





March 2024 *Issue* 152

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On the COVER

JAMILA AWAD wears Miu Miu Checked Shirt, Miu Miu Cotton Piqué Polo Shirt, Miu Miu Single-Breasted Mohair Jacket, Miu Miu Nylon Swimsuit, Miu Miu Slubbed Canvas Miniskirt, Miu Miu Pocket Nappa Leather Bag

Photographer: Michel Takla; Stylistl Creative Direction: Kate Hazell Makeap: Julia Rada; Hair: Deena Alawaid Fashion Assistant: Rejic Lumaghan Tanghian Location: The Flying Saucer, Sharjah Talent: Jamila Awad

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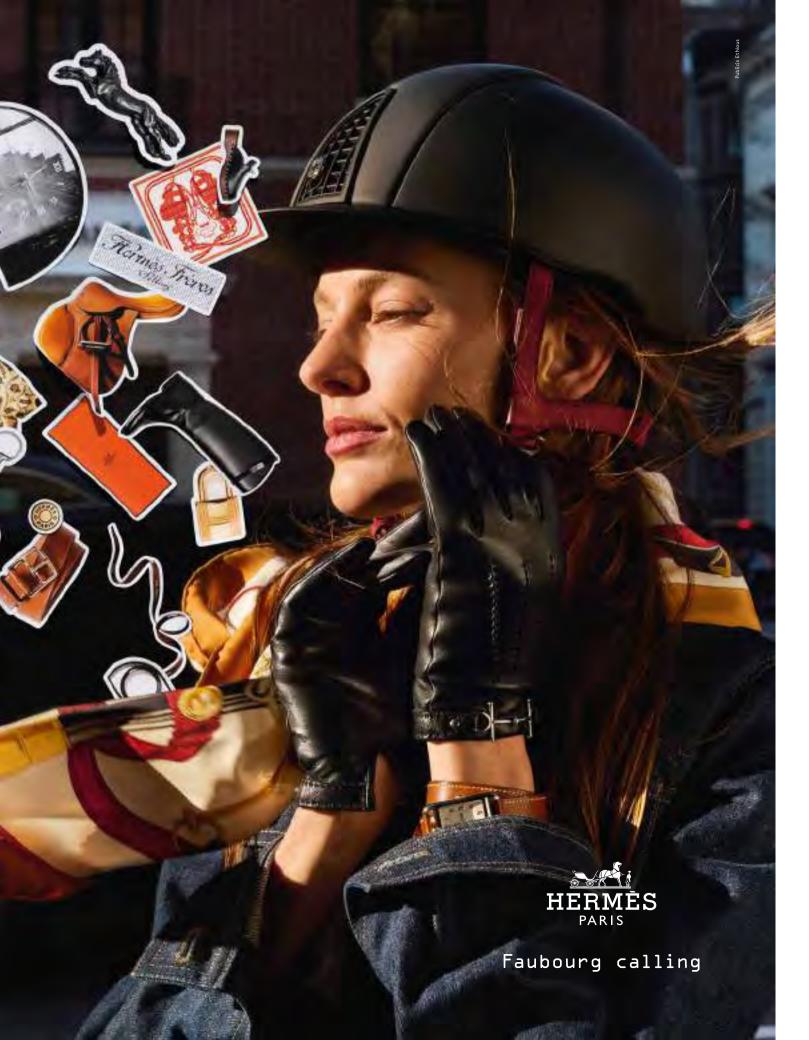
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has managed to put the spotlight
on toughto-have conversations.
In Miu Miu's SS24, she
embodies everything an actor
of her young generation should







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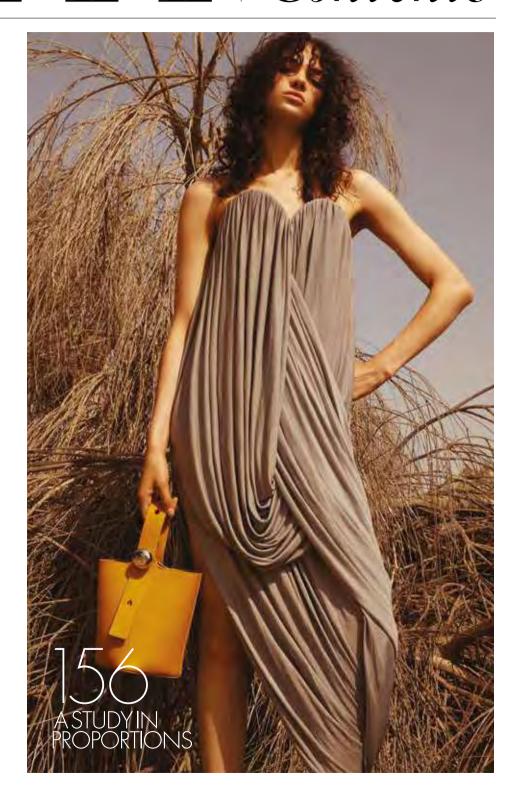
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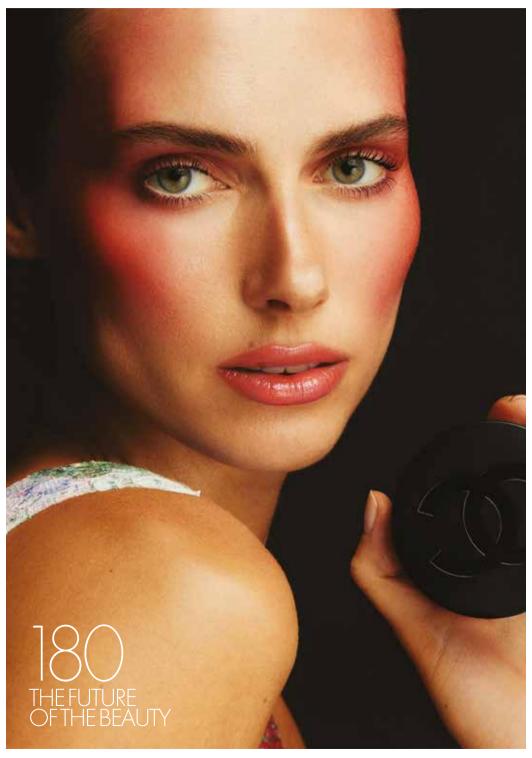
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Above: The SS24 trends are in...

- 1. Valentino
- 2. Fendi
- Far left: Behind the Art... Fatima Alketbi in

EYE ON DESIGN...

As we head into Spring, this March bumper issue brings you our comprehensive annual SS24 Trends Guide for the latest in Fashion, Accessories and Beauty blooms, shine and lots of color reign supreme, setting the stage for positivity and individuality in both style and attitude. As we celebrate the latest in design, we also take a look at the people making our world more beautiful and brighter, with in-depth interviews with the creative directors, founders and designers behind many of our favorite brands; think Mach & Mach, Cartier, Loewe, local-label Onari, and many more. On the fashion front, our edit of the stunning special collections for Ramadan and Eid is truly inspiring. Elegance, fluidity, craftsmanship, and a touch of sparkle are the keywords for these capsule collections

celebrating togetherness during the Holy Month. Finally, to ensure your table is as lovely as your outfit, make sure to check out the Lifestyle section for tips and special items to add glamour to any gathering. Enjoy!

Must Read: Beauty and Style converge with our cover star Jamila Awad, who is taking on taboo role after taboo role, and putting the spotlight on tough-to-have conversations.



We look up and ahead for

inspiration this month, with Cosmic brilliance leading the way



1. VALENTINO EARRINGS 2. BALMAIN DRESS 3. RABANNE BELT 4. CHAUMET BROOCH 5. JIMMY CHOO SANDALS 6. DOLCE & GABBANA BAG

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Available in a variety of finishes, including classic black or ivory tumbled leather, soft hazel suede, gunmetal silver laminated leather, and medium blue washed denim.

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Fred's iconic Chance Infinie collection welcomes a new High Jewelry set with emeralds. For this diamond-paved necklace, the emeralds are 0.77 and 0.41!



Exclusive to the region, this gold *Fendi Ramadan Peekaboo* is top on our list for glamourous, *magical evenings* with friends and family...

ellearabia.com 15 14 ellearabia.com



Part of *Jimmy Choo's Ramadan Collection 2024*, the SAEDA has been updated with a degrade crystal galaxy on metallic mesh shimmer suede with champagne crystals. Perfection.



Radar



1. LAFAYETTE 148 2. STELLA MCCARTNEY 3. PRADA 4. FRANCESCA MIRANDA 5. MIU MIU 6. SUZANNE KALAN 7. CHANEL 8. MAGDA BUTRYM 9. VICTORIA BECKHAM 10. LINDA FARROW X THE ATTICO

1. ISABEL MARANT ÉTOILE 2. ETRO 3. ADIDAS X WALES BONNER 4. CASABLANCA 5. LACOSTE 6. CELINE 7. JW ANDERSON 8. LACALIFORNIENNE 9. GUCCI 10. SPORTY & RICH X PRINCE







Cult buy

Bringing the distorted shape of the classic Snatched with the curved silhouette of the hobo genre, Maison Margiela's latest the Snatched Hobo – oozes avant-garde cool with its origami foldable front and with its chain strap, offers an array of spontaneous styling gestures.



Easy, effortless and the epitome of comfort, once you slip one on, we promise you'll never want to wear anything else...





Looking to the cosmos

This Ramadan, Messika sets off on an interstellar journey and its filled with the brilliance of moving stones. Expect XXL pieces from the So Move collection, including our favorite bold bangle bracelet, to enhance special moments of joy and emotion.





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Mesmera Choker Mixed Cuts, White, Rhodium Plated; Mesmera Drop Earrings Mixed Cuts, White, Rhodium Plated Top, Magda Butrym







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PHOTOGRAPHER: SAM RAWADI STYLIST/CREATIVE DIRECTION: JADE CHILTON MAKEUP: IVANNA HAIR: STEVE WAHAB STYLIST ASSISTANT: JOHN HARRY JAY LOCATION: BICKI BOSS STUDIO TALENT: LOUJAIN ADADA, TALIA & LANA

Hyperbola Drop Earrings Infinity, White, Rhodium Plated; Millenia Necklace Octagon Cut Crystals, Blue, Rhodium Plated; Hyperbola Pendant Mixed Cuts, Infinity, White, Rhodium Plated; Millenia Necklace Square Cut Swarovski Zirconia and Crystal, White, Rhodium Plated; Hyperbola Ring Infinity, White, Rhodium Plated; Hyperbola Bangle Infinity, White, Rhodium Plated; Matrix Tennis Bracelet Round Cut, White, Rhodium Plated; Matrix Tennis Bracelet Round Cut, Blue, Rhodium Plated Dress, Marques Almeida









Must watch: Nicolas Ghesquière

We're already hooked on the new YouTube series with Louis Vuitton Artistic Director of Women's Collections, Nicolas Ghesquière who delves into his storied 10-year legacy with the Maison, and invites a host of friends and collaborators to engage in insightful conversation.

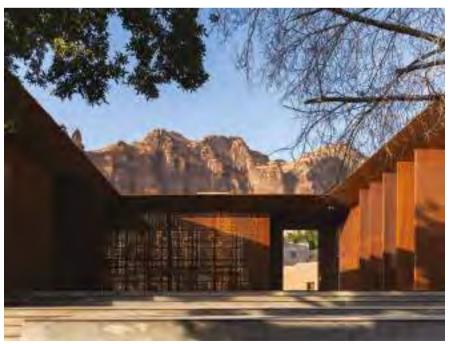


Dreaming of... The beauty of the desert

The first permanent gallery space dedicated to showcasing design initiatives across AlUla has officially launched, and we are psyched to go. Located in the AlJadidah Arts District, Design Space AlUla provides exhibition, workshop and archive space, and is designed to foster collaboration among design professionals, students, and design enthusiasts.

The inaugural exhibition, Mawrid:
Celebrating Inspired Design, introduces the design thinking process behind 10 recent AlUla-inspired designs across design, architecture and urban planning.

Ongoing until 1 June 2024







THE DETAIL: **BIG JEWELS**

DAINTY: OUT. DRAMA: IN. MAIN EVENT ACCESSORIES DEMAND THE SPOTLIGHT.





Happy SNAPER

LOUIS VUITTON MAKES THIS SEASON'S MOST COMPELLING CASE FOR DOWNING SMART PHONES WITH ITS OLD-FASHION CAMERA BAG.



FRINGING & FEATHERS

SWISH, SWISH! MAGNIFICENT PLUMAGES TAKE FLIGHT ON PARTY-READY PUMPS. RITZY CRYSTAL FRINGES MAKE ANKLE-DOWN DAZZLE A













THE TREND: -

CROPPED CARDI

SHRUNKEN KNITS IN SWEET-AS-CANDY COLOURS, THESE COQUETTISH CARDIGANS ADD A CHEEKY WINK TO LADYLIKE OUTFITS. VERSACE'S TRIPLE THREAT SETS ARE NOT YOUR NANNA'S TWINSETS.







THE PIECES:

BIG BELTS

BUCKLE UP!
WHETHER WORN
LOW ON THE HIPS OR
NIPTUCKING AT THE WAIST,
YOUR BELT NEEDS BIG
ENOUGH TO TAKE ON
THOSE BOXING
CHAMPS' ONES.









THE TREND:



OFF THE SHOULDER

STRAIGHT OUTTA THE '80S AND INTO 2024, THE ASYMMETRIC COCKTAIL TOP IS FEELING NEWLY RELEVANT. CAUTION: BEWARE YOUR BRA STRAPS.





NOW IS THE TIME TO SHED YOUR LAYERS. IN HIS DEBUT GUCCI OUTING, SABATO DE SARNO SERVED POLISH WITH A SIDE OF PROVOCATION VIA BARELY-THERE BRA TOPS AND SLIT SKIRTS.



THE **SUPERS**

CHRISTY! CLAUDIA! NAOMI! AMBER! HELENA! SHALOM! THE ORIGINAL AND STILL THE BEST, THEY OWN ANY CATWALK THEY SET FOOT ON, INSTANTLY CRANK UP THE STAR POWER ON ANY RUNWAY



Helena Amber Helena Valetta christensen

Campbell





Christy Claudia Turlington shifter









THE TREND:

THE FRESH FACES

THE MODELS YOU CAN EXPECT TO SEE A LOT MORE OF IN 2024?

TARA DOBRIC WHO MADE HER RUNWAY DEBUT IN SS24, WALKING EXCLUSIVELY FOR LOUIS VUITTON. LULU TENNEY AND SOCIAL MEDIA-SCOUTED VICTORIA FOWALE BOTH HAD BREAKTHROUGH SEASONS. TESTAMENT TO THEIR VERSATILITY, THEY NOTCHED UP OVER 60 CATWALK APPEARANCES BETWEEN THEM.

Lula Tenney











Psssst... Natural beauty alert!

Inspired by ...
The beauty of Al Ula

The Loro Piana Ramadan Capsule Collection 2024 includes a palette of pastel tones and golden desert nuances. Delicate, voluminous pant suits, wrap skirts, dresses and caftans all feature pure and simple lines with a fluid silhouette. Meanwhile, the Extra Pocket, Bale Bag and Extra Bag are reinvented in golden and pastel tones.









