

ELLE

ARABIA

DECEMBER 2023

CELEBRATING
EXCELLENCE:

KHADIJA AL BASTAKI

ON THE
UAE'S ROLE
AS A GLOBAL
DESIGN HUB

70+ PAGES
OF FABULOUS
FASHIONS

**TO HAVE
AND TO GIFT**
WRAP UP 2023
WITH OUR
EDIT OF THE
BEST GIFTS,
ACCESSORIES
& JEWELRY



UAE DHS15

LEADING *by* DESIGN

CELEBRATING THE INSPIRING WOMEN SHAPING THE REGION
IN THE REALMS OF FASHION, ART, DESIGN AND FITNESS



WHY BLUE?

This is what our Parachrom hairspring looks like. It is an essential guardian of the watch's chronometric precision. Unveiled in 2005, entirely designed and manufactured in-house, it nears the apex of what metal alloy hairsprings can offer. The scale of the image might throw you off, though. Its edge is thinner than a single strand of hair and its weight is merely a fraction of a pearl's. Moreover, once coiled, its diameter does not exceed a few millimetres. It is shielded from outside aggressions by a case so hermetic it was aptly named "Oyster". Needless to say, it is a rare occurrence for any eyes to be laid on the Parachrom. So why

would we be concerned by its colour? Because this hue of blue is true to our tradition of watchmaking excellence. It is the exact colour taken by our unique alloy of niobium, zirconium and oxygen when it has been anodized to stop the process of oxidation. This blue is essential to us, because it symbolizes the long-lasting performances which we hold ourselves to. This hairspring is insensitive to magnetic fields, unwavering in the face of temperature variations, and resistant to shocks as to corrosion. Therefore, each Rolex equipped with a Parachrom hairspring will tick at a most regular and perpetual beat.

#Perpetual



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DIOR

LA ROSE DIOR COLLECTION
Pink gold and diamonds.



CELINE



FENDI.COM



FENDI

ROMA

Astonishing orange



ELLE

December 2023
Issue 149

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Stylist/Creative Director: Vasil Bozhilov
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Lighting Assistant: Yasir Ali
Location: d3, Dubai

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ELLE

Editor-in-Chief DINA SPAHI
 Senior Fashion & Beauty Editor DINA KABBANI
 Senior Art Director T PRASADAN
 Photo Editor GEORGES DAHER
 Copy Editor MIRA KHOURY
 Production Coordinator FARAH ABDIN

Contributors ODELIA MATHEWS, SWATI JAIN

Editor In Chief Digital NADA KABBANI
 Content Editor HANANE MERHEJ
 Fashion & Celebrity Digital ROULA ZAAZAA
 Fashion & Beauty Digital MYRIANA JBEILY AOUN
 Lifestyle Digital ROULA MAALOUF, LOUBNA FAWAZ
 Graphic Designer Digital ELSA MEHANNA

Publisher and Group Editor VALIA TAHA

For Advertising PATRIMONY MEDIA Z LLC
 Brand Director HASSAN EL SAMAD
 Online Media Manager ABIGAIL JOSEPH
 Social Media Manager ALIA ABDO

ELLE ARABIA / PATRIMONY MEDIA FZ LLC
 DUBAI MEDIA CITY, ZEE TOWER, OFFICE 403, DUBAI, UAE
 E-MAIL:INFO@ELLEARABIA.COM

C.E.O RANY OHANESSIAN
 Financial Director KHUSRO AZIZ
 Assistant PETREESHYA CHLENGAT THAZHE

Printing UNITED PRINTING & PUBLISHING



CEO: Constance Benqué, CEO ELLE International Licenses: François CORUZZI, SVP/International Director of ELLE: Valéria Bessolo Ilopiz, Deputy Editorial Director: Virginie Dolata, Fashion Editor: Charlotte Delfe, Syndication Coordinator: Johanna Jegou, Copyrights Manager: Kenza Allal, Database Manager: Pascal Iacono, Digital & Graphic Design Director: Marine Le Bris, Marketing Director: Morgane Rohé, www.elleinternational.com International Ad Sales House: Lagardere Global Advertising, SVP/International Advertising: Julian Daniel, jdaniel@lagardere.com

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Right: *Special Moments...* 'TIS THE SEASON TO APPRECIATE LOVED ONES. DESIGNER RAMI AL ALI WITH RANIA AL ALI, REEM AL ALI, AND DIALA MAKKI; Right Below: *Best foot forward...* LET'S STEP INTO A NEW CHAPTER IN GOLDEN STYLE; Below: *Whoever you're shopping...* FOR THIS FESTIVE SEASON, OUR LUXURY GIFT GUIDE HAS YOU COVERED.



PHOTOGRAPHER KATE POWERS, STYLIST MASHA ORIO



@LUCAS AVAS



BOTTEGA VENETTA | DOLCE & GABBANA | MALONE SOULIERS

Leading the Way...

As 2023 comes to a close, we celebrate the incredible women shaping the region's narrative. Our latest issue is a testament to the power, grace, and vision of these trailblazers who are leaving an indelible mark on the realms of fashion, arts, design, and entrepreneurship. Our Coverstar Khadija Al Bastaki, Senior Vice President of Dubai Design District, stands tall as a key architect in Dubai's ascent to becoming the fashion capital of the Middle East. We also engage with director Jessy Moussallem, a maestro in storytelling through film. Designer Dima Ayad shares her journey of infusing Marina Rinaldi's essence with her distinctive style, weaving familial connections and love for blazers into her design philosophy. Saudi's Sara Al Rashed, founder of Asteri, and Danah Alfayez, the visionary behind Obari Jewellery, along with Kuwaiti artist Monira Al Qadiri, whose art communicates the socio-cultural impact of our dependence on

oil and fossil fuels, bring their unique perspectives to art and beauty. For the body as well as the soul, five inspiring regional fitness experts share their tips and advice, along with the latest Technogym state-of-the-art machines and services.

Wrapping up 2023, designer Rami Al Ali brings us into his world of friendship and fashion, while we bring you 70+ pages of fabulous festive fashion and gifts – along with guilt-free desserts! – to bring a smile to everyone on your list.



Dina Spahi
 dina.spahi@ellearabia.com

With a twist...

THE PERFECT FOIL FOR THE SEASON'S GLITTER AND SPARKLE, UBER-ELEGANT BLACK & WHITE REMAIN THE BELLES OF ANY BALL



SCHIAPARELLI



1. OVERSIZED DOUBLE-BREASTED TWO-TONE WOOL-BLEND CREPE BLAZER, VALENTINO; 2. SERPENT BOHÈME WATCH, BOUCHERON; 3. BAG, FENDI; 4. LA ROBE TAFFETAS MINIDRESS, JACQUEMUS; 5. EARRINGS, GUCCI; 6. PUMPS, BALMAIN



Medium "Lady Dior" bag in hologram with a pastel changing pattern

THE Bag

FOR THE DIOR LADY ART PROJECT, EACH SEASON SEES THE HOUSE COLLABORATING WITH VARIOUS ARTISTS TO REINTERPRET THE ICONIC "LADY DIOR" BAG. FOR HER THREE DESIGNS, JAPANESE MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST MARIKO MORI OFFERS HER OWN READING OF THE COSMOS AND SPIRITUALITY USING THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY. THIS PARTICULAR DESIGN FEATURES AN INNER LANDSCAPE THAT CHANGES AS THE BAG MOVES, WHILE THE INTERIOR IS DRESSED IN DELICATE PINK.

© LIMITED EDITION IN COLLABORATION WITH MARIKO MORI



THE *Ring*

A TRULY MODERN WORK OF ART, THIS STATEMENT RING FROM **REPOSSI**'S SERTI SUR VIDE COMBINES ELEGANCE WITH EXTRAVAGANCE, WHILE THE FLOATING DIAMONDS ARE A TESTAMENT TO EXQUISITE CRAFTSMANSHIP.



THE *Shoe*

MACH & MACH HAVE BECOME SYNONYMOUS WITH FABULOUSLY FEMININE AND GLAM SHOES SEEN ON THE FEET OF CELEBS AND SOCIALITES THE WORLD OVER. THEIR RESORT 24 COLLECTION INCLUDES THE SIGNATURE CRYSTAL DETAILS, AS WELL AS OVERSIZED SEQUINS, FLORAL APPLIQUES, SCRUNCED CHIFFON AND SATIN, BIG BOWS AND MORE...

ANATOMY OF A TIMEPIECE

THE DIOR GRAND SOIR PAPILLON

A closer look at this remarkable piece that pays tribute to the passion Monsieur Dior has for nature, botanicals and the little creatures living in his beautiful childhood garden in Granville



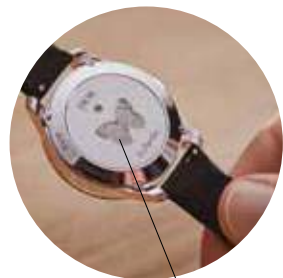
Dior Grand Soir Papillon echoes the swarm of embroideries and brooches that accompanied Dior looks in the 1950

The inspiration of the butterfly is expressed through the dial, which is set with diamonds and welcomes the precious iridescent insect that lands on its surface



The 36mm is made of 18K white gold with diamond set lugs, the bezel in white gold set with 156 diamonds

The combination of precious and colorful stones recalls the vibrant colors of a summer garden, reminiscent of Christian Dior's Granville Garden



The white gold case-back decorated with an engraved butterfly

The black leather strap features a white gold ardillon buckle set with brilliant cut diamonds, with an additional strap of night blue matt calfskin



The dial is snow-set with 844 brilliant cut diamonds, yellow gold butterfly set with 3 brilliant cut diamonds, 2 sapphires, 6 spinels and a Mexican opal. The wings are in tinted mother-of-pearl, with painted gallus gallus feathers



ELLE

radar

ROCK STAR...
The juxtaposition of its small-but-perfectly-structured design and super-sized crystals ensures all eyes are on Dolce & Gabbana's Mini Sicily bag

Striking...

THIS SEASON, IT'S ALL ABOUT CURATED PIECES THAT MAKE AN IMPRESSION



Spotted... Sheer genius

The runways were awash with plenty of sweet yet subversive takes on sheer looks. Follow Balmain's sexy lead with delicate sheer shirt under a corset or go for peekaboo sheerness with a bold blazer over a sheer dress for a subtle hint on the trend.



MOSCHINO

GIVENCHY

BALMAIN

DOUCE & GABBANA



ROBERTO CAVALLI

Fashion Memo

'TIS THE SEASON TO PARTY, AND CRYSTAL-STREWN HEELS, SHEER SHIRTS, AND AMINA MUADDI'S NEW CULT STYLES WILL ADD THAT STATEMENT DRAMA TO STAND OUT



Coveted Collab

WHO: MIU MIU X MARSHALL X POLAROID
WHAT: Wondering what to gift that cool creative in your life for Xmas? How about a pair of Miu Miu embossed Marshall headphones or a vintage camera complete with branded Miu Miu web straps. Doesn't get any cooler than this!



Future Icons

Obsessed with Amina Muaddi heels? Who isn't! Now it's time to meet your new faves: the Charlotte Crystal Pump, Charlotte Mary Jane and new Crystal Lace Up Flats, all in festive hues just in time for Christmas.



ON
OUR
RADAR



THIS
Season,
we'll be
buying...

What's better than having the Gucci Horsebit 1955 bag? Owning its animal-free iteration. Yes, the Italian Maison just dropped the cult favorite in Demetra, a new material made from 75% plant-derived raw material sources.

Trending... Cocktail Hour

We've never met a sequined dress we didn't like, and this season, they're more sparkly than ever – wear with equally shiny shoes for the ultimate statement!



16ARLINGTON



RABANNE



ISABEL MARANT



ROTATE BIRGER CHRISTENSEN



DAVID KOMA



NENSI DOJAKA

Playful Minis

MEET YOUR NEW PLUS ONE FOR EVERY PARTY – THE LBD. FORGET CLASSIC DESIGNS, TODAY'S SLINKY NOIR NUMBERS COME WITH ALL THE DANCE-FLOOR-READY FRILLS YOU WON'T WANT TO TAKE THEM OFF.

MAGDA BUTRYM

1. 16ARLINGTON; 2. VALENTINO; 3. AMINA MUADDI; 4. VERSACE; 5. THE ATTICO; 6. ALEXANDER MCQUEEN; 7. ROSANTICA; 8. LOEWE; 9. EMILLI; 10. JACQUEMUS; 11. NODALETO; 12. NENSI DOJAKA

Borrowed from the Boys

FORGET THAT LEATHER JACKET; A BOLD BLAZER IS YOUR SARTORIAL SAVIOR THIS SEASON. THESE BOLD TAILORED PIECES OFFER MAXIMUM IMPACT IN MINIMUM TIME MINUS THE HASSLE OF A SUIT. AND COME PARTY SEASON, A METALLIC BLAZER INSTEAD OF A CLASSIC BLACK ONE WILL SHINE WITH YOU FROM DUSK TILL DAWN – ON REPEAT.



BRUNELLO CUCINELLI



VALENTINO



BALMAIN



SAINT LAURENT



SAINT LAURENT



BLAZÉ MILANO



DOICE & GABBANA



STELLA MCCARTNEY



RALPH LAUREN COLLECTION



DIMA AYAD

@BIBROID



MARINA RINALDI



COOL COLLABORATION:

Dima Ayad
X
Marina Rinaldi

THE CELEBRATED DESIGNER ON HOW SHE EMBRACED THE ESSENCE OF THE ITALIAN LUXURY BRAND WHILE INFUSING HER DISTINCTIVE TOUCHES, HER FAMILY HISTORY WITH THE BRAND, AND HER LOVE FOR BLAZERS...

Highly-acclaimed Dubai-based fashion designer Dima Ayad is known for her contemporary designs that embrace femininity and empower women with confidence for all shapes and sizes. For her dazzling collaboration with Italian luxury brand Marina Rinaldi, Dima drew on her own personal experience and heritage for the glamorous seven-piece capsule collection that showcases a dazzling array of metallic elements, from shimmering sequins to mesmerizing stones and delicate gold threads.

How did your personal experiences and family's fashion heritage influence the creative vision behind this collaboration? I have grown up in a family of a grandmother, mother, sister, aunts, and cousins. Collectively, fashion has always been at the forefront. My grandmother made clothes, and was a die-hard Marina Rinaldi fan when I first became acquainted with the brand. My mother wore Max Mara day in day out so this group has been in and around my world since childhood. I grew up and began wearing Marina Rinaldi too. And when this collaboration came about, it almost felt like 3 generations went full circle. Here we are...



How did you go about selecting the color palette? I wanted it to sparkle, I wanted it to be timeless, and I wanted it to suit women all around the world. There's a color for everyone in this collection: A classic black, an emerald green, a shimmering gold and rose gold, a pop of fuchsia, and my favorite color of all time – purple.

The collection blends the aesthetics of both Marina Rinaldi and your own brand. Can you share some specific design elements or inspirations that showcase this harmonious convergence? The sparkle for one. I always wanted a Dima Ayad woman to stand out. In our archives, we always loved a timeless blazer and we created one using the exquisite Marina Rinaldi tailoring adorning it with crystals.

A signature Dima Ayad kaftan with the Marina Rinaldi signature crepe fabric. Geometric shapes are at the core of my brand which comes through seamlessly in the gold dress. And then of course the pleats. Very thin pleats with purple and gold combined with feathers for a more dramatic effect. It all was a beautiful marriage.

What were some unexpected surprises on this collaborative journey? The unexpected for me was realizing how similar our brands were. We care about inclusivity deeply. I learnt about the incredible process of a large brand and how the step-by-step process of creating a collection looks like. The Marina Rinaldi team enjoyed hearing my feedback on how I create pieces.

How would you describe your Design DNA? How do you continue to evolve as a designer, while retaining your DNA? I think the main element of my DNA that I find great joy in is really catering to all shapes and sizes. I think of pieces we create wearable all the time and I feel that women expect a certain genre all the time. There's always a print, always a hint of sparkle, a surprise and delight every season. Our form of evolution is really to expand on what does well and try new things every season to enrich our shoppers with something refreshing whilst remaining true to what the brand stands for.

What have you recently added to your workshop? We have recently reintroduced blazers – linen adorned with sequins: a tone-on-tone type of color that really sparkles and screams summer. The bubble top – in so many colors and looks good on anything. We have created a new print that looks like strokes of paint – something new for Ramadan. We've also expanding our color ranges to include fuschia, olive green, and a stunning new navy.

How would you define your personal fashion style? What's your out-the-door outfit? Effortless. Easy. Super stylish, and being extremely comfortable. My out-the-door outfit is a stylish silky top with a fitted skirt or pants. Sometimes it's a week's worth of Dima Ayad kimonos ;)

What's the one thing you can't resist? A fashion staple of mine are blazers – you can never ever have too many!!!



@BIBROID

ALL WRAPPED UP

Indulge in MCM's bag extravaganza in leather as well as the iconic Visetos monogram in a breathtaking array of styles including weekenders, drawstrings, totes, shoulder bags, crossbodies, shoppers, backpacks, and Diamond Shape bags. Embrace the season's allure with the brand new 'Lauretos' monogram line inspired by the House's Laurel motif

Photographer ABDULLA ELMAZ
Creative Director TALAL KAHL

Diamond Leather Diamant Tote Medium in Black



Diamond Leather Diamant Crossbody in Orange, Diamond Leather Diamant Crossbody in Black, Diamond Leather Diamant Crossbody in Cognac



Ottomar Weekender Bag in Mega Laurel Visetos



Aren Visetos Hobo Small in Black



Diamond Leather Brillie Crossbody in Black, Diamond Leather Brillie Crossbody in Blue, Diamond Leather Brillie Crossbody in Visetos Leather Mix



Himmel Lauretos Flat Pouch Extra Large in Cognac

PHOTOGRAPHER: ABDULLA ELMAZ; CREATIVE DIRECTION: TALAL KAHL



Himmel Lauretos Drawstring Backpack

Olga Leffers

GET TO KNOW THE PERSON BEHIND VINTAGEDREAM AND LEFFERS – A LOVER OF ART, A CURATOR OF VINTAGE TREASURES, AND A MOM FINDING INSPIRATION IN THE SIMPLE JOYS OF LIFE. HERE, SHE SHARES HER JOURNEY OF BLENDING PERSONAL STYLE, FAMILY, AND THE VIBRANT WORLD OF FASHION



“My children are an incredible source of motivation for me, as they bring joy and purpose to my life”

I established VintageDream in 2009 as a gallery showcasing vintage jewelry and clothing. As an art historian, I have curated and organized over a dozen exhibitions in Russia and other countries. VintageDream's collection is something I take great pride in, as it boasts over 10,000 pieces, including rare and valuable items from iconic designers such as Yves Saint Laurent, Karl Lagerfeld, and Chanel. I am constantly on the lookout for new additions to our boutique from all around the world. We have become well-known and loved by many people, both in Russia and abroad. We have successfully built a thriving creative community called the Vintage Dream Club. Every item in our extensive vintage collection has been personally handpicked by me and I take great pride in knowing the story behind each piece. More recently, last year I embarked on a new venture and launched my own clothing brand, Leffers.

I have a deep admiration for art in all its forms. Whether it's attending exhibitions, watching movies, or enjoying theater performances, I find inspiration in these experiences. Books and art albums also provide a source of nourishment and a break from the daily grind. Taking long walks in the fresh air is another way I find inspiration, as it serves as a form of meditation that rejuvenates and empowers me. Lastly, my children are an incredible source of motivation for me, as they bring joy and purpose to my life. As for Leffers, it is a reflection of my love for fashion and design aesthetics.

The essence of the Leffers brand truly embodies my personal style. I have a preference for feminine silhouettes that combine current trends, classic elements, and vintage influences. In just a few words, the brand can

be described as bohemian chic, elegant, individualistic, and detail-oriented.

What sets us apart is our selection of fabrics, which boast rich, vibrant colors and eye-catching accents. Our hand-embroidered garments are true works of art, carrying deep meaning and serving as a form of self-expression.

When you step into the boutique, you'll notice my affinity for sophisticated and feminine silhouettes, as well as extravagant details. From intricate décor to fringe, feathers, and embroidery, my pieces exude a unique charm. I also enjoy blending vintage styles with fresh trends from fashion week, as well as incorporating beloved classics. Through clothing and complex ensembles, I am able to express myself and showcase my personal style.

Our latest collection, Bird of Paradise, has been elevated with unique jewelry designs, from long tassel earrings to fluffy ostrich feather chokers and voluminous flower chokers. We are working on expanding our jewelry line and will soon be releasing a collection of silk scarves. I have personally developed home fragrances, including perfumes and diffusers and we are in the process of creating a comfortable and stylish shoe line.

Currently, my main focus lies in maintaining the VintageDream project and developing the Leffers brand. We have been working tirelessly on our corporate website, which will soon be launched. We have exciting plans to explore MENA, with Dubai being a particular area of interest. The vibrant colors and shades loved by the people here perfectly align with the essence of the Leffers brand.

OLGA LEFFERS: WWW.OLGALEFFERS.COM @OLGALEFFERS
VINTAGE DREAM: WWW.VINTAGEDREAM.RU @VINTAGEDREAM_RU

ELLE

accessories

BAG OF BRILLIANCE...
Design, dazzle and dainty proportions come together in Celine's Lana Minaudiere in suede calfskin with silver strass



All in the details...

HOW TO ELEVATE YOUR END-OF-YEAR LOOKS, THE MAGIC OF SHIMMER, AND THE TOP TRENDS FOR NOW

ICE ICE BABY

This holiday season, it's out with the gold and in with everything silver, metallic and crystal bedazzled as Fendi icons get an ice-cool treatment just in time for cocktail hour.

Photographer & Creative Direction DIALA BASSATNE

Fendi Peekaboo Iseeu Small In Silver Leather With Crystal Ff Motif,
Fendi Wrappy In Blue Silk





Fendi Baguette Mini In Silver Craquelè Leather With Ff Motif, Fendi Baguette Mini In Silver Leather With Crystal Ff Motif, Fendi Christmall Ball With Silver Micro Baguette



Fendi Baguette In Silver Leather With Crystal Ff Motif



Fendi Peekaboo Iseeu Small In Midnight Blue Embroidered Fabric, Fendi Nano Baguette Charm In Silver Crystal



Fendi Colibri In Multicolour Tech Mesh

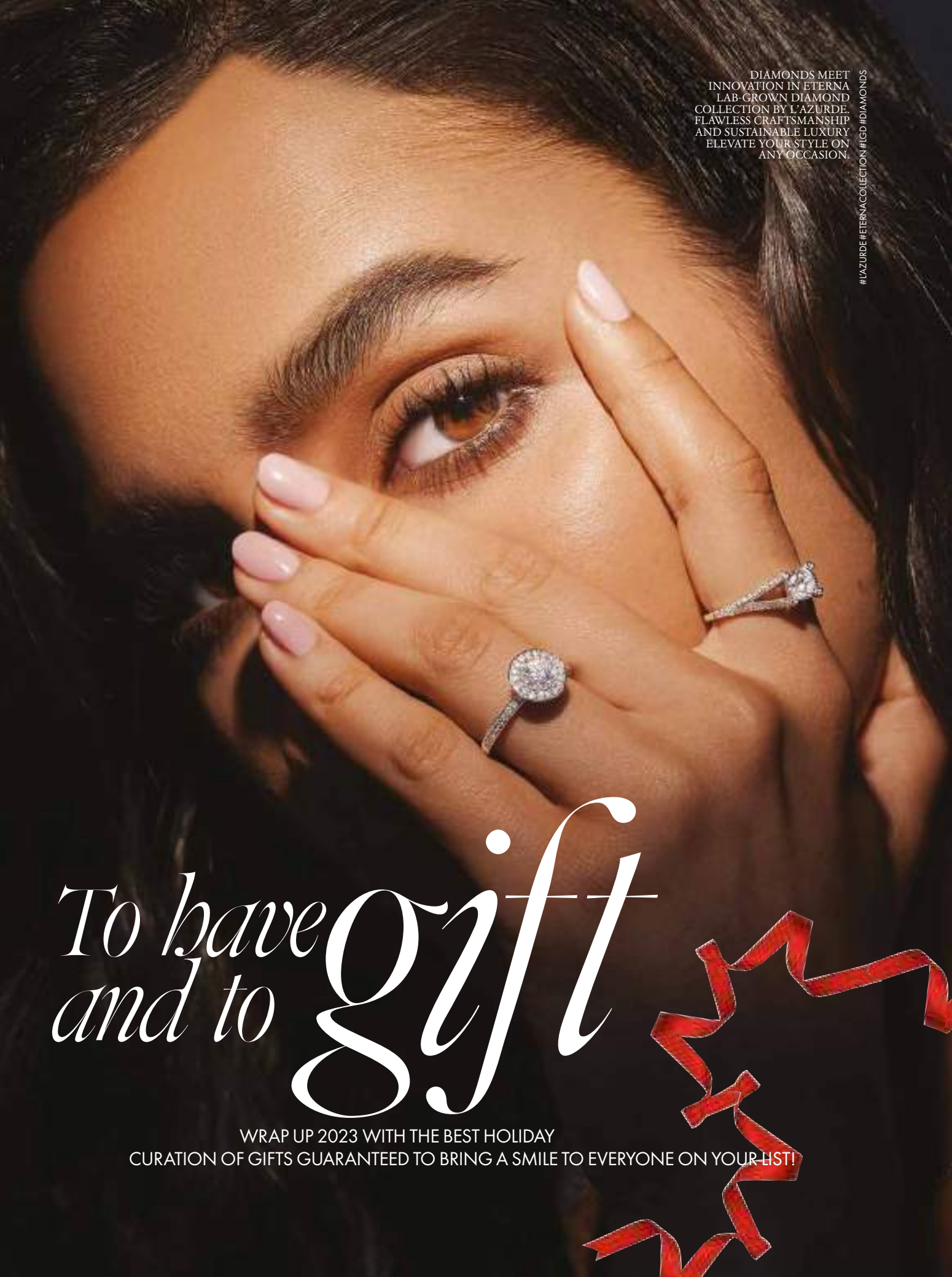


Fendi Nano Baguette Charm In Blue Sequin, Fendi Baguette In Dark And Mid Blue Sequin

PHOTOGRAPHER & CREATIVE DIRECTION DIALA BASSATNE



Fendi Nano Fendigrahy In Silver Leather, Fendi Fendigrahy Small In Silver Leather With Crystal Ff Motif



DIAMONDS MEET INNOVATION IN ETERNA LAB-GROWN DIAMOND COLLECTION BY L'AZURDE. FLAWLESS CRAFTSMANSHIP AND SUSTAINABLE LUXURY ELEVATE YOUR STYLE ON ANY OCCASION.

