have lived (her parents are Catherine Deneuve and Marcello Mastroianni) she has had a long history modeling, fronting as the face of many a fashion brand. Today, it's Loewe's turn, the Madrid fashion house who chose her as the ambassador for their F/W20 collection. Shot by Fumiko Imano, the Japanese photographer well known for her split selfie imagery, Mastroianni opens up to ELLE Arabia about the new campaign in this world exclusive interview.

Why did you say yes to Loewe?

"I was amused by the entire concept. Fumiko Imano knows how to create unique worlds and I admire her irony and her surreal imagery. They also asked me to do some acting; I had to play a woman that you can't really tell where she comes from - past or future, a bit enigmatic. I do love when fashion gets so experimental and overturns the status quo."

How was it working on the set?

"Very good. We shot at the UNESCO head office the day before the fashion show took place. Jonathan (Anderson, the creative director) was there, finishing some clothes. It was all very fun and playful."

So an ideal atmosphere...

"Very much so. It is unusual in the fashion world though; there are few stylists with a solid sense of humor. Jean Paul Gautier, a real master in irony, used to tell me "we should

never forget we are only making clothes, after all." Some décalage would make things more real. Irony is the key.

Isn't it the same on a movie set?

Pressure is much less on a movie set. Usually it is freer, more human, less frightening. Fashion is a real circus; too much money, too much vanity, hordes of randy influencers. Oh God, maybe I am overdoing it just a little bit... (she laughs)

How do you relate to fashion?

It interests me, but I find it too fast. I am slow and faithful; as soon as I grow fond of an item of clothing, two new ready to wear collections are out. In everyday life, I have things I have been wearing for years; a pair of jeans, some ankle boots and the same kind of T-shirt in dark blue, black and hunter green. I get wild on the set, as if I was playing, although I have not always been so playful. When I was young working on a set made me anxious. I had complexes; I thought my size was not the standard one."

FASHION is
fantasmagorical and
EXCESSIVE, *charming and*
caricatural. It sometimes
misses some DISCREPANCY
to be more real.



Right: Chiara wearing a two-tone leather coat and a logo buckle belt. On the car, the Balloon bag in leather and calfskin. All Loewe.



From above: Crêpe cape dress, contrasting necklace and pumps. Oversized silk blouse and viscose trousers; Cotton coat, butterfly glasses, Balloon bag and pumps with buckle. All Loewe. Shot in Paris, in and outside the UNESCO headquarters.

Are you confident now?

Luckily yes. Getting older implies some positive things! I wouldn't say I am completely at ease but much more confident that's for sure. I regret that I wasn't able to really enjoy posing for artists such as Lindbergh, Testino, Roversi as I should have. I was young and felt too stressed.

I know you like wearing men's clothes...

Very true. I often wear tuxedos - I think the tailored ones are very feminine and make you feel safe. I have always liked women dressed in men's clothes; when I was young I adored Katherine Hepburn, she was so classy!

In fashion biz, appearances do matter. Would you agree?

Totally. In a fashion picture, all must look perfect. Only we actors can be out of tone, show some flaws. Personally though, I think charm is more interesting than plain beauty.

When did you decide to become an actress?

When I was a kid, talking about acting was a kind of taboo. My mother utterly disagreed with the idea of me being an actress. It was a friend of mine who helped me to get some auditions. Initially, I failed all of them then things started getting better. Like I told you, I am slow.

The movie you love the most?

Probably my latest one, *Chambre 212* by Christophe Honoré. There is this not-so-young-anymore lady with a strong sex appetite and she satisfies it with much freedom. There's nothing kinky in her, she is a very sincere and authentic character.

Do you feel that way, free?

No, not at all! Her freedom is out of the ordinary, that's how he (Honoré) imagined her. She has no qualms and no reservations. She is the kind of woman that lets herself get carried away, one that goes with the flow without any problems.

How do you fight stress?

I don't fight it, actually. I am one of those people who simply can't avoid moments of deep discouragement.

But you are very ironic...

I think one should be, in order to survive. My father was very self-ironic and I am grateful I was raised in such a playful lightness. If you haven't, and you do the same job as I, you can easily end up feeling like Gloria Swanson in *Sunset Boulevard*.

Such a beautiful movie...

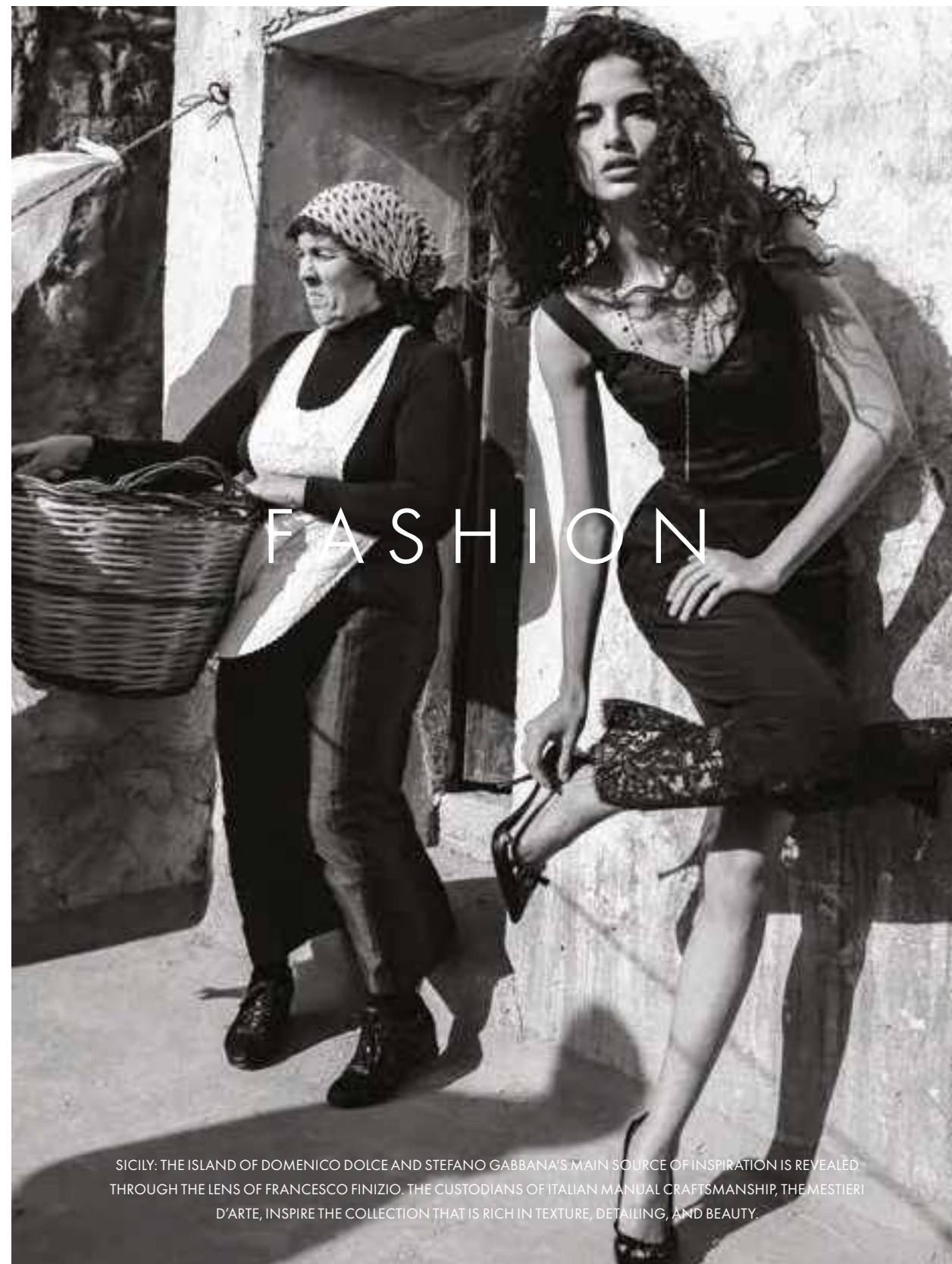
Sure. But, also, the greatest nightmare for all actors. After a certain age, the *Sunset Boulevard* syndrome is an actual risk!

What do you think about in the evening when you are not busy?

I usually read (currently, its *Fates and Furies* by Lauren Groff) and try to avoid thinking too much. If I do, my capoccia starts spinning and I must say bye bye to a good, restoring sleep.

ELLE

FASHION



SICILY: THE ISLAND OF DOMENICO DOLCE AND STEFANO GABBANA'S MAIN SOURCE OF INSPIRATION IS REVEALED THROUGH THE LENS OF FRANCESCO FINIZIO. THE CUSTODIANS OF ITALIAN MANUAL CRAFTSMANSHIP, THE MESTIERI D'ARTE, INSPIRE THE COLLECTION THAT IS RICH IN TEXTURE, DETAILING, AND BEAUTY.