We're into the season's soft focus of cream shades. Sweet!

Inspired by the beauty of the region, Tory Burch's

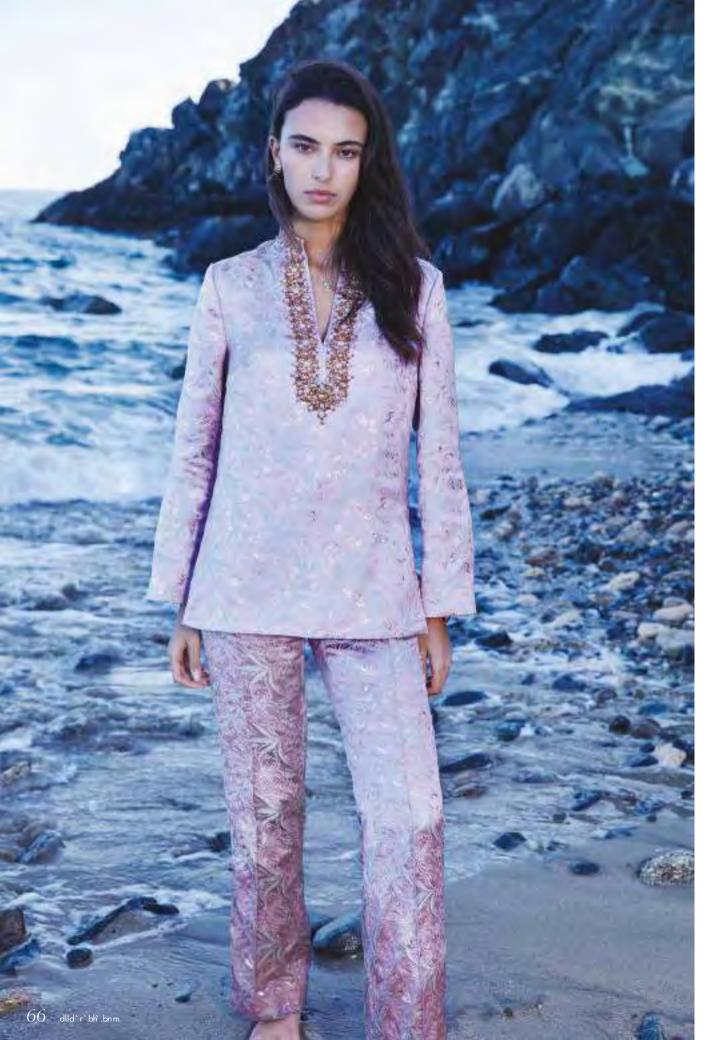
the beauty of the region,

Tory Burch's

Middle East
Exclusive
Collection is a fusion of style and tradition for the season

Photographer
FRANCESCO SCOTTI
Styling & Creative Direction
AHMED RASHWAN







Left page: Miller Double Ring Stud, Miller Double Ring Pendant, Jacquard Pant, Embellished Jacquard Tunic

This page: Miller Pave Double Ring





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This page: The Miller Gift Set Watches, with Top Rings. Available with Standard Circumference Bangle & an XS Bangle

Right page: Bon Bon Metallic Mini Top Handle Bag, Embellished Jacquard Dress











Cool Collaboration

MCM HANAN

For their first *Ramadan collection*. German luxury fashion house MCM has teamed up with Dubai tastemaker and Creative Consultant, Hanan Houachmi



erman luxury fashion house MCM debuts its Ramadan capsule collection in collaboration with Hanan Houachmi, offering a contemporary take on modest dressing for Mavericks worldwide. The collection integrates MCM's DNA with traditional elements, presenting chic silhouettes and experimental styles for the Ramadan season. Crafted from lightweight fabrics, each piece radiates luxury and comfort and is designed to complement the Spring/Summer 2024 collection. Highlights include a gold sand beige trench shirt dress adorned with Laurel & Diamond motifs, a pajama trouser set, and a dark gray day dress with Chambray blue accents. Completing the ensemble is a Lauretos silk scarf and the exquisite Himmel shoulder bag, adorned with Swarovski crystals and the iconic Laurel logo closure. The campaign, starring regional creative It Girl, Leena Al Ghouti, captures the collection's spirit that embodies confidence and redefines modest fashion for the contemporary world.







ELLE ARABIA EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH HANAN HOUACHMI, CREATIVE COLLABORATOR FOR THE MCM 2024 RAMADAN CAPSULE..

How did this collaboration with MCM come about? Sabine Brunner (MCM's President & Global Commercial and Brand Officer) and I first connected at dinner during her last visit in Dubai. Over the course of the evening, we engaged in fascinating conversations about the industry. Sabine demonstrated a genuine interest in understanding the nuances of the regional market, laying the foundation for a collaborative and insightful partnership. Our shared passion for pushing creative boundaries in the fashion world formed an immediate connection.

What does it mean to you to be a 'voice of the market' spearheading this kind of regional representation with an international brand? As someone with a retail/wholesale background

in Europe working with global brands and having spent the past decade based in the Middle East, spearheading regional representation with an international brand feels natural to me. It's both a privilege and a responsibility to understand the unique preferences, trends, and cultural nuances of the region and translate them into resonant strategies.

How did the collaborative process work, and did you have any specific inspiration or visual influence when creating the pieces? The collaboration with MCM stemmed from our shared vision for challenging conventional Ramadan trends often based on a perception of who are the women of the region. My involvement in the collection development was hands-on, offering insights into fabric preferences, cuts, and overall aesthetics. I worked closely with the MCM team to ensure our vision translated seamlessly into the final products

and campaign.

The capsule is positioned as a 'contemporary vision' for modest, Ramadan dressing. Tell us about what this means to you? What is your definition of 'contemporary Ramadan style'? A 'contemporary vision' for modest Ramadan dressing, to me, means honoring tradition while embracing modernity. It's about infusing classic elements with fresh interpretations, allowing individuals to express their faith and style with confidence and creativity.

Describe for us how the pieces you created reflect both the spirit of Ramadan and also the spirit of MCM - what details and elements did you consider to make this the case? The pieces reflect the spirit of Ramadan by incorporating elements such as modest cuts, lightweight fabrics, and versatile designs that transition seamlessly from day to night. At the same time, they embody the spirit of MCM through meticulous craftsmanship, bold aesthetics, and attention to detail.

What special considerations did you factor in, in terms of making these pieces 'perfect for the region? Special considerations were given to fabric choices to ensure comfort and breathability in the region's climate, all while keeping the DNA of the brand intact. Additionally, unique finishes and embellishments were incorporated to add a touch of luxury and sophistication that's well-suited for the discerning tastes of the market.

How would you style each of the ready-to-wear looks in the capsule, through your own lens? And where would you envisage yourself wearing each during Ramadan this year? Each ready-to-wear ensemble in the capsule can be styled in a myriad of ways to suit various occasions and individual tastes. Personally, I would pair the pieces with statement accessories and sophisticated footwear, infusing my own touch of elegance into the ensemble. Whether it's for a formal iftar gathering or a casual suhoor with friends, these pieces exude versatility, suitable for any Ramadan occasion.

Regional tastemaker and creative, Leena Al Ghouti, is pictured in the campaign images for this capsule. What about Leena do you think captures the spirit of the pieces and made her a natural choice to model the looks? Leena Al Ghouti perfectly embodies

> the collection's essence with her unique style and cultural impact. Being a regional tastemaker, she represents the blend of tradition and modernity that the collection aims for. Her authenticity and distinctive viewpoint align naturally with the collection's ethos, making her an ideal fit for the campaign.

> What are some of your favorite traditions during Ramadan that you look forward to in particular, in terms of special occasions, moments or details that mean a lot to you? Some of my cherished traditions during Ramadan include gathering with loved ones for iftar meals, partaking in taraweeh prayers at the mosque, and engaging in acts of charity and community service. These rituals hold profound significance, serving as poignant reminders of the importance of spirituality, gratitude, and compassion during this blessed month













Miu Miu, with this latest collection as modeled by Rania Benchegra, strikes the perfect balance between timeless elegance and modern flair, offering a refreshing take on traditional styles with a playful twist. With its mix of classic silhouettes and unexpected details, each piece is fresh. Picture feminine ruffles paired with sportswear-inspired elements like tie waists and oversized bombers. We also love the color palette, which is a study in contrasts, with crisp white and deep navy alongside soft ivory and blush tones.

Accessories are where the collection truly shines. The Miu Wander bag in rose gold, yellow gold, and silver matelassé leather steals the show. Paired with sling-back pumps in patent leather and finished with leather wrist cuffs and metalrimmed sunglasses, the overall look is chic and contemporary.









In her world

SHARIFA ALSHARIF ALHASHEMI

Founder of Emirati brand ONORI spills the beans on her love of sparkles, high drama pieces and how she makes her line shine brighter than others.



A UNIQUE **SIGNATURE**

The glam vibes of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s – that's my go-to style. I used to love to watching old movies and flicking through archival fashion magazines; I had quite the love affair with classic fashion. For me, it's not just history, it has somewhat of a magical allure to it. I can still wear the pieces from my closet that I've had for over 15 years.

STAPLE **ONORI PIECES**

For me it's elegant dresses and signature accessories. It could also be a vintage piece from your closet that you know now nobody else has.

FINISHING TOUCHES

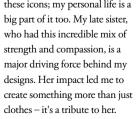
As for accessories, I love my pearl bags. I think they're unique and make any outfit ten times better. I'm obsessed with the crystal HONOR and Ruffled chokers from my collection as well.



MUSE IN MIND

Incredible women like Cher,

Brigitte Bardot, Audrey Hepburn,





A unique piece. Something rare, something that stands out. It could be anything if it gives you that magical feeling. Your what you want to wear!







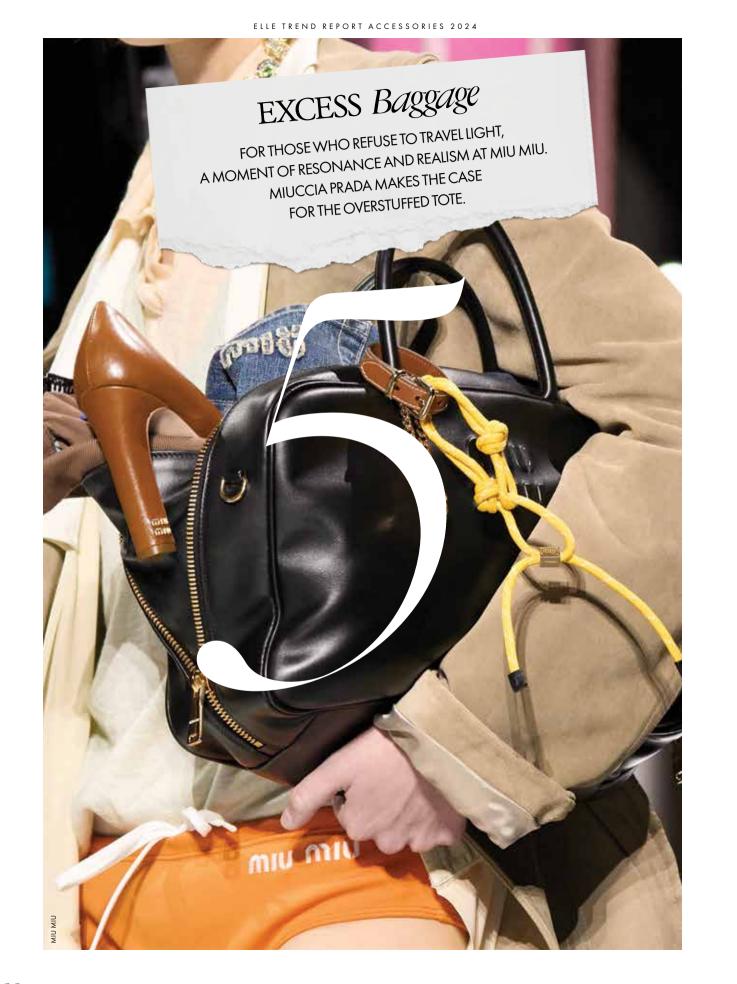


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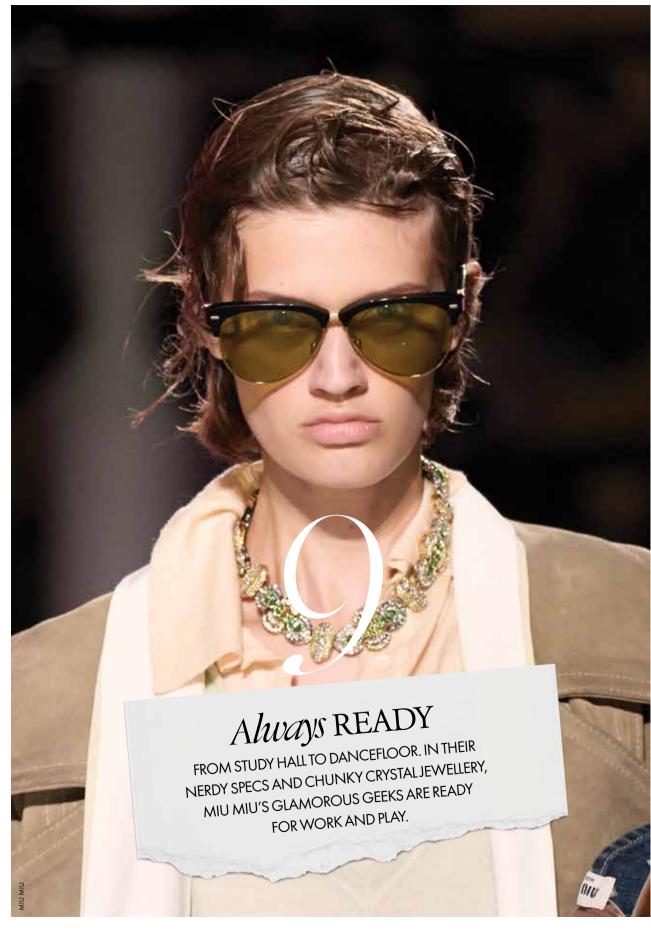




















AN ODE TO THE DESERT

Italian Maison Prada presents a special selection of ready-to-wear and accessories dedicated to the Holy Month and Eid









The women's collection

features airy chemisier dresses, tops, and

trousers in soft pastel

shades. Crafted from

lightweight fabrics,

they are adorned with

coordinating feathers or intricate embroidery,

which incorporates

mirrors and crystals to enhance their luminosity.