#LAZURDE#ETERNA#COLLECTION#IGD#DIAMONDS

To have and to Gift

WRAP UP 2023 WITH THE BEST HOLIDAY CURATION OF GIFTS GUARANTEED TO BRING A SMILE TO EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!

WATCH, CARTIER

PANTS, ETRO

NECKLACE, AISHA BAKER

PERFUME, FREDERIC MALLE

FLOOR LAMP, SOHO HOME

PLATE, FORNASETTI

COASTERS, JONATHAN ADLER

JACKET, DANCASSAB

BANDANA, CELINE

GUITAR, FENDER

PANTS ALANUI

RING, BALENCIAGA

ANDY WARHOL POLAROID'S BOOK, TASCHEN

BAG, THE ATTICO

BOOTS, GIVENCHY

COOLER THAN COOL CREATIVES

FOR THE ONES WHO LOVE MAKING ANYTHING OUT OF EVERYTHING. WHETHER IT'S ART, MUSIC OR DESIGN, GET THEIR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING WITH AN OUT-OF-THE-BOX SURPRISE



HOLIDAY GIFT BOX, JEAN-GEORGES

BOOK, GRAPHIC IMAGE

SAUTÉ PAN, CARAWAY
GLASS TUMBLER, LOBMEYR
PLATES, JOHANNA ORTIZ
OLIVE OIL, CENTONZE

THE CHIC CHEF
FOR THE ONE WHO WILL ALWAYS HOST YOU FOR BRUNCH, LUNCH AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN - ARM HER SO THAT THERE'S ALWAYS AN EXCUSE TO POP BY FOR A BITE, OR TWO.



SHIRT, PETER DO



APRON, ESKANDUR



SALT & PEPPER MILL, LE CREUSET

OVEN RANGE, BERTAZZONI

PIN, BRENT NEALE

CAKE STAND, GUCCI

MIXER, SMEG

SANDALS, BIRKENSTOCK



HAIR CLIP, SOPHIE BUHAI

LIPSTICK, HERMÈS

SUNGLASSES, CHLOË

PLATES, LES OTTOMANS

CANDLE, BAOBAB

CHESS SET, JONATHAN ADLER

BEACH RACKET, JIL SANDER

NECKLACE, BRINKER & ELIZA

T-SHIRT, LOEWE

CANDLES, AINA KARI

TAN DEEPENER, LANCASTER

LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE

FOR THOSE WHO LIVE FOR SUMMERS BY THE BEACH AND LAZY DAYS IN THE SUN. BRIGHTEN UP THEIR WINTER WITH TRINKETS THAT WILL WORK FOR NOW AND THE WARM SEASONS TO COME!



SUITCASE, RIMOWA



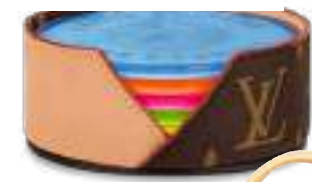
HAT, JACQUEMUS



MUGS, GINORI 1735



PERFUME, LOUIS VUITTON



COASTERS, LOUIS VUITTON



BAG, HEIMAT ATLANTICA



SLIPPERS, JW ANDERSON



BAG, CHANEL



FLIGHT OF FANCY

For Dior's 2024 Cruise Collection, Maria Grazia Chiuri pays homage to Mexico's delicate yet vibrant flora and fauna

COLLECTION: DIOR CRUISE 2024
Photographer © BRIGITTE NIEDERMAIR



Black "Miss Dior" Bag



Multicolored "Dior Book" Tote



Multicolored "Lady D-Lite" Bag



Brown Multicolored "Dior Saddle" Bag

Black "Miss Dior" Bag



COLLECTION: DIOR CRUISE 2024, PHOTOGRAPHER: © BRIGITTE NIEDERMAIR



Multicolored "Lady D-lite" Bag



Cassina

THE CASSINA PERSPECTIVE
cassina.com

Cassina Store Dubai, Jumeirah St - Umm Suqeim 1 - Dubai



GLAMOUR UNLEASHED

Join the celebration with MICHAEL KORS Holiday 2023 collection with sparkling crystals, feathers, and high-impact accessories in a stunning color palette of fuchsia, crimson, and classic black and white. Combining downtown cool with uptown glamour, the spotlight is on the Tribeca bag – a Middle East Exclusive Global Launch – featuring pyramid stud hardware on the glimmering fastening, an updated box quilted design and a chain link handle.

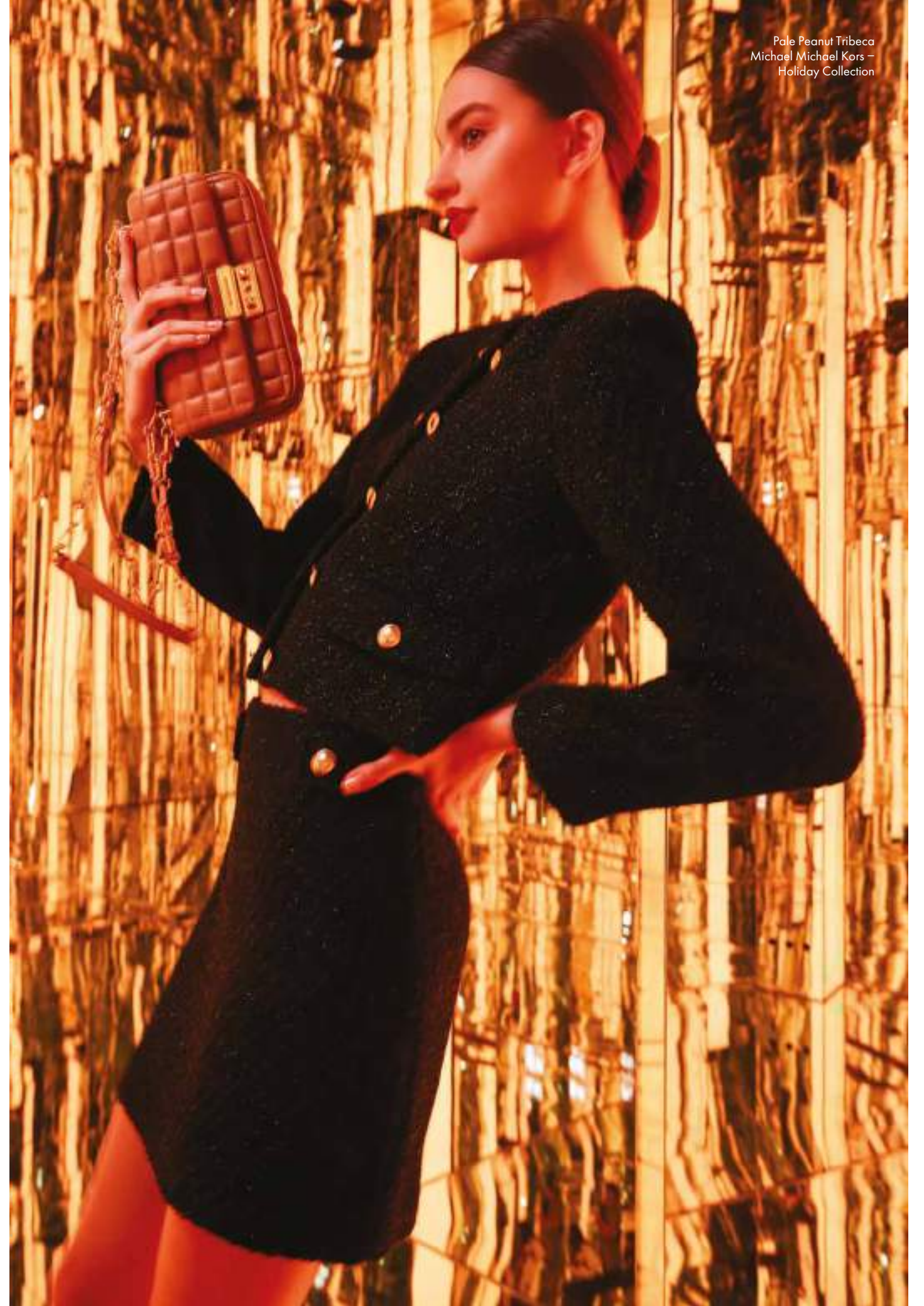
Photographer DANIEL ASATER Stylist & Creative Direction JADE CHILTON

Tribeca bag
Michael Kors – Holiday Collection

White Tabitha Large
Feather Embellished Clutch
Michael Michael Kors –
Holiday Collection



Pale Peanut Tribeca
Michael Michael Kors –
Holiday Collection



Accessories

Black Kendall Small
Embellished Suede
Shoulder Bag
Michael Michael Kors –
Holiday Collection



Pale Gold Tribeca
Michael Michael Kors – Holiday Collection



PHOTOGRAPHER: DANIEL ASATER, STYLIST/CREATIVE DIRECTION: JADE CHILTON, MAKEUP: SHARON DRUGAN,
HAIR: DEENA ALAWAID, LOCATION: AYA UNIVERSE, MODEL: LIZA G @FASHIONTEAGUE

Silver Kendall Small Leather Shoulder Bag
Michael Michael Kors – Holiday Collection



Black Tribeca bag
Michael Michael Kors –
Holiday Collection

MAJESTIC MOMENTS

BVLGARI's Divas' Dream timepieces are a testament to the Maison's rich heritage, creativity and artistry of marquetry, with each interpretation unfolding a unique story. This year, the Divas' Dream Peacock legacy unveils new masterpieces: the Divas' Dream Peacock Feather Marquetry, the Divas' Dream Peacock Mother-of-Pearl Marquetry, and the Divas' Dream Peacock Precious Marquetry with Jumping Hours and Retrograde Minutes

*Photographer ABDULLA ELMAZ
Creative Director TALAL KAHL*



BVLGARI Divas' Dream Watch (33mm) in Rose Gold Case with Diamonds, Natural Peacock Feather Dial, Quartz Movement, Waterproof 30m

BVLGARI Divas' Dream Watch (33mm) in Rose Gold Case with Diamonds, Mother-of-Pearl Dial with Miniature Painted Peacock, Quartz Movement, Waterproof 30m



BVLGARI Divas' Dream Watch (37mm) in White Gold Case with Diamonds, Natural Peacock Feather Dial, Automatic Movement, Waterproof 30m



BVLGARI Divas' Dream Watch (33mm) in Rose Gold Case and Bracelet with Diamonds, Lapis Lazuli Dial, Quartz Movement, Waterproof 30m



BVLGARI Diva's Dream Watch (33 mm) in Rose Gold Case with Diamonds, Topazes, and Tanzanites, Mother-of-Pearl Dial, Quartz Movement, Waterproof 30m

BVLGARI Diva's Dream Watch (33 mm) in Rose Gold Case with Diamonds, Malachite, and Pink Tourmaline, Mother-of-Pearl Dial, Quartz Movement, Waterproof 30m



PHOTOGRAPHER: ABDULLA ELMAZ CREATIVE DIRECTION: TALAL KAHL



BVLGARI Diva's Dream Watch (33 mm) in Rose Gold Case with Diamonds, Amethysts, and Tourmalines, Mother-of-Pearl Dial, Quartz Movement, Waterproof 30m

THE VIBE

Double Act

THE DYNAMIC DUO OF COOL SILVER AND FIERY GOLD MAKE FOR A STUNNING CELEBRATION OF STYLE



MIU MIU MULES



RETROFETE MINIDRESS



SAINT LAURENT NECLACE



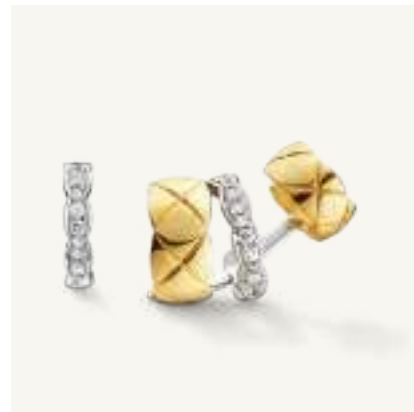
CYNTHIA ROWLEY JACKET



LOEWE BROOCH



ALEXANDER MCQUEEN EAR CUFF



CHANEL COCO CRUSH EARRINGS



BOTTEGA VENETA BAG



DOLCE & GABBANA HANDBAG

ELLE jewelry

AN ICON, REIMAGINED... Pierre Hardy, Creative Director of Hermès jewelry, has with the Kellymorphose collection taken the instantly-identifiable elements of the legendary Kelly bag and turned them into brilliant and bold necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings and of course miniaturized bags.

KELLY GAVROCHE NECKLACE IN WHITE GOLD AND DIAMONDS © MAUD REMY LONVIS

The Art of Refinement...
A CLOSER LOOK AT THE SAVOIR-FAIRE, INSPIRATION, AND HISTORY BEHIND THE COLLECTIONS



Tracing threads

A NEW EXHIBITION AT THE LOUVRE ABU DHABI EXPLORES CARTIER'S CULTURAL VOYAGE IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

For 175 years, the name Cartier has epitomized iconic French elegance, from beautiful diamond creations to eternally chic watches. Interestingly, a distinctive element of the high jewelry Maison's style didn't evolve locally; rather, it found its inspiration in the intricate world of Islamic art. Now, a new exhibition at the Louvre Abu Dhabi unveils the fascinating narrative of Cartier's profound connection with this rich heritage of the Islamic world through its exquisite jewelry. In *Cartier, Islamic Inspiration and Modern Design*, over 400 works explore over a century of artistic influence – one that started the beginning of the 20th century. During this time, Middle Eastern artists

and merchants showcased their art and antiques at exhibitions held in prominent European cities. Louis J. Cartier, a descendant of Jacques Cartier, the founder of the family's French jewelry business in 1847, attended these exhibitions. It was there that he became captivated by the intricate patterns, shapes, colors, and structures inherent in Islamic art. During the 1910s, Louis Cartier embarked on curating his private collection of Islamic art, subsequently opening its wealth of inspiration to the Maison's designers. In 1911, Louis's brother, Jacques Cartier, journeyed to India to strengthen connections with maharajas and explored the Arabian Gulf region to assess the pearl

market. The revelation of intricate patterns and shapes found in architecture, artworks, and literature unveiled a novel dimension of modern artistic expression for the Maison, a legacy that persisted through the artistic direction of Jeanne Toussaint and continues to influence its creations today. "Islamic art has played a significant and structural impact on Cartier's creative language since the beginning of the 20th century," explains Pierre Rainero, Image, Style and Heritage Director at Cartier. "This exhibition underscores the living language of the Cartier style, and in turn highlights how important jewellery is to the artistic field." The exhibition's chapters explore the Maison's sources of inspiration and its creative process through over 400 objects from the collections of Louvre Abu Dhabi, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Musée du Louvre, and Cartier Collection and Archives, as well as exceptional loans from Petit Palais, Musée des Beaux-Arts de la ville de Paris and other lenders, spanning masterpieces of Islamic art, jewellery, drawings, design sketches, miniatures, textiles, photographs and archival material.



Messika Paris Midnight Sun Collection - Solar Diva necklace

© PIERRE VEREZ

In celebrating Maison Messika's 10th High Jewelry collection, Founder and Artistic Director Valérie Messika unveils the Midnight Sun Collection's 140 creations that draw inspiration from the extravagance and freedom of iconic seventies nightspots like Studio 54 and the Palace. Adorned with precious yellow diamonds, the collection is a manifesto of affirmation with exceptional and unique pieces, including the show-stopping Solar Diva set featuring a radiant fancy intense yellow diamond weighing almost 35 carats - an unprecedented masterpiece in the Maison's history of high jewelry mastery. Who needs daylight when you can shine like a diamond in the dark?

Congratulations on Maison Messika's 10th High Jewelry collection! How does it feel to reach this milestone in the world of High Jewelry, and what does it mean for you personally?

It's a dream come true to see my 10th High Jewelry collection come to life. I get quite emotional thinking about how far we have come in our journey since establishment. Each High Jewelry creation is the result of the hard work of the designers who always manage to translate my ideas into drawings, and the workshop teams who then masterfully bring them to life. I owe a big part of this to my amazing team. With this collection, you are certainly witnessing the beginning of a new era for Maison Messika.

The Midnight Sun collection draws inspiration from the extravagant and free-spirited atmosphere of the 1970s. What specific elements of that era influenced the creation of this collection? Given that we are celebrating a milestone in our High Jewelry Savoir Faire with the creation of Midnight Sun; it was very important for me to transmit a celebratory message through this collection, and the atmosphere of the 1970's was perfect for what I had in mind. The 1970s broke all the codes of the nightlife world in New York City and Paris. This era reinvented the world of fashion, revolutionized genres, and turned the party scene upside down thanks to the rise of clubs



QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

VALÉRIE MESSIKA REFLECTS ON THE MAISON'S DAZZLING HISTORY OF CREATIVITY AND GLAMOUR, AND HOW THE 'MIDNIGHT SUN' COLLECTION IS ILLUMINATING THE HIGH JEWELRY HORIZON

VALÉRIE MESSIKA BY ALEXANDRE LASNIER & ARNAUD JUHERIAN



The multi-accoladed star Carla Bruni was chosen to embody the collection

like Studio 54, the Mudd Club, the Palace, Chez Régine, etc... These two cities were animated by a joyful atmosphere at that time - an ode to self-expression. With Midnight Sun, anything goes; you can be whoever you want, let yourself go, and let your true authentic self shine.

What are some of the exceptional mechanisms/craftsmanship used in the collection? Midnight Sun reveals multifaceted sets that are as much a play of lights and contrasts as an expression of the Maison's diamond savoir-faire. For the first time, we used the traditional snow setting technique to illuminate the pieces of one of the collection's hero sets "Glitter Fever". We have also decided to deepen the symbolism of the Golden Shield, a protective armor that we had imagined in a yellow gold version during our previous High Jewelry collection. This time, the set plays with contradictions by combining the sparkle of white gold with that of colored diamonds. Multifaceted, this powerful necklace is a masterpiece of craftsmanship: the perfectly curved gold plastron has a mirrored effect and enhances the refraction of the light of the diamonds. The cut sides at the ends of the jewel are adorned with a pavé of delicately set diamonds, which accentuates the spectacular brilliance of the centre stones.

How did your personal style influence the creative process behind the Midnight Sun collection? I often channel my personal style in all my creations. After studying marketing and working for one of the biggest fashion brands in the world at a young age, I wanted to make wearing diamonds an everyday affair; mixed with leather jackets and denim pants; which is the typical rock n roll/casual chic style Parisians

are known for. Today, I still find inspiration in the latest trends in high fashion and haute couture; I often imagine High Jewelry as fashion accessories, and I echoed this energy/ the fashion sense of some of my favorite music icons of the seventies in the magnetic sets of the Midnight Sun collection.

How do you see this collection pushing the boundaries of traditional High Jewelry and making a statement in the world of fashion and luxury? Midnight Sun is not just a traditional High Jewelry collection, it's a lot more than that; it is a statement of creativity inspired by the extravagance and freedom of seventies landmarks and the era's icons. This collection is an ode for self-expression and is made for those who are not afraid to affirm who they are. 140 creations with a decidedly unorthodox spirit. Yellow diamonds, snow settings, magnetic, pearls, contrasting colours, etc.

Like most of my creations, this collection was inspired by the fashion scene at the dawn of Disco. I wanted to play with light and contrast in a way that represents exactly the image of the Maison. I also wanted to have the perfect match between jewelry and fashion and pick every clothing garment for the runway with utmost care. Therefore, I collaborated with designer Nix Lecourt Mansion who worked alongside Stylist

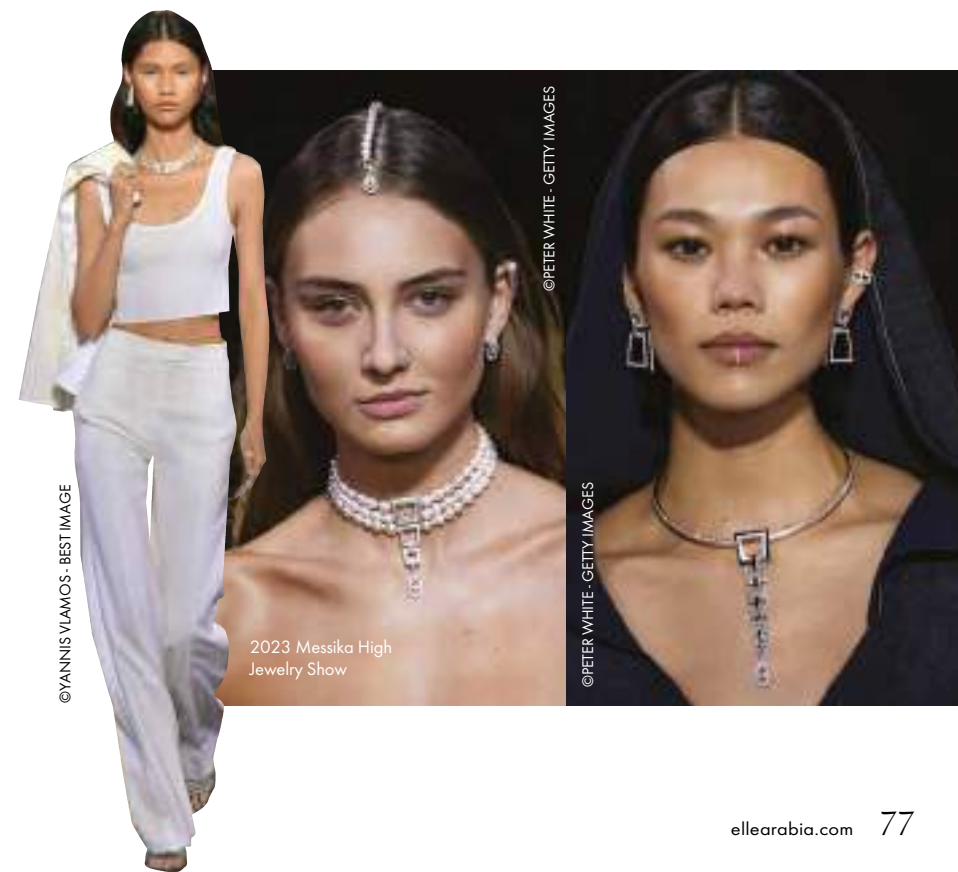
Hélène Tejedor to design unique and assertive looks: 30 bold and hypnotic silhouettes, created together to enhance the pieces of the collection. We even designed a couple of exclusive looks, set with diamonds, that I co-created with the Artistic Director.

