

MERCEDES GLEITZE

















"CLASSIC"?

"A classic timepiece, designed for a lady." This is how some may describe our Oyster Perpetual Lady-Datejust. Maybe they're right. Since the early 20th Century, Rolex has designed and crafted watches suited for all women's wrists, with the same standard of excellence as for all the models that have built its legend. Always pursuing a higher standard. So, if "classic" means perpetuating tradition while combining elegance and precision, grace and resistance, beauty and performance, it is indeed a classic timepiece, designed for a lady. The Lady-Datejust.

#Perpetual



OFFICIAL ROLEX RETAILER





CELINE



June 2024 Issue 155

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H.E Huda Alkhamis-Kanoo has devoted her career to nurture creative talent. building bridges that connect communities across the world



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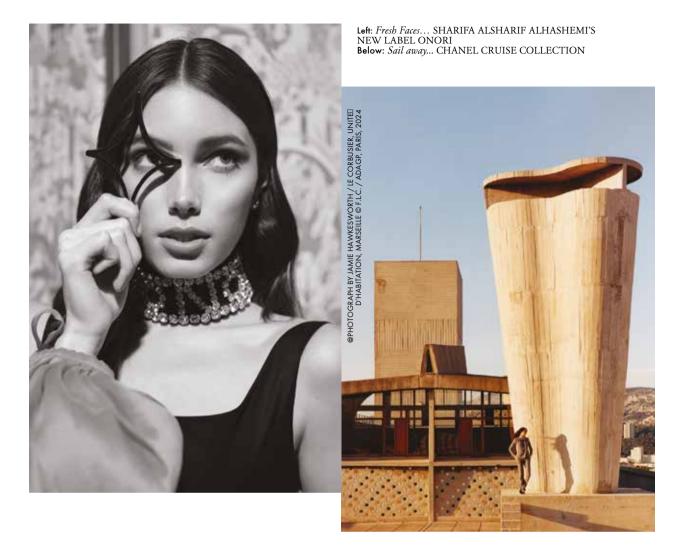


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SUMMER INSPIRATION

Dear Readers.

As Summer starts in earnest, we're super excited to bring you an issue that is positively brimming with stories that are sure to inspire and delight. Our cover story, "Lights, Camera, Glamour!" takes you into a dazzling world where brilliance meets artistry, with both rising star Andria Tayeh and the latest creations by Chaumet. Join us for an insightful talk with Sharifa AlSharif AlHashemi, the visionary behind the ONORI fashion label, and Nancy Ajram, the first Middle Eastern woman to represent Tiffany & Co. We also have fascinating conversations with Her Excellency Huda Alkhamis Kanoo, founder of ADMAF and the Abu Dhabi Festival, and Eman Alblooshi, a pioneering Emirati author and educator.

On the luxury front, we get inspired by the creative minds behind brands like Zimmermann, Gaurav Gupta,

and Tiffany & Co. Discover the latest from Carrera Y Carrera, Montblanc, and more, as these industry leaders share their journeys and visions. In the beauty section, Guerlain's Delphine Jelk and Ann-Caroline Prazan, and L'Oréal Middle East's Laurent Duffier give us insights into the heritage and exciting futures of the brands. And of course, this issue is packed with fun and fresh fashion, beauty, and travel tips to keep you inspired all summer long.



SUMMER

Whether you're getting married or simply in the mood for *romance*, these uber-modern pieces are lust-worthy









Straddling the brand's rich equestrian heritage, *Burberry's Rocking Horse* bag is adorned with an innovative interlocking 'b' motif.



The BRACELET

Encircling the wrist with opulence, *Van Cleef & Arpels' Perlée Emeraude* bracelet dazzles with golden beads and a cascade of diamonds.



The Tadao Ando x Bulgari Serpenti watch, in collaboration with Japanese architect Tadao Ando, wraps Bulgari's iconic serpentine charm in a vibrant marquetry of gemstones.





1. LOEWE PAULA'S IBIZA 2. ALIGHIERI 3. CHLOÉ 4. ULLA JOHNSON 5. RABANNE 6. LA DOUBLEJ 7. RABANNE 8. ISABEL MARANT 9. BODE 10. BYREDO

1. LOEWE PAULA'S IBIZA 2. TAE PARK 3. COPERNI 4. JACQUEMUS 5. STUDIO AMELIA 6. MIU MIU 7. ULLA JOHNSON 8. CHRISTOPHER ESBER



 10° ellearabia.com

Everybody's wearing... Teeny tiny Shorts

Designers got cheeky this season turning up the heat (as well as the hems) with micro hot shorts that

are shorter than ever.



ΟΝ

O U R

RADAR

Pssst... **Investment** piece

With Beyoncé heralding in the Western aesthetic, we're all rushing to saddle up. Where to start? Build your modern-day cowgirl wardrobe with Jimmy Choo's Cinch M; in Rose Cow print, it offers a contemporary take on the look.



Add to Wishlist

A curation of ultimate hero pieces for a stylish summer, Miu Miu's L'Ēté 2024 offers a chic roundup of ready-to-wear pieces, captivating swim and beachwear and scene-stealing accessories to hit the beach, bar and beyond.

Did You Hear...

Jacquemus this summer is not only serving up must-have fashion, but it's giving us food as well! Yes, the cool French brand has taken over popular café and brasserie La Renaissance, adding a must-visit pop-up boutique and giving the beach-club there a Jacquemus makeover as well. Pop by if you're in Saint-Tropez.





With their iconic flora and fauna stamp, Nicky and Simone Zimmermann's brand has become a blooming success. The sister duo opens up about fame, the FW'24 collection and of course, their collective love for florals.



Tell us something not many people know about you or the brand...

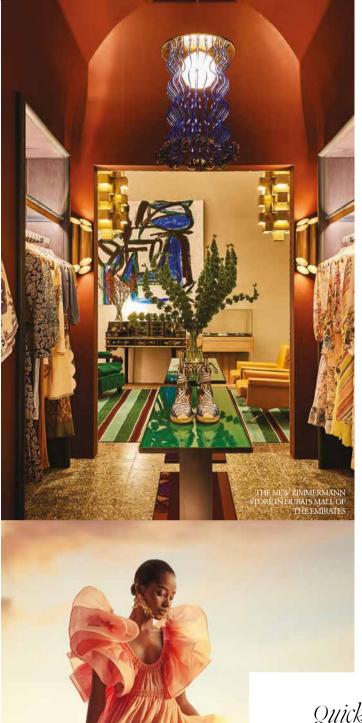
NZ: I can't really cook anything - I don't have the patience to do it well. But I love delicious food. My family is always complaining in the mornings because the house smells like burnt toast that I've forgotten to pull out of the toaster and they'll ask, did you mean this sort of thing!? Can we say that Nicky you're the creative force while Simone is the brains behind the brand?

NZ: I guess you could - I'd like to think that we have complimentary skills. I'm the Creative Director, while Simone is Chief Operating Officer, so we do very different things day to day. The dynamic we share is symbiotic – she leaves me to design the collections, while I know she's taking care of the business to constantly move it forward.

Is it hard to work with family? Or do you find that your strengths complement one another?

SZ: Lots of people really discouraged us from working together when we started out, but we've only made it work to our benefit. We have immense trust in one another and can discuss things very openly. We've obviously had funny tiffs over the years, but then we have to get on with it. Our work comes with a lot of travel - we were just in Dubai together visiting the new store in Mall of Emirates - having so many unique





Quickfire with Nicky

3 Vacation Staples... A good book, a swimsuit and a breezy dress to throw over the top of it. If I can make it four - I always need a big hat to protect myself from the sun!

Summer Sandals to Buy... Embellishments have been catching my eye lately.

Your Go-to Fragrance... Carnal Flower by Frederic Malle. Next Travel Hotspot... St Barth.



experiences like that with your sister, we just feel really fortunate. Prints play a major starring role in Zimmermann's aesthetic. Have you

ladies ever meet a floral you didn't like?

NZ: I always say if I weren't a designer, I'd be a florist - I draw a lot of inspiration from nature. Creating a great, emotive and wearable floral print is something that we spend a lot of time on and we equally think about how we balance those with more masculine looks and textures to give a collection balance. As a brand, we've always championed print and color, it's something my team and I love to explore and with each collection we're looking for ways to evolve it.

Dreamy fashion aside, you've has also managed to master the art of crafting beautifully designed swimwear. Did it happen organically?

NZ: Honestly, it was a decision I made when we did our first Australian Fashion Week in the 1990's, to pair our ready-to-wear clothing with swimwear. While it felt second nature to the Australian lifestyle, internationally it was seen as quite unique for the time - designers really didn't work with swimwear back then and what was around was very functional. We ran with it and it's still a big part of what we do today. What are your most popular pieces from that line?

SZ: With each swim collection that we deliver, we discover new favorite silhouettes of our clients and it always changes. I think what is common amongst the most popular swimwear pieces is the level of detail and intricacy that our clients love - and fit is so important.

If we peaked into both of your wardrobes, what would we find?

NZ: A lot of order - my wardrobe is separated into each category; it's how I function. Simone and I both tend to have a lot of classic suiting,

> denim and knit options, but also the feminine printed dresses... we do love an occasion to dress up!