Cool Collaboration

VAN CLEEF & ARPELS AND EMIRATI CALLIGRAPHY ARTIST FATIMA ÄLKETBI

The Special Ramadan project is an artistic fusion of tradition and innovation



لبحئ بحدات حبائنا بالنزاخم

Emirati calligraphy artist Fatima Alketbi brings her unique perspective to Arabic calligraphy, blending tradition with innovation in her artwork. Fatima's artistic journey is marked by a deep connection to her Emirati roots and a passion for preserving cultural heritage. Through her work, Fatima seeks to bridge the gap between the past and the present, infusing each stroke with the spirit of Ramadan. For the collaboration with Van Cleef & Arpels, Fatima proposed an inspired concept that utilizes palm fronds to create Arabic calligraphy text. Drawing inspiration from her heritage and the natural beauty of the UAE landscape, Fatima's artwork embodies the essence of Ramadan, celebrating tradition while embracing contemporary elegance. ELLE Arabia talks to Fatima about the special series of calligraphy artworks, how she balances culture and creativity, and what Ramadan means to her...



What inspired the use of palm fronds for Arabic calligraphy in this collaboration? The idea was inspired by the deeply rooted cultural significance of palm trees in the UAE. These iconic trees symbolize resilience, tradition, and sustenance in Emirati culture, making them a natural choice for infusing authenticity and local identity into the artwork.

How do you balance tradition and innovation in your work? Balancing tradition and innovation is at the core of my artistic approach. While I draw inspiration from traditional calligraphy techniques and Emirati artistic heritage, I also seek to push the boundaries of creative expression by introducing innovative elements into my work.

How does the beauty and landscape of the UAE consistently influence your calligraphy work? The captivating beauty and diverse landscape of the UAE serve as constant sources of inspiration for my calligraphy artwork. From the desert dunes to blue waters of the Arabian Gulf, the UAE's natural scenery influences the mood, colors, and themes of my creations

Incorporating Emirati roots and poetic traditions, how do these elements shape the messages in your calligraphy artwork? Drawing from the rich tapestry of Emirati culture, literature, and folklore, I incorporate elements of poetry, symbolism, and cultural motifs to infuse deeper meaning and emotional resonance into my artworks. Each piece is a reflection of Emirati heritage, inviting viewers to explore and connect with the cultural nuances embedded within.

What does Ramadan personally mean to you, and how does it inspire your artistic expression, especially in collaboration with Van Cleef & Arpels? Ramadan holds profound personal significance for me as a time of spiritual reflection, communal harmony, and cultural celebration. Collaborating with Van Cleef & Arpels during Ramadan provides a platform to explore themes of spirituality, tradition, and cultural exchange through the universal language of art, fostering a deeper connection with audiences worldwide.





Frivole Earrings, Small Model,















AN ICON OF IOVE

As Cartier celebrates the timeless Trinity's 100th anniversary, the Maison's Image, *Style and Heritage Director Pierre Rainero*, reflects on the significance of the iconic line, its *enduring legacy* and its *continued resonance* in the world of *haute joaillerie*.

Could you share insights into the inspiration behind the Trinity de Cartier collection as it celebrates its 100 years? There was the idea to pay tribute to this collection, to show the strength of the design behind it. The are three elements linked to make the trinity ring, each ring is linked to the two others. By adding some aesthetics related to the previous collection, the most important requirement for us was that the ring roll or glide on your finger comfortably and magically as well as to have it stacks correctly with a specific sound. It was an open door to any new idea. I was surprised to see a square shape; we never thought of why it has those properties, which is something not linked to the round shape, it is linked to the attachment and the profile, once you respect that with the comfort and gliding concept, it will work with different shapes. To come back to the essence of your question, no there were no specific briefing apart from the essence of the design and the pleasure of creating a beautiful object.

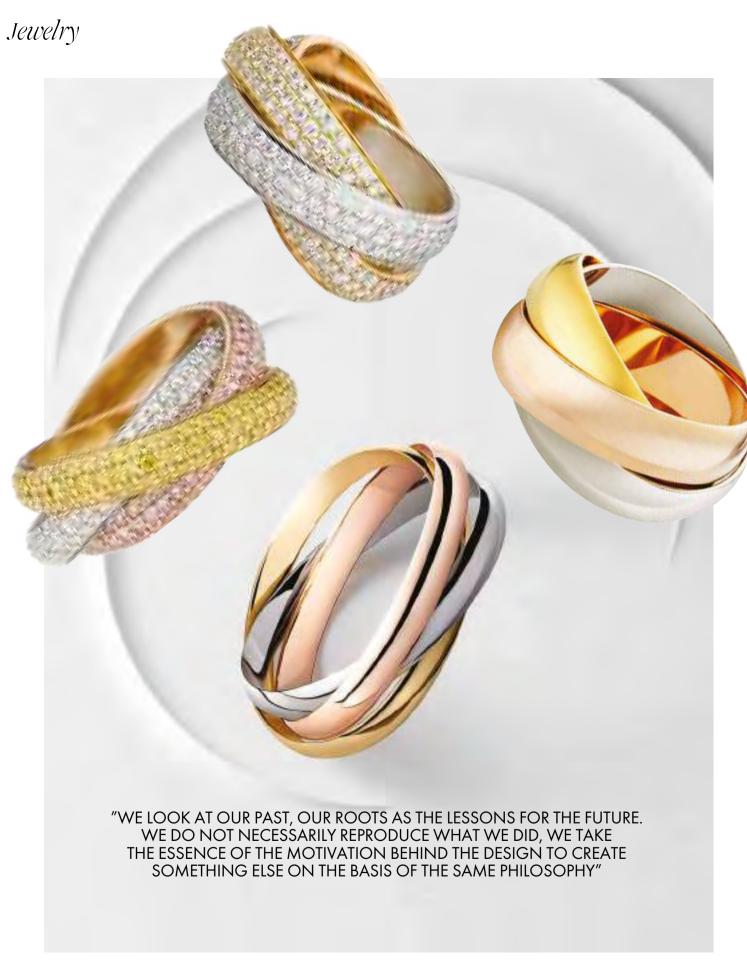
How has the Trinity de Cartier collection evolved over the past century, and what key elements have contributed to its enduring appeal? It was born with a very simple ring in 1924, a year later, we had the bracelet. Very quickly, both came with different animations, different colors. After that the number of the rings was multiplied by 5, 7 and 9. This provided the collection with a strong meaning, as it is playful and it can evolve keeping the essence of strength.

Can you tell us about the new editions and unique designs planned to mark the 100th anniversary of the Trinity de Cartier collection? We have one piece that is very special with twisted rings, when they are assembled, they will look like one ring but with three colors – like a puzzle, where the diamond paved surface disappears when you assemble it.





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The interlinked rings in Trinity de Cartier hold significant symbolism. Can you elaborate on the representation and its connection to Cartier's rich heritage? In the early days, there was no symbolism imposed by Cartier, it was just a beautiful object. We are perfectly aware of the property and the specific dimension of a piece of jewelry, it is the recipient of all your projections in terms of symbolism, it is what you project yourself. The Trinity has lots of mystery, the reason is why Jean Cocteau adopted in the early days this ring with its symbolic values. It is like magic, how is it assembled without a clasp. For long, it was love, fidelity and unity but it can be many others. We communicate about our values that link people, which is the basic family, passion and friendship, it is very strong. It can have many different words behind it but that's the soul of it.

Reflecting on the past 100 years, what milestones or memorable moments stand out for the Trinity de Cartier collection? In the mid 1930, Jean Cocteau decided to wear it during his relationship with Nathalie Palais. It gave Trinity a universal audience as he was a poet and an artist, really talented in many different directions. Grace Kelly had a moment too. One important moment is during the 1970s, we proposed a variation of 5, 7 and 9 rings, as well as a different treatment of the gold, different sizes too; suddenly Trinity had new visibility especially during this period thanks to advertising and communication through catalogues. It was also a moment when we opened more boutiques, we had more exposure, it was like a second life into the contemporary world.

How does Cartier approach innovation while preserving the essence of its heritage, especially when incorporating elements from the archives into new collections? The number 3 is very important in the maison; with the 3 brothers, it is obviously part of our day-to-day culture which is shared by everyone. We also decided to maintain in each of our three locations their very own archives;

those documents are attached to a part of the Cartier life that exudes the idea of integrity and authenticity.

In what ways does Cartier leverage its rich history and archives to inspire and shape new collections? I think there is a specific way at looking into the past and the future of Cartier - there is no nostalgia at Cartier. What we learn from our ancestors, we use to pave the future. What we learnt from the Cartier brothers and Jeanne Toussaint is always to welcome the future. We look at opportunities to evolve. Louis Cartier did prove that in his work when he embraced so many changes when he joined the business at the end of the 19th century and stayed till the mid 1930s, so imagine the evolution of the Cartier style and the creations and innovations he

"In the early days, there was no symbolism imposed by Cartier, it was just a beautiful object. We are perfectly aware of the property and the specific dimension of a piece of jewelry, it is the recipient of all your projections in terms of symbolism, it is what you project yourself

provided and even when Jeanne Toussaint joined in 1920s till 1970s, she followed the same; they both proved at Cartier that there is a culture of remaining ourselves while welcoming the evolution. We look at our past, our roots as the lessons for the future. We do not necessarily reproduce what we did, we take the essence of the motivation behind the design to create something else on the basis of the same philosophy.

Are there upcoming projects or initiatives that showcase Cartier's commitment to blending the past with modern design and technology? For us technology is at the service of the creation, the aesthetics and how we can provide difference and originality, and also in terms of craftsmanship, how we can help to go in the direction of excellence. We think in terms of the quality of emotion that an object creates and I think we are in a world of human creations and this creates a specific type of emotion when you know that the design is made by men and women and crafted by experienced people. It is the emotion linked to the difference of humankind, that capacity to go beyond the usual and the traditional, adding the permanent effort to go towards an idea of what is excellent. Our idea is not to lose this feeling but to cultivate it, we do not close the door to technology as long as it is in the service of searching for excellence.

Jewelry

Nature is a recurring subject in Buccellati jewelry. Where does this **affinity or this love come from?** It came from my grandfather and father; they're lovers of beauty, beauty in every aspect. Whether it's a woman, flower, nature, or even a building. I remember my father one day was inspired by the lace of a bra that he saw on a magazine cover. He saw the lace and said I'm in love with this, I must do something. He was inspired by its shape and that led him to create a necklace. They would see the beauty in every single little detail and nature was one of them, but it wasn't and isn't the only one.

The Macri line is one of the brand's most beloved. Is it really named after you? Yes, there's a great story to it! I was 16 and I wanted this Buccellati bracelet. I told my father, and asked over and over - you know like any young girl would - and he said, no I'm not going to give it to you this young. And I was like, but I want it, and still it was a firm no. He said instead, he would name a collection after me, and I wasn't very interested with this idea of course. But finally, you know, after years and years, it dawned on me what a nice gesture it was – that a collection, which is the most successful one, has your name on it.

Did you ever end up getting the bracelet? Yes, when I was 18 he gave it to me, but I had to wait for it.

How do you feel the collection has evolved since then? It was 40 years ago when we launched it. Before that, everything we produced was one-of-a-kind at the time. The collection was based on a simple bracelet and earrings. Then we started evolving from there; we did pendants and





In conversation with...

MARIA CRISTINA

The Global Communication and Marketing Director on how Buccellati's carving out a refreshingly modern and unique proposition for jewelry then rings. But that wasn't enough so we created a different a collection, which was easier to wear. We made the flat Macri which then again evolved to the Macri color with stones. Now obviously, we've opened 45 shops and so we've had to increase production. We try always to to give something new, but never lose the DNA of the company or the essence of the collection.

Do you have a favorite piece from the Macri collection? My bracelet! We started making it with yellow gold then we added white and pink as well. And what I love to do is to stack three bracelets one on top of the other with all different colors. There's also a black gold version; it's called DLC, Diamond Like Carbon, where we take the powder of black diamonds and attach it to gold. It's absolutely stunning.

That sounds so unique! You know, this was something that we did as a joke and said let's try it, nobody will ever want a gold bracelet covered in black. And guess what? Everyone loved it! It's very special and we don't produce that many, around 8 a year, because it's very difficult to make.

Speaking of unique, the Giardino collection is a Buccellati favorite. How did that line come to life? We were at a Christmas dinner and we were talking about a pair of earrings that I love. And I asked my brother, why don't we start making some more pieces with the same kind of workmanship and stones of these earrings? He loved the idea and we started creating Giardino, which was called Monet at the beginning but which we changed later. So, yes – it all happened over a Christmas dinner. Do you have a favorite from the line? Yes, this beautiful ring. You know, it's funny because I love rings, but I don't wear them. I have such a big collection of them. But somehow, I feel they kind of constrain me, so I leave them for my daughter.

Your jewelry is always filled with many magnificent stones. Which are the ones you use the most? Always colored stones such as aquamarine, kunzit, tanzanite, tourmaline and topaz every now and then - these are typically the stones that we use. We use diamonds of course and sometimes other stones but it's more interesting to play with these. They're out-of-the-box, different. I believe you have to be light, even wearing jewelry; you don't have to feel heavy or feel like you are wearing too much.

Today the buyer has become much more sophisticated than before. What do you do to surprise the client? I think making something completely different from everybody else; if you see a Buccellati jewel around, you recognize it immediately. Also, apart from our everyday collection, a lot of our pieces are one-of-a-kind, so people feel flattered to be the only one to have them.



WHO'S THAT GIRL

Her name might mean beautiful in Arabic, but Jamila Awad is definitely more than just a pretty face. Taking on taboo role after taboo role, the Egyptian actress has managed to put the spotlight on tough-tohave conversations. In Miu Miu's SS24, she embodies everything an actor of her young generation should own boldness, confidence and a positive message of women empowerment.

Photographer MICHEL TAKLA Styling & Creative Direction KATE HAZELL













Miu Miu Checked Shirt, Miu Miu Cotton Piqué Polo Shirt, Miu Miu Single-Breasted Mohair Jacket, Miu Miu Nylon Swimsuit, Miu Miu Slubbed Canvas Miniskirt, Miu Miu Pocket Nappa Leather Bag





You rose to fame quite quickly and quite young. What was that like? I believe it was destiny. From being on covers to appearing organically in interviews. It felt special but also natural - like you notice it but you don't notice it. It felt and still feels good though. When I started acting, it felt quite special but overwhelming, not the art itself, but the exposure that came with it. Meeting diverse people from many backgrounds and having to make so many decisions at a young age. Especially since it all happened so quickly after my first role; I didn't get a chance to grow into it gradually so I had to learn so much in such little time.

Was it difficult to be taken seriously at such a young age? I think it's a challenge and at the end of the day, it's all about your character.

Your roles always generate an open conversation and pave the way to changing the narrative about issues such as recovered drug addicts and mental health awareness. Has it been difficult taking on these sort of taboo roles? Since I started with the role of a drug addict, then a person with vitiligo, I've found myself having taken on so many deep roles and since I started with this much depth, I find them only natural to me. Take comedy or lighthearted roles; I don't feel like I'm much in my element - I love to feel like I'm doing something with a bigger purpose. I'm very lucky to have taken on such roles, and now producers and directors whenever they have an interesting, deep role they immediately think of me.