What inspired the decision to make the yellow diamond the queen of the night over the traditional white diamonds? The white diamond in this collection represents the moon while the yellow represents the Sun. The unwavering parties of the seventies started late accompanied by the moon and continued until sunrise, so I wanted to play with this idea when deciding the color contrasts for this collection. To sum

it up, the yellow diamond stands out as the queen of the night. Amplified, it illuminates the night with a mystical, figurative aura. For the first time at Messika, it eclipses the white diamond, creating a beautiful symphony

between night and day. **What emotion do you hope people take away from experiencing the Midnight Sun collection?** Freedom! Midnight Sun is a true message of freedom and fearlessness. I hope that each person who wears a piece of this collection will be able to express her/his identity freely, to be who they are and to not be afraid of breaking boundaries!

"WITH MIDNIGHT SUN, ANYTHING GOES; YOU CAN BE WHOEVER YOU WANT, LET YOURSELF GO, AND LET YOUR TRUE AUTHENTIC SELF SHINE"



©YANNIS VLAMOS - BEST IMAGE

2023 Messika High Jewelry Show

©PETER WHITE - GETTY IMAGES

©PETER WHITE - GETTY IMAGES



New kid on the block

AUDEMARS PIGUET'S CODE 11.59 WELCOMES A NEW 38MM SIZE

Since 2019, Code 11.59 from Audemars Piguet has managed to become an established member of the Swiss Haute Horlogerie manufacturer's lineup. Today, the collection gets a bit bigger by going smaller, with the introduction of two new 38mm watches in 18k pink gold opening it up to fit watch lovers' slimmer wrists.

ALL IN THE FIT

The latest iteration of the Code 11.59 duo showcases the distinctive three-part case that characterizes the model, albeit in a significantly reduced size. Only offered in 18k pink gold for now, the updated case boasts dimensions of 38 mm in diameter and 9.6 mm in height, shedding three to four millimeters for the Code 11.59. The case's overall structure remains consistent, comprising the bezel and case back with an octagonal middle, a notable feature is the open-worked lugs. These lugs are intricately attached to the bezel and gracefully rest on the edge of the case back.

DESIGN LANGUAGE

The two 18-carat pink gold models in this collection offer elegant contrasts. The first watch features a vibrant purple dial and matching strap, while the second presents a more discreet yet shiny ivory aesthetic. Both watches showcase the collection's latest dial design evolution, an embossed dial with a striking gradient structure developed in collaboration with Swiss guilloché craftsman Yann von Kaenel. The purple and ivory hues are achieved through PVD to enhance the embossed pattern and play of light.



jewelry

IN FULL BLOOM

GET READY TO DAZZLE WITH THE FRESHEST BLOOMS IN LOUIS VUITTON'S JEWELRY GARDEN! THE LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE BLOSSOM COLLECTION TAKE INSPIRATION FROM THE MAISON'S STACKABLE RINGS, OVERSIZED EARRINGS, OR ICONIC PENDANTS. MONOGRAM FLOWER, AND ARE AN INVITATION TO MIX, MATCH, AND EXPRESS YOUR UNIQUE STYLE WHETHER WITH DELICATE STACKABLE RINGS, OVERSIZED EARRINGS, OR ICONIC PENDANTS.

ANA DE ARMA

1. BLOSSOM PENDANT PINK GOLD DIAMONDS;
2. XL HOOPS PINK GOLD DIAMONDS;
3. RING PINK GOLD;
4. OVERLAP HOOP PINK GOLD DIAMONDS;
5. SMALL RING WHITE GOLD DIAMOND;
6. MINI HOOPS PINK GOLD;
7. SMALL RING PINK GOLD DIAMOND;
8. OPEN RING WHITE GOLD;
9. EAR CUFF PINK GOLD

LEADING BY DESIGN

AS SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF DUBAI DESIGN DISTRICT, KHADIJA AL BASTAKI HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN STRENGTHENING DUBAI'S POSITION AS THE FASHION CAPITAL OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND A GLOBAL CULTURAL HUB. AHEAD OF THE LANDMARK OPENING OF L'ÉCOLE MIDDLE EAST SCHOOL OF JEWELRY ARTS IN D3, ELLE ARABIA CAUGHT UP WITH THE GLAMOUROUS CHANGEMAKER TO HIGHLIGHT EXCEPTIONAL VAN CLEEF & ARPELS PIECES, AND TO TALK ABOUT THIS LATEST INITIATIVE, THE IMPORTANCE OF NURTURING CREATIVITY, AND HER VISION FOR THE FUTURE...

Photographer AMER MOHAMAD
Stylist/Creative Director VASIL BOZHILOV

Eclipse Solaire Transformable Long Necklace 18K White Gold, 18K Rose Gold, One Oval-Cut Morganite of 10.74 Carats, 135 Red Spinel Beads for 117.88 Carats, White Cultured Pearls, Onyx, Diamonds – All by Van Cleef & Arpels

Abaya, Epiphany





Zip Couture Demi-Cercles Necklace, 18K Yellow Gold, Pink and Yellow Sapphires, Diamonds – All by Van Cleef & Arpels
Abaya, Epiphany



Gracie Necklace, 18K White Gold, Diamonds; Chrysler Earrings, 18K White Gold, Diamonds; Poetic Complications Collection, Lady Arpels Ballerine Musicale Rubis Watch, 18K White Gold, Diamond, Ruby; Couture Solitaire, Platinum, Round Diamonds, One Oval 2.01 ct Ruby, Diamond Quality DE, IF to VVS, Unique Piece – All by Van Cleef & Arpels

Abaya, Epiphany



It's fascinating to see how Dubai Design District (d3) has grown over the years. Can you tell us about the journey and how d3 is working towards making Dubai a global cultural hub?

Dubai Design District's (d3) journey has been extraordinary. In just over 10 years, our community has grown with more than 900 customers and 19,000 creative professionals. The regional headquarters of major brands operate alongside regional and local companies, start-ups and universities, so it's a dynamic and global ecosystem. We're even home to high-profile industry events like Dubai Design Week and Dubai Fashion Week (DFW). Strategic partnerships have been fundamental to our growth and are just as integral to our strategy. By partnering with entities that reflect our values for creative excellence and fostering a global creative industry – whether that's with Dubai Design Week, the Arab Fashion Council for DFW, our new partnership with Milano Durini Design Association, the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), or the new L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts campus – we aim to create new opportunities for talent to engage and reach new audiences while promoting Dubai's creative sector globally.

How do events such as Dubai Fashion Week and Dubai Design Week contribute to d3's vision and the thriving creative community?

d3 has nurtured a global creative ecosystem that facilitates brands and talent to network, engage, collaborate and innovate. Events like Dubai Fashion Week and Dubai Design Week are such an essential part of this dynamic ecosystem. They provide local and regional talent, including d3-based creatives, with a platform to showcase to broader local and international audiences and investors and simultaneously provide a gateway for global talent to tap into new markets, investors and audiences in the region through d3. They forge a highway to exchange knowledge and insights that help collectively advance the industry and inspire, underscoring d3 and Dubai as where the future of the creative industry is taking shape.

The introduction of L'ÉCOLE in d3 is a big step. How does this educational initiative align with d3's goals and contribute to nurturing creativity in the region?

We are thrilled to welcome a prestigious institution like L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts to our district. Their new address in d3 will be only its fourth permanent campus in the world and the first in the Middle East, where they will offer such insightful workshops, lectures and exhibitions in the spring. They're already giving us a taste of what's in store with the current exhibition, Garden of Emeralds. L'ÉCOLE joins a growing pool of design-focused education institutions at d3, including the Dubai Institute of Design and Innovation (DIDI) and the FAD Institute. Bridging the gap between education and the professional world is important because

it strengthens our knowledge-sharing platform, connects young creatives to established professionals and replenishes the pool of creative talent who will define and innovate the creative sector for future generations.

How do you balance preserving arts and craftsmanship and ensuring a vibrant and sustainable creative ecosystem?

Preserving arts and craftsmanship and nurturing a sustainable creative ecosystem are not mutually exclusive – if anything, they go hand in hand. We saw this in our recent involvement with the Dubai Calligraphy Biennale – an event that celebrates the traditional art form while also looking to the future and bringing forth exciting new developments. Globally, the cultural and creative industries are becoming an economic priority. Governments are paying greater attention to its potential for growth and job creation, Dubai included, with the ambitious Dubai Creative Economy Strategy roadmap. By providing artists, designers, innovators and entrepreneurs with a platform to create, inspire and collaborate and education opportunities to replenish and bolster the talent pool, you can nurture a vibrant and sustainable creative ecosystem and even help achieve the Dubai Economy Agenda D33.

How do you perceive the cultural and fashion scene in the UAE evolving, and how has d3 played a role in driving these changes?

Dubai is a global city and a multicultural melting pot, reflected in its homegrown cultural and fashion scene. Local and regional brands, by Emiratis and international expats alike, are introducing cultural and ethnic inspirations and original creative solutions into the mix, giving local design culture a distinct identity. Global brands now work with local and regional artists to cater to local tastes. At Dubai Fashion Week, Carolina Herrera's presentation even featured pieces custom-made for the occasion. d3 supports this by providing purpose-built infrastructure, events and platforms that enable brands to connect, inspire and grow. Our district offers in5, a start-up incubator by TECOM Group, where emerging brands and designers can get their ideas off the ground with mentorship and fully-equipped creative facilities, including the Fashion Lab. Being selected as part of The Business of Fashion (BoF) 500 Class of 2023 alongside peers recognized for shaping the global fashion industry is a testament to what d3 has achieved and the space we're carving out for Dubai as a global fashion capital.

As a woman in a powerful position, how do you actively support and empower other women in the business and creative community?

Championing women in the workplace is very near and dear to my heart. Having been supported in my own career development, I strive to be a guiding light for women in their careers and foster a nurturing environment where women can fearlessly voice their

Olympia Necklace, Rhodium Plated 18K White Gold, Diamonds; Perles de Glace Rose Watch, 18K Rose Gold, Rhodium Plated 18K White Gold, Rubies, Pink Sapphires, White Cultured Pearls, Diamonds, Quartz Movement; Nouage Mystérieux Ring, 18K White Gold, 18K Rose Gold, Traditional Mystery Set Rubies, One Round DIF Type 2A Diamond of 5.80 Carats, Rubies, Diamonds – All by Van Cleef & Arpels

Abaya, Studio Mneiae



Cover story

ideas, confidently own leadership roles, and chase their dreams. At d3, this includes mentorship and support networks to promote skills development and knowledge sharing. in5 Design is also a part of that effort – it offers creative labs, events, pop-up stores and learning opportunities that help build talent. We also provide emerging brands and entrepreneurs with showcasing opportunities at events like DFW, Dubai Design Week and Sole DXB. d3 has become a leading platform for design because it opens a doorway for homegrown and regional talent to access global recognition, partnerships and opportunities, regardless of gender or background. **Looking ahead, what exciting events can we expect in the coming year, and how do they contribute to the continuous growth and development of d3?**

We just wrapped up another successful Dubai Design Week and Downtown Design in our district, which was on the heels of a very inspired Dubai Fashion Week in October. This month, L'ÉCOLE, School of Jewelry Arts debuted its inaugural exhibition at its new campus in d3, where it will start offering its complete programme of workshops, lectures and presentations in the spring – so keep an eye out for that. And, of course, Sole DXB is back this December with a packed programme of activations and experiences. All these events shed light on Dubai's incredible wealth of talent and brands and underscore how dynamic and fast-growing our creative community is.



With your deep involvement in the creative industry, how would you describe your personal design aesthetic, whether it's in fashion, interior design, or any other creative aspect?

My aesthetic is a balance between traditional Emirati design and modern influences. I find myself shopping locally often because homegrown designers strike this balance perfectly. Whether it's abayas flaunting bold colours and silhouettes or its home décor that captures contemporary Arab culture, I gravitate towards that fusion. It's why I'm so passionate about our work at d3 – such platforms enable so many outstanding designers to explore and define Dubai's design identity, create original products and inject a local touch into the global industry.

How has your personal style evolved over the years, given your role in shaping the fashion landscape in Dubai?

I have always appreciated design and fashion and watched for the latest trends, especially when it comes to modest fashion. I've noticed that being a part of d3 has definitely made my style a lot bolder! When you're engaging with so many creative people and attending events where your peers are so experimental with their clothes, makeup or designs, you see all the different ways you can express yourself. It's very inspiring.

What specific design elements or styles bring you the most joy and could be considered your "happy place"?

I love traditional styles mixed with contemporary elements. It's a way for design to preserve traditions of the past while innovating and taking inspiration from our global environment. I'm especially happy when design incorporates sustainability in authentic and impactful ways, like designers who use upcycled materials to create something new and beautiful or reduce waste in the production process.

Are there specific cultures, art movements, or designers that inspire your own design choices, both professionally and personally?

I'm inspired by the rich architecture and design heritage of our own region, from the Levant to the Gulf. It's interesting to see how local environments and cultures impact the evolution of design – like the inclusion of wind towers in desert homes to provide a natural ventilation system. So many new architects, creatives and designers are increasingly gaining recognition on international stages, which is so inspiring. It's expanding the influence of the regional design scene and allowing us to shape the future of the industry. It's why we at d3 are so passionate about what we do – it's a way for us to preserve and promote local design culture.

In the midst of a bustling schedule, how do you relax and unwind?

Traveling is the best way to disconnect and unwind. Exploring new cities, engaging in different cultures, visiting galleries, exploring the architecture and trying out new food – I love every bit of it! It's also a great way to see how different cities engage with design, I always walk away with so many new ideas for d3 and its community, new artists to keep an eye on and so on. It's a wonderful way to both relax and be inspired.

A Word With: Khadija Al Bastaki, Senior Vice President of Dubai Design District (d3), part of TECOM Group PJSC

Lumières du Nord
Necklace, White Gold,
25 Cabochon-Cut
Green Tourmalines
for 175.95 Carats,
Sapphires, Turquoise,
Diamonds – All by Van
Cleef & Arpels

Abaya, Epiphany

Eclipse Solaire Transformable
Long necklace 18K White Gold, 18K
Rose Gold, One Oval-Cut Morganite
of 10.74 Carats, 135 Red Spinel Beads
for 117.88 Carats, White Cultured Pearls,
Onyx, Diamonds; Rubans Tressés Ring,
18K Rose Gold, 18K White Gold, One
Oval-Cut Rubellite of 15.61 Carats, Pink
and Blue Sapphires, Diamonds – All by
Van Cleef & Arpels

Abaya, Epiphany



PHOTOGRAPHER: AMER MOHAMAD; STYLIST/CREATIVE DIRECTION: VASIL BOZHILOV; MAKEUP: SHARON DRUGAN; HAIR: UNDIÉ BENADE; LIGHTING ASSISTANT: YASIR ALI; LOCATION: D3 DUBAI

A CUT ABOVE

Whether you're looking to create the space of your fitness dreams or update your home gym with the very best equipment, Technogym is there to help. With a bespoke variety of state-of-the-art machines, digital services, on-demand training experiences and apps, Technogym will have you nailing that New Year's resolution with ease. Whether you prefer running on their most innovative treadmill or using their Kinesis, there's a machine just for you – as tried and tested by five of the region's hottest go-to fitness and health experts. They share with ELLE Arabia their daily workouts, tips on staying fit this festive season, and what their goals are for 2024!

*Photographer YULIA KEM
Stylist FRANK PENA*

LET'S
MOVE
FOR A
BETTER
WORLD
WORLD
WORLD



What does a day of fitness look like for you? Being a yoga teacher, lifestyle is quite active. A typical day typically begins with a 20-minute meditation — important for mental fitness — and is then followed by a walk, usually in the company of my dog Roofus. I'll teach a yoga class, have a healthy lunch and later in the day pop into a pilates or yoga class to get my own practice in. I'm really enjoying reformer pilates at the moment.

Tips on staying fit and healthy during the festive season? It's easy to fall by the wayside with our healthy habits during the festive season, so what

could be really useful is to be intentional of what you want from the festive season for your health and wellness. Maybe you want to be more active, maybe you actually want more rest. Maybe you want to work a little hard now so that you can enjoy the festive season without a second thought. Write down your intentions, and plan ahead so that you can stay grounded in what you really need this season.

Fitness resolutions for 2024? In 2024 my goal is to be mentally and physically stronger, so that I can have more resilience handling life's greatest challenges both on and off the mat.

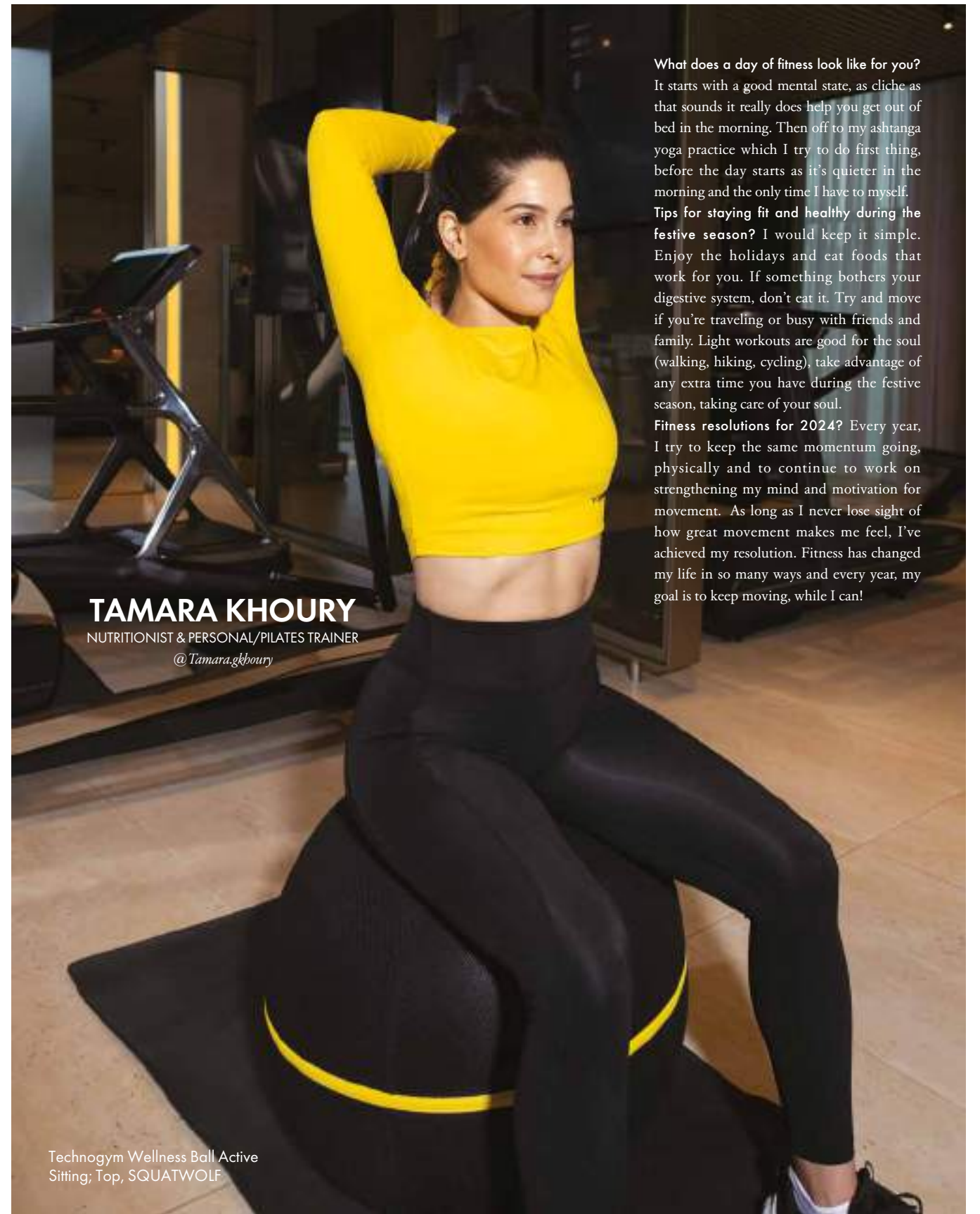


DINA GHANDOUR

YOGA INSTRUCTOR

@Wellnesswithdina

Technogym Bench; Top, SQUATWOLF; Leggings, ACRO



TAMARA KHOURY

NUTRITIONIST & PERSONAL/PILATES TRAINER

@Tamara.khoury

What does a day of fitness look like for you? It starts with a good mental state, as cliché as that sounds it really does help you get out of bed in the morning. Then off to my ashtanga yoga practice which I try to do first thing, before the day starts as it's quieter in the morning and the only time I have to myself.

Tips for staying fit and healthy during the festive season? I would keep it simple. Enjoy the holidays and eat foods that work for you. If something bothers your digestive system, don't eat it. Try and move if you're traveling or busy with friends and family. Light workouts are good for the soul (walking, hiking, cycling), take advantage of any extra time you have during the festive season, taking care of your soul.

Fitness resolutions for 2024? Every year, I try to keep the same momentum going, physically and to continue to work on strengthening my mind and motivation for movement. As long as I never lose sight of how great movement makes me feel, I've achieved my resolution. Fitness has changed my life in so many ways and every year, my goal is to keep moving, while I can!

Technogym Wellness Ball Active
Sitting; Top, SQUATWOLF



Technogym Ride

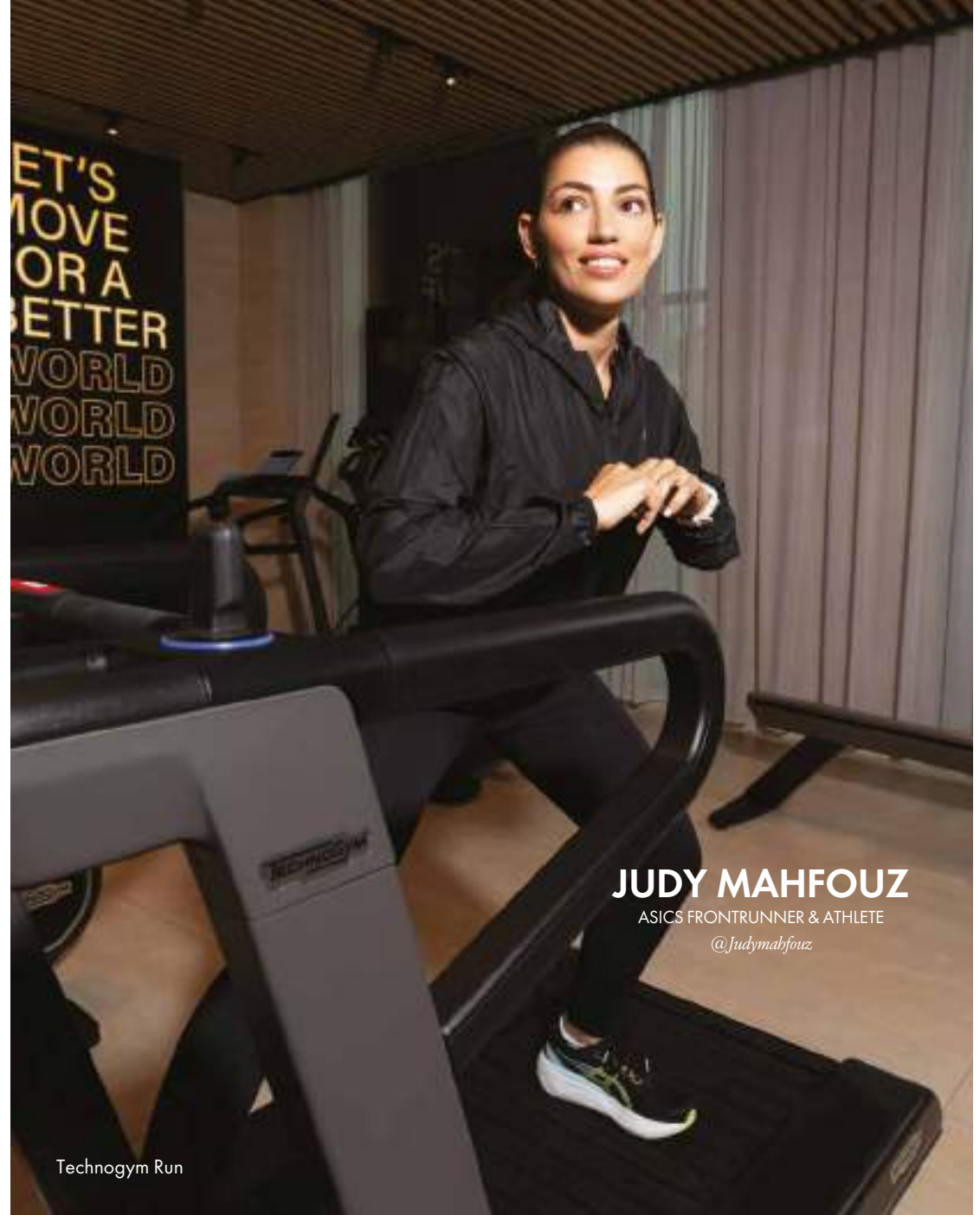
SALMA ISMAIL

FITNESS TRAINER
@Salmasroutine

What does a day of fitness look like for you? A day full of fitness for me includes coaching my OSSALMA ladies fitness classes which are my favorite. Then I do my own workout in between my classes and clients. However, the optimal day for me is when I get to also go for walks on the beach or a light jog or take the bike out on the track or do as much physical fun outdoor activities when the weather is suitable.