You recently opened the first Zimmermann store in the Middle East here in Dubai. That must have been quite a milestone for the brand?

SZ: It's been really exciting to open our first store in the Middle East at the Mall of Emirates, as we have such a loyal client base here. We know our clients really love the in-person shopping experience, so it's been amazing to deliver the full Zimmermann experience. The response since we opened has been so warm and welcoming, it's really encouraging for our future plans in the region.

Should we expect more stores in our region?

SZ: Definitely! We worked hard to establish our business in the Middle East and we only plan to work to open more stores in key cities and bring more of our brand story to local clients. Our next store is set to open in Riyadh in late August, followed by a second Dubai location before the end of the year.

ANEWYORK STATE OF STYLE

The Dior Fall 2024 collection is a tribute to Transatlantic fashion









Statue of Liberty and Eiffel Tower

Prints: The collection features bold prints of these iconic landmarks, symbolizing a deep-rooted connection between Paris and New York, expertly woven into the fabric of the designs.

Marlene Dietrich's Influence:

Drawing inspiration from the legendary actress known for her androgynous style, Maria Grazia Chiuri blends masculine tailoring with feminine elegance, showcasing tweeds and tailored suits that echo the star of the silver screen's unique style.

Fabulous Fabrics: The use of hammered satin, crushed velvet, and crepe combines traditional luxury with modern aesthetics.

Lingerie as Outerwear: Delicate dresses reminiscent of 1940's glamour subtly reveal the lingerie beneath, highlighting the blend of intimacy and exhibition in fashion.

Embroidery and Motifs: The collection features intricate embroidery of stars, lilies of the valley, clovers, and bees, intertwined with modern elements to celebrate the brand's storied past and dynamic future.





New renditions of Gucci's iconic Jackie and GG Marmont bags exude a laid-back summer charm. Colorful GG canvas accessories, including the Luce and Moon Side bags, add a playful touch.



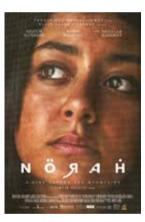


Meet: Norah

Another highlight from the Cannes Film
Festival was the nomination of Saudi film
'Norah' as part of the festival's Official
Selection in the 'Un Certain Regard' section.
Written and directed by Tawfiq Al-Zaidi, the
film is set in a remote village in Saudi Arabia
during the 1990s and filmed in AlUla,
presenting a poignant narrative about the
transformative power of art in inspiring
change. It features Maria Bahrawi, Yaqoub
Al-Farhan, and Abdullah Al-Sadhan.

Upfront

FARM RIO







CULTURE MEETS COUTURE

Indian couturier Gaurav Gupta is throwing out the rule book and playing by heart. From patterns and processes, his innovative couture techniques are taking the fashion world by storm, and there's good reason to fall in love with all that he's doing.

the conscious and mindful. Recently, when he presented his first showcase in the Middle East, the designer left his audience mesmerized, showcasing his latest couture collection straight after its grand reveal at the Paris Couture Week. Titled the 'Aarohanam' collection which is derived from a Sanskrit word, it reflects Gaurav's connection to heritage, culture, and spirituality. "Aarohanam signifies ascension, a spiritual journey from the mundane to the sublime, mirroring the essence of the collection. higher consciousness, much like the shedding of a snake's skin to emerge anew," he says. Understanding the women of the Arab world is what the couturier is looking forward to, designing pieces that celebrate the region. It's been a journey of discovery for him, and it marks the beginning of a new chapter. Now preparing for his fourth appearance at Paris Couture Week this June, he's eager to see traditional garments evolving guided by his taste for extravagance and the avant-garde. "The goal is that narrate a tale of craftsmanship, innovation, and timeless elegance," he says, and we can't wait to see what unfolds from the master of contemporary couture.

It encapsulates the idea of shedding old constructs to embrace a to create pieces that transcend trends, evolving into heirlooms



a canvas, and represented in a form of

surreal divinity. A graduate from Central

Saint Martins, Gaurav is a man who

commands attention not only because

of his skill, but also for his inimitable ability to defy boundaries, and yet

remain rooted in culture. "My creative

process involves tapping into my

instinctive mind, studying and delving

into the ancient Vedic knowledge that

India has to offer. This helps me craft

innovative embroideries and meteoric

artwork," he explains. An integration of global aesthetics with Indian heritage, his signature is his seal. Known for his sculpted sari gown worn by Beyoncé which made everyone take notice, he's

caught the attention of iconic women,

each one eager to feel the power of his

drape - Kareena Kapoor Khan, Cardi

B. Shakira, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan

- and the list continues to grow. "Our

signature sculpting is at the heart

of our creative expression, where we

engineer fabrics to form materials that

we can sculpt, drape, and fold onto

bodies, utilizing various techniques

of sculpting," he says, and he's not

just referring to the creative process.

Behind his vision and approach, his 'Zero Wastage Initiative' focuses on

recycling scrap, and replacing plastic

with fruit-plastic to respect mother

nature. Think fabrics created from

candy and crisp wrappers, to waste used

from the ocean and landfills, and you

soon see how his couture pieces are for



Street style

FLIP IT

Sun's out, thongs out? Yes indeed as fashion's style crowd steps into summer in this laidback essential that not only offers unbeatable comfort, but also is the ultimate embodiment of the carefree spirit of summer. Hassle free and fuss free, just slip them on and go – just don't forget, a good pedicure is a must!