What's the toughest role you've played and why? Noor in Lazem Aaesh series. The role had so many dimensions psychologically. The working hours were insane, the makeup for the vitiligo was so hard to have done every day for so many hours. These roles are tough because I didn't know how people

would take them or accept them, but they are worth it especially when people who have similar issues resonate with the role itself. Do you believe your characters have helped others emphasize with people going through the same mental health journeys? I hope the character shave helped those who have really suffered. And im always super happy when I get to meet someone who mentions that one of my characters changed their

These are definitely conversations that are difficult to have in our society but a must especially for younger up coming generations, don't you think? I agree, especially when speaking to the younger generation, we have to be very respectful to the way their minds work and how fast paced they live their lives as well as issues that they really face and not just some redundant context.

Are there any roles you'd love to play in the future that other people - either audiences or directors - maybe wouldn't think of you for at first? There are numerous roles I would still want to play and am so eager to especially when it comes to historical characters.

What are you looking forward to in your career? Is it expanding as an actress? Maybe taking on writing or producing. Are you interested in that as well? What's on the horizon? Extending yourself as an actress is a non-ending process; actors always have to develop themselves and educate themselves on so many issues that help contribute to them becoming better actors. I actually studied directing at university and have already directed a documentary as well as a music clip. Directing is in my plan for the future, not the near future but I definitely want to tackle issues and projects that I am genuinely interested about, those that fully come from the soul.



MODESTY

MEETS

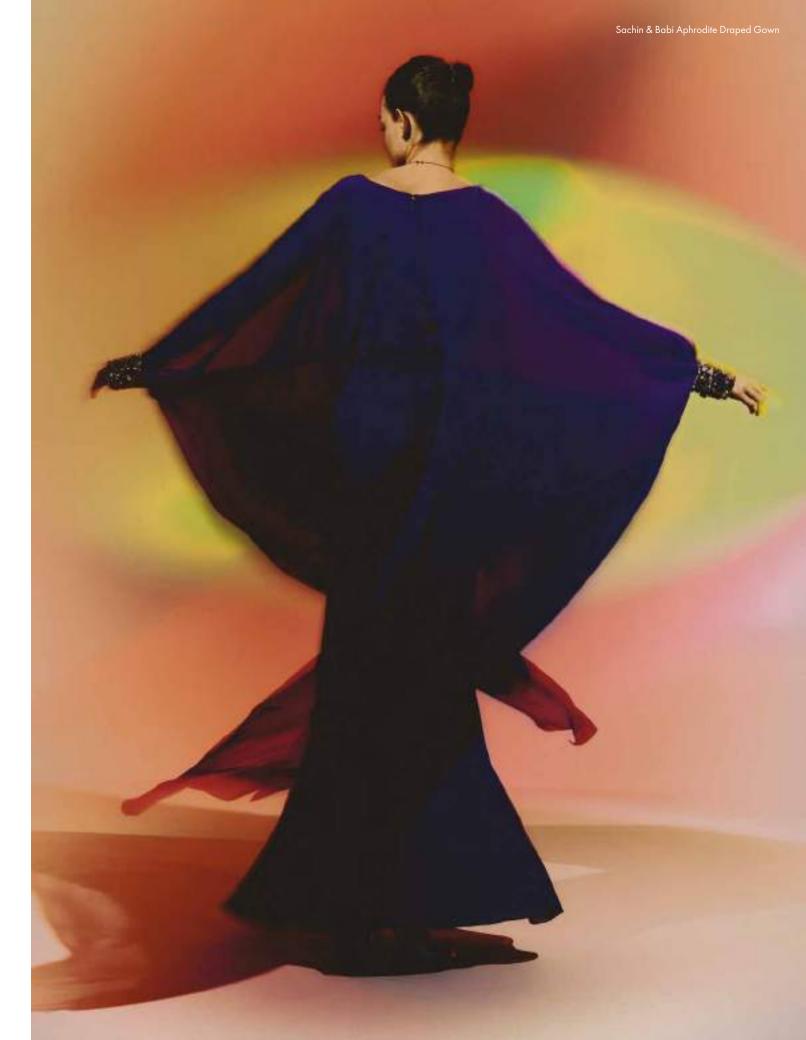
LUXURY

Step into the world of refined elegance with FARFETCH's showcase of modest fashion, bringing together over 30 regional and international designers to redefine modest dressing. From timeless favorites to cuttingedge trends, the exclusive capsule collections harmonize sophistication with practicality like never before.

*ALL SOURCED BY FARFETCH









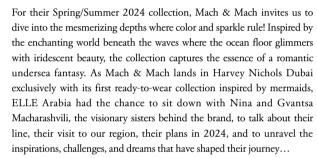




A Conversation with

Exploring the Undersea World of Fashion with Nina and Gvantsa Macharashvili

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When we founded the brand, choosing the name Mach & Mach was a no-brainer, as it comes from our surname Macharashvili. However, it's quite long to spell. To simplify, being sisters, we decided to shorten the surname and double it. This decision proved successful, as it became recognizable for a global audience.

Starting in 2012, we didn't just focus on shoes; we also offered ready-to-wear clothing. Initially, our focus was on embroidered garments, but over time, we expanded to include shoes, bags, and accessories, completing our product range. Our childhood was filled with a love for fashion magazines and art; I fondly remember drawing and sewing clothes. Despite our parents not being in the fashion industry - one being a doctor and the other an engineer they had a distinctive style, and we often tried on their special pieces, like blazers. Our mother, especially, had a

talent for sewing, which she passed on to us. Growing up

during the 90s when Georgia was in conflict, sewing and knitting were common skills among women, and we were inspired by our mother's homemade dresses and our own arts and crafts projects.

Our design process involves extensive research, blending our ideas and viewpoints. Despite occasional differences, we collaborate closely. We're always driven to push boundaries, striving for uniqueness and excellence to bring beauty to women who wear our creations. Our style has evolved organically over the years, standing out with a distinct signature and identity. Drawing inspiration from

light phenomena, such as sparkles and reflections, our pieces exude sophistication while maintaining a vouthful freshness.

We prioritize quality, sourcing the finest materials from Italy, including satin and leather. Our meticulous approach extends to attending exhibitions to discover unique fabrics. Operating our own factory ensures control over production quality. Each shoe undergoes multiple stages with skilled artisans, with all embellishments crafted by hand. We firmly believe that the quality of our products is inseparable from the materials we use.

OUR STYLE HAS EVOLVED **ORGANICALLY OVER THE** YEARS, STANDING **OUT WITH** A DISTINCT SIGNATURE

AND IDENTITY

Our biggest challenge emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the hurdles, such as factory closures and supply chain disruptions, we persevered, introducing innovations like the doubled bow on our shoes. In a saturated luxury market, we distinguish ourselves through quality, timely delivery, and strong partnerships. Despite the obstacles, we've consistently delivered creative and refined collections, fueled by our belief in our brand's vision.

Rather than chasing trends, we draw inspiration from our emotions and customer feedback. Our unique color palette, featuring Mach & Mach Pink and Blue, sets us apart. Partnering with Harvey Nichols and the Al Tayer Group in Dubai has been invaluable, allowing us to showcase our ready-to-wear line exclusively and introduce our latest resort collection.

We love Dubai, and we chose the Al Tayer group as it is vital to have a strong partner. They are number one in luxury in the region, and they've supported us from the beginning which we really appreciate.

> Our Spring/Summer 24 collection, exclusively available at Harvey Nichols Dubai, is inspired by the colors of the sea, with pieces dyed in deep oceanic greens and adorned with pearls, embodying shimmering mermaid silhouettes.

> As we look to the future, we continue to explore new categories and expand our global presence. We're committed to nurturing our company, collaborating with top artisans and professionals. Expect exciting new projects and developments from us in 2024 and beyond - we're growing organically, guided by our passion and dedication to excellence.









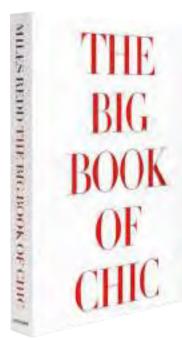






ICONIC LOVE

BARBIE by Susan Shapiro For Barbie's 65th anniversary, Susan Shapiro delves into Barbie's history, drawing from her personal collection and extensive research to offer valuable insights into the doll's cultural significance. From its inception in 1959 to today, Barbie embodies limitless possibilities for young dreamers, from doctors to rock stars.



STYLISH LOVE

"THE BIG BOOK OF CHIC" By Miles Redd This wonderful tome is a visual masterpiece, blending luxurious design with playful sophistication. With inspiration from fashion photography and timeless art, Redd creates eclectic interiors that exude boldness and elegance. This coffee table essential invites readers to explore the artistry of interior design.

RFAD

We're in it for LOVE, when it comes to these latest coffee table books that are as fascinating as they are beautiful!



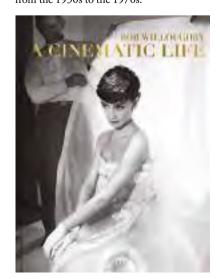
FLORAL LOVE

REDOUTÉ. The Book of Flowers Redouté, known as "the Raphael of flowers," is celebrated in a catalogue showcasing his exquisite engravings. Featuring selections from his renowned volumes, the book transports readers to the lush gardens of Paris, capturing the beauty of nature with remarkable precision and artistry.

BIG SCREEN LOVE

BOB WILLOUGHBY:

A Cinematic Life Photographer Bob Willoughby's monograph celebrates his extraordinary career, documenting Hollywood's golden era. With intimate portraits of iconic stars and behind-the-scenes stories, Willoughby's work offers a glimpse into the glamour of film and jazz from the 1950s to the 1970s.



GEORGE **POST TRUTH**

CALI LOVE

GEORGE BYRNE:

Post Truth This book by the Australian artist/photographer captures the essence of Los Angeles through vibrant photography. Inspired by California artists like Ed Ruscha, Byrne transforms urban landscapes into colorful visions, reminiscent of Miami's Art Deco district. It's a captivating homage to the city's aesthetic allure, perfect for lovers of Pop Art and California dreams.

Play

THE SNAKE BY LANA LUBANY

Reaching over 8 million streams for her first release The Snake, Palestinian songstress Lana Lubany has managed to make waves on both local and global soundscapes in a relatively short period of time, captivating audiences with her bilingual Arabic-English music. Her latest, Make it Better, is another hit to play on repeat.



With calendars a buzzing, these are the noteworthy happenings causing a buzz at the moment



See

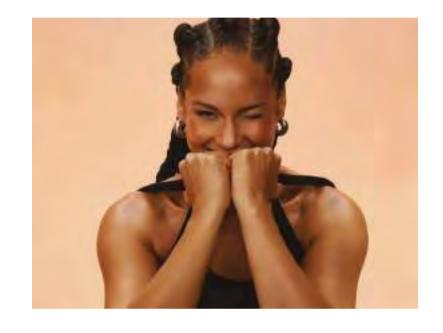
IN THE EYES OF OUR PRESENT, **WE HEAR PALESTINE**

A unique exhibition featuring more than 60 pieces created by artists hailing from Palestine and neighboring nations. Showcasing at the Sharjah Art Foundation until April 14, this collection of paintings, sculptures, installations and videos aims at enlightening and educating viewers about the historical narrative of the region, shedding light on themes such as occupation, ongoing crises, and the imperative of

Watch

SAUDI ARABIAN GRAND PRIX 2024

Motor heads and adrenaline junkies will love this action-packed weekend of racing excitement. Not only will they get to witness some of the world's best racers, but Alicia Keys and Martin Garrix are set to headline the concerts that follow later in the day for those looking for a nonstop adrenaline rush.





Listen

GEMS OF ARABIA

A Saudi Centric audio visual podcast that sheds light on the hidden and shimmering talents that make up the Kingdom and whole of Arabia. Now doesn't that sound fabulous? Hosted by fashion designer and multihyphenate Hatem Alakeel, the show features exclusive interviews with visionary leaders from the realms of fashion, current affairs, art, entertainment, and beyond who are molding the destiny of the nation and the broader Middle Eastern landscape.

INTO ART? THESE ARE THE MUST FOLLOW ACCOUNTS SPREADING IT THROUGHOUT DUBAI



ARTE MUSEUM @Artemuseum dubai

The new immersive media art exhibition not only delivers a vivid visual journey but also engages all the senses, showcasing works that resonate with the natural landscapes and cultural backdrop of Dubai.



ART DUBAI @ Artduhai

Now in its 17th edition, art lovers will be spoilt for choice with over 100 exhibitors from 70 countries across the four sections, with the much-anticipated return of Art Dubai Digital for fans of digital art.



SIKKA ART AND DESIGN FESTIVAL

@Sikkaplatform

Running until March 3rd, the historical neighborhood of Old Dubai comes to life thanks to an array of aspiring UAE and regional talents with their art installations, film screenings, music, panels and more.



BRAND: MAISON SARA CHRAÏBI **INSTA**: @MAISONSARACHRAIBI

Best known for designs infused with Moroccan craftsmanship, creating pieces that celebrate diversity, empower women, and draw on influences of architecture and culture.

Who are your design heroes? Madeleine Vionnet, Azzedine Alaïa, Mies Van Der Rohe, Zaha Hadid, the Bouroullec Brothers.

What intrigues you right now? The resurgence of classic silhouettes and timeless designs in contemporary fashion trends, while also championing inclusivity.

What's next? To launch a RTW line that resonates with a broader audience. I am excited about the opportunity to connect with the Middle Eastern market.

Favorite fabrics to work with? Transparent silk chiffon, silk lamé, cashmere.

Most inspiring fashion character from Hollywood? Marlene Dietrich. Her androgynous style challenged

traditional gender norms, paving the way for a new era of fashion freedom. Color-palette for SS24? For haute

couture spring summer 24 we worked on earthy tones, brown, ochre, russet and deep purple with lavish gold, bronze and copper embellishments.

Best style advise you ever received? Simplicity is the ultimate form of sophistication.

DESIGNER:

BRAND: HUMARIFF

INSTA: @ HUMARIFFOFFICIAL

Best known for luxurious evening gowns and wedding dresses, and being the exclusive designer of the Humariff Fashion House, personally crafting each design.

What inspires you? I see beauty in the smallest details, and I love nature and people. I associate my products with animals, insects, or flowers.

What intrigues you right now? I am fascinated by national motifs of different peoples, different types of appearances, and unusual faces. I am focusing on preserving the value and truth of the Palestinian people.

Style Wisdom to share? Don't be afraid to look terrible, be afraid to be terrible on the inside. No matter how much your clothes cost, they will not save you if you are not worth anything as an individual

A movie that changed your life? The Pursuit of Happyness. **Ideal girl to design for?** A girl who is not afraid to be bright, who is not afraid of judgment and who knows how to smile through

Work life? My daily schedule has at least 8 things to do every day, with more than 8 flights per month.



FOUNDER:

BRAND: SELFMADE

INSTA: @ THE SELFMADE

Best known for custom-designed fabrics, textile technology, denim and jeans washing, presenting daring streetwear featuring body-shaping silhouettes.

Who are your design heroes? Zaha Hadid, McQueen and Hakaan Yildirim.

What intrigues you right now? Not following any rules. Fashion has become so diverse that anything is possible, and that's where beauty and freedom are.

Who would you like to design for? Celebrities like Khelani, Teyana Taylor, Norman, and women with strong personality.