Tips for staying fit and healthy during the festive season? I believe in having fun and not depriving myself during festive seasons. The only important tip I would give is to allow yourself to indulge in the food you want but with moderation, small quantities and avoid overeating and try as much as you can to stay active during that time by going to the gym or even going for long walks or doing any physical activity

Fitness resolutions for 2024? I honestly never believed in fitness resolutions. Waiting for a certain time or date in order to start or change something isn't what I would recommend. I believe in taking initiative towards your goal one day at a time and staying consistent no matter the date or time. Start now and start today! Setting short term goals will help in achieving that.



JUDY MAHFOUZ

ASICS FRONTRUNNER & ATHLETE
@Judymahfouz

Technogym Run

What does a day of fitness look like for you?

My main fitness activity is running and my favorite time to run is in the early morning. There is magic in chasing the sunrise, a beauty that fuels my passion for running! So, my day starts with waking up at 5:00 am and I meditate for 10-15 minutes. Then, I change to my running gear that I usually plan the night before. Followed by a quick hydration of 500 ml of water and fueling with some dates. This is enough to provide me with the energy needed to hit the pavement. If I'm running around the neighborhood, I warm up for 10 minutes with drills before a 30 to 40-minute run.

Tips on staying fit and healthy during the

festive season? I recommend everyone to dedicate 15 minutes of movement everyday, whether it is a leisurely walk, an easy run, or any form of exercise, be it at home or at the gym. Why 15 minutes? In March 2022, ASICS conducted a global study to understand the impact of movement on our mental wellbeing. The data collected showed that 15 minutes and 9 seconds is all it takes to uplift your mind and boost your mood. Feeling this uplift will definitely energize you to enjoy the festive season!

Fitness resolutions for 2024? For the past three years, I have been on a fitness roller coaster, achieving challenging resolutions and

pushing my mental and physical limits. From completing the Adnoc marathon (42.1 km) to running the Cappadocia Ultra Trail (63 km), and even taking on the Spartan Trifecta Weekend with its trio of races (21km, 10km, and 5km), I went beyond my boundaries. Not to forget the breathtaking hike expeditions, summiting Kilimanjaro in 2021 and recently trekking Everest Base camp. So, 2024 is my year of recalibration. No grand goals for now, just a commitment to staying fit and healthy and focusing on both physical and mental wellbeing. The only race in my calendar is the Dubai Creek Striders Half Marathon happening in January.

SANDRA SHARPE

FUNCTIONAL MEDICINE & NUTRITION COACH

@SandraSharpeWellness

What does a day of fitness look like for you?

As a mother of two and an entrepreneur who's helped thousands of women over the past 6 years, making time to move my body on a daily basis is a non negotiable...although, that can look different each day. My training consists of 2-3 times a week of weight training in a gym setting, 2 times a week of functional low impact training like Method By Kat or Pilates and then daily walks either with my kids or alone to clear my head. In between that, I'm constantly running around with 2 kids so I'm definitely getting my daily steps in!

Tips on staying fit and healthy during the festive season? My biggest advice would be to start each day with a higher protein, higher fat and fiber rich meal. Doing so will help balance your blood sugar, curb any cravings later in the day and help support cognitive function and energy. I definitely recommend enjoying the festive season and indulging, but to remember the importance of balancing your blood sugar. So that means everything in moderation.

Fitness resolutions for 2024? Since I've recently had my second baby, my goal for this coming year is to work on gaining all my strength back and to get even stronger! I'm really looking to challenge my fitness - besides getting stronger, I'd like to increase my endurance, increase muscle mass and definition and continue working towards the best version of myself.

Technogym Kinesis Personal; Top & Leggings SQUATWOLF



Dina Ghandour, Tamara Khoury / Technogym Wellness Ball Active Sitting, Technogym Bench



PHOTOGRAPHER: YULIA KEM; STYLIST: FRANK PENN; MAKEUP: AIDA GLOW; HAIR: DANI HISWANI; LOCATION: TECHNOGYM DUBAI; TALENTS: SANDRA SHARPE, TAMARA KHOURY, DINA GHANDOUR, SALMA ISMAIL, JUDY MAHFOUZ; TECHNOGYM DUBAI IS THE LARGEST TECHNOGYM EXPERIENCE CENTER OVERSEAS. TECHNOGYM DUBAI, 795 JUMEIRAH ST. UMM SUQEIM 2, DUBAI, UAE

TECHNOGYM ISN'T JUST A BRAND; IT'S YOUR ULTIMATE FITNESS SIDEKICK, BRINGING YOU CUTTING-EDGE PRODUCTS AND DIGITAL WIZARDRY FOR A WELLNESS JOURNEY LIKE NO OTHER. AND WITH THE LARGEST TECHNOGYM EXPERIENCE CENTER OVERSEAS, TECHNOGYM DUBAI SHOULD BE THE NEXT STOP ON YOUR FITNESS JOURNEY!



Left: Jotun Color used,
Healing Lavender JOTUN
20218; Dress, Roksanda;
Shoes, Mach & Mach;
Jewelry, Swarovski

Right: Jotun Colors used,
Soothing Beige JOTUN
12075 & Fahm JOTUN 9925;
Dress, 1309; Shoes, Mach &
Mach; Jewelry, Rabanne



DRESS YOUR SPACE

Dive into the intersection of high fashion and interior expression with Jotun's CANVAS 2024. From the runway to your living space, merge style with your surroundings using Jotun's Global Color Card - a masterpiece of 23 colors developed by tapping into emerging trends and cultural currents

Photographer ZIGA MIHELICIC
Stylist & Creative Director VASIL BOZHILOV

Jotun Colors used, Antwerp Beige JOTUN 12290
& Comfort Grey JOTUN 12078; Dress, 1309;
Necklace, Rabanne for H&M; Bag, L'AFSHAR



Jotun Colors used, Indi Pink JOTUN 2224 &
Muted Coral JOTUN 20217; Dress, Roksanda;
Shoes, Mach & Mach; Jewelry Swarovski

Jotun Color used, True Blue JOTUN 4947;
Dress, Salvatore Ferragamo; Shoes, Gia
Borghini; Earrings, Anton Heunis



PHOTOGRAPHER: ZIGA MIHELIC/STYLIST/CREATIVE DIRECTION: VASIL BOZHILOV; MAKEUP: KASIA
DOMANSKA; HAIR: DANI HISWANI; LOCATION: BICKI BOSS STUDIO; MODEL: ANTONINA @MMG

Jotun Colors used, Subtle Green JOTUN 7685
& Mindful Green JOTUN 7686; Dress, Norma
Kamali; Shoes, Bally; Jewelry Swarovski



"I have admired Rami's work for the last two decades but knowing him on a personal level and seeing how his aesthetic and creativity inform all aspects of his universe has given me a new understanding of his designs. Rami has such a nuanced knowledge of his clients – he has tremendous attention to detail – and I'm always in awe of how he aligns timeless elegance with a very contemporary sensibility in his collections. I also appreciate his deep love of family, culture, art, literature, and all of the other aspects of life which inspire his work. To wear something Rami has made gives me the same feeling as when I am with him in person – glamorous, festive, fun, and appreciated."

EILEEN WALLIS,
Managing Partner of Wallis PR



An elegant affair

A TOAST TO FRIENDSHIP AND FASHION WITH RAMI AL ALI

Photographer LUCAS ALVAS

Designer Rami Al Ali orchestrated an intimate dinner to pay homage to his female muses after a summer that scattered them to various corners of the globe. These extraordinary women have remained a constant presence in both his life and fashion career, influencing him with their unique style, character, strength, and passion for life. Each has played a pivotal role in shaping Rami Al Ali's creative persona, and not a day has passed when he hasn't sought their guidance, mentoring, or perspectives, whether directly or indirectly.

Considering himself fortunate to have been acquainted with such powerful, successful, and sophisticated intellects, akin to the exceptional women in his life, Rami Al Ali envisioned them adorned in the creations they inspired, bringing the vision to life. Each muse expressed her individuality through personal styling, fostering distinctiveness yet seamlessly harmonizing in the end.

Rami Al Ali's venture into Ready-to-Wear has been a successful addition to the brands ever-evolving portfolio and has secured an impressive list of stockists in some of the biggest department stores internationally. Catering to a growing demand, the brand has added a range of ecommerce sites to their portfolio, extending their reach to a new globally consumer. Each ready-to-wear collection consists of classic silhouettes and elegant lines reflecting a modern approach to luxurious eveningwear.

NADA DEBS, EILEEN MULLEN WALLIS, KATE BARRY

All Dresses, Rami Al Ali Ready-to-Wear Collections



"Rami is not only a close friend and a brother but an inspiration to me. His elegance and creations are a reflection of what I personally love and appreciate. His gowns transport me to a beautiful world of romance and beauty every time I wear them."

*NADINE KANSO,
Bil Arabi Creative Director*

@LUCAS VAS

Above: RAMI AL ALI & NADINE KANSO, Below: RANIA AL ALI, REEM AL ALI, DIALA MAKKI & RAMI AL ALI



MARCELA DANIELOVA
All Dresses, Rami Al Ali
Ready-to-Wear Collections



NADINE KANSO, REEM AL ALI, RAMI AL ALI, ALIYA TAIR, MARCELO DANIELOVA, KATE BARRY, NADA DEBS, RANIA AL ALI, EILEEN MULLEN WALLIS

All Dresses, Rami Al Ali Ready-to-Wear Collections

"I met Rami 15 years ago, as I was looking for a gown for a family wedding. It was only natural that we would become close friends. Friendship with Rami is much like the relationship with his work, it's a story of strength, poetry and a celebration of the female form. Not only is he a beautiful designer but he is also a beautiful friend. Rami champions the women around him, empowering us through beauty and admiration. Through his grace, talent and curiosity, I learn of history and song but even more so, I learn to celebrate myself."

KATE BARRY,
Consultant



RAMI AL ALI'S VENTURE INTO READY-TO-WEAR HAS BEEN A SUCCESSFUL ADDITION TO THE BRANDS EVER-EVOLVING PORTFOLIO AND HAS SECURED AN IMPRESSIVE LIST OF STOCKISTS IN SOME OF THE BIGGEST DEPARTMENT STORES INTERNATIONALLY

ALIYA TAIR, RAMI AL ALI, NADINE KANSO

All Dresses, Rami Al Ali Ready-to-Wear Collections

ELLE

SWEPT AWAY...
Full Look, Chanel

fashion

PHOTOGRAPHER: AMER MOHAMAD @SHOOTMEAMER; CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND FASHION STYLIST: JADE CHILTON @JADESTYLEDIRECTOR; MAKE UP: IRINA KUZMINA @ZOLOTOIRA; HAIR: IVAN KUZ @IVAN_KUZ; PHOTO ASSISTANT: YASIR AL SHAH @YASIR_AL_SHAH; MODEL: AUNA BOIKO @AUNABOI; STYLIST ASSISTANT: SYMA AHMED



Spotlight On..
DAZZLING METALLICS,
DAINTY BUTTERFLIES,
DARING SILHOUETTES AND
MORE TO MARK THE END
OF THE YEAR AND A BOLD
NEW BEGINNING

DREAM ON...

For Chanel's Cruise 2023/24 collection, Virginie Viard takes us on a journey through time and space – evoking the glamour of the 1930's, the free-spirited fun of the 70's & 80's, and the laid-back dreamy vibes of Southern California. As she explains, "The idea is to offer a breath of fresh air, a voyage, a light-hearted and happy fantasy."

Photographer AMER MOHAMAD Stylist & Creative Director JADE CHILTON

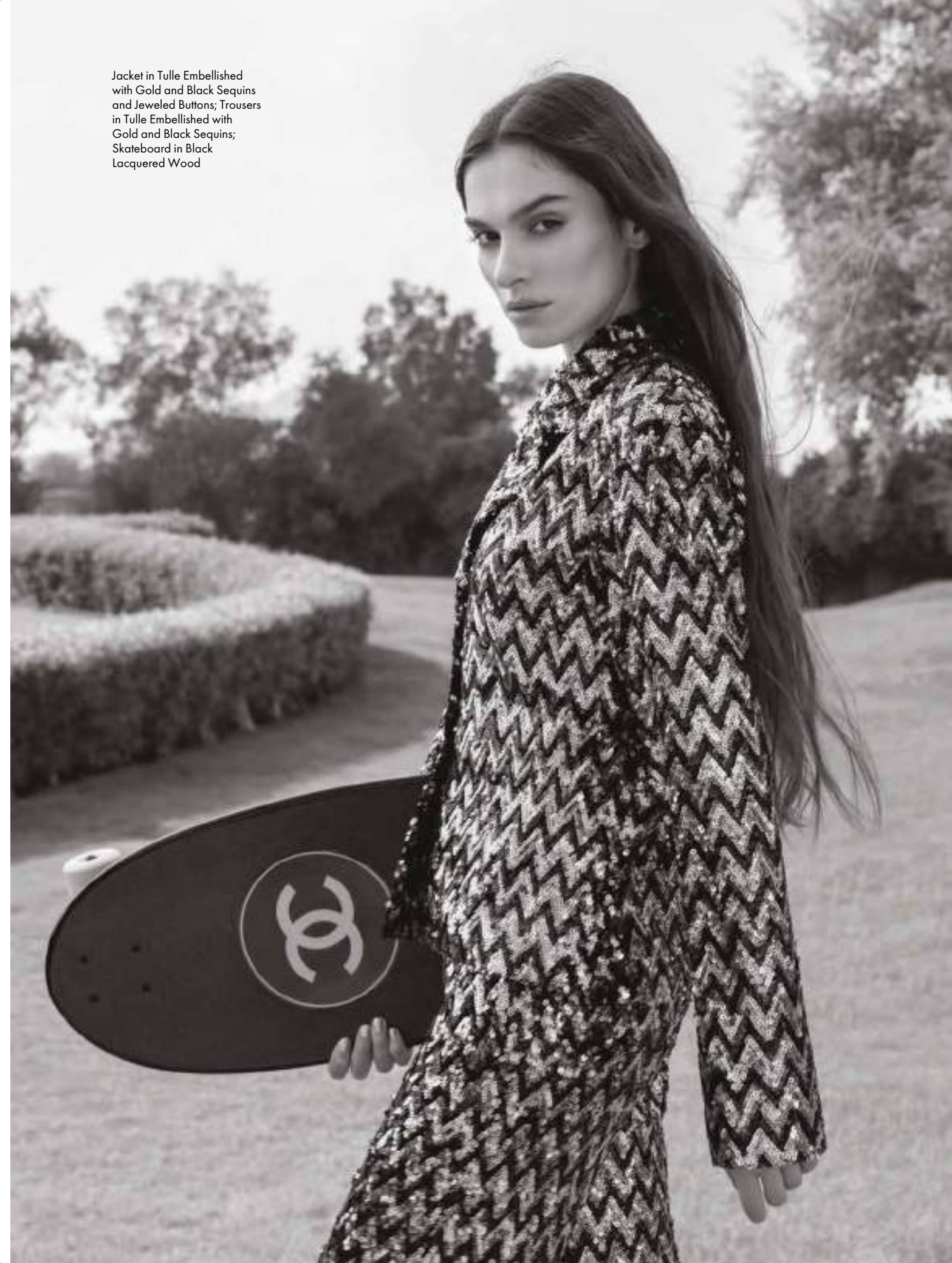
Jacket in Pink, Yellow, White and Blue Cotton Embellished with Braid and Jeweled Buttons; Sweater in Pink, Yellow, White and Blue Cotton; Short in Pink, Yellow, White and Blue Cotton; Earrings in Metal and Strass; Necklace in Metal and Faux Fur





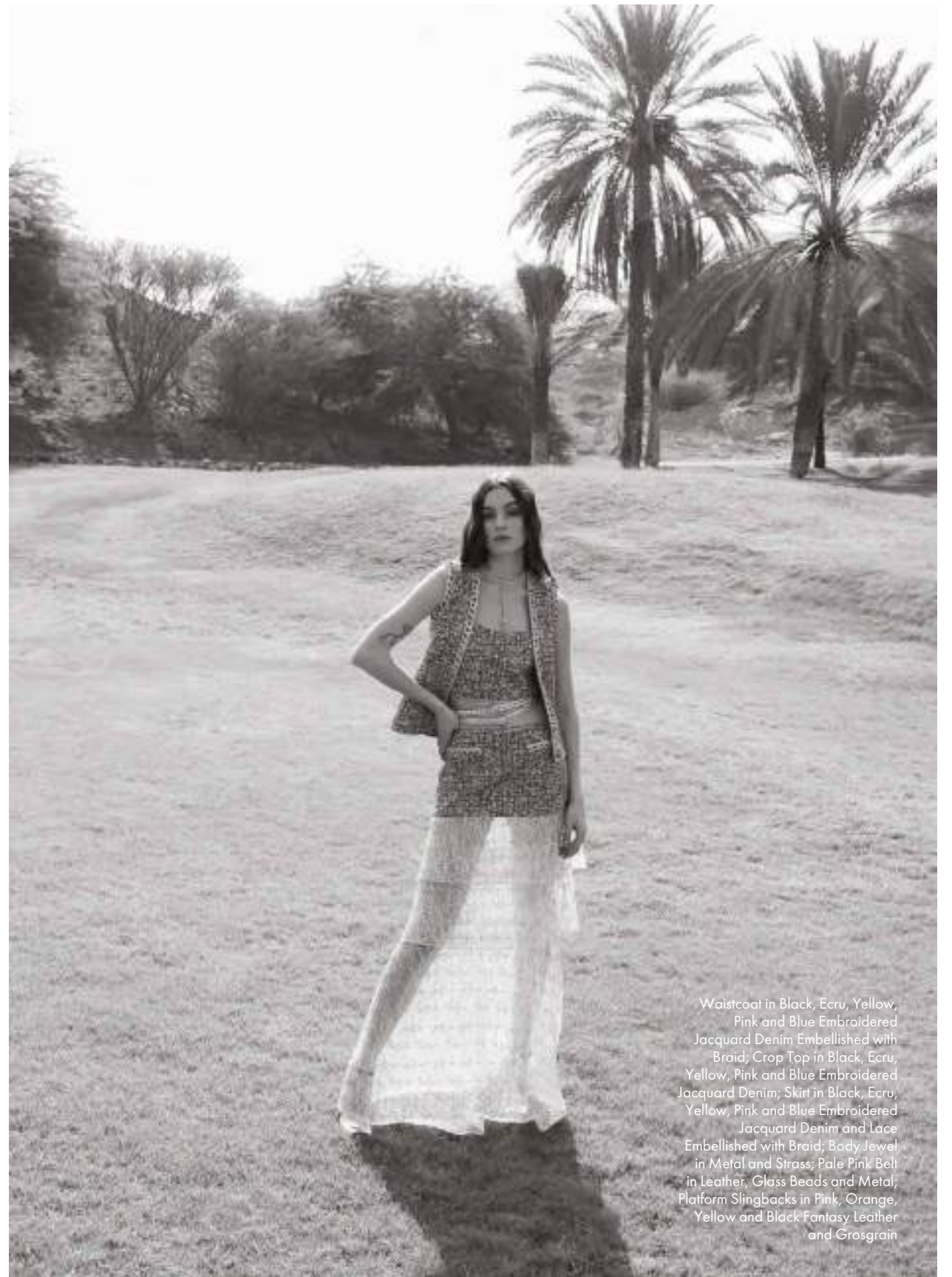
Crop Top in Gradient Purple, Pink and Gold Sequins on Tulle; Long Skirt in Pink and White Striped Cotton Jacquard; Heeled Pumps in Patent White Leather Embellished with a Bow in Black; Grosgrain Belt in Pale Pink Leather, Glass Beads and Metal; Necklace in Metal and Faux Fur; Sunglasses in Metal & Strass, CHANEL, chanel.com

Jacket in Tulle Embellished with Gold and Black Sequins and Jeweled Buttons; Trousers in Tulle Embellished with Gold and Black Sequins; Skateboard in Black Lacquered Wood





Sweater in Black and Multicolored Sequined Wool; Trousers in Black and Multicolored Sequined Wool; Heeled Sandals in Black Suede; Bag in Gold Metallic Leather and Metal



Waistcoat in Black, Ecru, Yellow, Pink and Blue Embroidered Jacquard Denim Embellished with Braid; Crop Top in Black, Ecru, Yellow, Pink and Blue Embroidered Jacquard Denim; Skirt in Black, Ecru, Yellow, Pink and Blue Embroidered Jacquard Denim and Lace Embellished with Braid; Body Jewel in Metal and Strass; Pale Pink Belt in Leather, Glass Beads and Metal; Platform Slingbacks in Pink, Orange, Yellow and Black Fantasy Leather and Grosgrain

Sweater in Black and
Multicolored Sequined Wool;
Minaudière in Silver, Gold
and Pink Plexiglass, Enamel,
Strass and Metal



PHOTOGRAPHER: AMER MOHAMAD; STYLIST/CREATIVE DIRECTION: JADE CHILTON; MAKEUP: JULIA RADA; HAIR: IVAN KUZ;
LIGHTING: YASIR ALI; LOCATION: JA HATTA FORT HOTEL; MODEL: MARIAM K @NONDESCRIPSTUDIOS



Jacket in Yellow, Turquoise, Pink
and Green Iridescent Fantasy
Tweed Embellished with Braid
and Jeweled Buttons; Bikini Top
in Silver Iridescent Jersey; Skirt in
Silver and Black Sequined Tulle;
Earrings in Metal and Strass



Valentino Crepe Couture Embroidered Jacket,
Valentino Silk Georgejette Shirt in Ivory



A STORY OF CELEBRATION

Step into a world of luxury with the Spring 2024 Collection's
effortlessly elegant looks

Photographer AMER MOHAMAD *Stylist & Creative Director* CARMEL HARRISON

"ALL ITEMS ARE VALENTINO"

Valentino Feather Top and Pants, Valentino Garavani VLogo Moon Bag in Cedar Yellow



Valentino Crepe Couture Gown

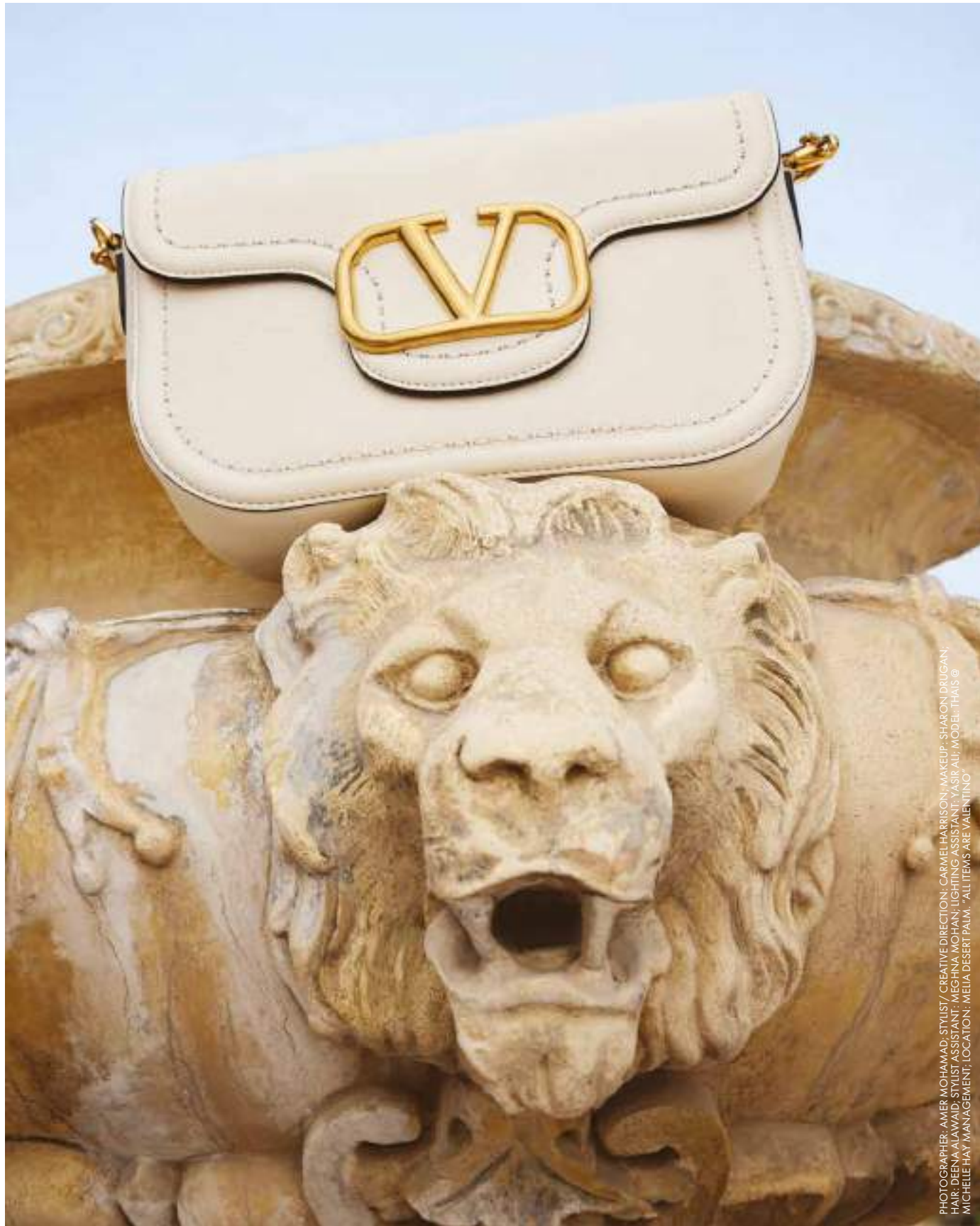


Valentino Crepe
Couture Dress

Valentino Wool and Feathers Knit, Valentino Embroidered Skirt, Valentino Silk Georgejette Shirt in Ivory, Valentino Garavani Alltime Bag in Ivory



Valentino Garavani Rose-Rouche 1959 Sandals



PHOTOGRAPHER: AMER MOHAWAD; STYLIST: CREATIVE DIRECTION: CARMEL HARRISON; MAKEUP: SHARON DRUGAN;
HAIR: DEENA ALAWAD; STYLIST ASSISTANT: MEGHNA MOHAN; LIGHTING ASSISTANT: YASIR ALI; MODEL: THAIS ©
MICHELLE HAY MANAGEMENT; LOCATION: MELIA DESERT PALM. *ALL ITEMS ARE VALENTINO

Valentino Garavani Alltime Bag in Ivory



Valentino Taile Iconographe Jacket and
Shorts, Valentino Garavani VLogo Signature
Headband, Valentino Garavani VLogo
Moon Bag in Cappuccino

SWEPT AWAY

Embrace your inner style siren when the sun
is just about to set and the evening magic is
on the horizon...