DOLCE & GABBANA @FRANCESCO FINIZIO

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

Black taffeta dress with removable sleeves; Belt in metal interlaced with leather, glass beads and strass
All looks by Chanel

A WILD WORLD

TAFFETA & LACE, LEATHER & TWEED, BOWTIES & RUFFLES A STORY
OF MODERN ROMANCE AS ONLY CHANEL CAN RECOUNT

CREATIVE DIRECTOR & STYLED *by* KATE HAZELL

PHOTOGRAPHY *by* MOX SANTOS

CHANEL FALL-WINTER 2020/21 READY-TO-WEAR COLLECTION



White blouse in cotton voile
embellished with a ruffled collar
All looks by Chanel



White lace jacket embellished with jewelled buttons; Ecru
viscose skirt embellished with a jewelled button; Belt in metal
interlaced with leather; glass beads and strass; White tights
embellished with double Cs, Black and brown leather boots
All looks by Chanel



Long black dress in wool crepe embellished with white scalloped collar and cuffs and jewelled buttons; Black tights embellished with double Cs; Black and brown leather boots
All looks by Chanel



Ecru and white scalloped dress in tweed embellished with a removable black bow; White tights embellished with double Cs; Black and brown leather boots
All looks by Chanel



Pale green jacket in wool tweed
embellished with jewelled buttons
All looks by Chanel

MODE: CLAUDIA @ SIGNATURE ELEMENT, HAIR: SOPHIE LEACH, MAKE UP ARTIST: TONI MAIT FOR CHANEL
MAKE UP: FALL WINTER 2020 COLLECTION CANDEUR ET EXPERIENCE ACT II, SHOT ON LOCATION AT NATURE ESCAPES, AL BARARI



Ecru and white jacket in wool tweed
embellished with a scalloped lapel and
jewelled buttons; White and black top in lace
embellished with double Cs; Belt in leather,
beads, glass and strass; Black jodhpurs in
waffled velvet embellished with jewelled buttons
All looks by Chanel

Rose Dior Bagatelle
Necklace, Ring and Bracelet,
all by Dior Fine Jewelry
La D De Dior Abeille Watch,
all by Dior Timepieces

STYLED *by* CELIA-JANE UKWENYA

PHOTOGRAPHED *by* PATRICK SAWAYA

Behind **CLOSED DOORS**

ALL DRESSED UP AND NOWHERE TO GO, MODEL MIA PEREYRA TURNS HER HOTEL
ROOM INTO A STAGE FOR SOME OF DIOR'S MOST MAGNIFICENT JEWELS



LEFT PAGE: Rose Dior
Bagatelle Rings, all by
Dior Fine Jewelry
La D de Dior Précieuse
Watch, all by Dior
Timepieces
THIS PAGE: Rose
Celeste Rings and
Bracelet & Rose Des
Vents Rings, Bracelet
and Earrings, all by
Dior Fine Jewelry



LEFT PAGE: Corolle Ring, & Milieu Du Siecle Earrings and Ring, all by Dior Fine Jewelry
THIS PAGE: Rose Dior Bagatelle Rings, all by Dior Fine Jewelry



RIGHT PAGE: Archi
Dior Milieu Du Siecle
Earrings & Rose Dior
Bagatelle Earrings, all
by Dior Fine Jewelry
THIS PAGE: Rose Dior
Bagatelle Rings &
Archi Dior Milieu Du
Siecle Earrings, all by
Dior Fine Jewelry

PHOTOGRAPHY: PATRICK SAWAYA; STYLING: CELIA JANE UKWENYA; MAKEUP: SARAH SEQUEIRA; HAIR: KASIA DOMANSKA;
MODEL: MIA PEREIRA @ SIGNATURE ELEMENT; LOCATION: MANDARIN ORIENTAL JUMEIRA, DUBAI





SKIN PREP FOR ALL: PURIFYING FACE POLISH, ORGAID MAGIC CREAM, CHARLOTTE TILBURY BLACK ROSE EYE
CONTOUR FLUID & INSTANT ECLAT PRIMER, SISLEY PARIS BACKSTAGE FACE AND BODY FOUNDATION & 2W
DIOR FOREVER SKIN CORRECT IN 2WO, DIOR INVISIMATE BLOTTING POWDER, FENTY

PHOTOGRAPHED *by*
MOX SANTOS

CREATIVE DIRECTION &
MAKEUP *by* SHARON DRUGAN

high voltage

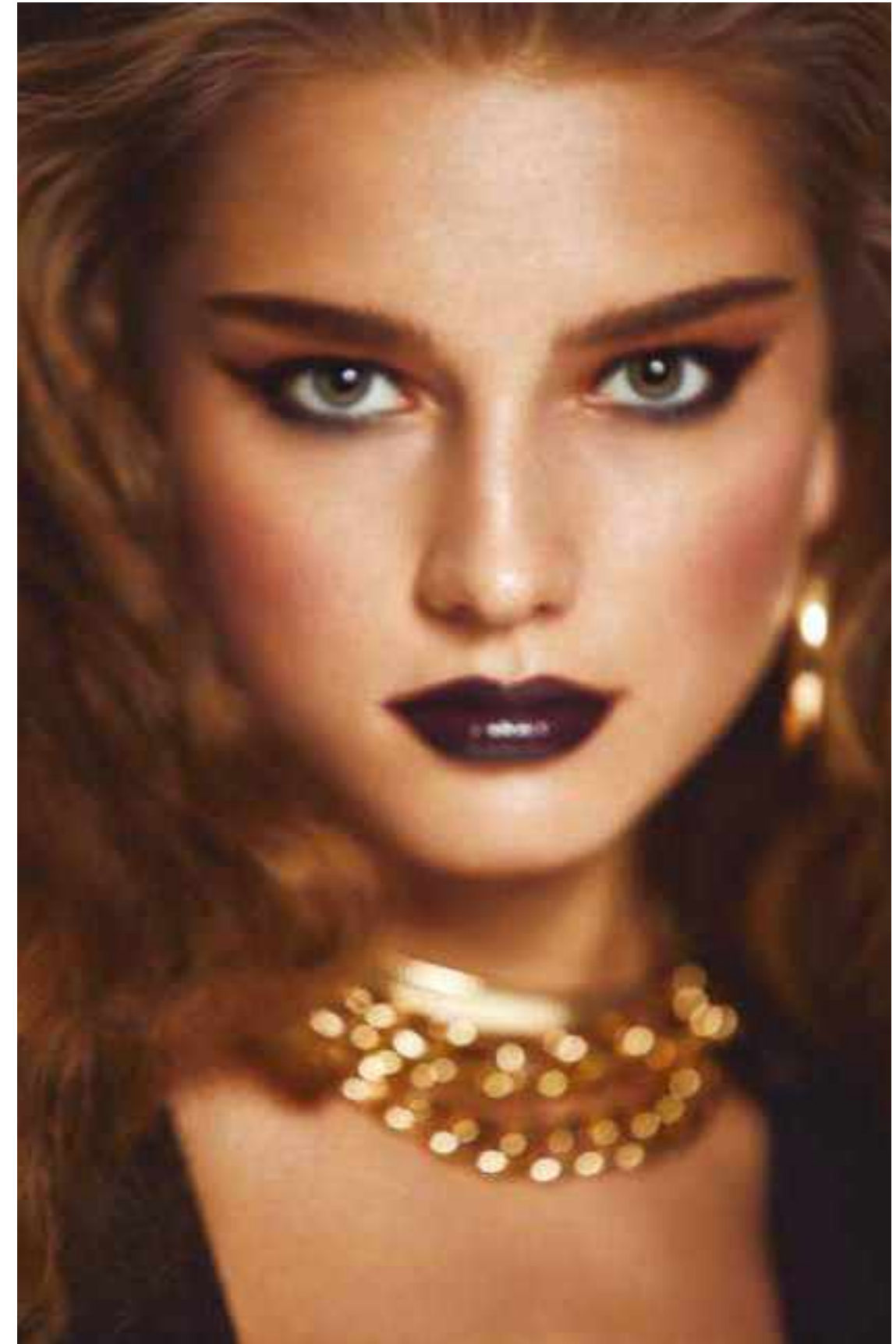
STYLED *by* CARMEL HARRISON

THIS SEASON'S VIBE IS ALL GLAMOUR AND
GLEAM WITHBIG, BOLD MAKEUP ANDEVEN BIGGER
HAIR.WEAR FEARLESSLY WITH WILD ABANDON

LEFT PAGE: Amethyst
Obsessions Eyeshadow
Palette, Huda Beauty
Rock N Kohl Bedroom
Black Eye Pencil &
Pillow Talk Push Up!
Lashes, Charlotte Tilbury
Gimme Brow Gel in
No. 3 & Roller Liner,
Benefit Cosmetics
Rouge Blush in 601
Hologlam & Backstage
Glow Face Palette, Dior
Matte Velvetines in Red
Velvet, Lime Crime



LEFT PAGE:
Snap Shadows in 2
Cool Neutrals, Fenty
Nudies All Over Face
Color Matte in Beach
Babe, Nudestix
Pillow Talk Push Up!
Lashes & Airbrush
Bronzer in Medium,
Charlotte Tilbury
Gimme Brow Gel in No.
3 & Roller Liner,
Benefit Cosmetics
N.Y.M.P.H All Over
Highlighting Powder,
Huda Beauty
Matte Velvetines in Red
Velvet, Lime Crime
THIS PAGE: Topaz
Obsessions Palette,
Huda Beauty
Eyeliner Ink Pen in
Shibui Black, Shiseido
Pillow Talk Push Up!
Lashes & Airbrush
Bronzer in Medium,
Charlotte Tilbury
Backstage Contour
Palette, Dior
Ambient Metallic
Strobe Lighting Palette,
Hourglass
Masquerade Power
Bullet Matte Lipstick,
Huda Beauty
Clear Crystal Gelgloss,
Shiseido



THIS PAGE:Sapphire
Obsessions Eyeshadow
Palette, Huda Beauty
Gimme Brow Gel No. 3
& Roller Liner,
Benefit Cosmetics
Lacquerink Lip Shine in
Red Flicker, Shiseido
Nudies All Over Face
Color Matte in Beach
Babe, Nudestix
Phyto Blush Twist
Papaya, Sisley Paris
Backstage Glow Face
Palette, Dior