What is your creative process like? There are no rules. I get inspired by music, situations, personal experiences, people, and random things I see around me. I like to experiment, play with fabrics or apply new techniques. Most inspiring moment in fashion history? It must have been Alexander McQueen's Spring 2010 collection.

> Your latest fashion purchases for this year? Ambush puffer jacket and sneakers.



As Dubai Fashion Week 2024 recently

marked its first anniversary as the

region's official fashion week on the

regions official rasmon week of the international calendar, we take a closer look at the designers who caused a stir

with their unique vision...

ARIFF F24

Mathien

DESIGNER:

BRAND: EMERGENCY ROOM INSTA: @EMERGENCYROOMBEIRUT Best known for redefining and revolutionizing fashion by sourcing unique vintage materials and utilizing dead-stock fabrics, all locally, to craft

Who are your design heroes? Great

storytellers like Alexander McQueen and John Galliano. What intriques you right now? The future of fashion communication in general. I'm kind of missing the days where a picture had a longer lifetime than a post on Instagram.

one-of-a-kind pieces.

Who would you like to design for? I would like to design for celebrities like Miley Cyrus, Doja Cat or Julia Fox. I love it when people embrace wild, creative and innovative designs. What's next? Definitely a new collection, perhaps another show in my hometown Beirut, but most importantly I'm focusing on distributing and connecting with our followers internationally.

The one thing you can't do without in your atelier? The great people that surround me and accept my very, very messy design process.

Style-staples that you can't live without? A great set of basics (pants, t-shirts, shirts) is essential to me as it really allows me to play with bolder complementary pieces.



EOI INIDED

BRAND: DESIGNERS AND US **INSTA: @DESIGNERSANDUS**

Best known for creating stunning collections in collaboration with esteemed designers of both Arab and international acclaim presenting haute couture and RTW collections, and special pieces for celebrities.

Who are your design heroes? I believe that every designer possesses a distinctive vision and approach to presenting their collections each season.

What intrigues you right now? The increasing innovation and creativity in eco-friendly materials, circular fashion initiatives, and supply chain transparency in sustainable fashion.

What's next? We will be extending the company in the near future, with our first stop after Dubai being Riyadh. Following Riyadh, we will be expanding to Europe. Additionally, our RTW line will be launching very soon.

Favorite fabrics to work with? Silk is one of our top choices. Not only does it offer a luxurious feel and beautiful drape, but it's also sustainable, making it a favorite among eco-conscious designers.

Most inspiring fashion character from Hollywood? Actresses like Audrey Hepburn and Grace Kelly have always been sources of inspiration for everyone.

Color-palette for \$\$24? Our color palette for Spring/Summer 2024 draws inspiration from the 7 colors of the chakras.



CREATIVE DIRECTOR:

Ammar

BRAND: CHOICE

INSTA: @CHOICEGCC

Best known for creating fashion that is inspired by Middle Eastern influences with a western touch, appealing to the GCC lifestyle.

Who are your design heroes? Karl Lagerfeld and Pier Paolo Piccioli.

What intrigues you right now? How to stay true to elegant chic and not fall into stridency. Who would you like to design for?

Kate Blanchett, Jackie Kennedy or Moza Bint Nasser but I design for my clients and I love it.

What are silhouettes you like to work with? All those that flatter the figure of our clients.

Fashion's greatest moment in history? French haute couture in the 40's and 50's

Your must-have style basics? The white shirt, the masculine trousers, a richly embroidered abaya and, of course, ≝ a trench coat with special details as you have seen in our collection: sequenced tweed, and organza.





remain a staple in my wardrobe for years to come.

FOUNDER:

BRAND: REBORN

Laurent, and Heidi Slimane

can be used for the greater good.

INSTA: @REBORNSOCIETY

see that sustainability and innovation can co-exist.

redefining the box that urban street style is put in.

Your thoughts on fashion? I believe that it is extremely

important to intentionally spur positive change in your

everyday life. REBORN is a product of this belief, that fashion

Where do you find inspiration? My inspiration comes from

What is the persona of the individual you design for? He/

She is a trendsetter, bold and confident, edgy and cool in an

effortless way. REBORN is made for the person who feels comfortable in themselves and embraces their differences.

The one piece of fashion clothing you treasure? An oversized

vintage coat from my mother's closet that I style every winter.

I love the fact that it's an adaptable and timeless piece that will

Best known for creating a conscious and

empowering fashion movement, with a portion of

proceeds donated to UNHCR to support and empower

children, orphans, families, elderly and single mothers.

What intrigues you right now? The creativity that we are

able to witness in conscious fashion today. It's amazing to

Who are your design heroes? Virgil Abloh, Saint

DESIGNER: BRAND: ANAYA

INSTA: @ANAYACOLLECTION

Best known for its handcrafted designs and fashionforward pieces that reflect contemporary and distinctive cuts with fabric manipulations that are artful and outstanding.

Who are your design heroes? Schiaparelli, Karl Lagerfeld, and Christian Dior.

What intrigues you right now? Bringing back the sense of romance to life.

What made you want to get into fashion? My obsession for fashion and the innate craft I had within me to create beautiful garments.

Favorite activities in Dubai? Running by the beautiful Dubai canal, cycling in Dubai Harbour and Marina,

and paddle boarding around the Palm Jumeriah.

Top of your studio playlist? It's always swaying between my current obsession for the 1950s music (Sinatra, Frankie Valli, The Flamingos, Peggy Lee and Dian Warwick) to my Spanish playlist that I can never get tired of (Carlos Vives, Sebastian Yatra, Romeo Santos and Maluma).

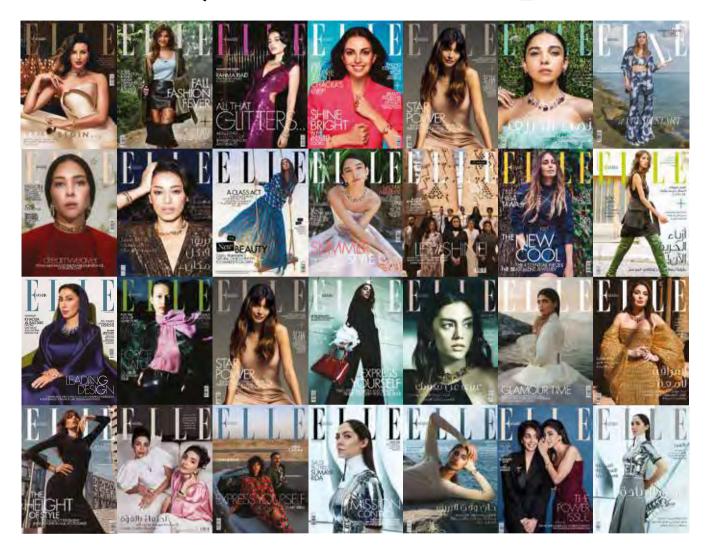
Best piece of style advice? Don't look like someone else! And of course, BLACK if you are ever in doubt.







At your door steps



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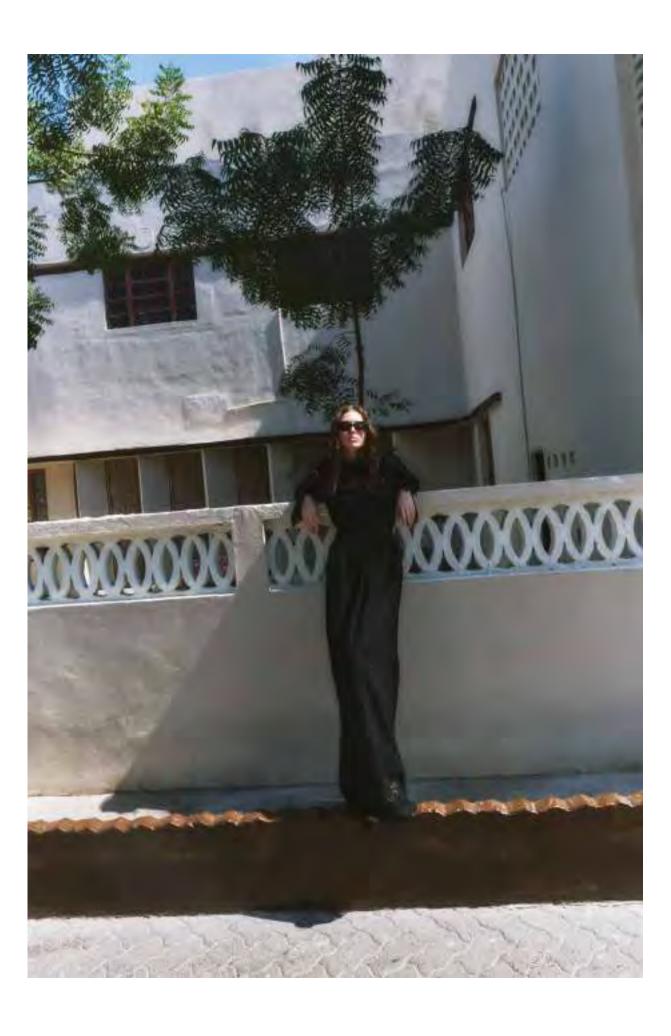


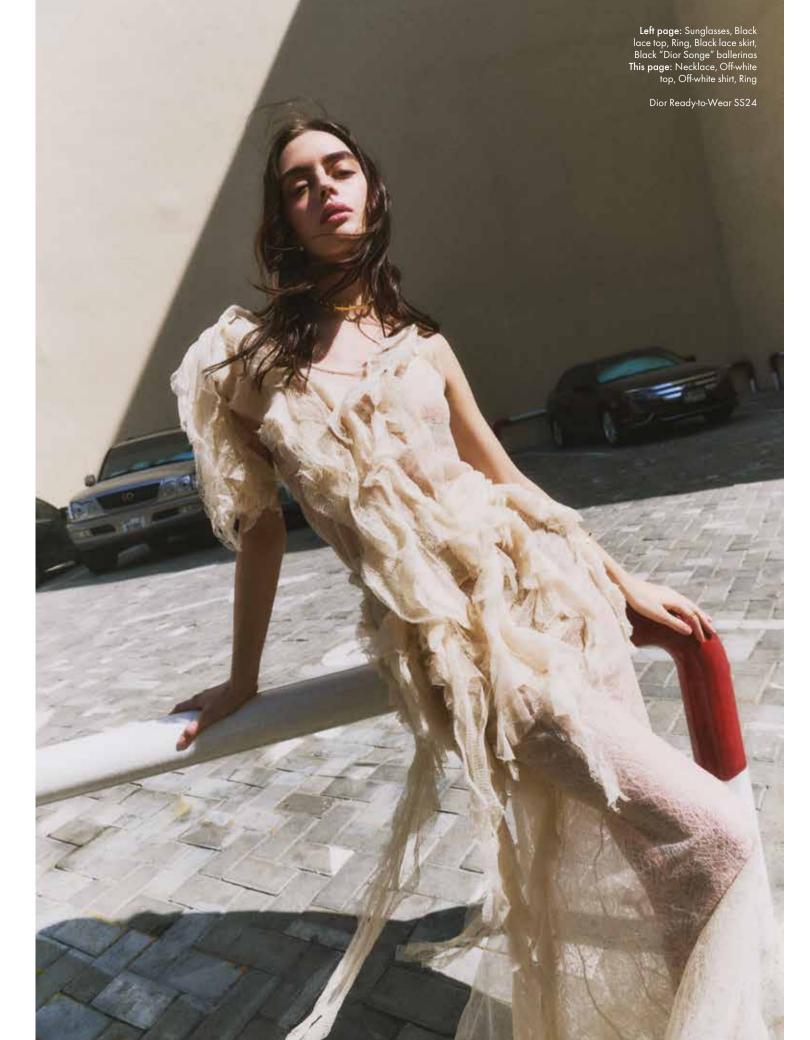


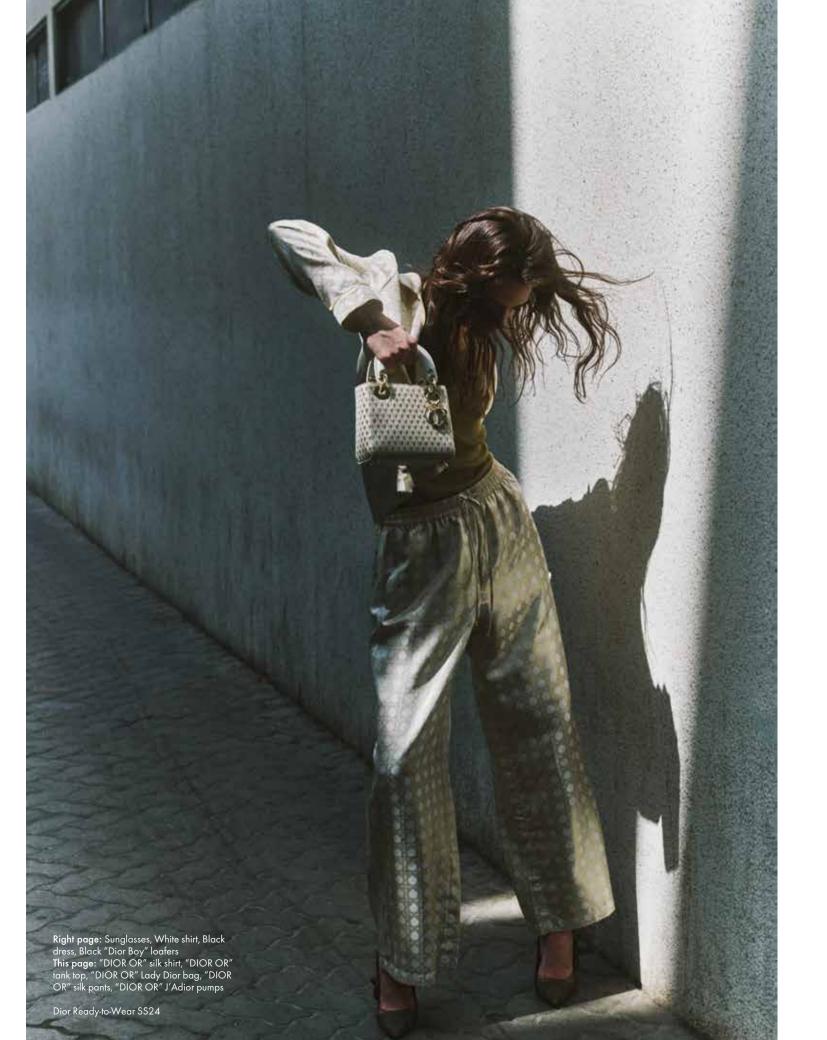
Black blazer with "Eiffel Tower" pattern, White shirt, Black skirt, Black "Dior Jolie" bag