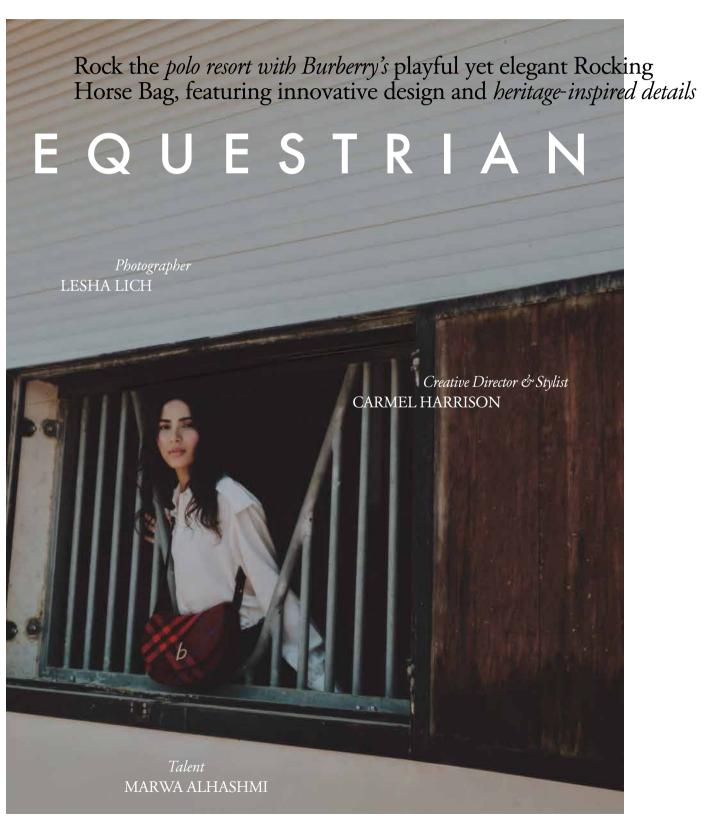


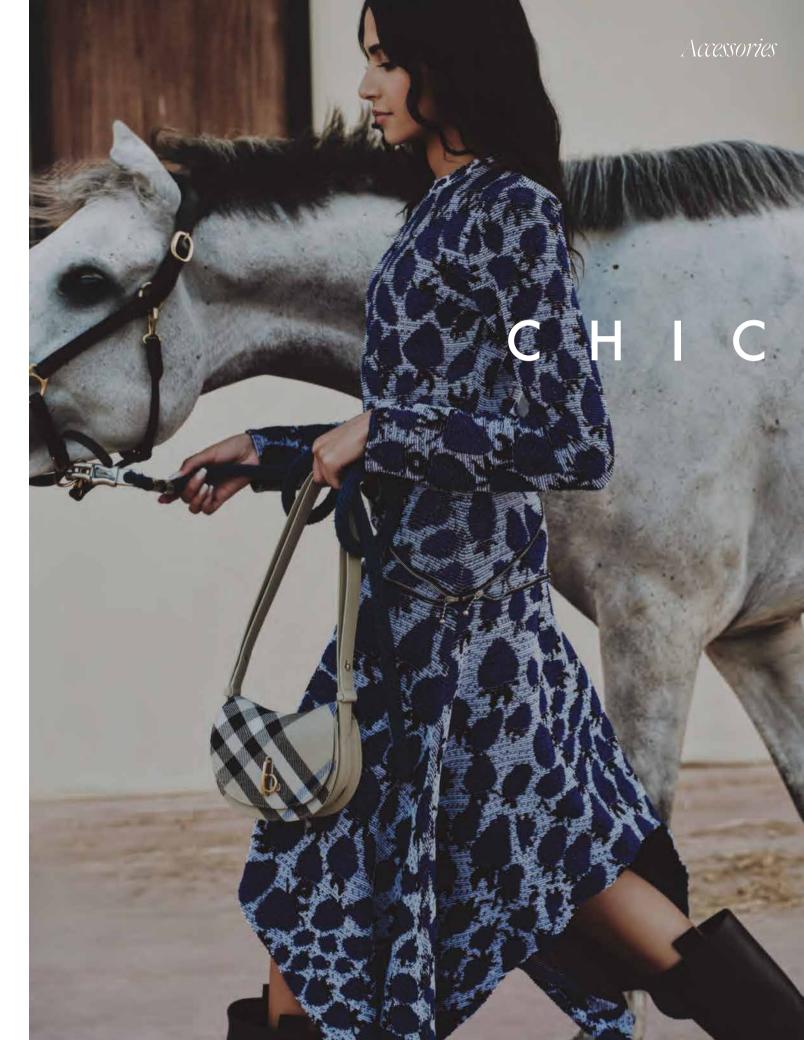






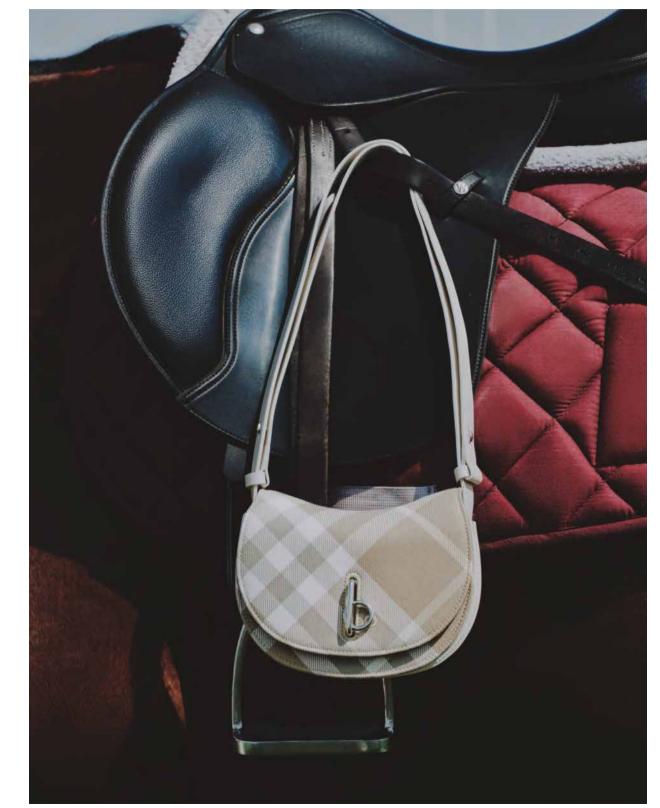
Opposite page: Strawberry Cotton Silk Dress, Mini Rocking Horse Bag in Lichen, Leather Saddle High Boots, Burberry
This page: Silk Shirt, Medium Rocking Horse Bag in Crimson, Burberry





Left page: Mid-length Silk Blend Trench Coat, Mini Rocking Horse Bag in Flax, Burberry This page: Mini Rocking Horse Bag in Flax, Burberry



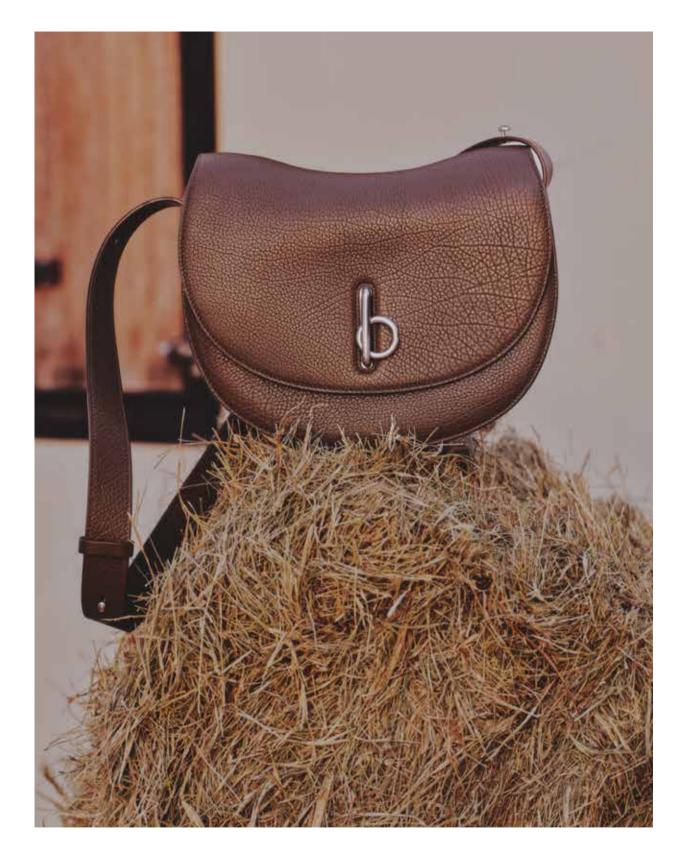




Wool Tailored Jacket & Trousers, Medium Rocking Horse Bag, Mini Rocking Horse Bag in Ruby, Check Rubber Marsh Heel Boots, Burberry









BAG OBSESSION

Keep chic and Carry on. . . with these statement pieces that steal the show

Photographer PHILIPPE KERLO Stylist & Creative Director FAROUK CHEKOUFI









Bag, Moschino



Retro Revival

The drama and magic of silver screen icons from the 60s and 70s comes to mind when discovering ONORI. Here's why it should be on your radar if you're feeling adventurous, glamorous, and bold!

harifa AlSharif AlHashemi, the Emirati founder of ONORI knew she wanted to plunge into the world of fashion, independently and boldly. A graduate from the George Washington University, she dreamed of building a legacy on the inspirations of her father and sister with her ready-towear label. "In the regional context, ONORI distinguishes itself by its bold and adventurous approach compared to many other brands in the area. Globally, ONORI is revered as a work of art, reflecting the exceptional craftsmanship evident in every design," she says. Avant-garde and spectacular, much like crafted art, Sharifa's approach to fashion is anything but understated. Creatively driven by a classic hint of retro, she draws inspiration from the timeless allure of Cher, whom she says, "effortlessly blends allure with daring, creating a style that's both captivating and empowering. Cher isn't just a style icon for me; she's a beacon of inspiration for countless other women."

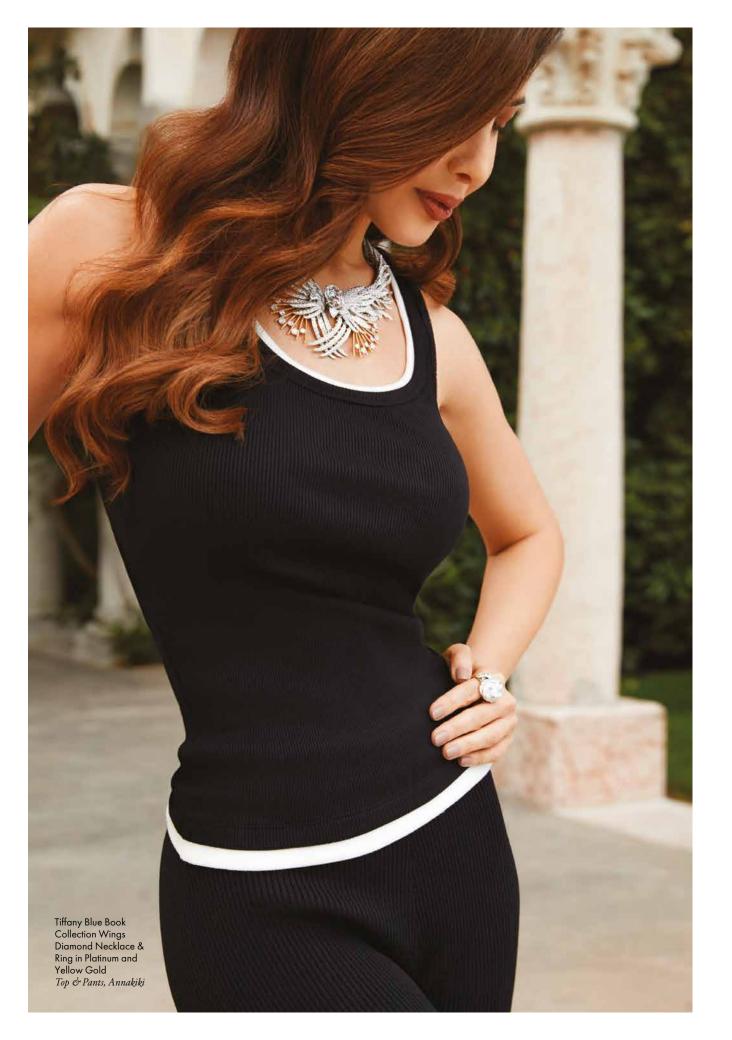
Launching her debut collection in December 2023, ONORI presents a stunning melange of decorative techniques. From the oversized collars and shirts, to the baby-



doll dresses of the 70s making an appearance alongside ruffled or beaded tulle gloves, crystallized chokers embellished with pearl detailing - there's a definite air of the vintage glamour. "The craftsmanship in my designs is spectacular. Each piece takes two to six months to perfect," says Sharifa who meticulously curates every step from storyboard to final fitting. "Behind every single piece of clothing there is a history for me, and I can tell you exactly where my inspiration for a particular piece is rooted from."