RIGHT PAGE: Pastel Obsessions Mint Eyeshadow Palette, Huda Beauty Smoky Snap Eyeshadow Palette, Fenty Beauty Gimme Brow Gel in No. 3 & Roller Liner, Benefit Cosmetics Nudies Blush Naughty N Spice, Nudestix Le Phyto Rouge N22 Rose, Sisley Paris Ambient Metallic Strobe Lighting Palette, Hourglass
THIS PAGE: The Healthy Glow Vitamin Radiance Powder in 01 Light Warm, Guerlain Nudies All Over Face Color in Bondi Bae, Nudestix So Intense Deep Black Mascara, Sisley Paris Backstage Contour Palette & Backstage Custom Eye Palette Universal Neutral, Dior Rock N Kohl Bedroom Black Eye Pencil, Charlotte Tilbury Gimme Brow Gel No. 3 & Roller Liner, Benefit Cosmetics



CREATIVE DIRECTION & MAKEUP: SHARON DRUGAN; PHOTOGRAPHER: MOX SANTOS; RETOUCHER: IRENE VELWEISS; STYLING: CARMEL HARRISON; HAIR: STYLIST: JORDAN ROBERTSON USING DAVROE; MODEL: MARGARITA VISHNIAKOVA @ SIGNATURE ELEMENT; LOCATION: THE GRIP STUDIOS



PHOTOGRAPHED *by*
EMILIA VALERIO

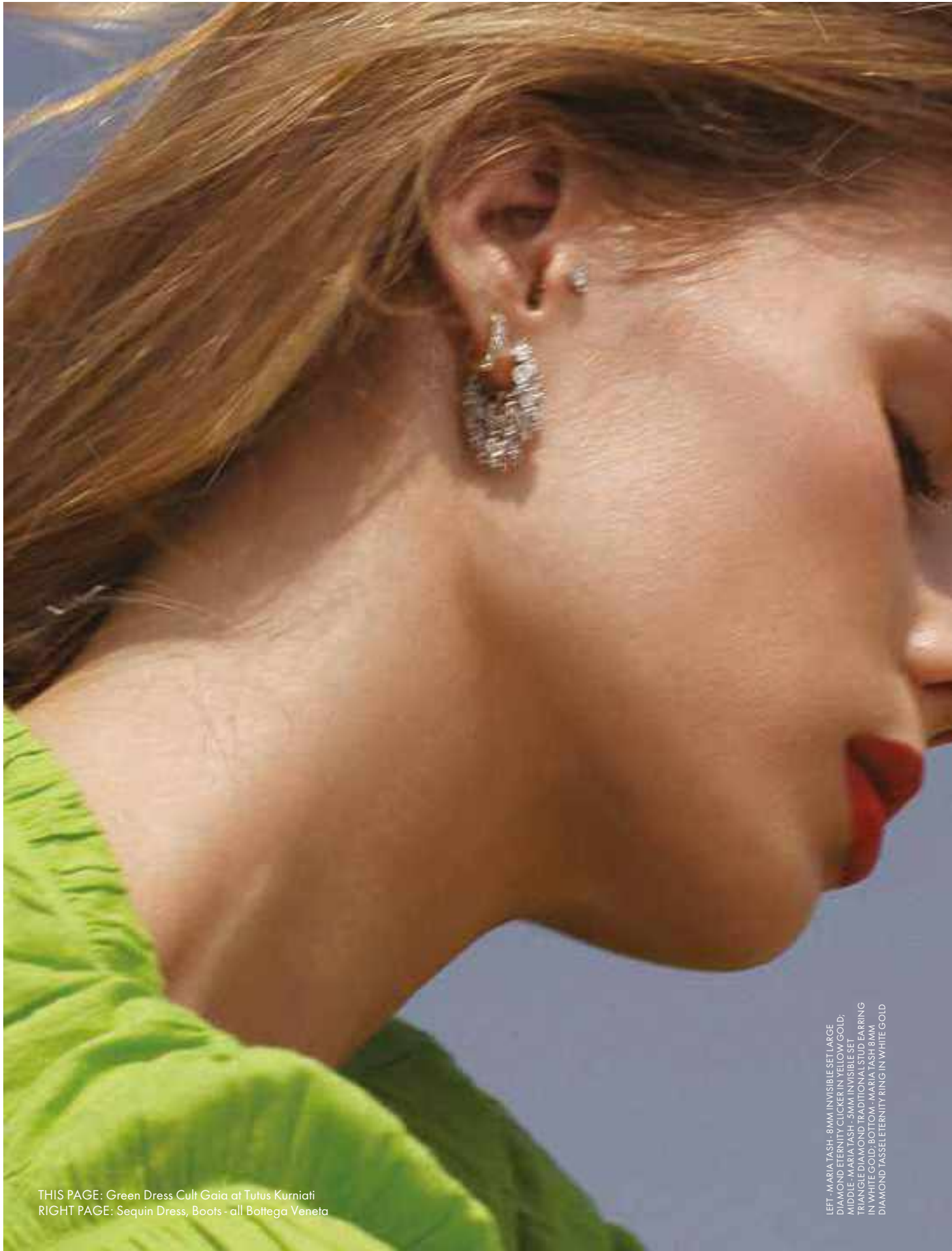
RAINBOW ReBEL

FALL COLORS ARE RE-INVENTED THIS SEASON, WITH BOLD AND BRIGHT TAKING OVER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

STYLED *by* LAURA
JANE BROWN

THIS PAGE: Pink Maxi Dress Taller Marmo Bag Necklace Fendi;
RIGHT PAGE: Coat, Bag, Heels all Fendi





THIS PAGE: Green Dress Cult Gaia at Tutus Kurniati
RIGHT PAGE: Sequin Dress, Boots - all Bottega Veneta

LEFT - MARIA TASH - 8MM INVISIBLE SET LARGE
DIAMOND ETERNITY CLICKER IN YELLOW GOLD;
MIDDLE - MARIA TASH - 5MM INVISIBLE SET
TRIANGLE DIAMOND TRADITIONAL STUD EARRING
IN WHITE GOLD; BOTTOM - MARIA TASH 8MM
DIAMOND TASSELETERNITY RING IN WHITE GOLD



THIS PAGE: Floral Appliqué Dress Dodo Bar Or at MatchesFashion.com, Red Rollneck Givenchy, Boots Fendi
RIGHT PAGE: Top, Trousers, Bag, Shoes, Jewelry all Valentino



Shirt, Trousers, Belt, Boots - all Alberta Ferretti



MAKEUP - NADINE ELIAS USING BYREDO MAKEUP, HAIR - JORDAN ROBERTSON USING DAVROE

E L L E

BEAUTY



BYREDO MAKEUP

THE FUTURE OF BEAUTY IS HERE, AND IT COMES MAGNIFICENTLY PACKAGED! AFTER CONQUERING THE WORLD OF FRAGRANCES, FOUNDER BEN GORHAM SET HIS SIGHTS ON BEAUTY WITH THE EAGERLY ANTICIPATED LAUNCH OF BYREDO MAKEUP IN COLLABORATION WITH ISAMAYA FFRENCH. THIS GAME-CHANGING COLLECTION FEATURES MULTI-PURPOSE PRODUCTS THAT ASK THE WEARER TO CHOOSE THE WAY IT WILL BE WORN, WHETHER ON EYES, LIPS OR CHEEKS, AND REFLECT THE IDEA OF SUBJECTIVE BEAUTY AT THE HEART OF THE BRAND.



GIVENCHY



CHANEL

Beauty Le Rouge in Deep Velvet, Givenchy

CLIMATE CONSCIOUS

As the world of beauty moves towards a more eco-friendly future, so do the tools we use to make up our faces. Give your beauty bag the green treatment and swap your brushes for one of the 10 responsibly sourced, vegan brushes launched by Dubai based brand, The Odist.

YSL BEAUTY

Brushes, The Odist

Scarlet Woman

Nothing beats the impact power of red. Choose from crisp crimson to ombré oxblood, eschewing anything that veers even slightly into orange or pink territory.



Voce Viva, Valentino

Red Wood, DSquared2



Pasha de Cartier, Cartier

Purple Haze Obsessions Palette, Huda Beauty

Colonia Futura, Acqua Di Parma

FALLING FOR FALL

Moody, crispy and just a bit spicy, nothings says cool autumn breeze quite like a good rain-inspired mist or dark floral blend to get one in the mood for October. and beyond.

BERRY DELIGHTS

Smoky eyes too intense for you? Do what you always do but add a little bit of sparkle into the mix with Huda Beauty's latest eyeshadow palette; the buttery mauve and nude mattes contour and define lids, while disco shimmery toppers look particularly illuminating when pressed into the inner corners of the eyes.

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

High DRAMA

CALLING ALL *queens*, TALONS THIS SEASON *ask for* A BIT SOMETHING EXTRA SO BRING ON THE *theatrics*

CRIMSON TIDE



PRABAL GURUNG

The symbolic power of red is undeniable and this season, Prabal Gurung's sharp rouges say it all: sexy, powerful and dangerous – we're sold!

Nail Polish in Alyssa, Zoya

Nail Lacquer in Toucan Do It If You Try, OPI

ART ATTACK



RAG & BONE

Nail Lacquer in Stay Off the Lawn, OPI

DISCO FEVER



SUSAN ALEXANDER

'Glittery & gritty' was the brief for nails at Susan Alexander and they turned out the right amount of sparkly naughty!