Photographer AMER MOHAMAD

Fashion Stylist & Creative Director JADE CHILTON







Full Look, Alaïa
Earrings, & Other Stories





Top, Skirt & Bag, Prada
Earrings, & Other Stories



PHOTOGRAPHER: AMER MOHAMAD @SHOOTMEAMER; CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND FASHION STYLIST: JADE CHILTON @JADESTYLEDIRECTOR; MAKE UP: IRINA KUZMINA @ZOLOTOIRA;
HAIR: IVAN KUZ @IVAN_KUZ; PHOTO ASSISTANT: YASIR ALI SHAH @YASIR_ALI_SHA; MODEL: AINA BOIKO @ALINABOIKO; STYLIST ASSISTANT: SYMA AHMED

Full Look, Balenciaga
Earrings, & Other Stories

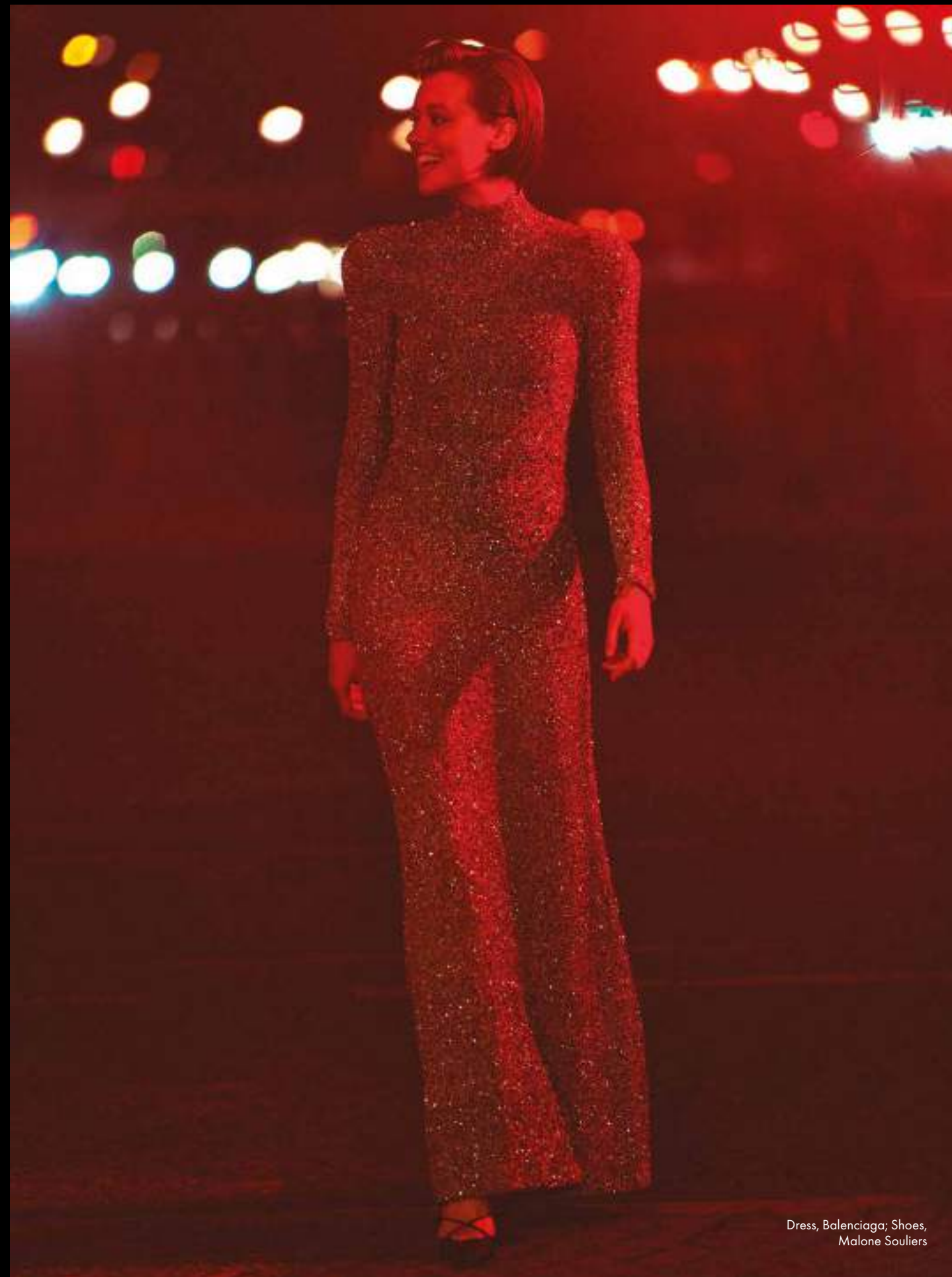


CITY LIGHTS

HIGH DRAMA CALLS FOR
AMPED UP SHINE IN
METALLIC AND BEDAZZLED
SHOWSTOPPERS THAT OOZE
AFTERHOURS GLAMOUR

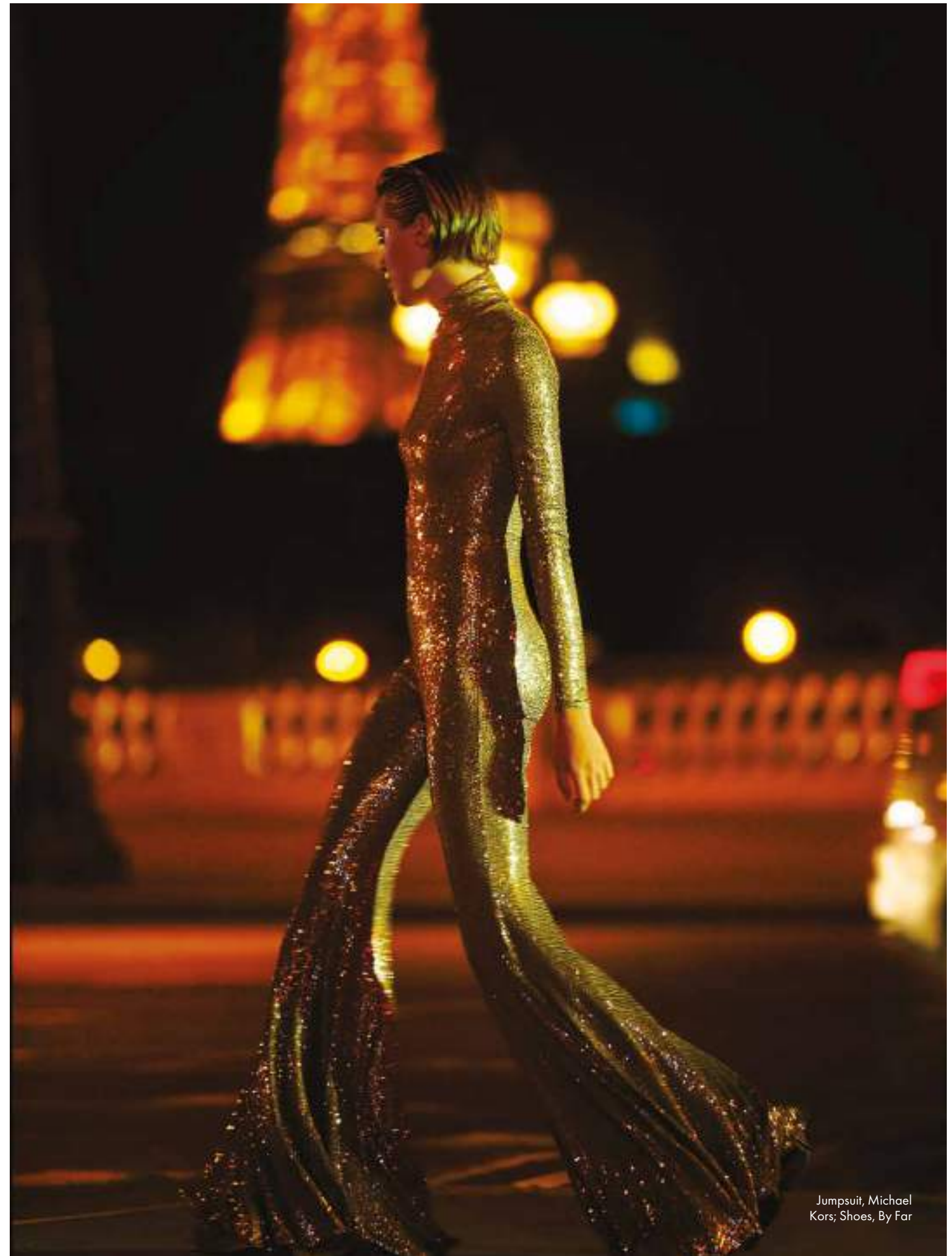
Photographer LAURIE BARTLEY

Stylist AURELIA DONALDSON



Dress, Balenciaga; Shoes,
Malone Souliers

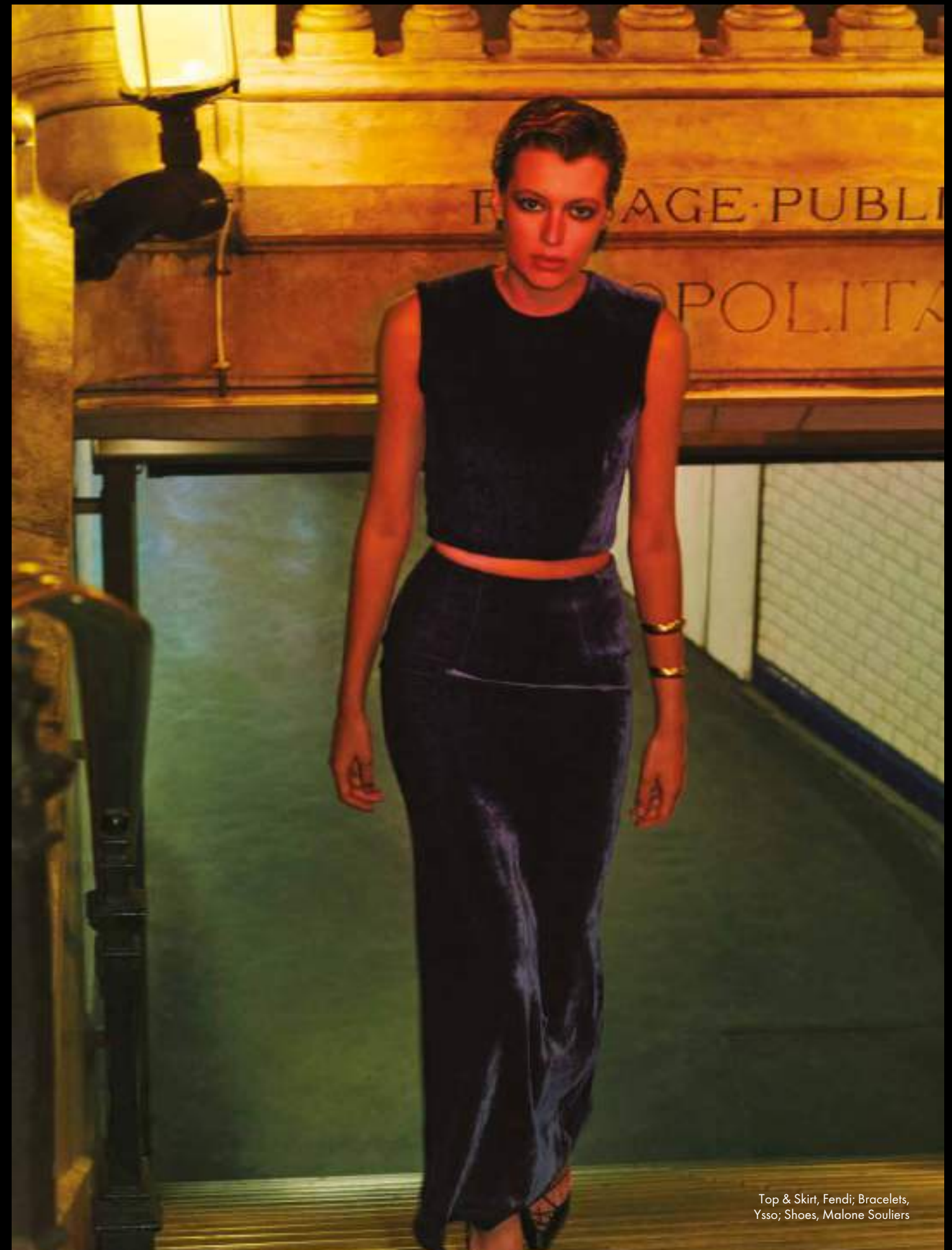
Top & Skirt, Rabanne;
Shoes, Christian Louboutin;
Sunglasses, Nanushka



Jumpsuit, Michael
Kors; Shoes, By Far

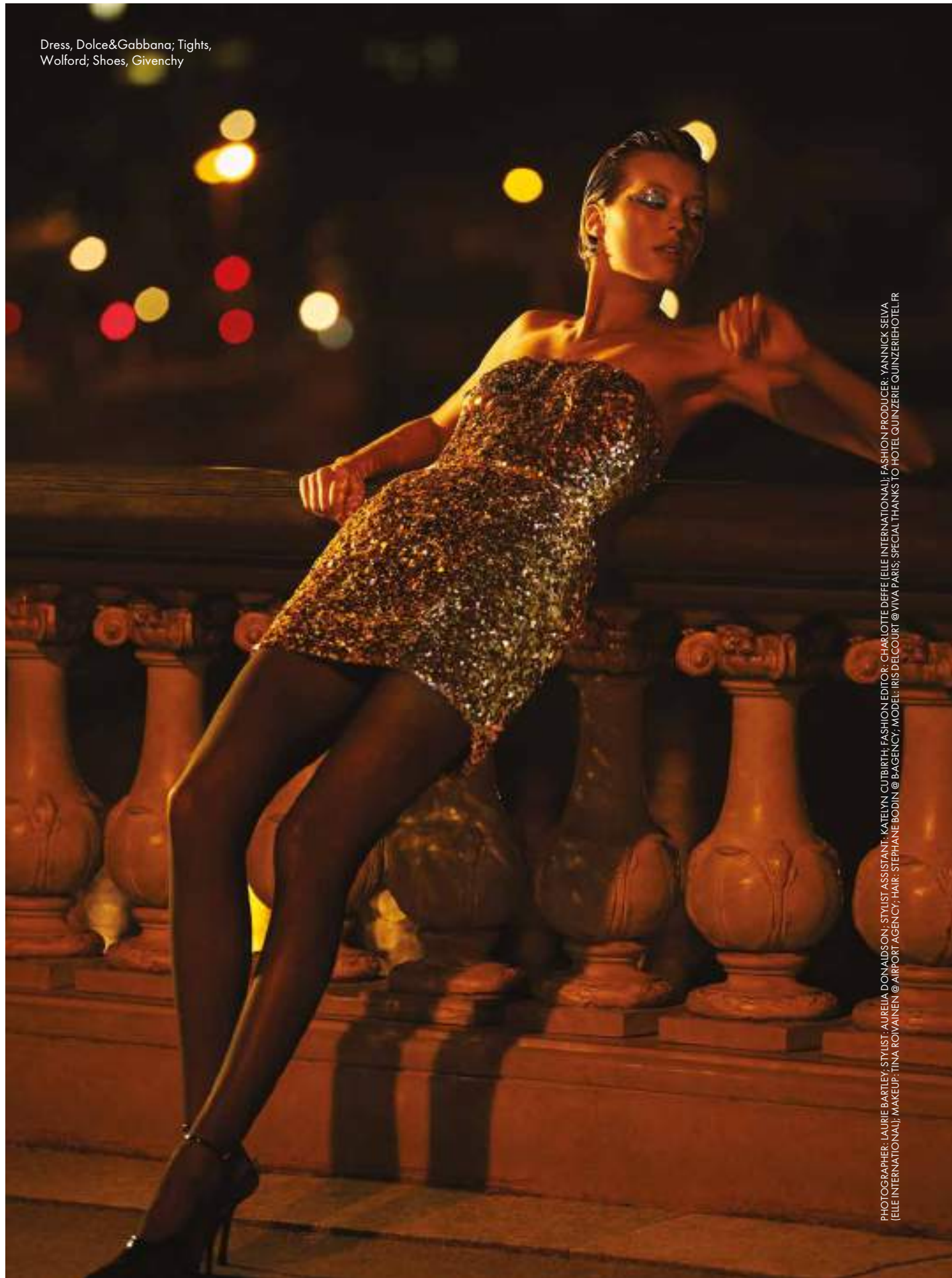


Top, Gucci



Top & Skirt, Fendi; Bracelets, Ysso; Shoes, Malone Souliers

Dress, Dolce&Gabbana; Tights,
Wolford; Shoes, Givenchy



PHOTOGRAPHER: LAURIE BARTLEY; STYLIST: AURELIA DONADSON; STYLIST ASSISTANT: KATELYN CUTBIRTH; FASHION EDITOR: CHARLOTTE DEFFE (ELLE INTERNATIONAL); FASHION PRODUCER: YANNICK SELVA (ELLE INTERNATIONAL); MAKEUP: TINA ROIVAINEN @ AIRPORT AGENCY; HAIR: STEPHANE BODIN @ BAGENCY; MODEL: IRIS DELCOURT @ VIVA PARIS; SPECIAL THANKS TO HOTEL QUINZIERE QUINZIEREHOTEL.FR

Top & Skirt, Chanel;
Shoes, By Far





BAGS & SHOWS FW'23

Lace-up boots are a classic design that will add a modern edge to any style. Case in point, this feathered version from Valentino. Dress, Tie, Bag & Boots, All Valentino

Classic but New

Get the bags and shoes that define your style and quickly switch to the fall/winter mood. Timeless design and unique shape are the keywords.

Photographer TERUO HORIKOSHI Stylist MAI SAKAI

NEW RULE

ADD SHARPNESS BY
STYLING DIFFERENT
MATERIALS TOGETHER



Opposite page: For accessories in black and white, which are eternal colors, you want to choose high-quality items. This Chanel bag, from its FW'23 collection, oozes a classic and modern design that can be enjoyed by all ages, featuring the lovely camellia and a sharp patent gloss. Tight black boots are perfect for adding a cool touch to a romantic look.
Jacket, Skirt, Bag & Boots, All Chanel

This page: Styling with voluminous faux-fur accents is a trend this season. The new Burberry, created by Daniel Lee, is full of standout accessories that also include bags trimmed with eco-fur. **Styling Tip:** The key to a fashionable look is to enjoy the contrast of the materials by pairing them with supple suede shoes.
T-shirt, Necklace, Shoes & Bag, All Burberry

ELEVATE
YOUR STYLE
WITH LUXURY
ACCESSORIES
THAT YOU CAN
LOVE FOR A
LONG TIME



NEW RULE

NEW RULE

3

GIVE CLASSIC ENSEMBLES
A TWIST BY ADDING A
PRINT ACCESSORY



Opposite page: Bags and shoes are an important aspect when it comes to dressing up. Take Dior's 1950s-style dress; paired with an elegant, minimalist bag and shoes, it oozes modern sophistication.
Dress, Beret, Choker, Bag, Gloves & Shoes, All Dior

This page: This season, Balenciaga gives the classic trench coat and denim jeans a modern spin thanks to exaggerated sizing. And the brand didn't stop there; its design-conscious bags with elegant, painterly lily flowers offer a new twist to standard clothing.
Coat, Knit, Pants, Bag & Boots, All Balenciaga

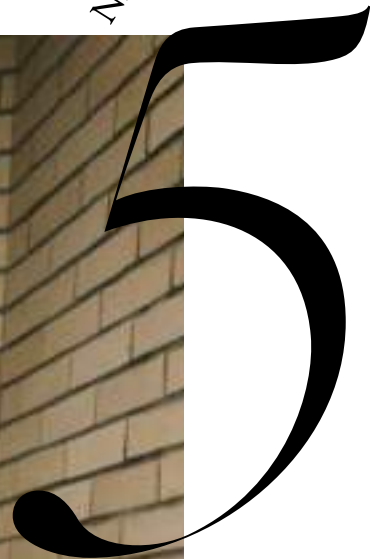


WHEN
DRESSING UP
THIS SEASON,
GO FOR
CONTRAST
RATHER THAN
UNITY

4

NEW RULE

NEW RULE



LOAFERS TURN
THINGS UP A
NOTCH OR TWO



Opposite page: Use as a hard accent to give your styling an edgy finish like a pair of thigh-high boots. Fendi has released super long boots this season that express duality and add sharpness.

Dress, Boots & Bag, All Fendi

This page: When you can't decide on shoes, men's-inspired loafers are your best bet. Gucci offers a pair that are reminiscent of the archival design of the 1990s and early 2000s led by Tom Ford. The brand's icon, the Horse Bit Loafer, has silver hardware and a thick sole for a cooler, more modern look.

Knit, Skirt, Earring, Bag, Tights & Loafers, All Gucci



New Classic

LOOK FOR AN ETERNAL DESIGN THAT THREE GENERATIONS WILL WANT TO OWN.