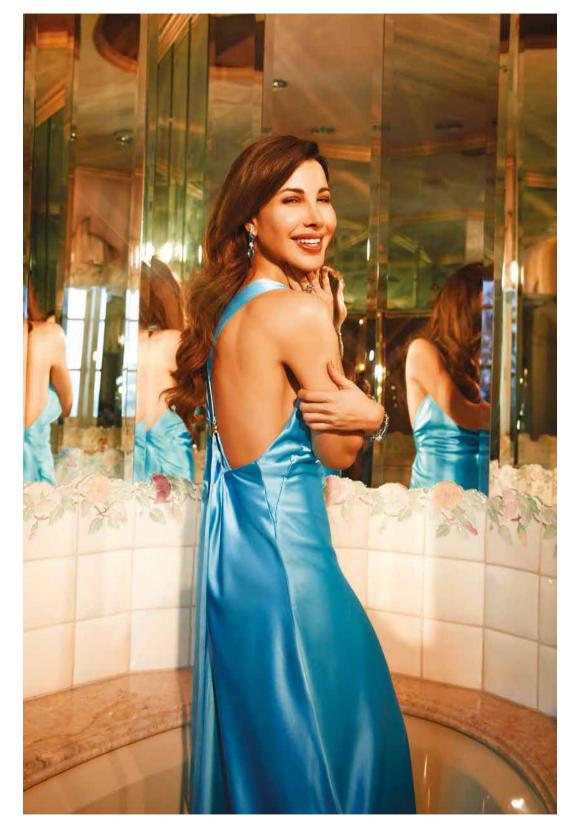












Tiffany Blue Book Collection Iconic Star Blue Bracelet, Earrings & Ring in Platinum and Yellow Gold with Blue Zircons, Aquamarines and Diamonds Dress, Acler

66

It's an honor to
be part of such a
prestigious event and
to showcase Tiffany
& Co.'s meticulous
designs. Picking me to
be the first to wear that
necklace just reaffirms
the collaboration
between the Maison
and myself, highlighting
their exquisite
craftsmanship

"

What does it mean to be chosen by Tiffany & Co. as an ambassador, particularly as the first woman from the Middle East to take part in a global campaign for the brand? It's incredibly significant, especially given their esteemed global reputation. Being the first woman from the Middle East to be represented in a worldwide campaign provides an opportunity to showcase the rich culture and diversity of our region, enhancing the image of Arab women through art and elegance on a global scale.

How does this recent achievement contribute to your career journey, and what additional responsibilities does it entail for you? This selection positively contributes to my professional journey by shining a spotlight on Lebanese and Arab culture and arts. Simultaneously, it comes with the responsibility of representing Arab women in a manner that reflects their strength and uniqueness. This partnership offers a platform to inspire women locally and globally.

Reflecting on the Blue Book 2024 Celeste collection launch event with Tiffany & Co., how do you feel about your prominent presence alongside global figures, especially being the first to wear the Lucida Star necklace with the exceptional Empire Diamond? It's an honor to be part of such a prestigious event and to showcase Tiffany & Co.'s meticulous designs.

Picking me to be the first to wear that necklace just reaffirms the collaboration between the Maison and myself, highlighting their exquisite craftsmanship.

Can we expect new music from Nancy Ajram this summer considering your recent return from the United States? Absolutely! Since returning from the United States, I've been busy recording new music. Expect to hear one or two songs released this summer as I put the finishing touches on my upcoming album.

As a successful Arab woman, what advice would you give to other Arab females aspiring to leave a mark in society?

Success doesn't come at the expense of other achievements. It's about balancing priorities and believing in oneself despite challenges. Surround yourself with support, strive for a balance between your personal and professional life, and persevere. Every Arab woman has the potential to inspire and make a positive impact.

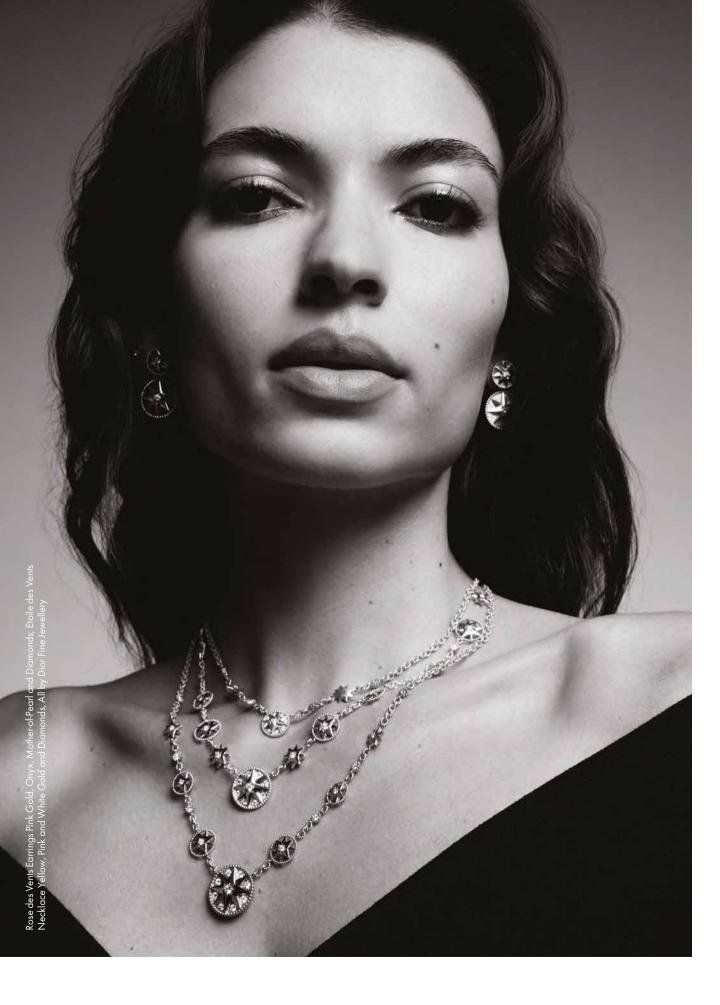




Aber 1985 Aetaus

Take everyday *essentials to the next level* with timeless pieces that ooze *elegance with minimum* effort.