Nail Polish in Witch Way, KBSbimmer

NIGHT MAGIC



THE BLOND'S

Nail Polish in Licorice, Essie

The Blond's taught us that layering a matte gold coat over a black talon is beauty's equivalent of pulling a sequined jacket on over a dress, a much-needed step to give some edge to a favorite classic.

Infinite Shine in Suzi's Slingshot, Mezzal, OPI



IMAGE: YANA KALINA

Beauty chat with HAILEY BIEBER

YOU CAN TELL BY LOOKING AT HER TONED AND **SCULPTED SILHOUETTE** THAT THE 23-YEAR-OLD SUPERMODEL IS A FORMER CLASSICAL BALLET DANCER. "ORGANIC CHERRIES" ON HER "GF CAKE," SHE IS ALSO BLESSED WITH THE MOST **FLAWLESS COMPLEXION** EVER. THE AMERICAN-BRAZILIAN **LOVES NATURAL LOOKING** AND CLEAN FORMULAS ABOVE ALL. IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT SHE JOINED BAREMINERALS TO BE THEIR BEAUTY AMBASSADOR AND TO CELEBRATE **THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY** OF THE MAGIC ORIGINAL. LET'S HAVE A CHAT BELEZA!

I WAKE UP... when I'm not social distancing, I usually get up at 8:30/9:00am. My recent social distancing sleep schedule on the other hand, is all over the place. I only need about 8 hours but I can sleep so much, and I do. I have probably slept 15 hours before.

I START THE DAY... by brushing my teeth, drinking a celery juice, washing my face in the shower, moisturizing and taking vitamins after I've eaten.

I HAVE BREAKFAST... either a smoothie or some boiled eggs and bacon, or oatmeal.

IN MY FRIDGE AND KITCHEN CUPBOARDS... we have lots of drinks, kombucha, water, La Croix (we love La Croix), Diet Coke, coconut water. Also eggs, milk, orange juice...the usual stuff. In the cupboards you would most likely find, pasta, some canned goods, pasta sauce and some chips, cookies and crackers.

MY BEAUTY SAVIORS... If I'm puffy I will use a jade roller or if I remember to put spoons in the freezer, I'll put those under my eyes!

I CARE FOR MY HAIR... by making homemade hair masks. I make one with honey, olive oil, coconut oil and a raw egg which leaves my hair super shiny. Also I love leave-in treatments like Olaplex. It delivers protein straight into the hair. I don't always use conditioner because my hair is very fine and gets oily easily.

I STYLE MY HAIR... by letting my hair air dry, it usually dries completely straight and I tend to wear my hair up or back more than I wear it down. Parted in the middle and slicked back into a bun is my go-to on a good or bad hair day, just depends on my mood!

MY FAVORITE DIY BEAUTY RECIPES IS... an at-home mask mixing eggs, honey and turmeric.

THE BEST BEAUTY ADVICE I'VE HAD.... is from my mother. She's taught me a lot about diet and overall health. I grew up in a "clean eating" household, organic, no junk food and I try to stick to that style because what you put into your body reflects on the outside. My mother was always on me about drinking water and using manuka honey for cuts and burns! Also, I discovered bareMinerals from her, particularly the Original Loose Mineral Foundation. It's so pure and clean that you can sleep in it. This vegan formula, launched 25 years ago, is infused with just 5 mineral ingredients, free from harsh chemicals and additives. It won't clog your pores and cause breakouts, even if you forget to take it off!

THE BEAUTY PRODUCT I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IS... a lip balm. I can't go to sleep with dry lips!

MY MAKEUP ROUTINE... is super light, nothing heavy! If I'm wearing makeup, it's usually a little concealer for quick and easy coverage. And then a touch of bronzer, blush on my upper cheek bones, mascara, highlighter, eyebrow gel and lip gloss.

IF I'M GOING OUT AT NIGHT... I love a bronze eye and a nude lip. I've been wearing the bareMinerals MINERALIST Hydra-Soothing Lipstick in Grace – the formula is so rich and creamy.

MY FAVORITE FRAGRANCE IS... Laura Mercier Ambre Vanille.

I LOOK INTO THE MIRROR AND SEE.... someone who has grown a lot and who still has a lot to learn.

TO GET CONFIDENCE... I love staying active, I love Pilates, hot Pilates, hot yoga and just training with a trainer at the gym.

TO BREAK THE RULES... I never go on a scale ever except at the doctor's!

THE CRAZIEST THING I'VE DONE IN THE NAME OF BEAUTY... doing PRP (platelet-rich plasma) with microneedling rolling is kind of nuts...drawing your blood in the name of beauty is insane but I'm guilty.

MY LUNCHTIME.... is usually GF pasta or some chicken with veggies or sushi! But I'm open to a lot at lunchtime. I try to always do GF and stay away from foods I'm sensitive to. I recently just tested all my food allergies and sensitivities. My favorite lunch spot in LA is South Beverly Grille!

MY WAY OF UNWINDING... having a bath, exercising, getting a facial.

MY LAST BEAUTY PURCHASE... a ton of bath oils, bath soaks and body oils.

YOUR BEAUTY OBSESSION... I think it's a pretty well-known thing but I can't live without Aquaphor!

MY EVENING BEAUTY RITUAL... is a combo. I always remove makeup with wipes or a cleansing balm, wash with a cleanser, use a serum, then moisturizer and spray some rose water. I've been using the bareMinerals PURENESS Collection – the Gel Cleanser is super gentle and the Soothing Light Moisturizer gives that instant and all-day hydration.

MY LAST MEAL ON EARTH... I'm such a foodie. I love too many different things...I would say if I had to choose one it would be sushi!



Model Bianca Balti is radiant with the warmth and beauty of sun-kissed bronze

SOLAR GLOW

CAPTURES *the healthy* GLOW OF THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH DOLCE & GABBANA'S *sun-drenched* MAKE UP COLLECTION

Capturing the essence of a healthy Mediterranean glow, and inspired by the colorful spirit of Sicily, the Solar Glow products enable the complexion to be enhanced with illumination, color and bronzing all year long. The vibrant and eye-catching packaging is an ode to Dolce & Gabbana's iconic patterns, which can also be found embossed on the powders. Available in a range of customizable shades, every product in the Solar Glow collection is enriched with Dolce & Gabbana Beauty's Mediterranean Glow Complex, a synergy of natural ingredients powered by exclusive skincare technology to help to plump, hydrate and soften the skin. Its key ingredients include Hyaluronic Acid, which helps the skin hold on to maximum moisture levels for smooth, hydrated skin; Fig Extract to help to promote long-lasting hydration and a radiant complexion; and olive oil to bring softness and comfort to the skin.

The VIBRANT and eye-CATCHING packaging is an ODE TO Dolce & Gabbana's ICONIC patterns



BY DESIGN: THE UNIVERSAL BRONZING DROPS AND ILLUMINATING POWDER DUOS FEATURE A NEW, FLORAL TAKE ON A CLASSIC MAJOLICAN-INSPIRED PRINT, WHILE THE ULTRA-LIGHT BRONZING POWDER COMPACT STARS DOLCE & GABBANA'S SICILIAN CART PRINT, CALLING TO MIND THE CENTURIES-OLD HISTORY OF SICILY, RICH IN DETAILS AND DECORATIONS

IMAGES SUPPLIED

The collection, which continues to expand with new products and shades, includes:

- **Solar Glow Universal Illuminating Drops** for illuminating, and Solar Glow Universal Bronzing Drops for warmth. Simple to use, the water-based gel formulas are weightless and buildable as they can be applied in multiple ways for a truly customizable experience: mixed with moisturizer for natural skin radiance, mixed with foundation for a fresh or sun-kissed glow, alone to bring a soft, flattering highlight to bare skin.
- **Solar Glow Illuminating Powder Duos** highlight the natural glow of the skin on cheekbones, brow bones, bridge of the nose and Cupid's bow. There are four harmonies to choose: each one contains a perfect duo of complementary shades: two are composed of a highlighter with a blush that brings a touch of radiant color, the other two contain a highlighter with a bronzer adding natural healthy sun-kissed tones to the complexion.
- **Solar Glow Ultra-Light Bronzing Powder** instantly warms the skin for a naturally-alluring radiant glow that lasts all day. Available in seven shades, the technically-advanced powder formulation leaves skin velvety and feeling nourished and smooth.

WE LOVE: THAT EACH OF THE PRODUCTS RADIATES WITH THE SOLAR GLOW FRAGRANCE, A FLORAL-ORIENTAL ELIXIR THAT TRANSPORTS THE WEARER INSTANTLY TO THE LANDSCAPES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

LOOK ME IN THE EYE

WANT GRAVITY-
defying BROWS
SANS THE EFFORT
(AND PAIN) OF
microblading?
DISCOVER BENEFIT
COSMETICS' BROW-
ENHANCING
TOOL THAT HAS
BEAUTY INSIDERS
obsessed, THE BROW
MICROFILLING PEN

PHOTOGRAPHED *by*
ADAM BROWNING HILL

BROWS *by* YARA AYOUB BENEFIT
COSMETICS' REGIONAL BROW ARTIST

MAKEUP *by* SARAH
SEQUEIRA FOR BENEFIT
COSMETICS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY: ADAM BROWNING HILL; STYLED BY: DINA KARBANI; MAKEUP BY: SARAH SEQUEIRA;
MODEL: TAYLEEN YAKHSESE @ SIGNATURE ELEMENTS; HAIR: JACQUES LA COUPE SALON

HIGH VOLTAGE

Step 1 – Brow Mapping
Start by measuring from the dimple of the nose straight up to the beginning portion of your brows with a pencil and make a mark – this is where your brows should start. Next, observe the highest point of your brows when they start to curve and make another mark – that is the arch. Finally, with the pencil, measure up from the outer corner of the eye upwards and make one last dot – that's where your brows should end.