Make your dream bag boho chic with fringes! From the eternal masterpiece "Birkin", a new bag with bold fringes is born. The new design emphasizes primitive charm and high craftsmanship, giving off a special sense of solidity.
Bag, Hermès

PHOTOGRAPHER: TERUO HORIKOSHI @ TRON; MODEL: STYLIST: MAI SAKAI; HAIR & MAKEUP: TAEKO SUDA; MODEL: VITALINA @ STAGE MODELS

ELLE



beauty

A CAPTIVATING KALEIDOSCOPE...
We can't get enough of the latest, nature-inspired scents from Loewe's Botanical Rainbow collection

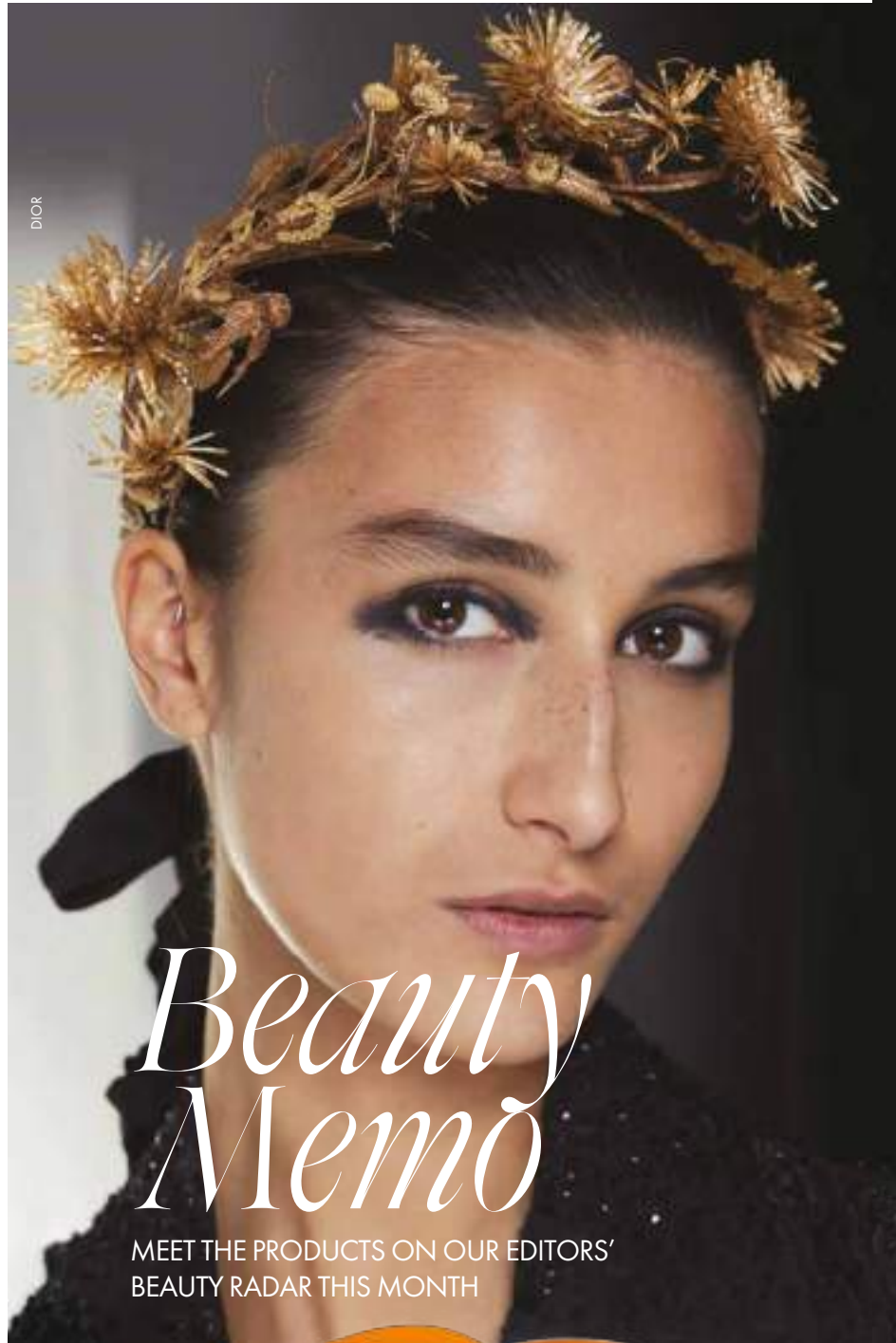


Next Gen...

THE LATEST SCENTS, TEXTURES, AND FORMULAS TO HELP YOU END THE YEAR LOOKING AND FEELING FABULOUS, DARLING

The mane attraction

Whether it's a graphic headpiece or embellished band, statement hair accessories are the ultimate cherry on top of any party-ready outfit. Ring in the new year with our favorite – a dusting of hair glitter seen at Julien MacDonald's FW'23.



Beauty Memò

MEET THE PRODUCTS ON OUR EDITORS' BEAUTY RADAR THIS MONTH

All Naturel

The beloved Lancôme Lash Idôle Mascara is a cult classic offering luscious length and lasting fanned-out volume, perfect for those post party days when you want a no-makeup makeup look.



ON OUR RADAR

Deck the balls

If there's one wreath that should be on your Christmas list, it definitely is Hermès'. Stocked with the Maison's gorgeous hues, the limited edition Nail Enamel Wreath is packed with a signature shade for all of the 24 days leading up to Christmas – it'll be hard to pick which you wear come the 25th!

The cream(s) of the crop

Winter skin got the best of you? Beat dryness, redness, and that nasty flakiness with an arsenal of skin saviors that offer a mix of powerhouse active ingredients that'll dramatically change how your skin looks and feels throughout the season.



CRÈME RICHE, TATA HARPER

SKIN CAVIAR LUXE CREAM, LA PRAIRIE

THE ULTIMATE SOOTHING CREAM, AUGUSTINUS BADER

SISLEYA L'INTEGRAL ANTI-AGE CREAM, SISLEY PARIS



Smells like winter

Spice and everything nice, that's exactly what the new Guerlain collection of extracts from the L'Art & La Matière collection give. Gift to those who love a good olfactory story, just don't forget to customize the bottle – everything from color to stopper can be chosen – with a special message or their initials.

Treasure troves

What's Christmas without a beauty advent calendar? We've rounded up the most spectacular to treat skin care and makeup lovers – yourself included – this holiday season.



HOLIDAY ADVENT CALENDAR, DR. BARBARA STURM

CHARLOTTE'S LUCKY CHEST OF BEAUTY SECRETS, CHARLOTTE TILBURY

ADVENT CALENDAR 2023, NET-A-PORTER



Art 101

'Tis the season for dramatic makeup; from metallic foil eyes to rhinestone clad lips, this definitely is the look to try for your next night out.



Unveiling the Allure of Modern Arab Beauty

SARA AL RASHED, FOUNDER OF SAUDI MAKEUP BRAND ASTERI, SPILLS THE BEAUTY BEANS ON HER FAVORITE PRODUCTS, HER LATEST HOLIDAY COLLECTION AND WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT TO CHANNEL THE MODERN ARAB WOMAN.



Founder Sara Al Rashed

FIRST STEPS INTO THE WORLD OF BEAUTY

It was mere coincidence and curiosity. I have always wanted to create something that represents Saudi women in a non-stereotypical way but never thought, in my wildest dreams, that I would create a beauty brand. I worked in design and architecture previously and I loved doing it but it never fulfilled me. Covid is what drove me to pursue starting a makeup brand. It gave me time to think, reflect and to research beauty.

THE WORLD OF ASTERI

The first desert proof MU brand, we are a clean, vegan high performing and a practical brand that represents where we come from and where want to go. Designed for extreme weather, all our products are skin friendly and are inspired by both my Saudi heritage as well as nature and that can be seen in our formulas, designs, icons and also our shades and names. Take our legacy lipsticks; they are named after women that have had an effect on my life and all these names are Saudi names.

MODERN ARAB BEAUTY

Our latest collection is inspired by the modern Arab woman; she is our main compass in anything we do. She is beautiful, practical, and comes in different shades and looks. Our products will always help her beauty shine without masking it.

MAKEUP FAVORITES

I love every product and I make sure that we don't launch any product unless we love it. My everyday go-tos are the Legacy Lip Balm, the Maha Mascara, the Swoosh Blush Stick, the Universal

Lip Liner, and the Desert Diamond Highlighter. My ultimate favorites though have to be the Swoosh Blush Stick, the Sweet Oasis Lip Gloss and the Aura Radiant Concealer.

SAUDI BEAUTY RITUALS

I think the most loved to me is the act of doing the ritual in groups; my mom used to tell me about her beauty days with her sisters and cousins when they were younger. They used to go to the water springs, spend the day there and do all kinds of beauty rituals.

BEAUTY HACKS & SECRETS

Hydration, hydration, hydration!! From the inside and the outside, drink water and hydrate your face, lips and body. It will change your life. Another hack that I love is to use our Hi Def Lash Comb when my mascara clumps together.



Gold finger

BECAUSE THE HOLIDAY SEASON ALWAYS SCREAMS FOR SOMETHING EXTRA, AND IN BEAUTY'S CASE, IT'S ANYTHING DIPPED IN GOLD!



1. POP POWDERGEL EYESHADOW IN KAN-KAN GOLD, SHISEIDO;
2. EYE TINT LONG-LASTING LIQUID EYESHADOW, ARMANI BEAUTY;
3. EYELASH CURLER, HOURGLASS;
4. LES PINCEAUX HERMÈS LASH AND EYEBROW BRUSH, HERMÈS BEAUTY;
5. GLOWGASM BEAUTY LIGHT WAND IN GOLDGASM, CHARLOTTE TILBURY;
6. GOLD OBSESSIONS EYESHADOW PALETTE, HUDA BEAUTY;
7. LE VERNIS DE CHANEL IN PHÉNIX, CHANEL



SHOW STOPPER

Just in time for the holidays, Benefit Cosmetics breaks down the tips and tricks to achieve the ultimate festive face in three easy steps...

Photographer ADAM BROWNING HILL Makeup KASIA DOMANSKA for Benefit Cosmetics

STEP 1

Start off with the brows; take control of unruly hair with Benefit Cosmetics' 24-Hour Brow Setter Clear Brow Gel and brush those brow hairs upward towards the hairline and outward towards the temple. After the hairs are coated, use your fingertip to gently press the hairs to the skin.

STEP 2

Onto lashes next; forget using falsies when you have Benefit Cosmetics' Fan Fest Fanning Volumizing Mascara. One stroke, and you've got all the volume you want for vavavoom lashes.

STEP 3

Finally, what's a party look without a bit of shimmer and shine? Swept onto cheeks and lids, Benefit Cosmetics' Dandelion Baby-Pink Brightening Blush and the Cookie Golden Pearl Highlighter give the ultimate afterhours glow.

PHOTOGRAPHER: ADAM BROWNING HILL; MAKEUP: KASIA DOMANSKA FOR BENEFIT COSMETICS; HAIR: RAY FAZAA; MODEL: THALYA © @SIGNATUREELEMENT; LOCATION: BICKI BOSS STUDIO

ELLE

culture

A TIME TO SHARE...
Stories, a moment, a
cup of coffee

Reflections...

THE MUSIC, THE BOOKS, THE ART, THE HISTORY
THAT MAKES US SMILE AND THINK

@ASHKAN FOROUZANI



Play

HOUDINI BY DUA LIPA

Dua Lipa has a way of creating the catchiest songs that will get drilled into your brain even while you're asleep or focusing on the following year's plans your boss is presenting. Her newest Dance/Electronic single, 'Houdini', is no different. While we wait for the studio album to drop next year, this song – an ode to the famous late illusionist and escape artist Harry Houdini – is already her highest debut.



Watch See Play

WITH CALENDARS A BUZZING, THESE ARE THE NOTEWORTHY HAPPENINGS CAUSING A BUZZ AT THE MOMENT

see

THE NUTCRACKER AT DUBAI OPERA

Considered one of Tchaikovsky's finest works, 'The Nutcracker' is a festive favorite – and for some, a holiday tradition. Performed at the Dubai Opera from the 15th to 17th of December by the prestigious Ballet Theater and State Opera Orchestra of Astana, the show's melodies will silently hum in your minds long after the final curtain falls!

COMPILED BY SWATIJAIN



Watch

THE CROWN: PART 2 FINAL SEASON

Since it first premiered in 2016, The Crown has held the hearts, attention and Netflix's Top 10 position. As they dropped the first part of the final season in mid-November, we held our breaths and broke our hearts all over again as we saw Princess Diana's coffin escorted by William and Harry down The Mall. Coming to a close on December 14, Part 2 will be the last chapter of this show, focusing on a young Prince William and Kate Middleton.



Follow

'TIS THE SEASON TO EAT AND BE MERRY – HERE ARE SOME FOOD CREATIVES TO FOLLOW FOR RECIPES THAT WILL MAKE YOU JOLLY!



MANON LAGRÈVE
@Manonlagreve

French Baker, Cook, and star of the Great British Bake Off, Manon is gifted with the art of making French baking look easy. She uses a few essential pieces of baking equipment and her secret shortcuts to make us want to master French desserts too!



MARIAM DAUD
@Mxriyum

As a Palestinian home cook, Mariam's recipes and videos are our idea of therapy. The soft background music with easy-to-follow recipes have us wishing for an invite to her table to savor her traditional Palestinian dishes!



CHINU VAZE
@Chefchinuvaze

Cookbook author and TV host, this Indian chef adds a touch of sustainability and nourishment to our feed. She focuses on fusion recipes of Indian street food, with little ayurvedic-approved hacks to daily nutrition.



Listen

STORIES FROM PALESTINE

A go-to for long walks, this podcast by Palestinian musician Zaid Hilal focuses on lively stories and inspiring interviews about Palestine's history and cultural heritage. They cover beautiful stories on resistance, art, poetry, history, and life and death.

Read

A ROUND UP OF THE BEST ARABESQUE COFFEE TABLE BOOKS TO ELEVATE INTERIOR ACCENTS THIS DECEMBER.



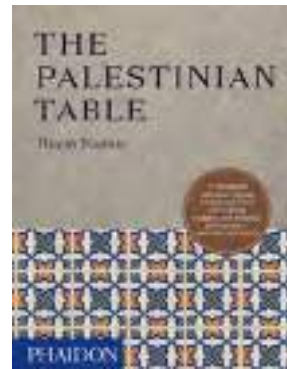
MOROCCAN DECORATIVE ARTS
by Philippe Sabaroff
Morocco's traditional craftsmanship and artistry have been held on a pedestal for a very long time, slowly turning to decorative treasures as an endless source of inspiration for many. This book captures the beautiful palette of colors and sensations of the Arab-Andalusian civilization and pays tribute to Morocco's most exclusive collections of arts and crafts.



THE ART LIBRARY: DISCOVERING ARAB ARTISTS
by Mona Khazindar
In this series, Saudi-born art historian Mona Khazindar works on providing a comprehensive panorama of Saudi and Arab visual artists. Every volume set contains two books dedicated to a Saudi and a non-Saudi artist. Her selection has been diversified across the Middle East, highlighting artists from Iraq, Tunisia, Sudan, Morocco, Lebanon, Jordan, and more.

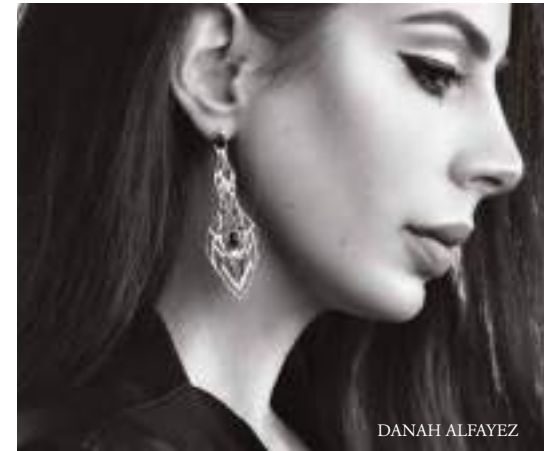


GOLDEN OPULENCE, 500 YEARS OF LUXURIANT STYLE
by Laurence Benaim & Laziz Hamani
History has proven that the idea of luxury isn't a modern concept. Ornaments crafted thousands of years ago show evidence of the pleasure human beings take in possessing unique objects. Capturing five centuries of luxury of the Ottoman Empire, this tome is an immersion into history and a unique way of life.



THE PALESTINIAN TABLE
by Reem Kassis
The easiest distinction to every culture is food and how it is presented, weaved with a tapestry of local traditions, cook's anecdotes, and historical context. The Palestinian Table captures just that – 150 recipes and an invitation for a meal at each and every chef's family table in the heart of beautiful Palestinian kitchens.

COMPILED BY SWATIJAIN



DANAH ALFAYEZ



OBARI CACHET SET, PARIS FASHION WEEK



ELHANATI

ALPHA H SKINCARE

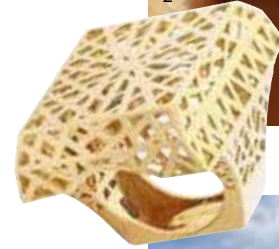
BLUMARINE

Eye on Style

DANAH ALFAYEZ, THE SAUDI ARABIAN FOUNDER AND DESIGNER OF OBARI JEWELRY, SHARES HER INSPIRATIONS FOR UNFORGETTABLE PIECES



OLD PIECE RECREATED



ENIGMA SQUARE RING, OBARI



MONT-SAINT-MICHEL NORMANDY FRANCE



VIETNAMESE CRAFTSMANSHIP



4



OPAL CACHET RING



OPAL CACHET NECKLACE

MELANGE

BY ODEIA MATHEWS

STYLE FILE

Wardrobe Essentials: A black blouse is an absolute essential. You can dress it up or down with the right accessories.

In addition, black leggings are a must for me as they come in handy with completing casual outfits as well as work attire.

Skincare: A BHA like salicylic acid, as I have oily skin and it helps with keeping it intact.

It keeps pores unclogged and acne-free. **Sustainable Jewelry:** I love Elhanati, the Danish jewelry brand as they have unique pieces and they ethically source their stones, as well as use recycled gold and metals. (1)

DESIGN & CULTURE

Influences: My designs are geometrical but still encompass a modern twist of Arabic architecture. Saudi Arabia has a great deal of Islamic and arabesque art in their architectural style which influences some of my designs. **Memories:** I cherish a ring that my mother bought for me as a child. It is a small emerald ring that I chose and that sparked my love for jewelry, it holds a lot of sentiment and meaning. **Culture:** A lot of my pieces have an arabesque touch to them as Arabic and Islamic architecture have always been a big part of my inspiration. Saudi Arabia as an Islamic country has a lot of that to offer. (2)

INSPIRATION

History: Historical buildings in particular inspire me, whether it be in Europe, the Middle East or the Far East. **Travel:** A country that inspires me, apart from Saudi Arabia is Vietnam. I am amazed by Hoi An, and their craftsmanship in fashion, leather goods, and arts is outstanding. (3)

LEISURE

Current Read: 'All The Light We Cannot See' by Anthony Doerr. **Ideal Escape:** I tend to travel to new places and see the world. My idea of relaxation would be beach destinations. **Favorite Movies:** Shawshank Redemption, The Intouchables, and Parasite. (4)

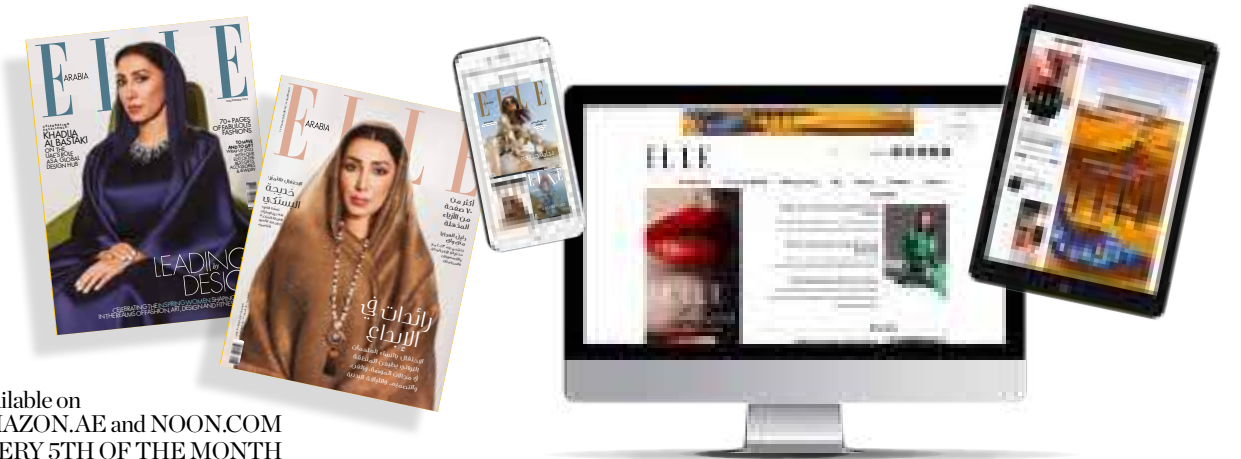
COLLECTIBLES & CUSTOMIZED DESIGNS

Pearls: A customer came in with diamonds and Bahraini pearls that she wanted to have redesigned. This was the very first piece I ever created, and the reason I started my jewelry brand. I love revamping old pieces. **Red Carpet:** The perfect piece for a red-carpet would be the Opal Cachet set. It is bold, yet delicate and elegant. **What's New?** I have actually just launched a new collection called Melange, which consists of gold and enamel pieces that can be layered and matched according to a clients taste and style. This line is more versatile and suitable for everyday wear. (5)



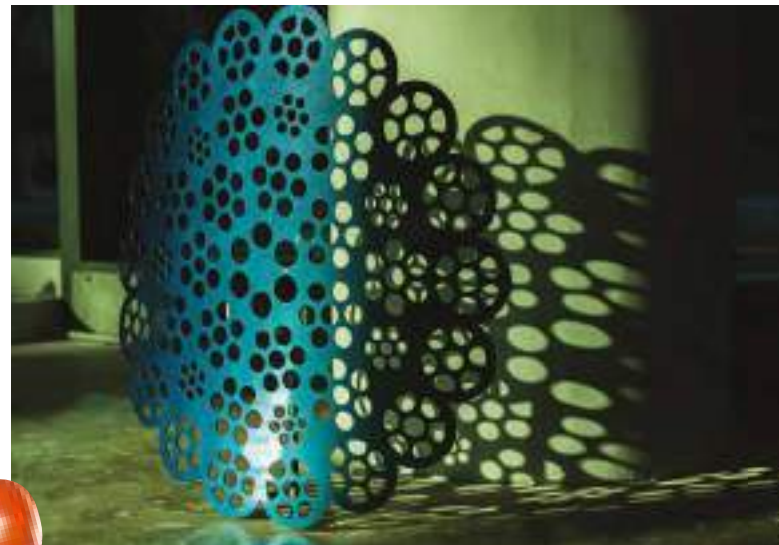
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The big picture

CLIMATE CHANGE, FUEL CONSUMPTION AND THE EARTH. MONIRA AL QADIRI USES ART TO CONVEY A MESSAGE ABOUT THE SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACT OF OUR DEPENDENCE ON OIL AND FOSSIL FUELS. THE KUWAITI VISUAL ARTIST TALKS TO ELLE ARABIA ABOUT TWO BODIES OF HER WORK: BENZENE FLOAT AND NAWA, SHOWCASED AT THE ICD BROOKFIELD PLACE, DIFC.

Kuwait-based artist Monira Al Qadiri isn't afraid to delve deep into complex matters, which on the surface, may often be overlooked. Her most recent exhibition 'Floating World' features five inflatable sculptures that hover in the air. Reimagined by Monira, and co-commissioned with the Museum Kunsthaus Bregenz in Austria, the installations take viewers on a journey of self-reflection to explore the dominance of oil-derived chemicals in our daily life. Monira's works stand to question and document change, evolution, and the need for awareness as we progress. From recalling the history of the Gulf region, cultural influences, and pearling, to the modern-day oasis in the desert that relies on the power of oil, Monira makes the invisible, visible. By contemplating the molecule not as an invisible fuel source, but as an inflatable, unavoidable object, she presents the fragility and perishability of its structure, allowing us to imagine that one day it must be left behind.

What is the core vision behind your work? My work is very much biographical. It's related to my personal life, but I use my life as a kind of allegory or microcosm for bigger issues in the world today.

What is the message behind the five inflatable sculptures at Benzene Float? Benzene Float is a work that I've been working on for the past year, and it's basically these space-filling models that are used in science and chemistry, but I enlarge them into these exaggerated forms in order to highlight the huge place that these molecules take up in our daily lives. I wanted to enlarge and highlight their placement in modern society.

How does your work relate to COP28 and the international climate summit in Dubai? I think you can view my work through an ecological lens. For me, it's very personal. It's kind of an existential subject as a Kuwaiti. The topic of petrochemicals and oil is very much related to my personal life, but at the same time, it's related to everyone's life on planet Earth. And I'm asking questions about how do we think of these substances? Do we continue to rely on them? How do they continue to shape our societies? These are questions, obviously, that are also part of this climate summit.

Energy consumption and conservation is important today, more than ever. What are your thoughts? I don't know if it's more a question of conservation or a question of evolution. I think that these materials need to evolve in order to become more climate friendly and to be more conscious of the Earth around us. The Earth is the only planet we can live on, so we have to consider these issues seriously.