Photographer SAM RAWADI Creative Direction & Stylist SARAH RUXTON



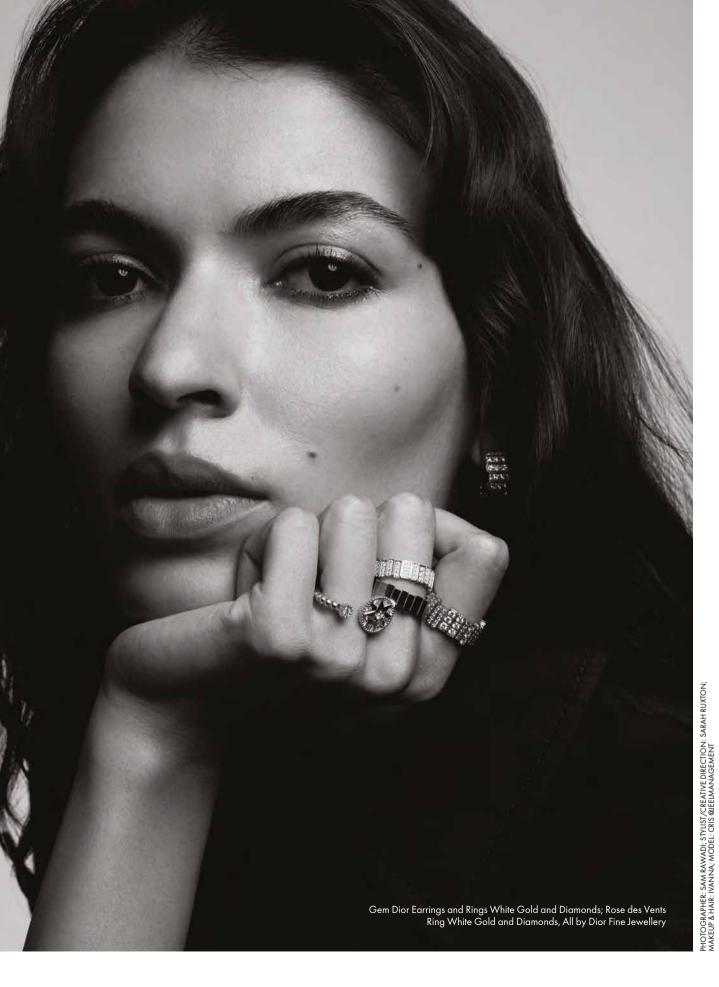


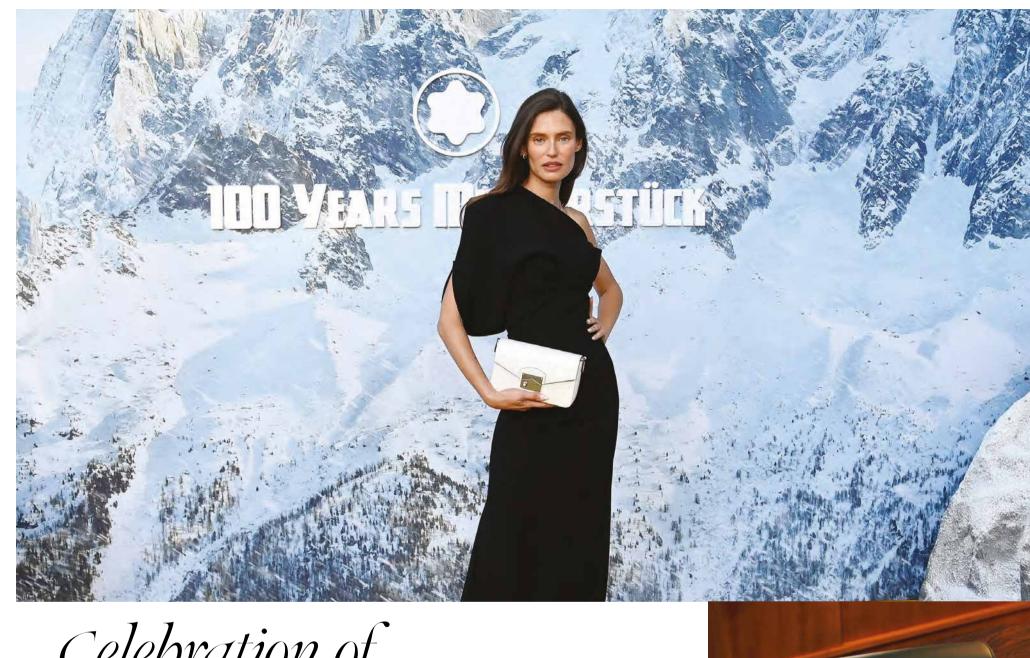




Rose des Vents Earring Yellow Gold, Malachite and Diamonds; Etoile des Vents Earring and Necklaces Yellow and Pink Gold, Pink Sapphires, Tsavorite Garnets and Diamonds, All by Dior Fine Jewellery







Celebration of AND CON

Luxury German titan Montblanc is a force to be reckoned with when it comes to the world of writing, its Meisterstück pen a cult symbol of writing culture and a permanent fixture on many a desk worldwide. In celebration of 100 years of the iconic instrument, Montblanc Creative Director Marco Tomasetta opens up to ELLE Arabia about this milestone and why the Maison enlisted Wes Anderson to bring it to life.



When did you get your first Meisterstullck pen? Did you buy it or was it a gift? I've always been fascinated by the pen itself, especially growing up – the Montblanc pen was kept on the desk, almost like a sacred object that a child could not touch. Fast forward to years later, I was working at Fendi and Alessandro Michele (who was also working there) gave me my first ever Montblanc pen. I still have that pen by the way; I believe it was like an omen to what would transpire in my life.

100 years after its introduction, the pen remains such a cult symbol of writing culture. What does it represent to you? As we celebrate 100 years, this pen has become like an icon, a beacon of light ready to illuminate the next 100 years to come. You see technology always has to have a touch of humanity, and this pen has always been the human touch in the space that surrounds it.

Speaking of technology, are you a pen and paper sort of person or more of a give-me-a-keyboard guy? Pen and paper! I love to draw, since I was a child it's been me, a piece of paper and a pen in my hand drawing.

You were tasked and have managed to take the Meisterstulick leather collection to new levels of luxury. What role did the iconic pen play in influencing your leather design codes?

I always turn to the Maison's archives and the leather in the archives has always had a strong presence in playing the part of the protector for the Meisterstück. So that's why I create bags that are very pure in their exterior, but their insides are created for you to express your own personality.

How do you go bold without changing the DNA or essence of such an iconic Masion? I always keep in mind the iconic pen, it's strength and power. Take a look at the bags, if you look closely all the lines in the end remind you of the shape of the pen – it is the inspiration behind all the forms.

How do you try and bring in a new, younger audience for Montblanc? Right now, our new line of leather has been a massive hit with the younger generation. We've also been very adamant about selecting our ambassadors very carefully; they have to resonate with our audience, attract and connect with them even in their own private lives.



100 YEARS OF WRITING EXCELLENCE



In 1924, Montblanc started receiving requests for elegant 'Sundayuse' fountain pens.
Already making unique writing instruments for themselves, they chose to offer these creations to the public.

A new era, meant a new Meisterstück range, one that stood out with its signature cylindrical shape, a single broad cap ring, bold clip designs, and a two-tone nib, distinguishing it from the instruments of the 1920s.



With the end of the war, the late 40s saw reconstruction and innovation. Montblanc craftsmen opted for an all-new streamlined look for the Meisterstück, a cigar shape that quickly became its iconic look.



With more products competeig on the market, Montblanc was challeneged to think outside of the box and as a result, a completely new, more efficient production philosophy was introduced and the Linie 60 was born. Made from injection molded resin, the new generation of pens were made with a focus on sleekness.



Entering the 1970s with clear purpose, Montblanc reaffirmed its dedication to luxury by reintroducing the cherished "cigar-shaped" Meisterstück, a design that continues to captivate enthusiasts



What should we expect from the new Meisterstulk collection that wasn't there before? Color! Next to our iconic black and white, we now have interesting colors. Our collaboration with director Wes Anderson for our anniversary campaign was a great introduction into bringing us into this world of color.

Why did Montblanc tap Wes Anderson for the anniversary campaign? All of us at Montblanc wanted to work with him! We were attracted to his ability to express color and bring it to life. He was able to understand immediately how his world could live in the various moments of Montblanc life and he was able to capture it through his trademark old cinematic touch. It's almost natural and simple to see Montblanc in the universe of Wes Anderson movies.

How did the brand interplay with Wes Anderson's visual aesthetic? In the campaign, we talk about places like mountains and places that are iconic of his movies. His films always have this recurring 50s theme which represents the rebirth of creativity and everything. And if we look back in our Montblanc archives, the colors are already there - Wes Anderson's colors are already in the archives of Montblanc. Do you have any personal favorites from the new collection?

All! Each one of them is part of me. It's like asking how can I be without my heart or without my liver? I need them all.

Then, do you have a favorite Wes Anderson movie? Fantastic Mr. Fox and The Grand Budapest Hotel. Those were pretty iconic. All of his work is great.

66 IT'S ALMOST NATURAL AND SIMPLE TO SEE MONTBLANC IN THE UNIVERSE OF WES ANDERSON MOVIES"

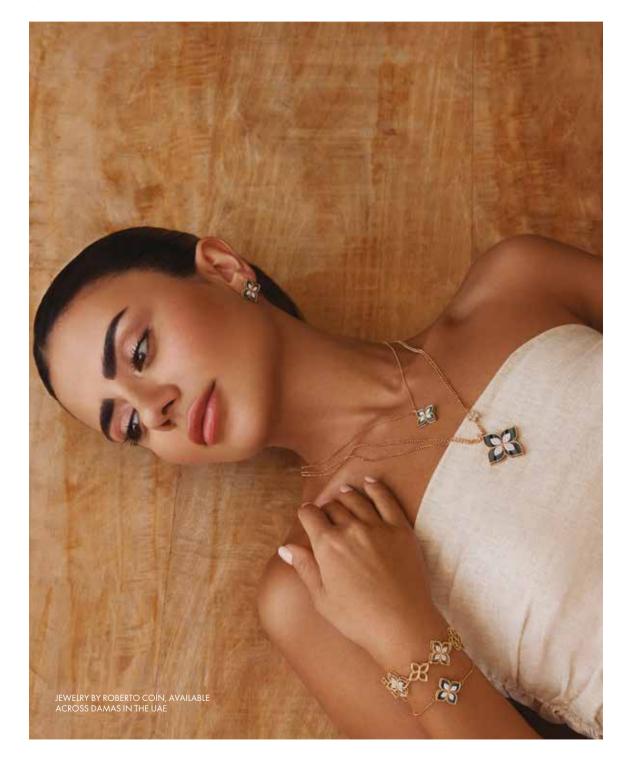
MARCO TOMASETTA Creative Director at Montblanc