Dior Ready-to-Wear SS24





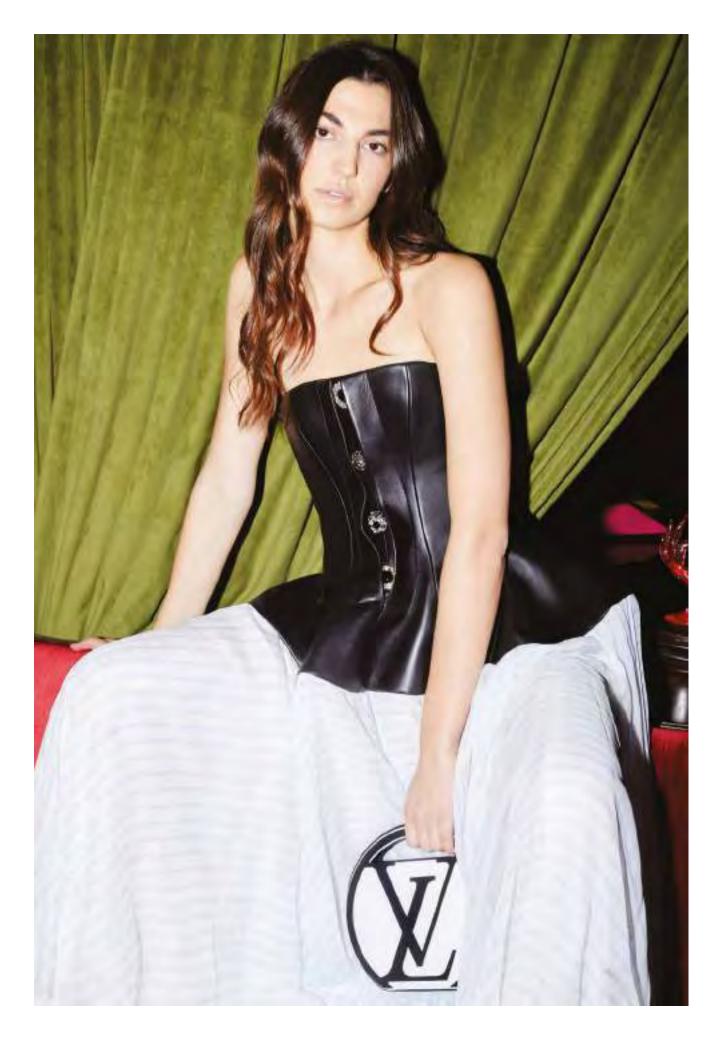












This page: Double-Breasted Duchesse Jacket, Mini Beaded Capucines in Black, LV Knot Pump, Button Tab Pleat Skirt **Left page:** Corset Top Tiered Dress, Around Me Bag in Black & White









Opposite page: Jewel Button Frock Jacket, Fitted High Waist Carrot Pants, Vanity Chain Pouch in Monogram

This page: Damier Zip-Up Dress, LV Knot Pump











photographer, amer mohamad, stylist/ creative direction ; carmel harrison; makeup; sharon drugan; hair: dani hiswani; assistants; yasir ali shah; model; amanda n@mmg







Top & Trousers, Fendi; Necklace, Gucci



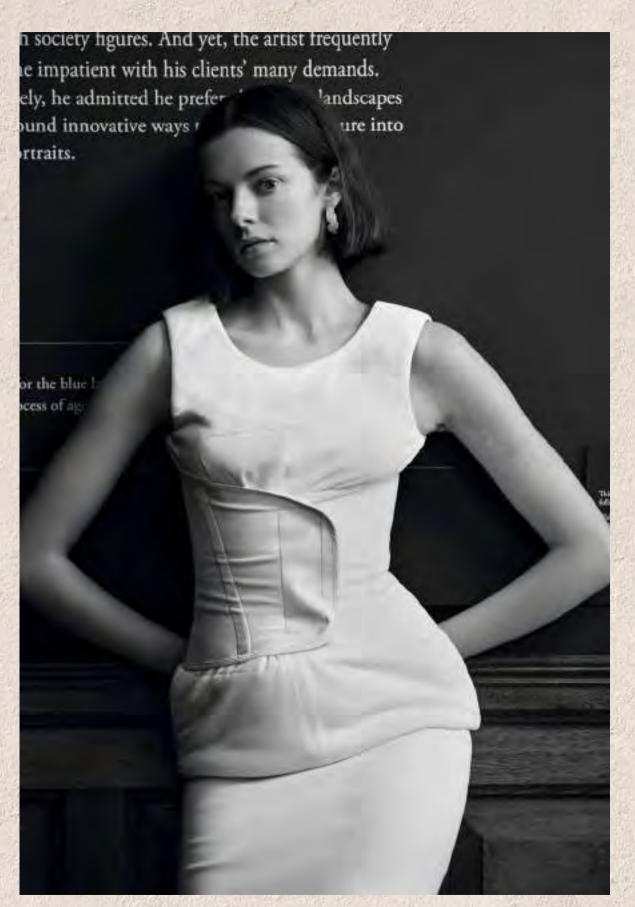
Jacket & Leggings, Alaïa; Vest, Stylist's Own; Earrings, By Alona; Shoes, Fendi







Dress, Chloé; Glasses, Gucci



Top, Skirt & Corset, Sportmax; Earrings, Completedworks







Dress, Gucci; Earrings, Bar Jewelry; Shoes, Tod's



Jacket & Trousers, Stella Mccartney; Shirt, Tod's; Earrings, Misho Designs





Top, Double-Layered Skirt And Trousers Ferragamo, Earrings Bar Jewellery, Shoes Fendi



ONO U R RADAR

Drama Queen

Dropping not one, but two new Creamy Obsession Eyeshadow Palettes, Huda Beauty is making it all about the eyes this month and the way to use them according to founder Huda, "For major drama, don't blend! Leave it clean and sharp, or for a softer take, blend it out to define the eye. - it's the ultimate eye look."



Meet the products on our editors' beauty radar this month



scents and too cool for citrusy, summer-inspired ones, our crop of new floral fragrances will have you springing into spring with ease

- 1. MUSC NUDE, NARCISO RODRIGUEZ
- 2. MISS DIOR, DIOR BEAUTY
- 3. HER PETALS, BURBERRY
- **4.** MY WAY NECTAR, ARMANI BEAUTY

MY WAY Miss Dier

Quench the thirst

If your face feels tight, dry or lacking luster, it could be your skin begging for hydration. Just like our bodies, our complexion needs a moisturizer rich in emollients, humectants, and ceramides to help re-plump and restore. These lipidrich formulas will answer its callina!



A-Gaming your body

'Tis the month to detox both spiritually and physically, and nothing cleanses the body from the inside out quite like a lymphatic body treatment. Dubai's Privèe Home Spa offers the same body-sculpting massage you get a salon, all from the comfort of your home, working on draining your lymphs from excess fluid from the muscles, as well as puffiness under the skin. For appointments head to @Privee_dubai





Smells like...

Three times larger than their regular candles, Molton Brown's latest candle drop oozes richly decadent scents filled with notes of Oud, Bergamot and spices to aromatically fill up gatherings with the scent of



BEAUTY TALKS...

WITH SIMONA BITAR With a legion of high profile clients and Insta-followers who endorse her every hair move, we caught up with the celebrity hairstylist

Do you think women should follow hair trends or should everyone embrace their own manes? I think everything should be customized for each person. Trends are made based on what celebrities are doing and that's based on having a team around them. Not one normal person has that. So how does that start? You have to learn to read people and know what their habits are, what their style is, and what their energy is – and then based on that, obliviously their features play a big role, you customize accordingly. Everything is so individual. I tell it as it is, especially when people come to me and want to get their hair done like an influencer or celebrity they've seen, I'm going to honestly say, but you don't have their hair, you don't have her type, let's find something that is for you!

You have become known for your Balayage... can you walk us through it? I've come up with my own technique and it took years! What I aim for is to recreate the effect of how the sun naturally lightens hair, so basically a sun-kissed look. It starts off with a personalized consultation, followed by a quick saging of the hair, then foil highlights, a hair treatment and finally, the most important, toner.

How do you beat the region's humidity without destroying your hair? They need to create a specific product just for that! But in the meantime, I would suggest using Davines' Blow Dry Primer – it'll help with your blow dry a lot!

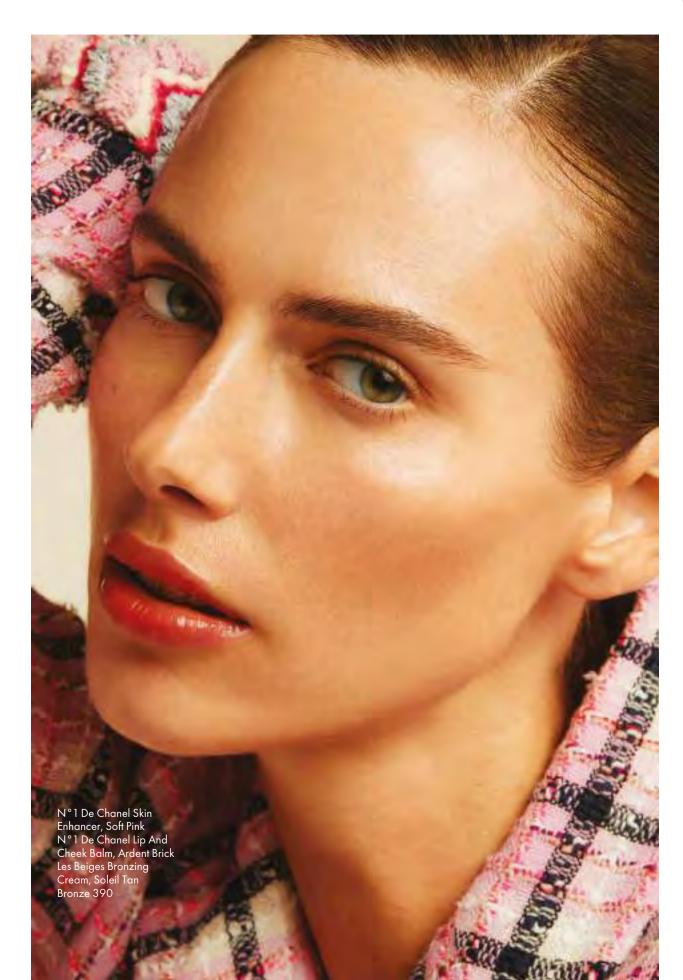
Do you have any must-nots when it comes to hair? Yes, I think Keratin is my only no no. It and Botox, Brazilian Blowouts and even BB cream. I call them crack – they make you feel good for a while, then you feel bad when they have to be repeated and you keep going back and back again because you feel you need them.

Any tips of the trade or beauty hacks? Towel drying; nobody knows that you have to towel dry your hair before you put conditioner on. Once you are done shampooing, towel dry your hair then apply conditioner and brush it out. If you miss that step, water actually accumulates at the top of your hair and even if you wring your hair from the bottom, water is still going to drop from the top and you end up just putting more conditioner on.

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How are you enjoying your journey in the olfactory world of Dior since you joined? I am the happiest Perfumer, between my Maison and having Dior Maison on the other side, it has come full circle. I try to enjoy every moment of this journey and to understand also that I am lucky and that the hard work I put into all these years led me to the position. It did not happen overnight, or because of parents who worked in the business. It is my 30 years of experience that gave me access to who I am now; it is almost luck in a way!

What inspired the creation of New Look from La Collection Privée and how does it capture the essence of the iconic fashion revolution? At Dior, we have some founding acts and also some sentences that are very meaningful; they can play a certain role depending on the way you use them. Monsieur Dior said, "Respect tradition and their audacity," this sentence can be used for different purposes; for example, by the idea of looking back to tradition and daring to change or to twist something traditional and I used this olfactorily like the traditional amber we used for New Look that I give a twist to. So you respect tradition because we went back to the Amber family as a scent which is a way to pay tribute to sensuality because the Amber family is known as being an olfactive profile for sensual perfumes, but the audacity means to bring something new. That can also apply to the name of New Look, which was the name of the first collection of the Couture House 1947. Maybe there is a new way of looking at the bridge between couture and perfume knowing that 1947, it was only menswear and today the house of Dior is for men and women together.

How did you approach the balance between innovation and staying true to Dior's heritage when formulating New Look?

The ingredients are the result of the factual expression of the goal and its vision. The code name of the perfume when I was working, was New Cool; when I look at the silhouette of Maria Grazia and when I look at the work of Kim Jones, I see there is a kind of cool attitude, something cool about it and yet it is very qualitative because of the fabric they are using, from the weight of the material, in specific the lightness of it. It is easy to understand their pieces, but it was about the silhouette and the line

which is very important for Dior. We always see the shape of clothing at Dior; Monsieur Dior named each of the 22 collections he designed during his 10 years, with an allure and elegance; you have the posture, the shoulders for that and for me there is a strong similarity with the visual and the olfactive world. I start with the story, with the inspiration, if this story allows me to use an ingredient, I will do it and not the opposite way.

Can we say that this perfume has a link to fashion, if yes, which look might complement New Look? There is not one, for one reason, it is men and women; there is not one face for this perfume, there are multiple ones. La Collection Privée is about the diversity of people. If you want to create success in perfumery, it is very similar to success in music, you talk to everyone. It is universal!

Were there any specific memories or experiences that influenced the creation of New Look, and how do you translate those into the final fragrance? It is different moments. I once bought a piece of fashion from Kim Jones collection; it was

a pair of sweatpants made of camel hair and cashmere, super comfortable, on a winter day it gives you warmth but it is light. There was something intriguing about them, not only were they easy to wear but every time I wore them, I got complimented, especially that men do not get many good comments on fashion. I loved the idea of combining easy to wear/chic and elegance in fashion. I thought about the same idea; why not have it in a scent? So I looked into code names for the fragrance – this is how I usually start. The name bounced between "New Cool" and "Cool Attitude". They were both to me a definition of the work of Kim Jones and the work of Maria Grazia, what you see on the

catwalk and you see it after on the red carpet or on the street, it is easy to understand yet elegant. It talks about our modern days. It was a relevant idea to create and to capture a scent that is easy, comfortable and elegant to wear in a new way.

How do you envision New Look contributing to the evolving landscape of contemporary perfumery, and what sets it apart in today's market? It is not difficult to stand out, it is difficult to fight against people who try to please the market. It is a bit overwhelming these days, that we have so many launches that smell the same, they are not different, really alike. For the past 20 years, we had an oud category, the question is how many were standing out? What is tricky is not the number of perfumes, it is the number of the ones that smell alike. New Look has a different voice, it is a matter of choice, it is having

job, in the capacity of the brand to innovate. Critics are a way to show that I have the freedom at Dior to create. Dioriviera was an expected fragrance in a way, but for New Look I was also able to create something different that only time will tell about it. On another note, who am I to pretend I can do a better job in Oud and Arabian fragrances, where this region has the best expertise in it. At the end, I can learn more, I want to observe, we all create emotions. New Look shows that at Dior I have the freedom of speech.

some beliefs in your craft, in your

"I AM THE HAPPIEST PERFUMER, BETWEEN MY MAISON AND HAVING DIOR MAISON ON THE OTHER SIDE, IT HAS COME FULL CIRCLE"





What inspired you to create Les Bases à Parfumer at Cartier? I wanted to offer a universal body range that is fragrance-free that would complement all our perfumes, or any perfume. To have an olfactory neutral body product is the best complement to a perfume. I believe that this is truly the best way to achieve the finest and most elegant fragrance. For me, it's the role of the Cartier Maison in perfume, to demonstrate the most elegant and olfactory virtuous beauty ritual. It is to be able to wear one's perfume and nothing else, to let the fragrance express itself fully without interference.