You are known for your concepts and themes related to oil. How did this come about and why? In 1991, I was a 7-year-old child living through the Gulf War in Kuwait, and 700 oil fields were burned. They continued burning for about two years. We lived in a bubble of oil. The sea was black, the sky was black, the earth was black, it was raining black, so that was the first time I came into contact face-to-face with this material and started to think about it. The more I thought about it over the years, the



RAPID FIRE

My top three favorite museums to visit are Kunsthaus Bregenz, Austria; UCCA Dune Art Museum, China; and Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, in which I've all had three shows this year. **A place that inspires me is** the desert. I love the desert. My go-to place for a relaxing escape is the Hot Springs. **A book that I am currently reading is** The History of Pearls. **An emerging artist that I am closely following is** the Romanian-American sculptor, Andra Ursuta.

more I felt like it's a character in my own story. I then started to think more and more about it and making works around that subject.

Tell us about your inspiration from cultural histories. I'm from Kuwait, where before the oil economy, the main economic activity was pearl diving, similar to the UAE. My grandfather was a singer on a pearl diving boat, and thus all of my work tries to reconcile these histories together. These come together from references of pearls and oil, colors and forms, ideas, stories, and narratives. This is something I've been working on for more than a decade.

What ideas are you bringing forward with NAWA? NAWA is a new body of work related to the inner mechanics of the oil industry, which I've been interested in for a very long time. As someone from Kuwait, I always thought it was strange that I don't know more about this industry. I want to know the

kind of visual signifiers related to it, the little machines and tools that are part of this huge, complex industry. One of them is these cables that bring out the oil from the earth, and they're constructed in different ways for different weights and processes. So, if you cut them in half, they make these beautiful flower patterns. I've rendered them into this field of flowers which is seductive and strange at the same time.

PHOTO BY SEEING THINGS; WORDS BY ODEIRA MATHEWS

IT PAYS TO BE DISLOYAL

We've all got our favorites. Our favorite meal, our preferred drink, our chosen hotel even. But we're starting to question, where's the fun in playing favorites? With so many studies noting the benefits of trying new things, we're ready to shake off routine - and have found just the thing to help you do that.

Dis-loyalty is a new and unique membership programme dedicated to lifestyle, bringing together too-good-to-be-true savings at more than 80+ hotels and 170+ restaurants and bars around the world, from a collective of 10 globally iconic brands, including SLS, 25hours Hotels, The Hoxton, and Mondrian. Refreshingly based on simplicity and transparency, it gives its members bigger discounts for going somewhere new within The Dis-loyalty Collective. Members get five core benefits: 50% off just-opened hotels in the first three months after opening (currently that includes SO/ Maldives and Mondrian Bordeaux); 20% off every first-time stay in every hotel (including those we love, like SLS Dubai, SO/ Paris, Mondrian Doha, and The Hoxton, Shoreditch); 10% off all return stays; 10% off food and drink at restaurants (including local favourites, Tandoor Tina at 25hours Dubai One Central, The Citronelle Club & Brasserie Uptown at SO/ Uptown Dubai, and Fi'lia at SLS Dubai - so that's breakfast, lunch, dinner, and drinks, all sorted) and 365 free barista-made drinks like coffee, tea, and even oat chai lattes — one every day of the year.

It feels perfect for those who love exploring, with hotels in over 50 destinations, including Dubai, Doha, London, Miami, Paris, and The Maldives. Plus, with more than 15 openings planned for the next 12 months, members will be able to take advantage of the opening 50% discount at more hotels including Mondrian Hong Kong, Hyde London City, SLS Barcelona, and The Hoxton, Edinburgh — there will always be somewhere new to try. For the "20% off first stay" benefit, all members start with a fresh slate, so even if they have stayed at one of



FI'LIA AT SLS DUBAI



25HOURS HOTEL DUBAI ONE CENTRAL



SO/ MALDIVES OVERWATER VILLA

the listed hotels before becoming a member, they'll still benefit from their "first stay" discount at all hotels after they sign up.

Dis-loyalty is not a traditional loyalty scheme — there is no need to earn points, no tiers to climb, and no need to wait for the rewards as members get instant perks from the moment they sign up. There are no complicated T&Cs or blocked dates for

hotel stays, and members can take advantage of their food & drink discount any time, whether staying the night at the hotel or not. There must be a catch, right? Well, it's an affordable one, as Dis-loyalty is 60 AED per month, or 720 AED annually, to sign up. You may be wondering if the savings justify the cost, so let's do the maths. Members save more than 1,700 AED on average for a single booking — with one member saving more than 52,000 AED on a recent trip to SO/ Maldives at 50% off. Without traveling, members with a property in their city could save 1,040 AED every year on coffee alone (and you'd only need to have one a week to cover the cost of the membership anyway). No brainer, right? Also, becoming a member doesn't just give benefits; it helps give back, too. Dis-loyalty will donate 5% of membership subscription revenue to charities that work tirelessly to support the local communities our hotels call home as part of its mission to leave a positive impact.

What are you waiting for? Because when there's so much on offer, you don't need to stay (or play) in the same place twice. Dis-loyalty.com

BELLE

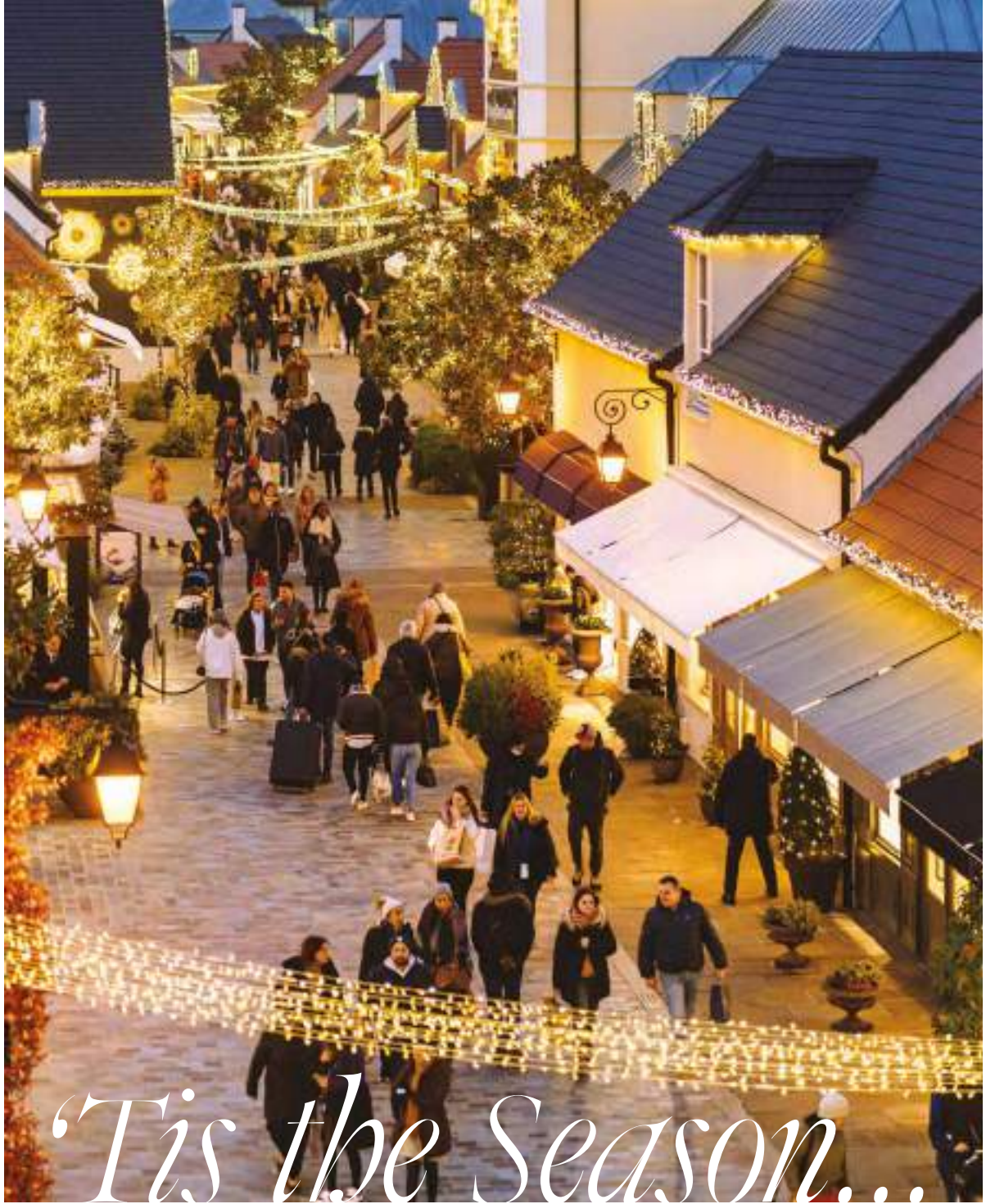
lifestyle

BETTER TOGETHER...
Hand in hand,
side by side, 'tis
the season to
gather

End of Year...

WHETHER YOU'RE HEADING OUT OR STAYING IN, WE HAVE THE DESTINATIONS AND DÉCOR FOR YOU

VICTORIA DRUC



'Tis the Season...

LA VALLEE VILLAGE

*...to shop, share, celebrate,
and make memories at any
one of the many villages in
the Bicester Collection*

You'll be spoilt for choice at any of the Villages that are part of The Bicester Collection, which comprises 11 shopping destinations across Europe and China. These luxury shopping havens are a must-visit for a taste of fashion, art, culture, and gastronomy. This being the perfect time of the year to experience the spirit of Christmas, each Village offers a distinct adventure and special attractions all lined up under the stars to make the ambiance a picture-perfect hallmark moment.

Imagine the aroma of caramel coffee, waffles, and winter brews filling the air, as you take in the festive decorations filled with colorful baubles and glowing lights. The ambiance at The Bicester Collection Villages is by far the most unforgettable experience for the senses, making the shopping experience an exceptional one-of-a-kind adventure.

The Sights: Sustainable decorations from artisan studio Wanda Barcelona light up Las Rozas Village (Madrid) and Kildare Village (Dublin), while renowned flower designer Daniel Ost puts his spin on a forest-themed celebration at the Maasmechelen Village (Belgium). The Fidenza Village (Milan) boutiques are wrapped up in traditional decorations, complete with a big red bow and glittering fairy lights.

What's Hot? The one-of-a-kind pop-up experiences that celebrate emerging talent. Charlotte Tilbury and Instagram-famous Scandi jewellery brand Maanesten have opened at the Wertheim Village, outside of Frankfurt. At the Kildare Village, designs of award-winning couturier and visual artist Laura Jayne Halton will be on display, in addition to hand-crafted luxury furniture from Dunleavy Bespoke, alongside heritage jewelry pieces by Loinnir Jewelry.

Artistic Influences: If you're looking to enjoy artistic and cultural influences, then the La Vallée Village, on the outskirts of Paris, features the mesmerising Mille Miroirs installation by immersive artist Cyril Lancelin. If in London, The Bicester Village will feature the work of lyrical poet Arch Hades, and spoken word artist George The Poet, to offer a unique cultural experience for visitors.

Must-Try: Food makes the heart happy and the soul grateful. Experience gastronomical delights at every Village. At the Las Rozas, the Christmas Gastro Market is a must-try. What makes it special is the local cuisine offering Iberian products and the best traditional and handmade Spanish artisanal 'turrone's' from Casa Mira.

Don't Miss...the opportunity to shop and contribute to a good cause. All through the festive season, the Villages are supporting women and children by charity partners who contribute towards the empowerment of the less fortunate, those with serious illnesses, and for causes such as the end of child marriage.

Earn Mile: Earn Skywards Miles when shopping with your favourite designer brands, dining at the restaurants, pop-ups and more throughout the Villages across Europe and China.

Membership Perks: The Villages' Membership program enables guests to discover a world of special experiences and personalised treats, including tailored rewards, access to exclusive collections, additional savings, and member-only invitations to Private Sale and special events. Join at <https://www.thebicestercollection.com/en/member>





Radisson Collection Hotel, Santa Sofia Milan

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN MILAN'S CHARM, WHERE LANDMARK ARCHITECTURE MEETS GASTRONOMIC EXCELLENCE IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

THE LOW DOWN: Strategically positioned between Piazza del Duomo and the Navigli canal district, this fifth luxury-lifestyle hotel is a Milanese gem. Architects Studio Marco Piva transformed the 1960s Allianz Italia headquarters into a five-star haven, preserving the original façade and roof's architectural significance. Explore Milan's attractions from the central location. Take a scenic walk to Castello Sforzesco or Piazza del Duomo. Indulge in local coffee or bites as guests immerse themselves in the city's rich history.

COMFORT & STYLE: The 5-star hotel pampers the senses in true Italian fashion, prioritizing flavors, sights, and comfort. Choose from 159 rooms and suites, each designed for comfort and style. Sofia Kitchen & Bar on the ground floor offers a unique blend of American, Milanese, and Mediterranean flavors. ISSEI Rooftop on the seventh floor serves Nikkei cuisine with stunning views.

Rooms include soft bathrobes with slippers, espresso machines, and Collection bathroom amenities. Guests can retreat to their Collection Room after a busy day, featuring a warm and cozy bed. Spacious suites provide separate sleeping and living areas.

THE AMMENITIES: Sofia Kitchen & Bar, an all-day dining restaurant, reflects Milanese history with its elegant maximalism design. For a unique dining experience, ISSEI Rooftop on the seventh floor offers Nikkei cuisine and breathtaking views of Milan. A new terrace on the fourth floor features an outdoor swimming pool and lounge bar, perfect for warmer months. Guests can also enjoy a 24-hour fitness center, sauna, and personalized service with care products by Culti Milano. "The guests will have a truly exceptional Milanese experience," says Marco Scola, General Manager.



BUILT IN 1915, THE BUILDING WAS THE HEADQUARTERS OF TOURING CLUB ITALIANO, FOUNDED IN 1894 WITH THE AIM OF PROMOTING ITALY. WHILE IT WAS EXTENSIVELY RENOVATED AND TRANSFORMED INTO PALAZZO TOURING CLUB MILAN BY RADISSON COLLECTION, THE TOURING CLUB'S EXTRAORDINARY HISTORICAL BOOK STORE AND TRAVEL AGENCY HAS BEEN MAINTAINED.

MUST VISIT

UNWIND IN THE ELEGANCE OF PALAZZO TOURING CLUB MILAN BY RADISSON COLLECTION, THE RECENTLY-RENOVATED MASTERPIECE BLENDING HISTORICAL CHARM WITH MODERN LUXURY

Step into the heart of Milan's glamour at Palazzo Touring Club by Radisson Collection. This 5-star gem, born from the historic Touring Club Italiano headquarters features 89 chic rooms, and offer views of Corso Italia or a serene courtyard. Indulge in culinary delights at Bistrot Bertarelli 1894 Milano, a haven of Italian flavors, or sip sophistication at Veloce Milano, a trendy cocktail bar inspired by the 1870 Veloce Club. Explore Milan's iconic landmarks, from the majestic Duomo to the cultural richness of La Scala, all within a leisurely walk.



WHAT TO PACK



BLAZÉ MILANO @ NET-A-PORTER



LOUIS VUITTON COLORMANIA



DIOR



DOLCE & GABBANA



JIMMY CHOO



VERSACE



THE GRAND EXTERIOR OF THE HOTEL

ISABEL MARANT

Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo

DISCOVER THE WORLD-RENOWNED ELEGANCE AND PRESTIGE OF THIS TIMELESS PALACE

THE LOW DOWN

Nestled at the vibrant center of Place du Casino, the renowned Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo presents a unique and unrivaled experience for its guests. Seamlessly blending the enchantment of a legendary hotel with an array of extraordinary attractions, it offers everything

from Michelin-starred dining experiences to the allure of the Jewelers' Courtyard, the grandeur of Opéra Garnier, the excitement of Casino de Monte-Carlo, the rejuvenating Thermes Marins Monte-Carlo, and an array of other captivating offerings – all thoughtfully curated into a singular, unforgettable destination.

SUITE PRINCE RAINIER III

The Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo has played a significant role in the lives of Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace. Back in 1956, the hotel hosted their wedding breakfast, marking the beginning of a cherished connection. Two decades later, they joyously commemorated their wedding anniversary within its opulent walls, and in 1974, Prince Rainier celebrated the 25th year of his reign at the hotel with great pomp. Today, Hôtel de Paris Monte-Carlo honors Prince Rainier's legacy by dedicating a distinctive suite in his name. Created using the best in French and Italian craftsmanship, it features two bedrooms, a large main lounge with a bar area, a smaller lounge and a library, a dining room and an office space. This in addition to a heated infinity edge swimming pool and a dedicated team of private Clefs d'Or concierges at the entire disposal of guests of the Suite.



26/4/1957 GALA DINNER BRITISH AMERICAN HOSPITAL

@ARCHIVES MONTECARLO SBM



PRINCESS GRACE SUITE EXUDES LUXURY AT ITS FINEST



PRINCESS GRACE SUITE

Contemporary design, spectacular outdoor spaces and a 180° view of the Mediterranean, make this luxury suite the most exclusive and exceptional setting on the Riviera. Spread across two floors, it oozes elegant curves and minimalist lines over nearly 1,000sqm adorned with the beauty, elegance and character of the princess herself as well as some of her personal souvenirs, including her favorite poems and books.

GASTRONOMY

With Alain Ducasse presiding over the entire hotel's dining options, foodies will know they are in for a treat. His first outlet, the Louis XV restaurant, is nestled within a stunning Rococo dream serving up three-star Michelin dishes alongside an extensive vino cellar containing more than 600,000 bottles! Then there is Em Sherif where guests can embark on a sensory excursion that highlights authentic Lebanese - Mediterranean cuisine. Le Grill offers panoramic views of the Riviera, great for those who love Al Fresco dining. End with Bar Américain, where post-dinner drinks and live jazz will make this journey an unforgettable one.



WHAT TO PACK



JIMMY CHOO

JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

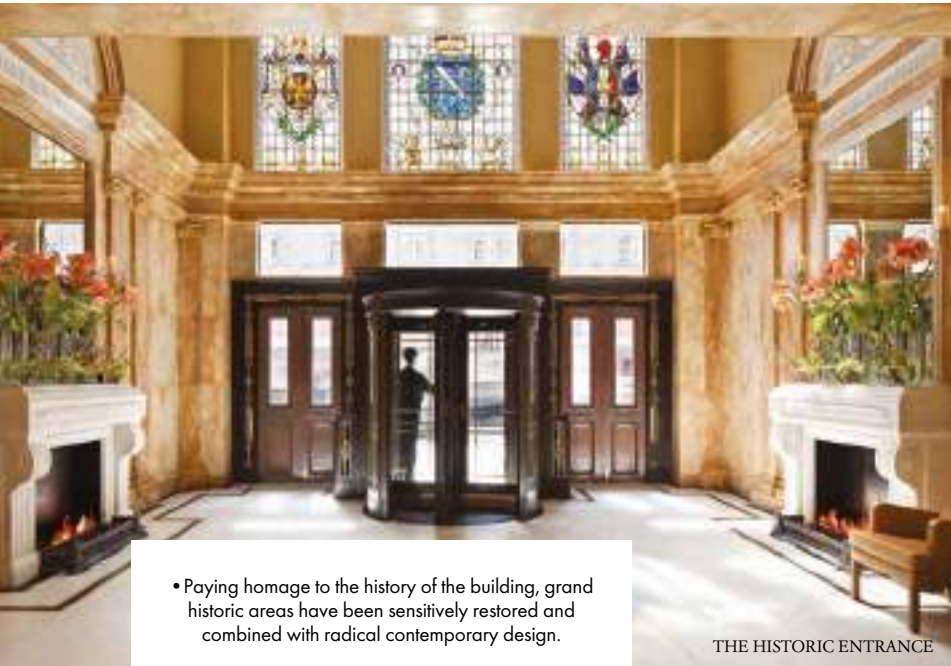
VYRAO

JOHANNA ORTIZ

MARINA B FENDI

Hotel Café Royal, London

A LAVISH ESCAPE, WHERE THE MEETING OF HISTORIC CHARM AND CONTEMPORARY LUXURY ENSURES AN UNFORGETTABLE STAY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY



• Paying homage to the history of the building, grand historic areas have been sensitively restored and combined with radical contemporary design.

THE HISTORIC ENTRANCE



HOTEL CAFÉ ROYAL

classics in the intimate 34-seat dining room. The Green Bar, with its lively botanical-themed cocktails, and The Gallery, offering Mediterranean classics with a twist, further enhance the culinary experience. But it's not just about the food. Hotel Café Royal is home to Akasha Holistic Wellbeing, an expansive urban retreat featuring a large lap pool, a fully equipped gym, and signature treatment rooms.

In the heart of central London, you'll find Hotel Café Royal - a luxurious haven that weaves together historic charm and modern design. The carefully restored grand areas coexist with cutting-edge elements, creating an atmosphere that honors the building's rich history. Located on Regent Street, the hotel is perfectly positioned between the elegance of Mayfair to the west and the creative energy of Soho to the east. It's an ideal retreat for those wanting to dive into the vibrant pulse of the city, surrounded by top-notch shopping, tourist attractions, and theatreland. Each one of the 159 guest rooms and suites (which range from one to six bedrooms) draws inspiration from the venue's glorious past.

Food enthusiasts will delight in the culinary offerings, as renowned chef Alex Dilling serves up gastronomic French

• Albert Adrià, who was voted the World's Best Pastry Chef, explores a parade of exceptional desserts at his first London location, Cakes & Bubbles.

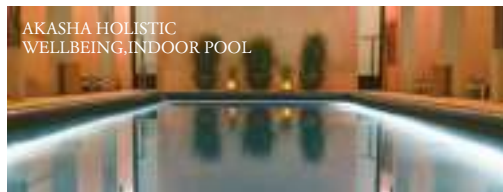


CAKE AND BUBBLES



DOR SUITE,
DINING ROOM

• Following the success of his time at the helm of Two-Michelin star kitchens, Chef Alex Dilling is delighted to have found his new home at Hotel Café Royal



AKASHA HOLISTIC WELLBEING, INDOOR POOL



ROOF PENTHOUSE TERRACE



Desserts to impress

Get festive with delicious, light pastry recipes and desserts! The acclaimed French chef, Pierre Hermé, is offering a new world of plant-based "Haute-Pâtisserie" in his latest book "Pâtisserie Végétale" (Solar Editions). He rises to the challenge, turning his "signature" creations, as well as some new additions, into vegetal interpretations, alongside his co-author, Linda Vongdara. Discover a new gourmet taste, totally guilt-free. 100% Homemade!

Photographed by LAURENT FAU Styled by SARAH VASSEGHI Recipes by PIERRE HERMÉ with LINDA VONGDARA
Compiled by ELISE WEBBER & EVELYN SHARP

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WHO IS THE CHEF? Since 1998, Pierre Hermé has been revolutionizing the world of pâtisserie with his famous macarons, his "Haute-Pâtisserie", notably the Ispahan or the tart "Infiniment chocolat", sold in his boutiques all over the world. Today, Hermé offers a new story of gourmandise and emotion created with 'vegetal' products: "In this universe, there are no charts or pre-established rules giving you the equivalents to replace eggs, butter or cream. It's all a question of combining elements to find the perfect compromise to successfully make a cake". His encounter with Linda Vongdara (former fashion stylist turned chef, founder of L'Okara, the first French pastry school dedicated to vegetal pâtisserie), was instrumental in helping him to grasp this new knowledge, to offer a new way of tasting: "I surprised myself by discovering infinitely delicious creations, with incredibly light textures and flavours". Change your point of view to change your point of view!

"PÂTISSERIE VÉGÉTALE" BY PIERRE HERMÉ WITH LINDA VONGDARA - SOLAR EDITIONS. PLEASE FIND ALL FURTHER TECHNICAL DETAILS IN THE BOOK...



IMAGE CREDIT: © COURTESY LAURENT FAUJON "PÂTISSERIE VÉGÉTALE" - ÉDITIONS SOLAR, PARIS

Ultimate chocolate Macaron

"I wouldn't dream of experiencing these little drops of happiness without the texture of the biscuit and the crunch of the crust, enhanced by an excellent filling. For the chocolate cream, an oat beverage and chocolate fats are all you need to magnify the intensity and purity of the flavor." Pierre Herme

FOR APPROX. 72 MACARONS

(i.e. 144 shells) Preparation time 3h • Resting time 24h • Cooking time 16mn.