Step 2 – Fake It
Create hair-like strokes using the Brow Microfilling Pen by making short strokes from the base of the brow upwards in the direction of your hair growth by swiping the three-prong tip; the three different lengths of the tips deliver just the right amount of product with perfectly pigmented color and spacing giving the illusion of natural brow hair all in a single stroke.

Step 3 – Au Naturel
As you get to the arch of the brow, turn the pen to the side and use the longest prong to make singular flicks all the way to the end – this will give a more wispy, natural brow look. The formula will quickly absorb into the skin like a tattoo to deliver a realistic microbladed effect.

YOUR
TREND
TOOLKIT



Brow Microfilling Pen in Deep Brown, Benefit Cosmetics

ART & ROUGE

HERMÈS' *new* LIMITED-EDITION LIPSTICKS BOAST A *trio* OF PINK *shades* INSPIRED BY THE WORKS OF *fine* ARTISTS

When Hermès launched its first makeup collection earlier this year, the 24-shade Rouge Hermès collection redefined the art of lipcolor with sleek colorblocked cases designed by Pierre Hardy, sustainable tubes that can be refilled, and a richly pigmented and hydrating formula. This season sees the house expand its now-iconic lipstick collection with three new limited-edition shades - Rose Nuit, Rose Ombré & Rose Pommette - reminiscent of French artist Yves Klein's soft yet vibrant roses. The new cases, too, were inspired by the works of fine artists; the silent perspectives of modernism pioneer Charles Sheeler, the calm beauty of the still life and domestic landscapes by realist John Register, and the abstract compositions of French modernist Jean Helion. These vanity table works of art come in our favorite orange packaging with a handy lip brush for better application.



Charles Sheeler



Rose Nuit



Rose Pommette



John Register



Rose Ombré



Jean Helion

"THE LIPSTICK TUBES ARE REFILLABLE; WITH A SIMPLE GESTURE, THE LIMITED EDITION COLORS CAN BE REPLACED WITH DIFFERENT SHADES"

ELLEWORD

Roz

GARNERING 12M+ FOLLOWERS AND WORKING WITH INTERNATIONAL *brands* is just THE TIP OF the *iceberg* FOR SAUDI-BORN ROZ WHO IS AS MUCH A ROLE MODEL AS SHE IS A FASHION MODEL

Born in Medina and raised in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Roz had ambitions to study interior design and took a leap of faith moving to the US. That dream took a turn when she found her true passion for beauty and fashion after attending several fashion shows. It was during that time that she launched her Instagram account and quickly garnered millions of followers as well as a modeling career. What makes her stand out is her heartfelt engagement with her fans. Roz takes the time to not only share her projects on social media through photos and videos but also spends time offering advice and answering questions from fans. She believes that the loyalty that her fans have are based on the personal connection they share with her. Aside from modeling, Roz enjoys traveling and giving back to the community; supporting organizations fighting for clean water around the world, planting trees in Saudi Arabia and speaking up when it comes to issues of civil rights.

PHOTOGRAPHER: GREGORIO CAMPOS



START

YOUR FIRST WORD IS...

TRAVEL

CONFIDENCE

HOME

CREATIVITY

EMPOWERED

I love to **travel**, to me it's about seeing and experiencing new places and using those opportunities to embrace each culture and reset my mind.

Having time to yourself is important. When I'm in my own space where I can take time to relax and take care of my health, that's **home** to me.

I feel most **empowered** when I'm surrounded by strong women. It's an interesting time to be a young woman and I think we will get through it by continuing to collaborate, support, and look after each other.

Confidence is to love yourself for who you are at any stage. Embrace the positive parts about you instead of focusing on the negative.

I love to think outside the box. **Creativity** is inspiring to me when I witness others mix up their basic everyday tasks and routines in simple and resourceful yet interesting ways.

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

"I love to mix both of these two Aesop products together before I go to sleep to moisturize my skin. My face feels so fresh after!"



"Mixing Argan oil with my sunscreen in the morning is my go-to."



FADIA EL MENDELEK



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Maya Khodr THE VANITY DIARIES

THE FIRST THING THAT PASSES

MY LIPS IS... A big glass of water with lemon juice and ginger.

THE LAST THING THAT PASSES

MY LIPS IS... Green tea right before I go to bed and of course, my toothpaste.

MY MAKEUP ROUTINE... Is simple: a bit of Fenty Concealer; some blush – I usually use my favorite Benetint Rose-Tinted Cheek & Lip Stain from Benefit Cosmetics, it looks really natural; then it's Dior Lip Glow Lipstick which I like because it hydrates my lips; and finally, I add just a bit of brown eyeliner. I don't use mascara on a daily basis so my eyelashes stay intact.

MY EXERCISE ROUTINE... I love Pilates and practice on the Reformer machine with my friend Ruby Mikhael at The Core Beirut. I work out every day; Pilates twice a week and then its the gym for the rest of the day.

PILATES, *clean* BEAUTY PRODUCTS AND LOTS AND *lots of* FACIALS:
How THE LEBANESE BEAUTY KEEPS UP WITH *appearances*

WHEN I LOOK IN THE MIRROR I SEE...

A woman who has been through different stages of life.

MY WORST BEAUTY HABIT IS... That I'm never able to achieve the same eyeliner flick on both eyes; I've been trying for years but to no avail!

THE LAST BEAUTY ITEM I BOUGHT... Was a gel for my eyebrows from Kiko Milano. I have thick brows and they are hard to manage.

MY BEAUTY CABINET IS ALWAYS FILLED WITH... Creams! I am not that big on makeup but creams, hair products and lotions are my thing. My absolute favorite

would definitely be Estée Lauder's Advanced Night Repair Cream – It's a best seller!

MY GREATEST BEAUTY DISCOVERY... Are natural, clean products that don't have any chemicals in them.

MY BIGGEST BEAUTY INDULGENCE... Definitely has to be facials; I love them and indulge in one every now and then!

CRAZIEST THING YOU HAVE DONE IN THE NAME OF BEAUTY... Easy, it's laser.
THE LAST TREATMENT I HAD WAS... A hair scrub; it was my first time as well and I loved it.

THE NEXT TREATMENT I WANT IS... Brow lamination; I've never done it, so I hope it works on my brows!

THE BEST BEAUTY ADVICE I HAVE EVER RECEIVED... Is to stay hydrated and refuel my fountain of youth with water!

IMAGE: SUPPLIED

Reborn

FOR THE FIRST TIME, *Sisley Paris* IS RESTARTING THE *mechanisms* RESPONSIBLE FOR CELLS' VITAL ENERGY ONE BY ONE WITH *Sisleÿa L'Intégral Anti-Âge La Cure*

Sisley Paris conducted 10 years of research before creating the market's first global anti-aging care in 1999, Sisleÿa Global Anti-Âge. The product's innovative approach and over 50 active ingredients made it a true phenomenon, marking a turning point in the anti-aging market. In 2016, the brand went further still by exploring the theme of epigenetics and tackling third dimension: behavioral aging. Sisleÿa L'Intégral Anti-Âge was born, offering enhanced global anti-aging effectiveness and even more spectacular results.

This year sees the launch of Sisleÿa L'Intégral Anti-Âge La Cure, an anti-aging care program inspired by a major scientific discovery that is designed to restart the skin's vital mechanisms one by one in four weeks. The exclusive concentrate is formed from a combination of powerful and targeted plant extracts to act at the source and provide a complementary action on the three key mechanisms of the energy cycle:

1. Protection of the mitochondria: Ginkgo Biloba Leaf extract is combined with Vitamin E Acetate to protect the mitochondria. 2. Reconnection of the mitochondrial network Mariposa Blanca rhizome extract reconnects the mitochondrial network. 3. Elimination of the damaged mitochondria, Peony extract paired with Longevity Sugar Complex encourages the elimination of damaged mitochondria.



IMAGES: SUPPLIED



The principle: It takes four weeks for skin renewal to take place – Sisleÿa La Cure has been programmed to last the exact same time to restart the skin's vital mechanisms and ensure a real upsurge in the results obtained. Each week, each of the four bottles of the energy-saturated treatment unlocks the mechanisms that allow the skin to renew and regenerate itself by acting gradually to restore its quintessential youth potential.

Week 1: The skin is awakened from the first week of La Cure. The skin's defenses are boosted to immediately counter cellular slowdown; the cells' energy is reactivated. The complexion is already more radiant and the skin appears revitalized.

Week 2: The second week launches a phase of optimal regeneration dedicated to eliminating damaged mitochondria. The cell's integrity and ability to regenerate are restored. The skin becomes softer, smoother and more toned.