Can you walk us through the concept behind Les Bases à Parfumer? The concept is to offer a moisturizing product in cream or oil that is more fluid and easier to apply, and totally neutral in smell. With a neutral scent, i.e. without the smell of the ingredients they contain, you can wear them with any of our fragrances. You can completely adapt your perfuming ritual. First, you can apply the bases: Crème Pure or Huile Pure in a neutral way. Then spray on your fragrance to let it express itself fully without olfactory interference. In the same range, it's also possible to perfume by applying Les Gouttes de Parfum Concentré to the pulse point. Four fragrances are available: La Panthère, Oud & Santal, L'Heure Diaphane and Pure Rose. For our loyal customers,

who are addicts of these fragrances, it is also possible to mix these Gouttes de Parfum Concentré directly into Crème Pure or Huile Pure and control its intensity. You can create your personalised body ritual. By adding 2, 5 or 10 drops of concentrated perfume, you can create your own cream depending on whether you want a discreet or very enveloping fragrance. Every day, you can spread your La Panthère cream because you'll have perfumed it once and for all.

What about the development process? It was very complicated to find ingredients that are perfectly odorless. That is, that there are no intrinsic smells. Often creams that are unscented have smells like yogurt, fresh smells. They smell like the ingredients that make them up. It was a whole process of selecting odourless ingredients and discovering this incredible oil, this moringa peregrina oil, which came to us by chance, almost miraculously, I would even say, thanks to the research and scientific teams of the AlUla project. We decided to make this oil even though I'd had ten or so vegetable oils supplied for the olfactory expertise. And I knew that among these oils, I had kept four that were the least fragrant, and yet they still had a scent. So, I wasn't very comfortable, because I'd been planning for a long time to find an odourless oil to make this odourless cream. Peregrina oil has the

particularity of being tasteless and odourless, and of being precious because it is ideal for receiving the finest essences without altering or exhausting them. It creates an aura of luminous beauty. Peregrina oil enhances the fragrance tenfold because it has an incredible affinity with

How does this unique collection fit into your overall vision for perfume creation? This collection, which I hope will grow with new references of magnificent and effective products, is completely in line with my vision. The vision that I've been defending for a very long time at Cartier is that perfume is considered to be a work of art. We're not going to use it in every form, anywhere, anyhow. In the end, the most interesting way to use perfume is to spray it on after the body ritual, or to introduce it at the moment of the ritual. And of course, to introduce the fragrance intact, not a version worked to be introduced in a stable way in a cream. My vision as a perfumer is really to keep the fragrance as a fragrance, and to have body ranges that can be scented, while also being at their maximum potential.

Can you elaborate on the unique ingredients and properties of the oil and cream bases? It is a simple formula with very few ingredients. Each product in the collection contains a unique heritage oil: peregrina oil. Derived from the Moringa peregrina tree, which grows in the AlUla region of Saudi Arabia, this oil is known for its many virtues, particularly moisturizing. In fact, this oil had become rarified but was already extracted in ancient times, when the use of oil was first reserved for the divine and royal sphere, then spread for its virtues

in cooking and beauty. It's vegetable oil whose composition is close to animal oil, which explains its affinity with human skin and its incredible absorption. As for the Huile Pure, there is only one ingredient since it is a pure and natural oil of which Cartier guarantees 100% natural quality and origin. The moisturizing body cream, the Crème Pure, is creamy and melting, enriched with peregrina oil and composed of over 97% natural ingredients.

How do you believe Les Bases à Parfumer empowers individuals to express their unique scent identity? As these creams are perfectly neutral, they don't pollute the style you want to give yourself by wearing a single perfume or mixing several together. In the end, wearing a fragranced cream is like adding a layer to the one you've developed specifically for your personality. Thanks to Bases à Parfumer, you can create new layering rituals. For example, you can perfume your cream with La Panthère Eau de Parfum and spray La Panthère Eau de Toilette to get the most out of a floral fragrance. In fact, at Cartier, all our olfactory variations are consistent with the same origin, the Eau de Parfum. This means you can mix the different variations without any risk.

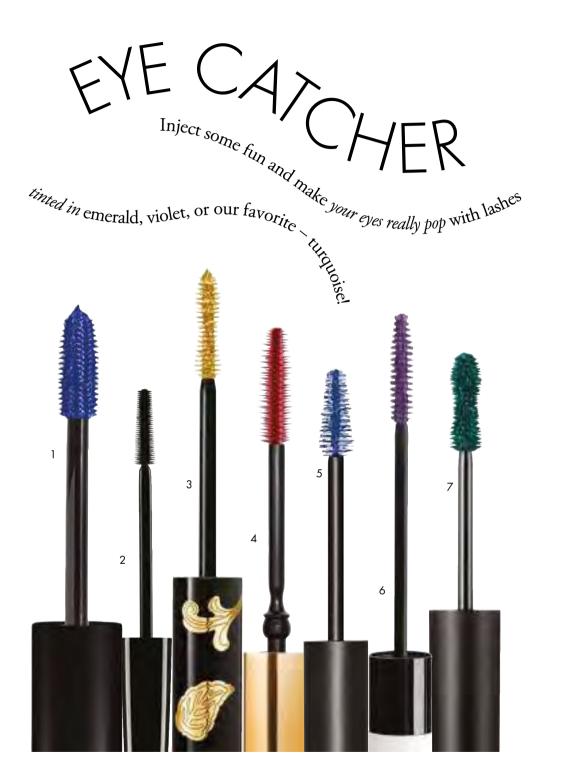
What role does inclusivity play in your perfume creations and Les Bases a. Parfumer? Does it cater to a certain audience or a diverse skin types? It is very important to emphasize that Les Bases à Parfumer are intended for anyone regardless of gender. They are intended for anyone who wants to take care of their skin with a neutral cream. Thus, allowing them to wear their perfume while taking care of their skin, or even not wearing perfume. Les Bases à Parfumer respect all the uses and relationships that one can have with their body and perfume. They respect how one wishes to perfume themselves. One can be a woman who wears men's perfumes, a man who wears women's perfumes, or even someone who does not want to be categorized by gender. In fact, these are products that adapt to all bodies and all cultures.

Do you see neutral bases like Les Bases à Parfumer becoming a future trend in perfumery? I am absolutely sure of this for several reasons. Returning to the essential aligns with our time, focusing on the real purpose of a cream, which is to hydrate and care for, rather than to scent. Then, we will also see that the laws and regulations in cosmetology are moving in this direction. In the end, this could be beneficial because it might allow us to continue producing perfumes with all the ingredients we need. By dissociating regulations concerning spray perfumes and cosmetic products, and by reducing the fragranced cosmetics, we could preserve the art of high perfumery.

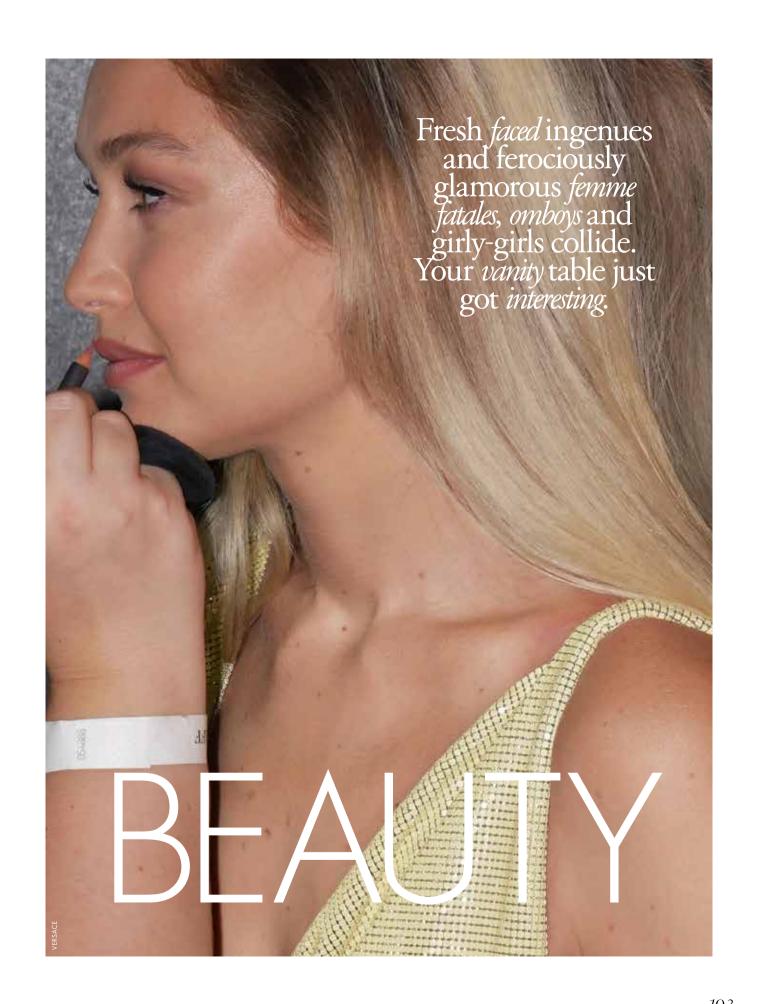
Are there any specific fragrance combinations you find particularly well-suited to Les Bases à Parfumer? None actually, Les Bases à Parfumer are designed to harmonize with all fragrances including Oud Vanillé, Déclaration, Heure Brillante and Pasha. When it comes to pre-fuming your Crème Pure or Huile Pure, Les Gouttes de Parfum Concentré are ideal because they are composed of 50% perfume concentrate and 50% peregrina oil, and above all, they are alcohol-free.

"THIS COLLECTION. WHICH I HOPE WILL GROW WITH NEW REFERENCES OF MAGNIFICENT AND EFFECTIVE PRODUCTS, IS COMPLETELY IN LINE WITH MY VISION'



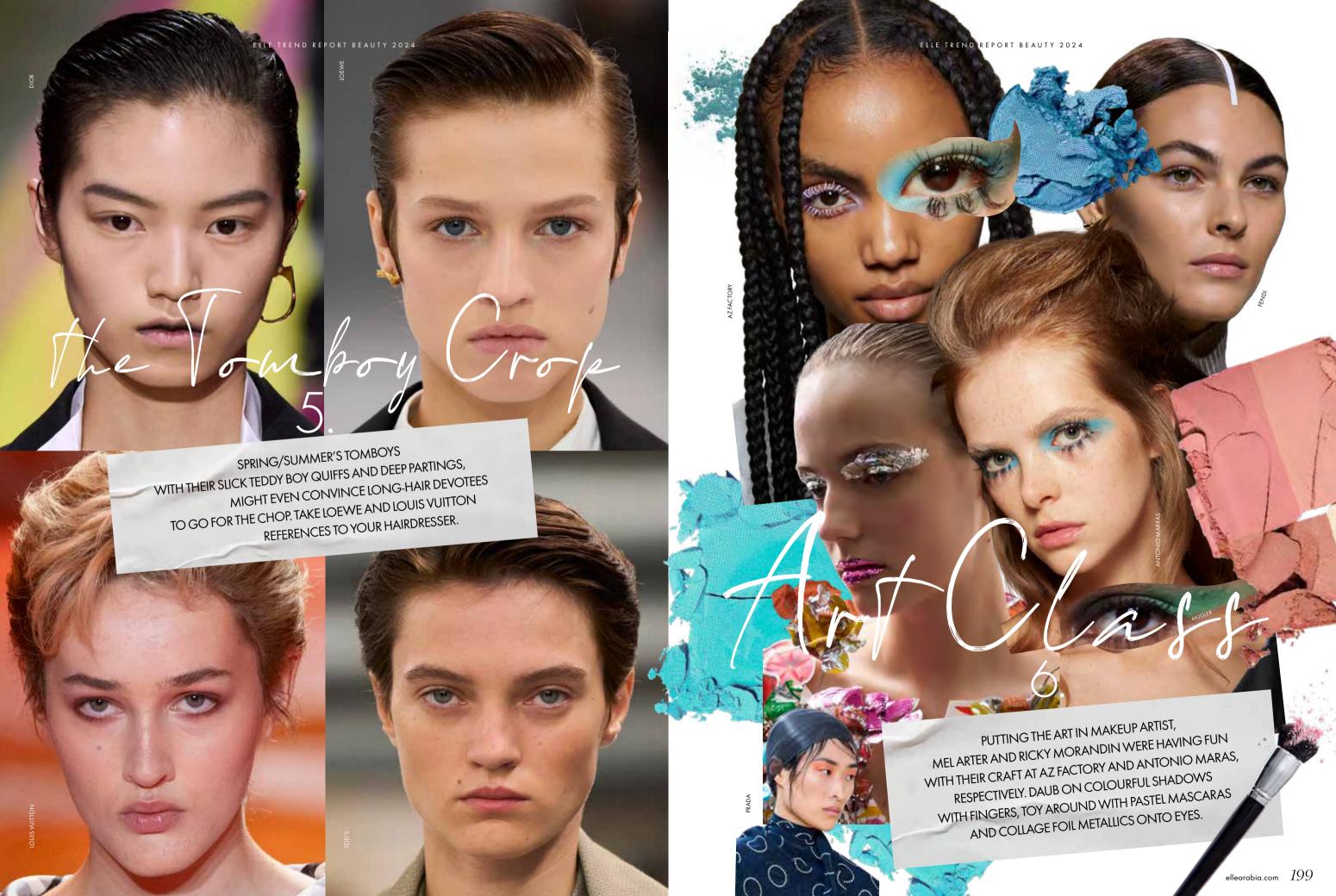


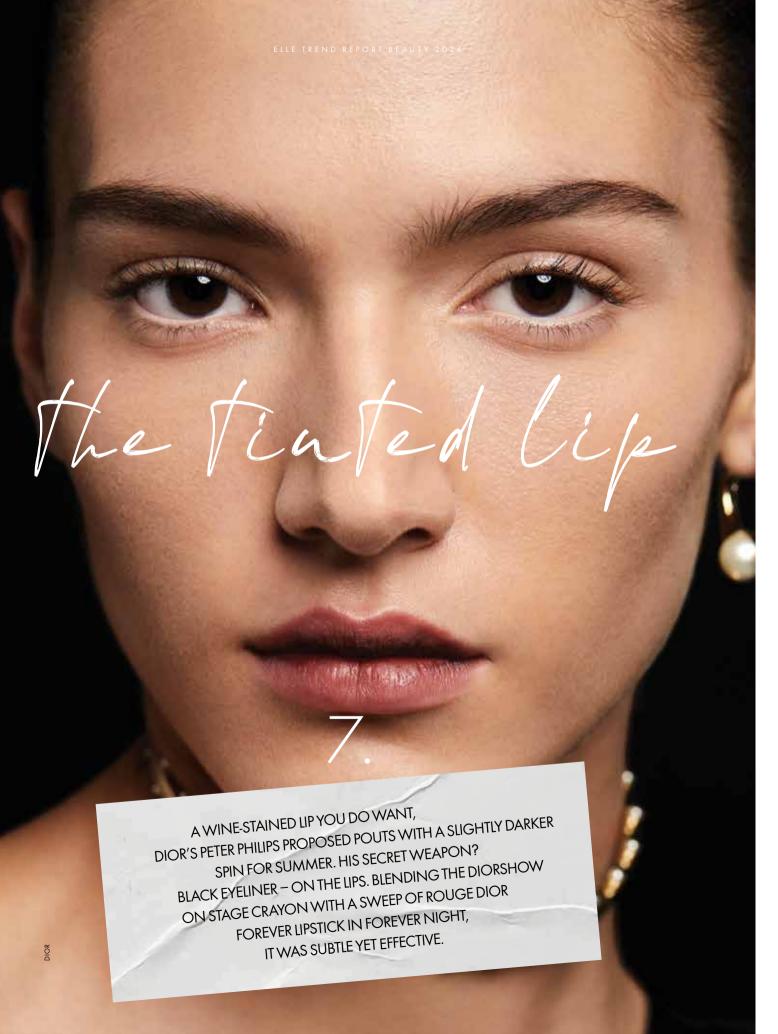
1. DIORSHOW PUMP 'N' VOLUME MASCARA IN 260 BLUE, DIOR BEAUTY 2. SMOKY LASH MASCARA IN GREEN, MAKE UP FOR EVER 3. PASSIONEYES INTENSE VOLUME MASCARA IN DIVINE GOLD, DOLCE & GABBANA 4. NOIR ALLURE ALL-IN-ONE MASCARA: VOLUME, LENGTH, CURL AND DEFINITION, CHANEL 5. LASH CLASH EXTREME VOLUME MASCARA IN ELECTRIC BLUE, YSL BEAUTY 6. TRAIT D'HERMÈS VOLUME MASCARA IN VIOLET INDIGO, HERMÈS 7. CONTROLLEDCHAOS MASCARAINK IN EMERALD ENVY, SHISEIDO