CHOCOLATE MACARON BISCUIT

285g almond powder • 285g powdered sugar • 65g cocoa powder, sifted • 325g mineral water • 19g potato protein • 335g caster sugar

The macaron biscuits

Mix the almond powder and caster sugar to make a 'tant-pour-tant'. Mix 120g of water and 7g of potato protein, then add this mixture to the 'tant-pour-tant' and cocoa powder. In a saucepan, melt the sugar with 85g of water at 118°C using a thermometer or digital probe. Next, mix 120g of water in with 12g of potato protein. When the sugar reaches 110°C, whisk the water/protein mixture in the stand mixer bowl, with a whisk attachment. Once the mixture is firm but not too stiff, set the mixer to the second highest speed and pour in the melted sugar. Leave to cool to around 35/40°C, then remove the bowl from the mixer. Fold the meringue into the cocoa powder/water/protein mixture. Let it fall off the whisk and come to a peak.

Baking and Filling

Using a piping bag fitted with a n° 11 straight nozzle, pipe 150 or so macaron shells that are 3.5cm to 4cm in diameter onto baking trays lined with greaseproof paper. Leave to solidify at room temperature for around 30mn. Bake in a fan oven at 150°C for about 16mn., opening the oven door twice to allow moisture to escape. Leave to cool on baking trays. Transfer the baking trays onto wire racks and leave to cool. Chop up the dark chocolate, then boil the oat (or soya) beverage/glucose syrup and pour it over the chocolate. Start by mixing from the centre, widening the movement as you stir. Add the oil, then, using a hand-held blender, blend the ganache. Pour into a stainless-steel container and tightly seal. Leave it to cool and then chill in the fridge for 30mn. before piping the ganache directly onto the macaron biscuits.

CHOCOLATE CREAM

300g oat or soya beverage • 15g glucose syrup • 375g dark chocolate (Manjari 64% Valrhona® cocoa) • 60g peanut/rapeseed/grape seed oil (adapt to your liking)

CHOCOLATE CHIPS WITH FLEUR DE SEL

200g dark chocolate (Manjari 64% Valrhona® cocoa) • 3.6g Guérande fleur de sel

Crush the fleur de sel with a rolling pin and then sift it through a medium or fine sieve, using only the finest crystals from the sieving process. You will first need to temper the dark chocolate to keep it shiny, smooth and a consistent texture. Start by chopping up the chocolate with a serrated knife and then melt it in a bowl placed in a saucepan over a bain-marie. Stir gently with a wooden spoon until it reaches 50/55°C. Remove the chocolate from the bain-marie. Place it in a second bowl filled with water and 4 or 5 ice cubes. Stir the melted chocolate from time to time, as it will start to set at the sides of the bowl. As soon as it reaches a temperature of 27/28°C, return the bowl to the pan over the bain-marie, keeping a close eye on the temperature, which should be between 31°C and 32°C. The chocolate is now tempered. Add the fleur de sel. On a sheet of greaseproof paper, spread the tempered chocolate with the fleur de sel. Place a second sheet of greaseproof paper and a weight on top to prevent the chocolate from distorting as it crystallises. Place in the fridge for a few hours. Break it up into smaller pieces, and use immediately, or store in an airtight container in the fridge.

Assembling the macarons

Carefully transfer the macaron biscuits from the baking trays onto a stainless-steel rack. Using a piping bag fitted with a n°11 straight tip, generously fill half the macaron biscuits with cream. Sprinkle the centre with fleur de sel chocolate chips. Cover with another macaron shell, taking care to match sizes. Refrigerate uncovered for at least 24h, although 36h is preferable. Then store the macarons in airtight containers and keep them in the fridge. Remove from the fridge 2h before serving.

Passion fruit & Mango entremets

“For this dessert, fresh mango is accompanied by a fruit mousse, with a rich, tangy and exotic flavour.” Linda Vongdara

SERVES 6 TO 8

Preparation time 6h • Resting time 6h • Cooking time 20 to 22 mn.

GLUTEN-FREE SOFT BISCUIT

120g light cane sugar • 120g sweetened plain soya beverage (if unsweetened, add 12g sugar per 100g soy beverage) • 3g cider vinegar • 15g oat flour or powdered mixed oats • 105g semi-whole rice flour • 15g chickpea flour • 45g potato starch • 7g baking powder • 45g almond powder • 1g xanthan gum • 60g deodorized coconut oil • 60g peanut or grapeseed oil

In a stand mixer, blend the cane sugar, soy beverage and cider vinegar until the sugar is completely dissolved, increasing the volume of liquid. Add the oat/rice/chickpea flour, potato starch, baking powder, yeast, almond powder, xanthan gum and mix well. Allow the starches to hydrate for about 20mn. Emulsify with the oils, pouring them in gradually, and mixing at high speed. Transfer the dough into a 40 x 30cm baking tin placed on a baking tray covered with greaseproof paper. Smooth the surface with an angled spatula and bake in a fan oven at 200°C for 10 to 12mn., until golden on the surface. After baking, leave to cool and cover with film until completely cool. Using a ring as a guide, cut out a disc that is 14cm in diameter. Crumble the remaining biscuit and return to a fan oven at 180°C for 10mn. to roast and dry out; this will be used for the crunchy base.

CRUNCHY BASE

100g Almond Inspiration (Valrhona®) • 110g gluten-free soft baked biscuit • 50g almond powder • 1.5g Guérande fleur de sel

Melt the Almond Inspiration chocolate in the microwave and then mix all of the ingredients together. Spread the mixture so that it is 5mm thick between two sheets of greaseproof paper and place on a baking tray. Cool slightly in the fridge and then cut out a disc that is 14cm in diameter.

MANGO AND PASSION FRUIT COMPOTE

200g passion fruit purée • 60g light cane sugar • 6g NH pectin • 200g mango brunoise

In a saucepan, bring the passion fruit purée to the boil. Add the light cane sugar and pectin. Allow the pectin to dissolve for about 1mn. at a gentle boil. Remove from the heat and add the mango brunoise, stirring well. Pour the compote into a 14cm-diameter tin, place the soft biscuit disc on top and leave to cool. Freeze before use.

PASSION FRUIT AND MANGO MOUSSE

140g coconut milk • 70g mango purée • 80g passion fruit purée • 0.5g agar-agar • 25g cocoa butter (Valrhona®) • 95g raw white almond purée • 40g liquid white yumgo (or 65 g aquafaba) • 40g light cane sugar

In a saucepan, bring the coconut milk, the two fruit purées and the agar-agar to the boil. Emulsify the hot mixture using a hand-held blender with the cocoa butter and almond purée. Cool to 35°C. Whisk the yumgo with the light cane sugar, pouring it in gradually. Incorporate the yumgo and sugar mixture slowly into the fruit mixture. Set aside in the fridge.

MANGO GLAZE

90g light cane sugar • 24g glucose syrup • 4g NH pectin • 350g mango purée

In a saucepan, bring the mango purée, 70g of sugar and glucose syrup to boil. Add the remaining 20g sugar and pectin. Allow the pectin to dissolve while stirring for 1mn. at a gentle boil. Leave to cool.

Assembly

On a baking tray lined with greaseproof paper, place a stainless-steel tin or mould, 15cm in diameter and 4cm in height. Pour the passion fruit and mango mousse a third of the way up. Place the frozen compote disc on top and then the disc of soft biscuit. Pour more mousse right up to the edge of the mould and finally place on the crunchy disc for the base. Leave to cool for 1h in the fridge and then freeze for 4h.

FINISHING TOUCHES

1 fresh mango, peeled and cut into 3 mm-thick strips • 1 passion fruit • 100g neutral glaze

Melt the neutral glaze at 50°C and leave it to cool to 37 °C before using. Remove the dessert from the mould/tin and place it on a stainless-steel rack, placed on top of a baking tray or container. Pour the neutral glaze over the dessert and let it run off the sides and set. Place the entremets in a serving dish and arrange the chiffonade slices of mango. Finish with a drizzle of melted neutral glaze and sprinkle with passion fruit seeds. Set aside in the fridge until ready to eat.



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Ultimate Chocolate Millefeuille

“Once eggs and cream are out of the picture, you are left with the purest chocolate flavour. Combined with the crispness of the puff pastry, I rediscovered the feelings evoked by a very, very good millefeuille.” Pierre Herme

FOR 11 INDIVIDUAL MILLEFEUILLES

Preparation time 6h • Resting time 12h • Baking time 45 mn.

WHIPPED DARK CHOCOLATE (To be prepared the day before)

670g oat beverage • 400g dark chocolate (Ampamakia 64% Valrhona® cocoa)

Chop up the dark chocolate. Bring the oat beverage to the boil and then pour it over the chocolate. Starting from the centre, mix them together, widening the movement as you go along. Then using a hand-held blender, blend the mixture. Pour into a gratin dish, cover with cling film and then leave to cool and set in the fridge for 12h before use.

INVERTED PUFF PASTRY

MARGARINE/FLOUR

375g speciality margarine • 150g T45 flour

Soften the margarine in the bowl of a stand mixer. Add the sifted flour and blend as little as possible just until the mixture is smooth. Spread the pastry out into a rectangle on a sheet of greaseproof paper, cover with a second sheet of greaseproof paper and place in the fridge for 1h.

TO SOAK

150g mineral water • 2.5g white vinegar • 17.5g Guérande fleur de sel • 350g T45 flour • 115g speciality margarine

Soften the speciality margarine in the microwave into a creamy consistency. In the bowl of a stand mixer, combine all the ingredients. Next roll the dough into a square on a baking tray covered with a sheet of greaseproof paper, cover and leave to rest in the fridge for 1h. Encase the soft pastry dough in the margarine/flour mixture. Roll out the pastry lengthways and double turn it twice, 2h apart, leaving the pastry to rest in the fridge between each rotation. Then give it a single turn before proceeding with the detailing.

Rolling out the inverted puff pastry

On a lightly floured work surface, roll out the puff pastry to a thickness of about 2mm, prick it with a fork and then cut it to the size of a baking tray.

Place a sheet of greaseproof paper on the baking tray and roll out the pastry. Place the baking tray in the fridge.

CARAMELISED INVERTED PUFF PASTRY

80g caster sugar • 50g icing sugar

Place the inverted puff pastry on a baking tray lined with greaseproof paper, sprinkle evenly with 80g (for a 60 x 40cm tray) of caster sugar and place in a 230°C fan oven. Immediately lower the temperature to 190°C.

Leave the pastry to cook for 10 mn., then cover with a stainless-steel rack to prevent excessive rising and continue baking for a further 10 mn. Add a

baking tray to the rack, pressing down lightly, and cook for a further 10 mn. Take the pastry out of the oven, removing the rack and baking tray from on top. On a work surface, remove the tray and the sheet of paper used for the first stage of baking, with the underside now on top. Sprinkle the pastry evenly with icing sugar before placing it in the oven at 250°C to finish baking. Remove the pastry from the oven: the surface should be smooth and shiny, with a matt, crunchy underside. Leave to cool. Along the width of the inverted caramelised puff pastry sheet, cut three strips 11 cm wide and then rectangles 2.5cm wide. Set aside for assembly. TIP: Do not overcook the caramelised puff pastry, the pastry will take on a bitter flavour.

COCOA NIB CRISP

64g deodorised coconut oil • 576g almond praline (60 % almonds) • 144g extra cocoa paste (100% Valrhona® cocoa) • 120g cocoa nibs (Valrhona®)

Using a thermometer or digital probe, melt the deodorised coconut oil and the extra cocoa paste at 45°C in a bowl set over a bain-marie. Mix in the almond praline, then stir in the cocoa nibs. Spread the cocoa nib crumble onto a stainless-steel tray covered with a plastic sheet.

Set aside in the fridge for 1 hour and then cut it into 11 x 2.5cm rectangles. Set aside in the fridge or freezer.

DARK CHOCOLATE CHIPS WITH FLEUR DE SEL

500g dark chocolate (64% cocoa Valrhona®) • 9g Guérande fleur de sel
Finely crush the fleur de sel crystals with a rolling pin, then sieve through a medium/fine sieve. Keep only the finest crystals. You will first need to temper the dark chocolate to keep it shiny, smooth and even. Add the fleur de sel. On a sheet of plastic, spread the tempered fleur de sel chocolate to a thickness of about 1mm. Cover with a second sheet of plastic and a weight to prevent the chocolate from distorting as it crystallises. Leave in the fridge for a few hours. Roughly chop half the fleur de sel chocolate into 0.5cm to 1cm pieces.

Assembly

Whip the dark chocolate Chantilly in the bowl of a stand mixer. On a baking tray, place 10 rectangles of caramelised puff pastry, with the shiny caramelised side facing down. Using a piping bag fitted with a plain No. 12 tip, pipe dollops of dark chocolate Chantilly and sprinkle with fleur de sel dark chocolate chips. Place the second rectangle of caramelised puff pastry on top, facing the same way up, and pipe the dark chocolate whipped cream dollops a second time. Finally, place the third rectangle of caramelised puff pastry on top, caramelised side up this time. Pipe the dark chocolate Chantilly cream in a zigzag pattern over the entire surface of the millefeuille. With garnish with 3 large pieces of fleur de sel dark chocolate and enjoy immediately.



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Little almond “Flos”

“This recipe was inspired by a friend, whose favourite pastry is a flan. He inspired me to use oilseed puree to make the creamy base.” Linda Vongdara

FOR 10 TO 12 INDIVIDUAL FLANS

Preparation time 1h 30 • Resting time 20 mn. • Cooking time 40 to 50 mn.

SWEET PASTRY

138g T55 wheat flour • 38g potato starch • 46g cocoa butter (Valrhona®) • 19g grape seed oil • 61g icing sugar • 23g almond powder • 3g Guérande fleur de sel • 61g soya beverage • A little cocoa butter to coat

Mix the flour, potato starch, icing sugar, almond powder and fleur de sel in the bowl of a stand mixer. Melt the cocoa butter in a small saucepan or in a microwave. Mix with the grapeseed oil, then pour into the stand mixer at medium speed, until the fat is absorbed by the dry ingredients. Pour in the soya beverage gradually, stirring constantly until the texture is smooth. Cover the pastry with cling film and chill in the fridge for at least 20mn. to firm up. Remove the pastry from the fridge and roll out to a thickness of around 2 to 3mm between 2 sheets of greaseproof paper. Prick the pastry with a fork and line 10 to 12 pastry rings that are 6cm in diameter and 2.5cm in height. Place the pastry rings in the freezer for 20mn. Preheat

the oven to 180°C. Remove them from the freezer and line them all over with aluminium foil topped with weights or dried beans. Place in the oven for 15-20mn. and then remove the foil, weights or dried beans and finish baking for 5-10mn. at 170°C until golden brown all over. Once out of the oven, apply a little melted cocoa butter to the inside of the pastry shells to keep them crisp. Set aside at room temperature.

FLAN CREAM

250g oat beverage • 180g soya beverage • 110g light cane sugar • 15g potato starch • 15g cornflour • 1g agar-agar • 100g white almond purée • 80g deodorised coconut oil

In a saucepan, make a dry mixture with the sugar, potato starch, cornflour and agar-agar. Mix this with the oat and soya beverages. Bring everything to a boil. Remove from the heat and blend the hot mixture with a hand-held blender, adding the white almond purée and deodorised coconut oil. Fill the pastry shells to the brim with this mixture. Preheat the grill to 200°C and brown the flans for about 5mn. until the surface is golden. Leave to cool completely before serving.



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Babka

“Babka, a Polish brioche, has become a firm favourite with bakers over the last few years. I like to top this particularly light rendition with a homemade spread that’s packed with hazelnuts.” Linda Vongdara

FOR 2 BRIOCHES (serves 6 people)

Preparation time 3 hours • Resting time 15 hours • Baking time 40 mn.

HYDRATED SEED MIXTURE (to be prepared the day before)

10g chia seeds • 10g flax seeds • 10g rolled oats • 30g mineral water
Using a blender, roughly blend the rolled oats and seeds 30mn. before preparing the brioche dough, to allow the seeds to fully absorb the moisture. Pour in the water at room temperature.

BRIOCHE DOUGH (to be prepared the day before)

425g T45 flour • 10g Guérande fleur de sel • 65g caster sugar • 20g fresh yeast • 310g mineral water • 107.5g cocoa butter (Valrhona®) • 107.5g deodorised coconut oil • 60g hydrated seed mix • 6g sunflower lecithin
Melt the deodorised coconut oil and cocoa butter and once melted keep the mixture at 25°C. Place the sifted flour, sugar, baking powder and sunflower lecithin in the bowl of a stand mixer. Turn the machine on to the lowest setting and add around 70% of the mineral water. Let the dough thicken on the same setting and add the remaining water in two stages; let the dough thicken between each step. As soon as the dough pulls away from the sides of the bowl, add the fleur de sel, the hydrated seeds, the melted cocoa butter and deodorised coconut oil, which has been kept at 25°C. Switch to the second setting and wait for the dough to pull away from the sides of the bowl again. Place in a separate bowl, cover with

clingfilm and leave to rise for 1 hour at room temperature. Lightly fold the pastry and set aside in the fridge. Leave to rise for 2 to 2 1/2 hours. Fold the pastry over again and refrigerate for about 12 hours. The dough is ready to be handled and rolled out as soon as it is completely chilled.

TO FINISH

880g brioche pastry • 380g chocolate spread • 200g plain glaze diluted with 50% mineral water

Shaping, baking and finishing

Lightly grease a 16 cm diameter pastry ring and place it on a baking tray lined with greaseproof paper. Divide the brioche dough into two pieces. Roll out the dough pieces, on a lightly floured work surface, into a 7 to 8mm thick rectangle measuring approximately 35 x 25 cm in size. Using a small, angled spatula, apply a very thin layer of the chocolate spread onto the brioche dough. Roll the brioche lengthways onto itself. Using a sharp, lightly greased knife, cut the roll in half down the centre. Twist the two parts together, taking care to place the side with the spread on the top, then roll the twist over itself, like a snail. Carefully place the babkas in the centre of each pastry ring. Leave to rise for 2 hours at 28°C. Preheat the oven to 170°C. Bake the babkas for around 40 mn. While still hot, lightly drizzle with diluted neutral glaze upon taking them out of the oven. Leave to cool slightly before removing from the rings.



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**A ROYAL
Affair**

THIS HOSTING SEASON SEES US
SMITTEN WITH ALL THAT'S BLUE



LIGHT IN THE *Dark...*

WE'RE OBSESSED WITH THESE STATEMENT CANDLEHOLDERS AND THEIR TWISTY SILHOUETTES
Clockwise from left: ARTERIORS, TOM DIXON, POLSPOTTEN, LLADRO, MICHAEL ARAM



Horoscope

December

Text by BERNARD FITZWALTER

Aries

20 MARCH - 19 APRIL

When something doesn't work out for you, you usually just leave it and start again - but not this time. You are still tied to the past, and will have to go back to fulfil certain obligations. What you learn as you do so will make you think more carefully about an upcoming career move; it may be that you were about to say yes without looking at it in detail. Do some thorough research before you sign any contract.

Taurus

20 APRIL - 20 MAY

Can you be exhausted by your own success? It seems so. You are on the crest of a wave at the moment, and suddenly everyone wants to be close to you and to share in your good fortune. That's fine, but if you're not careful there will be none left for you yourself to enjoy. Take a step back, if you can, and try to get a true perspective on your situation. Then make the choices that are best for you, not for others.

Gemini

21 MAY - 20 JUNE

Although you are always ready for new adventures, it might be better for you to stay with what you know for the next few weeks. A dream job is tempting you, but so far it's only a concept; you should wait until it has proper structure and identity before making a longterm commitment. Your present position, on the other hand, is familiar, reliable, and still has lots to offer - even an office romance, if you wish.

Libra

23 SEPTEMBER - 22 OCTOBER

If you don't test your own limits once in a while, you won't know where they are - or what happens when you go beyond them. What you are about to do will plunge you into the unknown, and you will either love it, or get out of it again as quickly as you possibly can. But whichever it is, it's not a waste of time. It's something you needed to try; it will answer a lot of questions for you, and that's always good.

Scorpio

23 OCTOBER - 21 NOVEMBER

How close is a close relationship? When you let someone become part of your life, they get to see all of you, not just the parts that you put on show. For most people, the emotional benefits of constant togetherness easily outweigh the loss of privacy, but for you that may not be true. Maybe one is the price you have to pay for the other. Are you willing to pay that price - or is it too much for what you get in return?

Sagittarius

22 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER

Mars and the sun together in your sign give you the energy you need to move your life into its next phase. But before you do that, you take a step back into the past for a last look at what you are leaving behind. Whatever you expected, it doesn't deliver - which shows you that the distance between the life you live now and the way things used to be has grown too big to be easily bridged. Let it go, and move on.

Cancer

21 JUNE - 21 JULY

Venus slips into the lovers' sector of your chart to give the end of the year a splash of seasonal romance. It's lovely - but is it real, or just a sort of Christmas present to yourself? There are signs that you are deliberately keeping it all lightweight, avoiding taking the affair any deeper; and signs, too, that you are looking over your shoulder at a different relationship, which may mean more to you than this one. Be careful!

Leo

22 JULY - 22 AUGUST

At the end of November, it appears that there's only one way forward; but as you move through December other options will emerge, and by the end of the year it seems that almost anything is possible. The longer you can wait, therefore, the more choices you will have - though if you wait to the very end you may end up with nothing at all. It's all about knowing the right moment to make your move.

Virgo

23 AUGUST - 22 SEPTEMBER

A crucial time for your closest relationship. It's time to take that big step, the one which will change your life forever. You've been thinking about it for months, but now that the actual moment is here, you're still uncertain. Maybe it's because you want everything to be absolutely perfect. Real life is usually more random than that, but it still works out most of the time. Don't wait too long, you'll miss your chance.

Capricorn

21 DECEMBER - 19 JANUARY

When one of your best friends avoids your company and doesn't return your calls, there's clearly something wrong. Maybe there's an issue from the past which you thought unimportant at the time, but which is still a sore point for them. Deep personal conversations are never your strong point, but this is a friendship worth rescuing, so do what has to be done. Find out what the problem is, and put it right.

Aquarius

20 JANUARY - 18 FEBRUARY

This is a rare time. For a few precious weeks, you are free of the pressures of the outer planets, and can be your true self. Although your first instincts might be to spend the time quietly, this is a chance for you to show the world who you really are, in your own unique way. Have no fears about voicing independent ideas - they will be seen as innovative and visionary rather than difficult or unorthodox.

Pisces

19 FEBRUARY - 19 MARCH

If you have not yet felt the weight of Saturn in your sign, then the extra duties and responsibilities given to you now at work will show you. At first, it seems an impossible load to bear - but then you realise that you are more capable than you thought, and leading the way isn't so hard after all. Growing the abilities you need to carry the weight is all part of the Saturn experience; so far, you're doing well.



How was it shooting the Idôle Now campaign? An adventure to say the least! Long hours of driving to beautiful locations in Chile. Moody horses which was challenging; we had to adapt the shooting's schedule around them. Luckily I was surrounded by a very fun and collaborative team which made it all possible. And of course the cherry on top – Zendaya, one of the best actresses of our time! It was all together a memorable experience.

A beauty campaign is not your typical line of work. How did you manage to marry your style with the concept for the campaign? I don't like to be conformed to one style, I like to try new things; this was a collaborative work with the agency, Publicis Luxe. The concept was something that talks to me, a call for change. We tried meeting half way, respecting the brand image of Lancome and me then trying to bring raw imagery rich with emotions and nuance instance of freedom.

Behind the lens:

Jessy Moussallem

Known for her vivid storytelling and deeply emotional films, the Lebanese director opens up about her love for film, shooting the new Idôle Now campaign, and how she managed to merge the worlds of beauty and cinema together.

How did you get into the beautiful world of cinema? Feelings that I wanted to share, questions that I wanted to ask, worlds that I could not explore in my own reality – making films was a tool, a getaway, an instinct, a necessity!

What's your earliest movie memory? Titanic with my mom and aunts, we had a full row at the cinema. They were all tearing. I still vividly remember their faces.

Was there a film, documentary or specific scene that changed your life? That's hard to answer. There are many! 'Blue is the warmest color' – the most beautiful love story I have ever seen.

If you could invite 3 directors over for dinner, who would they be? Yorgos Lanthimos, Jane Campion, Paolo Sorrentino.

QUICKFIRE...

What is your personal daily and weekly beauty regimen? I am very bad with routines, so it really depends on my mood or if i'm working, but I keep it pretty simple – some hydration and sunscreen when I remember!

Last beauty product you bought? I have been pampered by Lancome especially with my favorite Genifique serum. It gives instant hydration.

Tell us one of your personal best kept beauty secrets? Some good olive oil and massage for your face.

What is your favorite way to move your body and exercise? Eating while walking!



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