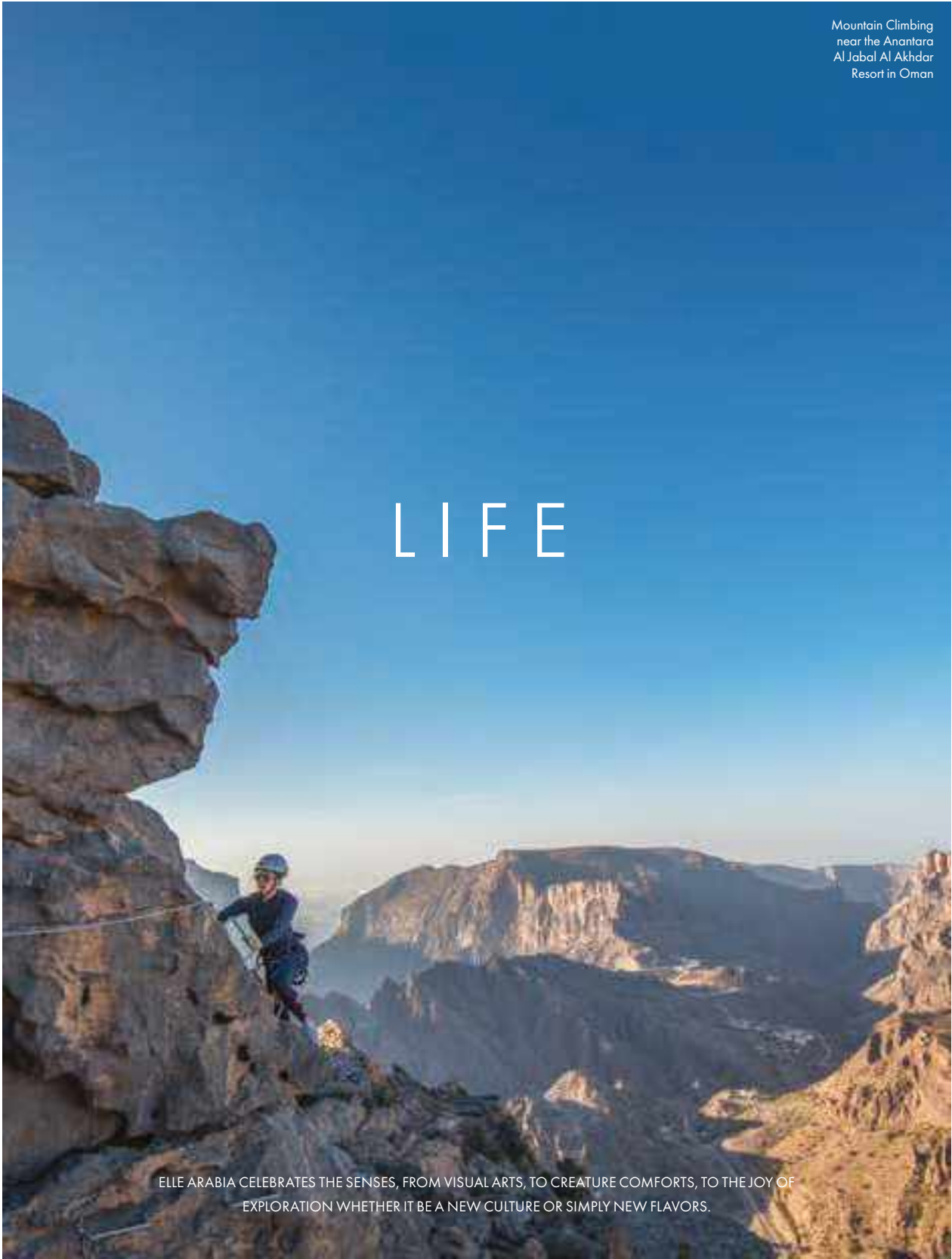
Week 3: The third week of La Cure targets the skin's natural defenses and antioxidant properties. Its connections are reinforced to boost the output of vital energy and transport it to the heart of the cells. The skin is denser, more elastic and radiates vitality. The signs of aging are reduced.

Week 4: The fourth week – the final step – aims to lastingly consolidate the effects obtained over the previous weeks. All the vital mechanisms within the cell are now coordinated and optimal. The skin is transformed, regenerated and ready for a fresh start.

E L L E

Mountain Climbing
near the Anantara
Al Jabal Al Akhdar
Resort in Oman

L I F E



ELLE ARABIA CELEBRATES THE SENSES, FROM VISUAL ARTS, TO CREATURE COMFORTS, TO THE JOY OF EXPLORATION WHETHER IT BE A NEW CULTURE OR SIMPLY NEW FLAVORS.

IMAGE: SUPPLIED

Relax & UNWIND

WE COULD ALL USE A *little rest and rejuvenation after the eventful* PAST FEW MONTHS. THANKFULLY, THERE'S NO NEED TO TRAVEL FAR TO GET AWAY FROM IT ALL, AS *we round up three* RESORTS IN THE REGION THAT WILL HELP *you restore body, mind and soul...*

OMAN

Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort

Perched 2,000 meters above sea level on the curving rim of a great canyon, the resort allows guests to hover over an extreme landscape of rugged beauty while they discover a cultured treasury of authentic indulgences and immersions in the destination's rich heritage. Al Jabal Al Akhdar ("The Green Mountain") is a towering massif on the Sultanate of Oman's vast Saiq Plateau where dramatic peaks ring the setting. The resort includes a cliff-edge infinity pool and a state-of-the-art fitness center, tennis court and world-acclaimed Anantara Spa. If adventure is your calling, explore the nearby culture, history and landscape.

Hike through valleys bursting with date palms and orchards of pomegranate, haggle over a silk scarf in the souks and wander through gardens of sweet scented roses. Rise early to practice sun salutations atop a mountain, gaze at the awe-inspiring night sky with an astrology session, try abseiling or mountain climbing, archery and mountain biking. For a long weekend, we recommend Anantara's Balance Wellness Program, which includes one or three day Mountain escape, yoga, Balinese massage, wellness cuisine, and healthy cooking classes.

The arrival experience takes guests on an adventurous drive – two hours from Muscat International Airport or four and half hours from Dubai – past date plantations, dry riverbeds known locally as wadis, and historical forts

WE LOVE: The Dedicated Gurus! The Slumber Guru experience is available to ensure guests awaken reinvigorated to greet yet another perfect day; the Mountain Gurus have an unsurpassed knowledge of the area, giving guests an authentic taste of local life; the Wine Gurus are on call, allowing guests to discover and explore the wonderful world of wine. anantara.com

SAUDI ARABIA

The Shaden Resort

Situated 28 km from Madain Saleh Tombs, The Shaden Resort features accommodation with a restaurant, an outdoor swimming pool, a 24-hour front desk and the much needed free WiFi offered throughout the property – because we want to unwind but we still need Netflix! With the weather cooling down, enjoy a continental breakfast every morning at the tented camp. After a day of hiking or cycling, you can relax in the shared lounge area and take in the magnificent landscape and stunning surrounding mountains. The nearest airport is Prince Abdul Majeed bin Abdulaziz Domestic, 48 km from Shaden Resort, and the property offers a paid airport shuttle service. shaden-resort.hotels-saudi-arabia.com

UAE

The Retreat Palm Dubai MGallery by Sofitel

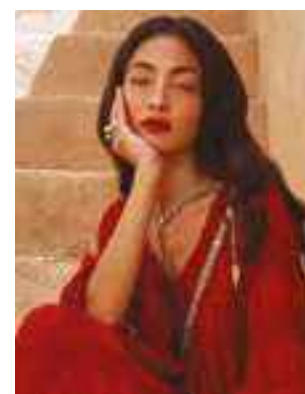
Dubai's "first 5-star holistic wellbeing resort" is the perfect balance of holistic wellbeing and the city's vibrant energy. Part of the inspiring MGallery by Sofitel "Serenity" collection, The Retreat Palm Dubai MGallery by Sofitel is an idyllic sanctuary that offers relaxation, tranquility and truly memorable moments filled with local discovery.

Whether you are looking for a relaxing spa weekend, a total wellbeing experience or a romantic getaway, this one of our favorite wellness retreats in the region.

The resort is situated on The Palm Jumeirah, a 30-minute drive from Dubai International Airport. theretreatpalmdubai.com

WHAT TO PACK:

We're loving Ojar's fusion of fragrances that pay tribute to the art and rituals of Middle Eastern perfume making. Founded by Sheikha Hind Babwan of Oman, the collections' hero product is its Absolute perfume oils that last 10 hours and come in an ideal travel size of 20ml. A must for any traveller.



Kaftan, Gucci



Raffia Tote, Altuzarra



Sunglasses, Kaleos



Ojar



Sandal, Loewe X Paula's Ibiza

One of the largest collectors of mechanical musical instruments in the region and an archaeologist for ancient historical sites of Jordan, Ghada has lived a life suffused with the beauty, heritage, and passion of the arts in all their forms. An architect by trade, she has embraced every project she is attached to with fervor and dedication; from interior design to the collection of antiques, and from restoration to the opening of her own galleries, including the game-changing The Workshop, a multi-concept space that combines under one roof an art gallery “Fann À Porter”, an antique gallery “Vindemia”, in-house interior design services, along with products of different manufacturers and brands of furniture, lighting, and home accessories, and a café that makes and bakes almost all its food in-house. The venue regularly hosts workshops and events to bring together like-minded people in the fields of art, music, poetry, and mindset. With that in mind, ELLE Arabia was eager to see how Ghada decorated her home in Jumeirah Islands, and to find out more about her relationship with the arts. “We loved this project,” she says of moving into the neighborhood. “The general urban plan, the natural and organic distribution of homes, the gently winding roads and most of all the huge areas that are left for landscape, greenery and play areas. It provides us with the relaxed and positive vibes of living in the countryside while still being close to Sheikh Zayed road. The perfect-sized villa - “not too big and not too small, it’s just right for the four of us” – has received Ghada’s deft touch of color and design. “I was able to take down many walls and create an open floor plan,” she says. “More importantly, I raised the ceiling for my paintings!” Indeed, the fabulous artwork as well as the diffused lighting make Ghada’s home both inviting and fascinating. “The garden is quite big and I redesigned the facades to allow a visual and physical connection between the outdoors and indoors. In Summer, when we can’t be outdoors, we still get sunlight at all times of the day.”