"My creations share a common approach; they are very embracing, delicate, and fresh. I enjoy providing a contemporary interpretation to classic ingredients. Furthermore, I always build a new fragrance respecting LOEWE's heritage. The guiding principles of all our creations are always nature, craftsmanship, excellence, and the brand's know-how."

> "There's a key to incorporating traditional elements whilst pushing creative boundaries and that's finding the balance between innovation and tradition. I consistently strive to take classic perfumery ingredients and infuse them with a modern twist, formulating scents that reflect newness."

"Jonathan Anderson runs the creative direction of LOEWE Perfumes and Home Scents lines and my role as exclusive perfumist of the Maison is to translate his vision and his inspiration to the olfactory universe. We aspire to create fragrances that leave an indelible mark, transforming them into a means of escapism that transports you to various moments and places based on their unique compositions.

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PIERCHIC

Riviera, Arboretum, Al Fayrooz Lounge, The Hide, and Pai Thai. The Celeste infinity pool, an adult-only oasis with panoramic views of the Arabian Gulf, provides tranquil privacy, complemented by a dedicated bar for ultimate relaxation. Experience the thrill of over 30 rides at the Wild Wadi Waterpark, with complimentary access for hotel guests.

FROM ST-TROPEZ TO MONTE-CARLO, BE TRANSPORTED TO THE CULINARY GLAMOUR



OF THE SOUTH OF FRANCE AT FRENCH RIVIERA OVERLOOKING THE POOL OR THE SEA.





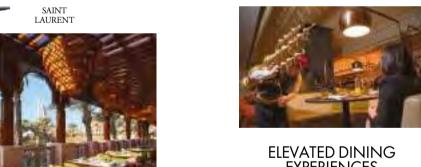
WHAT

PACK

AGUA BY AGUA BENDITA +

DOLCE & GABBANA

ALEXANDER MCQUEEN



EXPERIENCES

Delight in an authentic journey through Levantine cuisine at Olea showcasing flavors from Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Jordan, southern Turkey, and Cyprus. Gather with family and friends to savor a sumptuous Iftar spread, featuring an array of hot and cold mezze, grilled specialties, and live cooking stations, complemented by tantalizing Arabic desserts. Let the enchanting melodies of our Oud player transport you to cherished memories as you dine from twilight to dawn. For Suhoor, indulge in a feast from the à la carte menu, serenaded by live Oud tunes. Iftar: AED 250 per person. Sunset - 9pm and Suhoor: À la Carte Menu. Suhoor 10pm – 2am



PRIVATE IFTAR IN ASPEN **SKI CHALETS**

The exclusive Aspen Ski Chalets offer a unique setting for intimate gatherings. Treat yourself to a private chef experience and immerse yourself in the enchanting ambiance of the holy month.

Sunset to 9pm. Starting from AED 575 per person (minimum booking of 8 people)



CREATE LASTING MEMORIES

Host a private event at Konference and foster meaningful connections with friends and colleagues. Enjoy diverse platters representing various countries, enhancing your Iftar experience with a selection of buffet dishes and refreshing Ramadan juices. Sunset to 9pm. AED 225 per person



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS: KEMPINSKI HOTEL MALL OF THE EMIRATES DUBAL T +971 4 341 0000, DINING.MOE@KEMPINSKI.COM, KEMPINSKI. COM/DUBAI. FOR GROUP ENQUIRIES EMAIL MEETINGS. MALLOFTHEEMIRATES@KEMPINSKI.COM

THE LOWDOWN

Ideally located on the beautiful coast of Dubai, Jumeirah Al Qasr is spread across 40 hectares of meticulously landscaped gardens and fronts a spectacular private beach club. A true embodiment of "The Palace," lobby sets the stage with breathtaking lower arrangements, Azul Bahia granite, a grand Swarovski crystal chandelier, and Moroccan fountain. Boasting 294 rooms and suites, the hotel blends traditional arabesque design with contemporary detailing, offering a luxurious retreat immersed in the rich heritage of the Arabian Peninsula. Furthering the experience are the magical Abra rides along 3.7km of waterways and against the backdrop of the iconic Burj Al Arab Jumeirah.

GOOD EATS

Dine like royalty at Jumeirah Al Qasr, with exceptional options such as Pierchic, French



Ramadan at Kempinski Hotel Mall of the Emirates

Embrace the spirit of togetherness and connection with handpicked dining adventures crafted to make memories that sparkle!





A time to gather

CELEBRATING RAMADAN IN STYLE

Lilian Afshar showcases the latest collection from L'Afshar Studio

In the spirit of the upcoming Ramadan season, L'Afshar Studio has unveiled its latest collection, poised to redefine the essence of celebration. With a seamless blend of tradition and contemporary flair, the collection features a curated selection of objet d'arts, homeware, and accessories designed to elevate the Ramadan experience.

Founded in 2013, L'Afshar has emerged as a beacon of sophistication under the creative direction of Lilian Afshar. Drawing upon her diverse background and a keen eye for artistry, Lilian's designs embody a fusion of cultures, echoing her British-Iranian heritage while embracing modern aesthetics.

This year's Ramadan collection is a testament to L'Afshar Studio's dedication to quality craftsmanship and innovation. From intricately designed tea cups to captivating resin plates, each piece tells a story of heritage and refinement. With a commitment to sustainability, the brand's production process ensures minimal environmental impact, reflecting its ethos of conscious luxury.

LILIAN SPEAKS TO ELLE ARABIA ABOUT THE COLLECTION, THE COMPANY'S REMARKABLE GROWTH, AND THE THRILL OF THE CHALLENGE...

Lilian, congratulations on the launch of your exclusive Ramadan collection! Can you share with us one piece from the collection that holds a special place in your heart? The jewel box is definitely my favorite. My inspiration often stems from the captivating shapes and cuts of precious stones. The concept initially materialized in the form of the Jewel paperweight. However I wanted it to transcend from being merely a decorative object to one with function.

Your handbag designs are iconic. How do you see the essence of your handbag collection reflected in your homeware pieces for Ramadan? There's a direct correlation between both worlds. I love designing for both, the home holds a unique significance for me, allowing me to push creative boundaries even further. Some patterns from the bags seamlessly transition into items like vases, coasters, and trays. For this Ramadan collection I reintroduced Resin, one of my favorite materials to work with.

We love the idea of the Matte Resin Boxes symbolizing good luck. Can you tell us a little bit about the inspiration behind infusing symbolism into your homeware designs? In the contemporary consumer landscape, there's a growing desire for more than just a product. As designers, it becomes our responsibility not only to present aesthetically pleasing pieces but also to transport consumers into our imaginative world, where the roots of our inspiration lie. It's about creating an experience that extends beyond "just a product" and invites individuals to connect with the narrative behind each design.



Your journey from creating five bags to now offering a diverse range of objets d'art and homeware is inspiring. What has been the most unexpected joy in expanding your creative horizons? The most exciting pivot would be when we opened our own factory, pushing R&D became much easier. I always had pages of ideas but was never previously able to execute them. I am constantly on the production floor overlooking production - I love physically being part of the journey of how pieces are created.







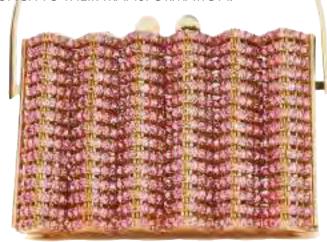


"TOGETHER WITH MY MOTHER, NAHID, AND OUR CLOSE-KNIT TEAM, WE SHARE A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR WELL-MADE, HIGH-QUALITY PIECES, AND A PASSION FOR BOTH OUR MATERIALS AND OUR INSPIRED APPROACH TO THEIR TRANSFORMATION."

Can you tell us more about the collaboration with Villa Aumédan for the special tea cups. Ahmed from Aumédan is a dear friend. He visited my studio a few months ago as we were planning my 10 year event and the idea stemmed from the ARP fruit bowl I had displayed at the showroom. The teacup set is such a fun, playful and creative way to style your Ramadan table spread. I am really excited to launch it soon.

Sustainability is a key focus for L'Afshar Studio. Can you share with us one surprising item that came out of the repurposing efforts? The Jewel paperweight stemmed from a thick piece of Acrylic I had leftover from a custom dining table we had produced. I love the challenge of consistently aiming to create purposeful and meaningful pieces from off cut materials. What I would love to create one day is a chandelier from all these small pieces.

Lastly, if you could choose one L'Afshar handbag to complement the atmosphere of a Ramadan gathering, which one would it be and why? It would be the Zhina crystal bag (right). The sparkles are made for a Ramadan gathering.



In the heart of Dubai's industrial area, the L'Afshar design studio, which houses the Fashion and Home Collections is located beside the factory. Here, ideas are conceptualized and brought to life.



Elle INTERNATIONAL

H()R()S(()P)

ARIES

20 MARCH - 19 APRIL

Have you ever felt as optimistic about the future as you do now? Or been so happy in your personal life? As Venus and Mars meet, high in your chart, it seems that everything you ever wanted is within reach - and you've also found the perfect person to share it with. Should you be brave and take a big leap forward together? Absolutely. This is the moment you have been waiting for, so grab it while you can.

CANCER

21 JUNE - 21 JULY

An unexpected meeting leads to what looks like a new romance. Or at least, you think so. But if that's what it is, why are you so unsure about it? Maybe your deeper values, the things you never really think about but which are actually the framework of all you do, are different from those of your new friend. Could you learn to accept your differences, and find a compromise? Talk things through before you go further.

20 APRIL - 20 MAY

TAURUS

You work long hours on a big project only to be told a few days later that it has all been changed or cancelled, and that all your effort was for nothing. You are furious, but don't worry. Everything will work out well in the end. Your dedication to the original project has been noticed, and will be rewarded; and the new direction you are now being told to take will take you on to greater success than before.

IF()

22 JULY - 22 AUGUST

The outer planets are challenging you to step outside your regular routines and take a different path - and as usual, you are resisting. But look at where you are, and then at where you could be. Surely you can see that what you gain from staying is less that what you will gain from moving? You have no reason to be afraid of change; in the past you have gone from success to success, and you will do so again now.

exactly what you didn't want; and rather than rise to the challenge, you decide to walk away. Mid-March brings new inspiration, and with it an opportunity to create a new and entirely unexpected career; it's a bit vague and risky, but to you it's an escape route - so you take it.

GEMINI

21 MAY - 20 JUNE

Just when you think you've caught

up with all you have to do, and can

perhaps take a few days off, you

are given a load of extra duties. It's

VIRGO

23 AUGUST - 22 SEPTEMBER

You realise at the end of February that you have done all you can to resolve an important relationship issue - but it is possible to see your action as drawing a line on the ground, with both of you keeping to your own side. Try to keep things moving, but at the same time give the other person time, and encouragement, to make a response. And don't let yourself be pushed back to where you were before.

Text by BERNARD FITZWALTER

LIBRA

23 SEPTEMBER - 22 OCTOBER

The high emotion of recent weeks finally becomes the love affair you wanted. Does it live up to your expectations? In the short term, yes; but as the month progresses, you may find yourself wanting more, and more quickly, than the other person is ready for. That's just you being overenthusiastic; this is a relationship with real long-term potential, so slow down a little and get to know each other properly.

CAPRICORN

21 DECEMBER - 19 JANUARY

Sometimes we speak greater truths than we know. This month, in a normal conversation, you realise that what you are saying is what you actually believe, and maybe who you really are. Even as you speak, you're hearing it as though for the first time, and you're shocked. But not the people you are with. They knew it all already, and hearing you being so honest just makes them love you all the more.

SCORPIO

23 OCTOBER - 21 NOVEMBER

Are other people being deliberately difficult, or is it you? At least two people will say that it's you in the coming weeks, as you clash over what you see as simply maintaining your position and they see as being obstructive. Whatever the causes, try to get these issues resolved quickly, while the planets favour clear thinking; later in the month added emotional factors will make reaching agreement much harder.

AQUARIUS

20 JANUARY - 18 FEBRUARY

Venus and Mars, together in your sign for the first time in many months, create the perfect mood either to start a new love affair or revitalise an old one. Heavier planets at the base of your chart will remind you that you have more serious things to do than play around with spring romance; but they will be telling you that all year, so ignore them for a few weeks and follow your heart rather than your head.

SAGITTARIUS

22 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER

Converting your hopes and ideas into reality is always harder than you expect. There are details that you hadn't thought of, new skills to be learned, and extra expense. But most of all, you have to be prepared to let go of whatever has been holding you back until now. An easy task, you think; but when the moment comes, you find you still have a deep emotional attachment to it. Nonetheless, it has to go.

PISCES

19 FEBRUARY - 19 MARCH

You feel that everyone is putting you under pressure to do things you don't want to do. Actually, that's not true. All they want is some sort of indication from you, a rough idea of if or when you might do certain things. Ultimately, this is about time: there are points in a relationship, in a job, or in anything, where decisions have to be made. If you want to go ahead, you say yes; if not, you say no. Simple as that.

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