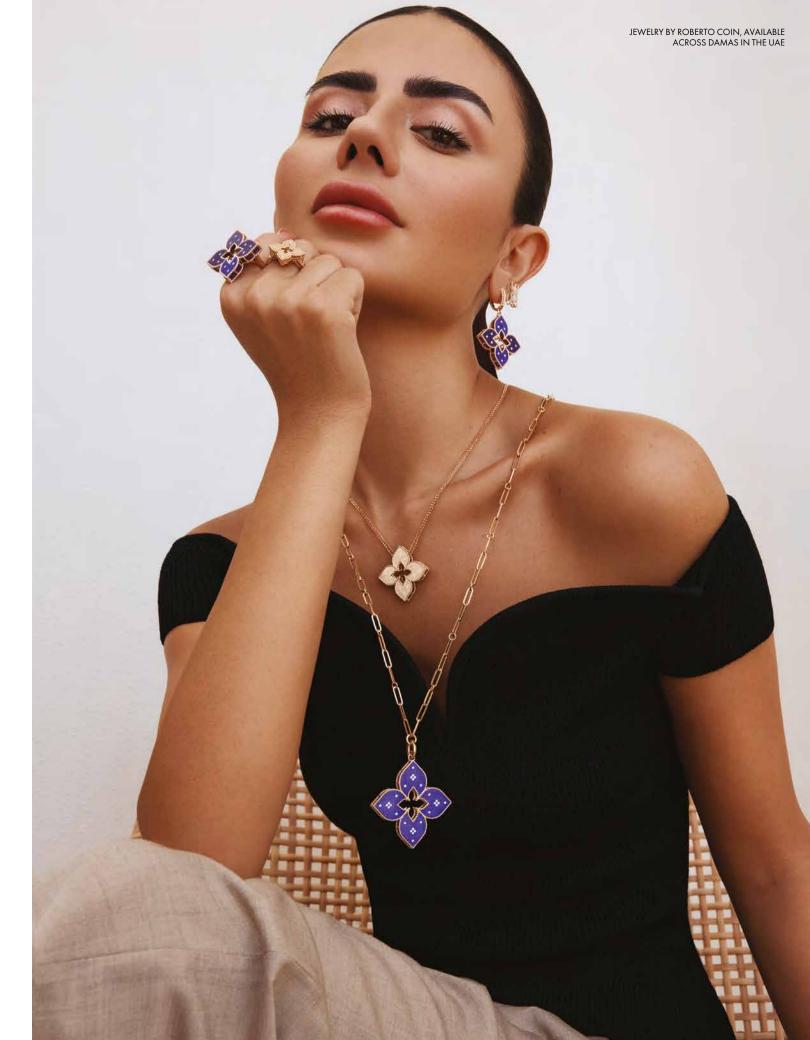




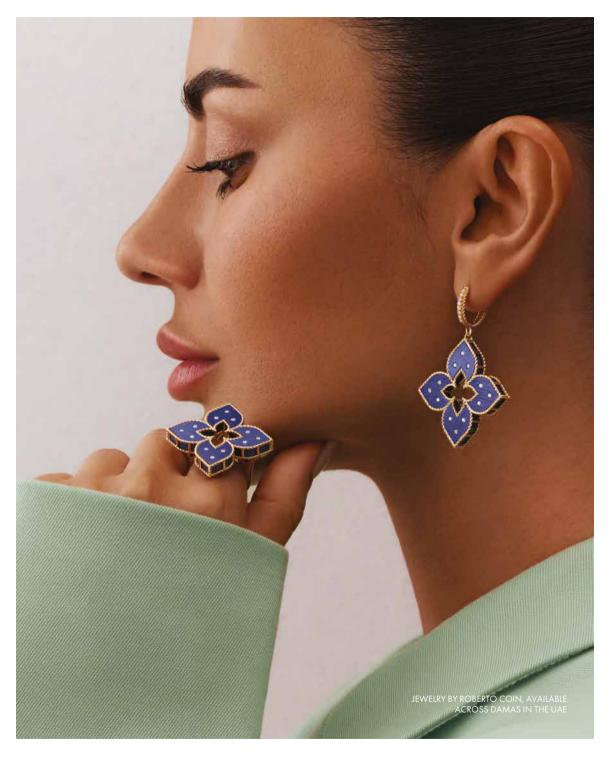
This page: Princess Flower Earrings, Bracelets & Necklaces in 18ct Rose Gold, Diamonds and Malachite *Top, Second Summer*

Opposite page: Venetian Princess Earrings, Necklaces & Rings in 18ct Rose Gold, Diamonds and Titanium
Top, Galvan London; Trousers, The Frankie Shop



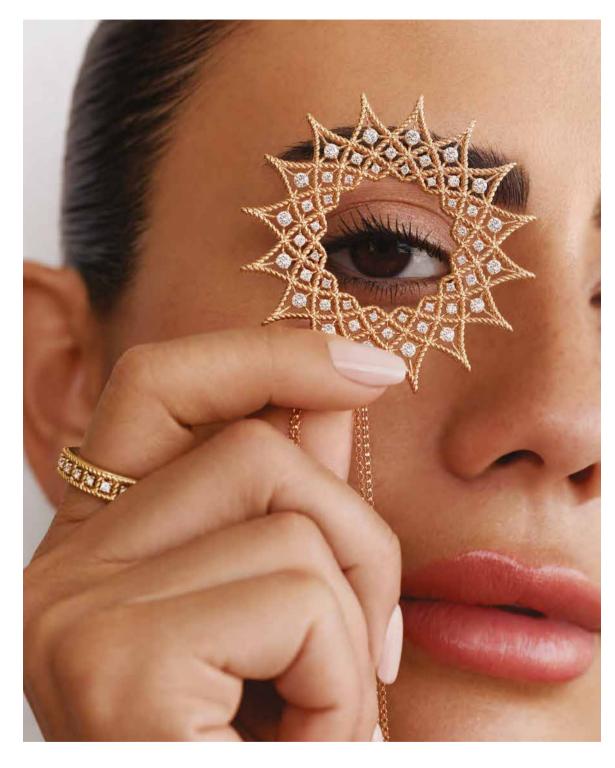






Left page: Princess Earrings, Ring, Necklace & Bangle in 18kt Gold and Diamonds *Dress, Norma Kamali*

This page: Venetian Princess Earrings & Ring in 18ct Rose Gold, Diamonds and Titanium The Attico Blazer

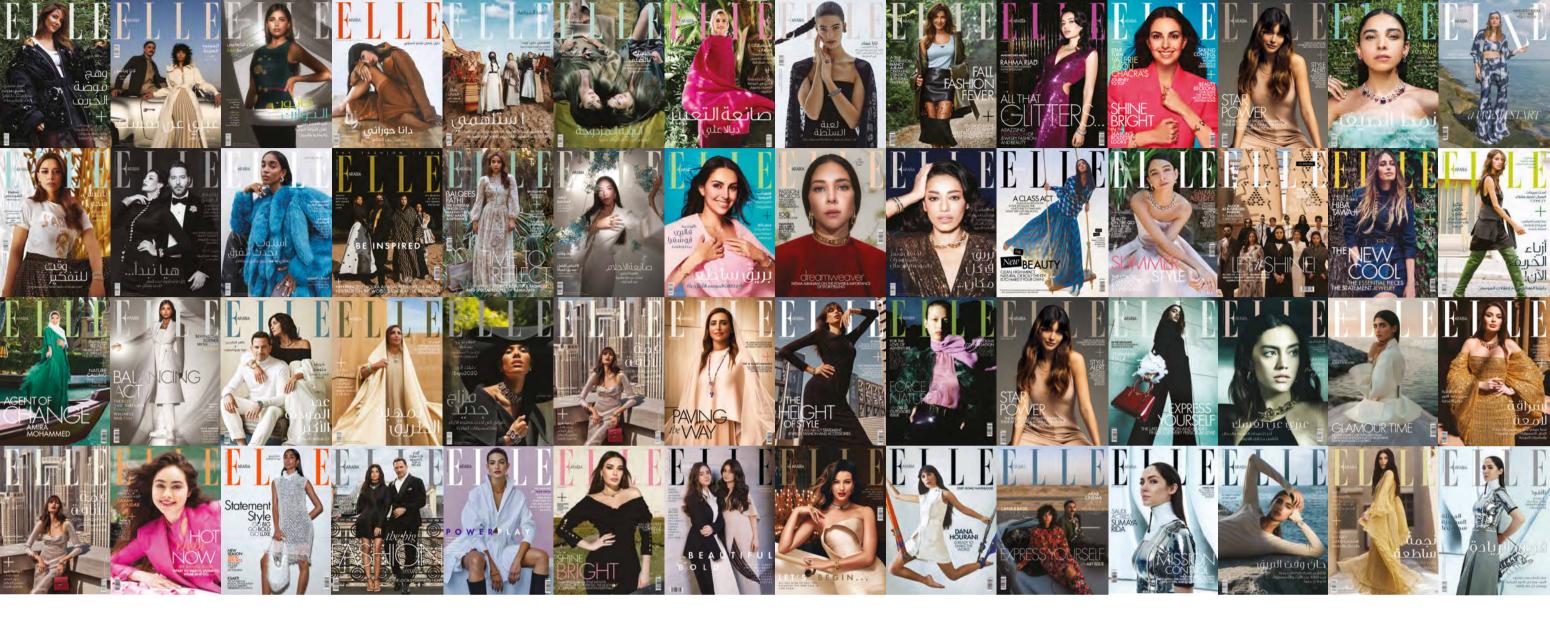


This page: Roman Barocco Necklace & Ring in 18ct Rose Gold and Diamonds

Opposite page: Love in Verona Earrings, Necklace, Rings & Bangles in 18ct Gold and Diamonds Azzi & Osta Top







At your door steps

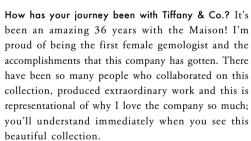
Discover Elle Arabia on our print & digital platforms





WRITTEN IN THE

In celebration of their latest Blue Book 2024: Tiffany Céleste, the luxury Maison's Chief Gemologist Victoria Reynolds talks jewelry trends, looking to the heavens for inspiration, and how she manifested her childhood dream into reality.