AT HOME WITH

GHADA KUNASH

The ARCHITECT, INTERIOR DESIGNER, COLLECTOR *and* CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF *The Workshop* DUBAI TAKES US ON AN INSPIRING TOUR *of her* ART- AND LIGHT-FILLED *villa*

What does your home say about you? I hope that whoever visits my house feels that I’m able to belong and connect to anything beautiful anywhere around the world. At the same time, I keep a strong connection to the country where I was born and raised: Jordan, and in a broader sense to the Levant and the Mediterranean countries. My entrance has a mosaic map of the Jordan River showing the west bank, Palestine and parts of Lebanon & North Egypt. It is a copy of the oldest Byzantine mosaic map of that area located in an old Orthodox church in Madaba in Jordan. The entrance walls feature four works of collage inspired by Greek and Roman history by the Italian artist Simonetta Porazzo. My entrance tells you where I come from, my background, and what influenced my development in life.

Walking into the main open space, reading the artwork on the walls, the pieces of furniture that are put together, whether designed by me or bought from others, studying the objects of art and ornaments on the tables and sideboards; anyone can understand that I’m a free character, transparent and straight forward. You can literally see from the entrance all through the house all the way to the outdoors on the other side! I embrace and cherish life, all humanity, hence my eclectic taste. I combine different objects of different styles and origins easily; you would find for example handmade ceramic pieces from India, Egypt, Iran, Italy, and Turkey sitting all together, in harmony, in one corner. An antique English art deco cabinet with a contemporary glass sculpture by a Finnish artist “Soile Ain Mayre” on top of it. An American solid wood console and a bronze sculpture by Bruno Bruno, a Swiss artist, on top of it and in the background a beautiful contemporary painting by Syrian artist Houssam Ballan.

I’m a family oriented person who loves to have relatives and friends around in a relaxed atmosphere, so I made sure all the spaces are accessible and can be used by all at anytime.

How would you describe your design ethos? Form follows function in the first place, then esthetics must adjust to that. Everything must be usable and practical with minimum waste and the best value for money. Whether it is a space in a room or outdoor landscaping or the design for a piece of furniture. I believe in ‘re-use and re-cycle’ so I’m always

The light-suffused entrance to Ghada's House



Ghada in Brunello Cucinelli full look-dinb van jewelery, Santoni Boots



happy actually to work with what already exists and is available. Suitable art on the walls is an important and indispensable item for me in the design of any space of any function. Style is always as per the client's wish and taste, my personal taste is eclectic with contemporary accents especially in the choice of art, however leaning more towards classic.

As a designer, are you constantly changing up your décor? At

home it is not practical to change the look very often, however I am always picking up "things" I see and I like wherever I am, and I like to see beautiful items around me. I will confess that sometimes when I visit one of my clients - almost all of whom are now my friends - I tend to take as a gift a small ornament that I know fits the space that I designed and might bring a fresh feel to it.

How do you choose which works to bring home, as you must see so many wonderful pieces through work. Art

on a wall is a window into another human being's soul, thoughts, dreams, their reactions to circumstances, their way of documenting experiences. This is where the importance of acquiring artworks should come from, in my opinion. This is what makes it so interesting and completely part of humanity and history. When an artwork touches my soul, when I feel it speaks my mind this is when I pursue their work and try to acquire it, if I can afford it! Otherwise, I'm happy to enjoy looking at it on my gallery's wall or any other gallery.

What one piece was a mission of love to acquire? Almost all of them to be honest...for example Khaled - my husband - and I saw the bronze sculpture of Bruno Bruni in a gallery in Zurich that represented the artist. We both loved it but we couldn't buy it at that time. Three years later, he went to Zurich again on a business trip and passed by that gallery, saw a similar piece by the same artist, bought the 10 kg sculpture, and carried it all the way to Dubai to give it to me on our anniversary.

What work would you love to add to your collection? I would

love to acquire a painting by Walid Ebeid. I represent the artist but his work is not affordable for me. He makes such strong and impressive statements in the subjects he chooses, and he has a great and unique talent in technique.

Most treasured possession? I feel I would be unfair to the other artists or designers if I pick one, or I would be not loyal to a memory, as one piece

is connected to whether it is a gift or something I purchased. I love my Lladro collection of figurines, one of which we purchased on our honeymoon 25 years ago in Madrid with the last money we had on us, one was bought when our first child Aoun was born 23 years ago, another when Thuraya was born 20 years ago, one was gifted to me by my closest friend when my daughter was born, and yet another was gifted to me by Khaled on my 40th birthday. Then there's the painting by my favorite artist Majd Kurdieh showing those honest transparent characters, his so-called "Fasaeen", in total engagement and connection with each others' hearts and souls and with nature. It was a gift from him on our 25th anniversary. These are just a few.

Do you have a favorite area? Every seating in my house is intended to face a different view. My favorite corner in the morning where I have my coffee is the Living Divani, a soft and deep sofa facing the large French windows to the East, looking out to the garden, and to my left a collection of the early works from the artist Majd Kurdieh. Weekends, I love to sit on my Boffi sofa to read a book and listen to music, facing the open facade looking out to the garden enjoying to my right a painting of yet another favorite artist Houssam Ballan and to my left a work by Omar Najjar and Mohannad Orabi. At sunset, I have an 'aperitivo' with Khaled at our bar in Summer, and in the garden in Winter. The bar has been with us for almost 14 years. I repainted it to match the cabinet I designed to fit the space under the staircase, and added a glass top to make a complete bar counter with stools.

How did your career in art and design start? I graduated from the school of Architecture at The University of Jordan back in 1991 and I immediately started working with architect Ammar Khammash in the restoration of historical sites in Jordan and a few private homes with vernacular traditional style. Then, after I got married, I moved to the UAE and worked in interior design in Abu Dhabi and moved later to Dubai to work at SD Concept



"It FEELS like we are in a lush green country side far from the noise of the CITY, yet we are a 5- minute drive from Sheikh Zayed road. It's so LOVELY to walk or cycle AROUND the lake"

Ghada tore down walls for an open-plan



Ghada in Bunello Cuccinelli. Dint Van jewelry. Santoni shoes



"Art on a WALL is a window into another human being's soul, THOUGHTS, dreams, his reactions TO circumstances around him, his way of documenting DAILY experiences"

in Jebel Ali as a furniture designer and prototypes showroom manager. When I had my second child, I stopped for a few years to take care of my children. I have always been a lover of art and antiques, collecting what I love and can afford. In 2006, I opened my antique gallery Vindemia in JBR where I showcased my collection and started traveling to collect for the showroom as per the requests of my clients. The contemporary art gallery had to be separated from the antique showroom at a certain point and Vindemia.art Gallery was created, which I moved eventually to the Kempinski Hotel-MOE and changed its name to Fann A Porter.

Tell us about your decision to open The Workshop. In 2016 I decided to combine all my activities under one roof; a destination with a friendly atmosphere that is accessible for all. "The Workshop" was opened where Fann A Porter contemporary art gallery is located now. The space has a cafe that serves great coffee and homemade meals, and a shaded garden with mature trees that I personally take care of. The space runs workshops for arts and crafts, open mic music nights and poetry nights, morning yoga and other events. I also offer interior design services, sell antiques from our collection

at the gallery and in our warehouse, and furniture upon order. We represent various Italian brands for fabric, furniture, and glazed hand printed lava stone for floor and wall covering. We promote emerging artists and designers, and sell gift items that are mostly sustainable or support sustainable social projects.

Any misconceptions about art you faced?

We're still a young society when it comes to art and art appreciation, though it is growing nicely. There are many who think that you need to be an art connoisseur, or loaded, to visit a gallery let alone to buy art, while many just claim that art does not interest them. I make it a point to walk around the gallery with them and explain about the artist and art on display, and once they understand, they enjoy the paintings. That, for me, is success. I say, and insist, that Art is for everyone. We started an initiative in 2019 called "Art For All

Collective", where we offered monthly installments interest free.

Who was your biggest cheerleader? It has always been Khaled Abdel Hamid, my closest friend, my lover, and my husband. He was there all the time encouraging me and supporting all my efforts.

I must also mention Dr Zaki Nusseibeh, a great family friend and an ever supportive person. He was the main force behind me when I did my charity art auction "Artist for The Kids of Syria" in 2011. It was a challenging event and it wouldn't have happened if it weren't for his support.

What advice would you give to budding artists? Entrepreneurs?

Follow your heart and pursue your dreams. Be practical with your targets, and take one step at a time. What is not achievable today might be tomorrow. Flexibility and adaptability is important.

What's next? An exciting project in Sicily!

What projects can we look forward to at The Workshop? We'll

be opening our warehouse as a showroom for antiques & vintage furniture. I hope to have it ready by the end of October. It will offer beautiful furniture and home accessories at reasonable prices. This supports our "Design For All" initiative where we offer interior design and furnishing for smaller budgets.

As for our workshops, you have to follow us @ theworkshopdubai as there are always new workshops to join. Fann A Porter is preparing to participate at Egypt Art Fair coming up in Feb 2021. Stay tuned.

IMAGES: SUPPLIED

Just like HOME

Mother-daughter DUO RITA AND JESSICA KAHAWATY JOIN FORCES TO LAUNCH NEW FOOD DELIVERY CONCEPT *Mama Rita*



Dubai-based model and humanitarian, Jessica Kahawaty and her equally-stunning mother Rita have decided to share their family's traditional recipes with the rest of us through Mama Rita, a food delivery concept in Dubai offering home-cooked dishes that fuse Middle Eastern, Mediterranean and International cuisine. At the very heart of the concept stands Mama Rita Kahawaty herself. The former model's real passion lies in the kitchen where she has spent many years feeding her family and friends with her own simple take on wholesome traditional Middle Eastern and International dishes. Growing up, Rita's own mother Nahil taught her how to cook using fresh vegetables grown in the Lebanese mountains by her father Simon. Rita took to cooking naturally and was soon adding her own touches to her mother's signature dishes. Recognizing this gift, Jessica wanted the world to enjoy the flavors of her home. Such is their love for home cooking, the mother-daughter duo wanted to share this passion, and thus Mama Rita was born. We got the chance to speak to Rita and Jessica about the project, their love of food, and how they stay slim!

How did this project come about? We would discuss having my mother's food shared with the world at every opportunity. At mealtimes, the conversation would get heightened to new levels as we were inspired by the wonderful flavors in her dishes.

What was it like working with each other? It's been an amazing ride because we respect each other's roles and expertise. My mother is good at knowing what people want in terms of flavor and experience, and I'm good at knowing how to communicate the message of Mama Rita. We didn't have many pitfalls but perhaps small hurdles we experienced together. We were so adamant on the quality of ingredients and it took us a while to launch because we wanted the very best.

You're both models – how do you enjoy

“Mama Rita is a TRUE expression of my love of home cooking that has been passed down through the GENERATIONS of my family. My mother taught me everything I know. Mama Rita is the same food we serve to our friends and family AROUND our OWN dinner table.” RITA KAHAWATY

food and stay slim? We eat whenever we feel like it. No one believes it until they see it, but you can find us both sitting in the kitchen at 11pm eating a big meal. We believe in moderation and eating clean. Whilst we do eat big portions (and that's one thing customers have been raving about!), the ingredients and produce are from clean and good sources. We don't use unhealthy fats in our food and we don't fry things. My mother makes sure she uses minimal ingredients with lots of flavor!

What are your favorite mealtime memories? My favorite mealtime memories are after school meals. She cooked daily for lunch and dinner, without exception. Every time my brother and I got into the car after school we would ask her “what's for lunch?” Her answers would be lasagna, pesto pasta, mloukhiye or fattouch and kebbe! Definitely a treat when you've been studying all day.

How has your cooking changed over the years? I love to learn new recipes and get inspired from countries I visit. My cooking started as recipes from my late mother and progressed to exotic flavors then mixing and matching. I never forget where I came from so all my mother Nahil's recipes are very much treasured and loved by all.

What ingredients are you loving now? I'm loving mixing fruits with different savory dishes like mango and salmon. I also love pistachios in food and we've added them to the turkey bites with cranberry dip. It's nice to be fun and add an element of surprise to the food

while ensuring the real taste of the original dish remains highlighted.

Rita, you've added your own touch to your family recipes – what is that? My family recipes have been passed down by my mother and other family members like my aunt. I love adding a hint of chili to some dishes like the peanut butter with chicken and rice. It's such an original dish and a kick of spice takes it to another level.

And what are Jessica's touches, specialties? Jessica doesn't know how to cook. She only eats *laughs*. She has great taste and a wonderful sense of how to curate menus. She's a big foodie and enjoys my food as well as discovering flavors globally.

How can healthy taste delicious? Healthy can taste delicious when you mix spices, herbs, fresh ingredients and lots of love. We are blessed with thousands of spices and flavors, which if mixed correctly with the right ingredients can create wonders. Contrary to some beliefs, one doesn't need to use unhealthy ingredients to have tasty food.

What's your fave meal/dish? What's your dream cheat meal? My favorite is the Nouille or the Paprika Pasta with Chicken. A dream cheat meal is anything with chocolate! We love chocolate in the family.

Biggest misconceptions about Middle Eastern cuisine? The biggest misconception is that it's heavy or “too oily”. We have wonderful options that are light, vegan and full of flavor.

The selection of simple and mouthwatering dishes available to order at www.mamarita.com includes Beetroot Hummus the Mama Rita way, Mama's Fattoush, Superfood Kale Salad, The Original Lasagna, Peanut Butter Chicken, Rita's Homemade Shawarma, Knéfe and Mama's Special Carrot Cake to name just a few.



Blueberry Cake



Beetroot Hummus



Shawarma



Aries

20 MARCH - 19 APRIL

After months of trying of trying to go forward any way you can, pursuing several options at once, you now find yourself forced to abandon some of those ventures, while at the same time having to defend the progress you have made in others. You may feel that you are losing ground, but you are not. What you will have in the end is a solid base to work from, and a direction in which to go forward. It's all good.



Taurus

20 APRIL - 20 MAY

It is not too late to rescue a relationship that seems to be slipping away from you. You may feel that what's done is done, and that you must let events take their course, but one word from you could change the situation completely. If you say nothing, then the other person will assume that you are happy with what has happened, and you will both regret the outcome. Take control, while you still can.



Gemini

21 MAY - 20 JUNE

Often, when life is busy, we have to make quick decisions about important issues, and with no time to consider them in depth, we go on whether we think we like them - or not. The next few weeks will give you back the time that you didn't have earlier, and if you re-examine some of those instant judgements, you may find that you now hold quite different views. Time to quietly change sides, perhaps.



Libra

23 SEPTEMBER - 22 OCTOBER

Although you are happy where you are, you know that you are likely to become bored in a few months, and so you are looking for something offering more long-term potential. But not yet: mid-October will show you a different side to the situation, and you should wait until the new moon in your sign on the 16th before making a move. And if you want to wait longer still, just to be safe, that's fine too.



Scorpio

23 OCTOBER - 21 NOVEMBER

If, when you return to your car, you find that two others have been parked so close that they are almost touching yours, you know that to get out you will have to go backwards and forwards a tiny amount at a time. This month is very similar, as you make several moves that seem almost to cancel each other out; but you are making progress, and by late October you should be able to move forwards properly.



Sagittarius

22 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER

One of your typically big Sagittarian ideas has taken hold of your imagination - but you also wonder whether it's entirely appropriate to be thinking such things in a year as difficult as this. Yes, for two reasons. Firstly, big ideas are a clear sign that you are returning to your old self once more; and secondly, if not now, when you need a new vision for the future, then when? Life is for living, not waiting; so do it.



Cancer

21 JUNE - 21 JULY

You seem to be losing momentum, while someone else seems to be gaining strength and influence at your expense. It might be just how life goes sometimes - but if you think that you're being used, or deliberately denied the credit you are due, then it's time for some serious discussions. Yet even though you are rivals, and arguing, there's a definite attraction between you. Is that what you really wanted?



Leo

22 JULY - 22 AUGUST

Questions you put to one side because you didn't want to answer them have grown bigger and more threatening in your imagination as time has gone by. Realising that you cannot avoid them indefinitely, you decide to face them and do whatever you must. But, as you will see, so much has changed in recent months that the problems now seem out of date, unimportant - and thus easy to resolve.



Virgo

23 AUGUST - 22 SEPTEMBER

Although you would dearly love to reach a firm agreement on the status and the intended future direction of a relationship, a simple yes or no answer would be unrealistic - and too limiting. You are trying to set it on a particular course before discovering what else it has to offer, and leaving no room for either of you to grow and change along the way. Take it one step at a time, and see what happens.



Capricorn

21 DECEMBER - 19 JANUARY

Which has priority, your work or your personal life? And what if both of them make demands on you at the same time? It's an impossible decision. But as Saturn starts to press forwards again in your sign, you will find reserves of energy you never knew you had, like a runner who speeds up as he sees the finishing line. Maybe you won't have to make that choice after all; you're strong enough to deal with both at once.



Aquarius

20 JANUARY - 18 FEBRUARY

To you, a relationship is a partnership of equals; titles and status are not things you value - or want. So when a power struggle develops in a love affair, you know that the liaison can't last. Apologies and promises to do better may soothe your temper and improve the situation for the short term, but you are already thinking about re-writing the rules: you want emotional closeness, but you want autonomy, too.



Pisces

19 FEBRUARY - 19 MARCH

One by one, the barriers that have prevented you from doing what you wanted this year are falling away, and the way is now clear for you to make one of your long-held ambitions a reality. You should take the chance while you have it; the window of opportunity is a small one. Don't let yourself be distracted by a sweet little romantic episode in mid-October; it's lovely, but it's the bigger picture that matters.



ART, IN ALL ITS POWER

Dear Readers

"My passion for art is only exceeded by my passion for art coming out of the region. For me, it represents our culture, our shared history, our triumphs and challenges. Our identity and our history can be deciphered in every painting, sculpture, embroidery, and even pieces of jewelry. I feel it's important to keep our culture alive and to promote it across the world in an artistic, and beautiful way. This is the main reason why, over 10 years ago I dedicated myself to the promotion of Middle Eastern art and culture with the opening of my boutiques O' De Rose. The joy I receive when a customer discovers what our region has to offer, and takes it back home with them is immeasurable and shows the true power of art and its ability to unite and to teach. I too, am constantly learning as I have the pleasure of continuously meeting artists and designers who amaze me with their vision. Art and design heals and fills me personally, and I've seen the same happen on a daily basis at my boutiques. And that, at the end of the day, is all we can hope for."

Nadine Kassem



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