Do you have any childhood memories related to jewelry and Tiffany & Co.? I grew up outside of New York city and I remember that around 10 years old, I went along with my father to buy my mother a Christmas present from Tiffany & Co. He bought her a broach and it's a very vivid memory of walking into Tiffany and as a child seeing the grandeur of it. It was really unforgettable. In school I also remember that I only wanted to work with jewelry. So, when I graduated, I knew of course it had to be "Tiffany". I was very fortunate to have a summer internship in my junior year in college and from there I never really looked back. Tell us about a gemstone you sourced that was really impactful on your career or that was a personal favorite? It sounds very cliché, but my favorite is truly the Tiffany diamond. They found the stone in 1877 and it took our first gemologist George Kunz a year to cut it. So, when you think of Tiffany, you think of the diamond and that includes me! As many years as I've been with the Maison, I never had the chance to





really hold the diamond; only when I became Chief Gemologist did I finally get to. Today, I am its bodyguard – wherever the diamond goes, I go! But yes, the stone is magical and iconic – it's daring. Finding a 287 carats stone in 1877, having a jeweler bring it over to cut it, and then having it remain with Tiffany for its entire history is major; we have set such a high bar with that diamond.

What are the latest trends in gemstones according to your expertise as Chief Gemologist at Tiffany & Co.? One trend that has resonated is the Cuprian Elbaite Tourmaline. There are two types – one comes from Brazil and the other from Africa. They are iconic and have a Tiffany blue to them. It's been 35 years since we discovered them, so very recent and they've been quite popular and trending for us. It was not coincidental that they had this color, there're probably rare fancy-colored diamonds. Another hit has been our acquisition of the 35 Argyle diamonds two years ago. That was such big news and, in a way, we've uplifted the Argyle pink diamond market. The mine now is closed, so we're really pleased to have those diamonds in our possession.

What was the inspiration behind this Blue Book collection? It was a theme that we had not yet explored and for it, we went out of the blue and literally into the water. There were two things that were Jean Schlumberger's passion, one was the sea and the other was the heavens. Such a great palette to work with from a color point of view. He gave me a very specific color tone that we wanted me to work with. Yellow and white diamonds made sense because of the heavens but then he gave me more options to work with like the Cavachon sapphires that we purchased with the blue sapphires – which was a very unusual combination of gemstones that made a big difference. It was just a pleasure as we did the tumbled aquamarines with the zircons, which gives a very beautiful complimentary look together. In the creative process, what comes first – the drawing/sketch of the piece followed by the sourcing of stones or the sourced stones followed by the drawing? It really first started with me buying the

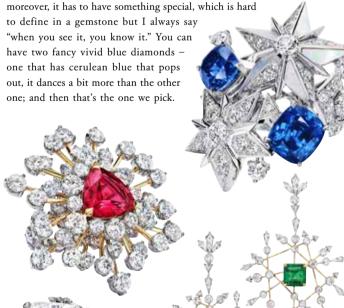
gemstones – that was very much in collaboration with our Artistic Director Natalie Verdeille and her design team. It took a year to find all the stones and then her team spent 6 months designing. After, it went to the jewelers and that's when they started to make the stones. One of the reasons why it's such a cohesive collection is because we were able to start with stones, then lay the story out of how the stones inspired her and her team. The secondary stones were complicated; we had to cut a few of those, but it was all possible – nothing was impossible to do.

Can you share any innovative techniques in jewelry design that you've observed or implemented? I would say Tiffany really believes in the hand as well as the craft, both in rendering the piece of jewelry but also having someone sit in the bench and make the piece of jewelry. It is one of the things that is an absolute differentiator between us and a few other jewelry houses. I would also say, not from

a technological standpoint, but from an innovative standpoint, to be able to print something in wax, that's something that has made a huge difference in prior to us going to the bench; having Natalie and her team being able to make decisions about the volume of the piece, the scale of it, etc., you can print it in wax overnight and you can make very quick decisions

on making modifications etc. which would be very costly if you were to do this in metal from a timing standpoint.

How do you go about sourcing and selecting gemstones for Tiffany's iconic pieces? Especially when it comes to the Blue Book collection? So, the process is that the stones come to us or we go to buying shows and the initial glance is that it has to have exceptional color or cut. Then it gets graded; I have a group of incredible gemologists who work with me. It then comes back to me for final approval with Natalie. So, it always has to have top quality, incredible cut, and





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A Closer Look...

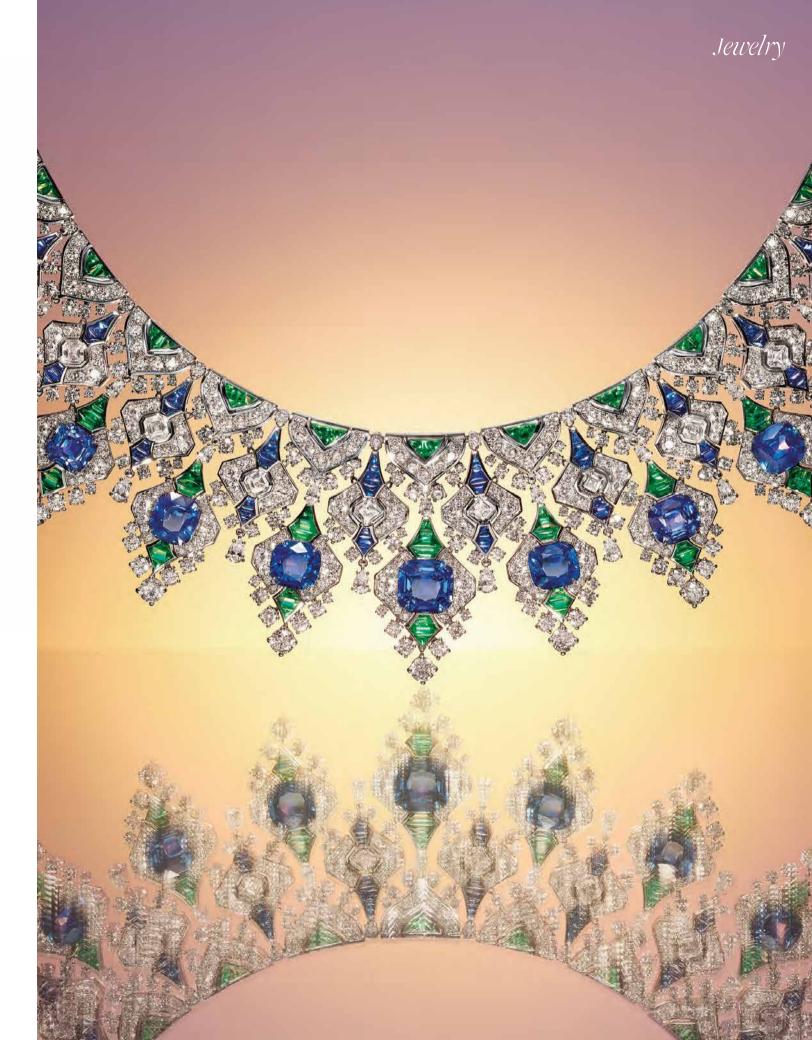


Bvlgari's sapphire brocade necklace

A masterpiece of haute joaillerie, the Sapphire Brocade Necklace by Bulgari is inspired by the grandeur of Roman palazzos as it intertwines the opulence of ancient textiles with the modern brilliance of meticulously selected gemstones. With its blend of Sri Lankan sapphires and precision-cut diamonds, rich palette and intricate details, it's a timeless tribute that celebrates 140 years of artisanal excellence

The Specs

Bulgari's High Jewelry Sapphire Brocade Necklace in white gold features 13 sapphires (63.48 ct), 18 octagonal diamonds (D-F VVS-VS 9.96 ct), 15 round brilliant cut diamonds (D-F VS 6.57 ct), 33 pear diamonds (D-F VS 6.34 ct), 96 buff-top sapphires (9.44 ct), 142 buff-top emeralds (11.79 ct) and pavé set diamonds (D-F IF-VVS 48.97 ct).



Jewelry

Adaptive Design: Engineered for elegance and comfort, the necklace's structure is designed to mimic







Composition: Includes thirteen Sri Lankan cushion sapphires totaling 63.48 carats, encircled by a vivid array of gemstones.



LIGHTS

CAMERA

GLAMOUR!

STEP INTO A WORLD WHERE BRILLIANCE MEETS ARTISTRY. CHAUMET'S LATEST BEE MY LOVE COLLECTION REDEFINES LUXURY, SHOWCASING THE MESMERIZING BEAUTY OF GOLD AND DIAMONDS IN A CONTEMPORARY LIGHT. MEANWHILE, RISING STAR ANDRIA TAYEH CONTINUES TO SHINE BRIGHT HERSELF. CAPTIVATING AUDIENCES WITH HER STANDOUT PERFORMANCES. FROM HER BREAKOUT ROLE IN 'ALRAWABI SCHOOL FOR GIRLS' TO HER LATEST ROMANTIC COMEDY 'THE NAME DOESN'T MATTER,' ANDRIA OPENS UP ABOUT HER CAREER, INSPIRATIONS, AND WHAT'S NEXT ON HER HORIZON

> Photographer & Art Director AMER MOHAMAD Stylist JADE CHILTON



Bee My Love Hoop Earrings in Rose Gold, Bee My Love Earcuff in Rose Gold Set with Brilliant-Cut Diamonds, CHAUMET Jacket, Elie Saab







Bee My Love Necklace in Rose Gold Set with Brilliant-Cut Diamonds, Bee My Love Cuff in Rose Gold Set with Brilliant-Cut Diamonds, Bee My Love Ring in Rose Gold Set with Brilliant-Cut Diamonds, Bee My Love Earrings in Rose Gold Set with Brilliant-Cut Diamonds, CHAUMET Jacket, Elie Saab

In conversation with... Andria Tayeh

Tell us about your newest series 'The Name Doesn't Matter'? My new series is a romcom, in which I have a lead role with my co-star Motasim Al Nahar. My character is a very fun and complex one, which will push the viewer's feelings towards her to constantly change throughout the series. I can't wait to act out this character, to work with the amazing team behind this project, and for you guys to see the final product!

It has a powerful female creative team - directed by Layal M. Rajha and written by Claudia Marchalia – how did having women's voices influence the story and characters? The amazing team behind this project made sure to portray all my character's feeling, for the viewer to deeply understand what pushes a woman to act a certain way, given that the script was written to show the story through the woman's lens, and truly get to know her on a personal level, which influences the plot in a fantastic way.

Did you know you always wanted to be an actress? Yes, I've always wanted to be an actress, and worked hard to turn my dream into reality.

How has becoming a public figure shaped you? It has made me a stronger woman, opened so many doors and given me the chance to meet some of the most amazing people I've met in my life so far. How is where you are today different from where you thought you'd be? I guess it would be a difference of career paths, given that acting is a career that is not planned ahead and depends on many things working out simultaneously. If I didn't get into acting, I would probably be in the business management sector, as this is the degree I pursued at university.

You've balanced acting with studying at University. How do you

manage your time? It was not easy at all, as I had set goals of graduating with honors, which I achieved. But to balance acting and studying, I used to wake up at 6am, go to the gym, then go to my classes and finish all my work before the evening where I had all my meetings and work-related things. It was especially the hardest when I had to travel, as I would come back sleep deprived and pull allnighters to prepare for the exams the next day. It was hard but rewarding work.

How do you take care of yourself? Any special routines? My self-care routine consists of doing my skincare every night before bed, I also love to cook for myself, both sweet and

savory and I like to read books in my free time.

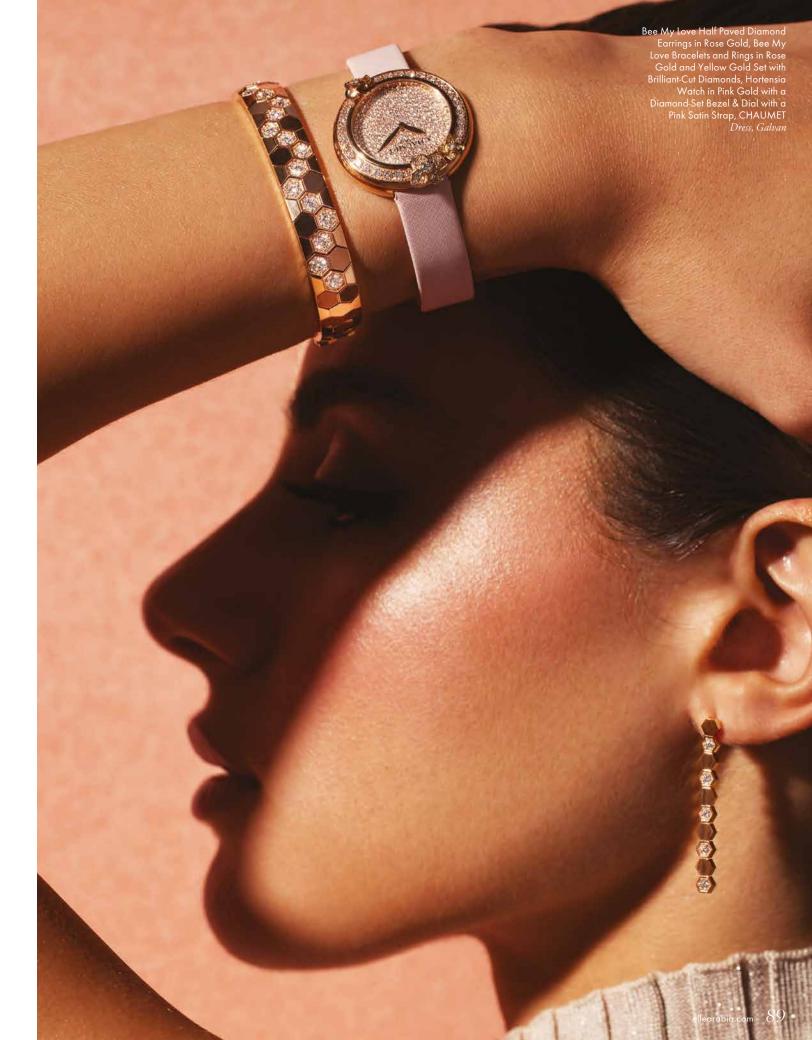
Your way of letting go and relaxing? My way of letting go and relaxing would definitely be to spend time alone and listen to music or watch a movie or a series.

How would you define your fashion style? When it comes to my fashion style, I enjoy experimenting with various clothing styles and don't confine myself to just one look. I love mixing things up, especially when one unique item makes the difference and makes

How do you see yourself in 10 years? In 10 years, I see myself as someone who has grown personally and professionally, I see me thriving in my lane, and achieving the goals I have put for myself and finally I see an established and successful woman.

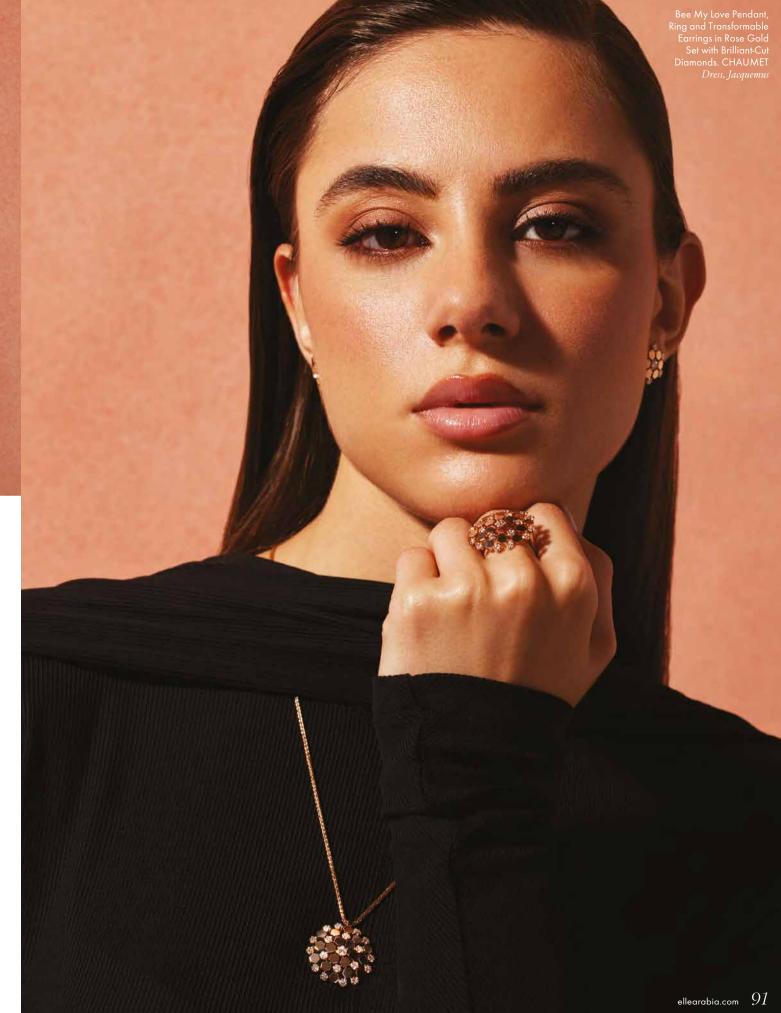
Rapid Fire

• One of my most treasured childhood memories is... going to salsa and hip hop dance classes. • I've got my eye on... a sci-fi thriller movie role. • My Out-the-door outfit is... grey wide-legged pants, a tight white shirt and red heels. • My idea of perfect happiness is... internal peace and being around family and friends. My most treasured possession... is my mom's wedding necklace. • The one thing I can't resist... is petting a dog when I see one.





Bee My Love Bracelets,
Rings and Hoop Earrings
in Rose Gold White Gold
and Yellow Gold Set with
Brilliant-Cut Diamonds; Bee
My Love Pendant in Rose
Gold Set with an EmpressCut Diamond; Bee My Love
Pendant in Rose Gold Set
with Brilliant-Cut Diamonds.
CHAUMET
Shirt, Etro





Heritage Redefined

Carrera y Carrera celebrates 135 Years of Craftsmanship

his season, Damas introduces an intriguing addition to its roster of international brands with the launch of Carrera y Carrera in Dubai. The celebrated Spanish fine jewelry house made its debut at an exclusive event held at Atlantis The Royal. Bringing a slice of Spanish cultural heritage to Dubai's luxury landscape, Carrera v Carrera's display highlighted four main collections - Origen, My Angel, Bohemia, and Gardenia - each telling its own story through unique designs. The iconic Origen explores the fusion of nature and architecture, My Angel offers personalized elegance with a modern twist, Bohemia captures the artistic spirit of 19th-century Madrid, and Gardenia, specially introduced for Dubai, celebrates the subtle beauty of the gardenia flower in exquisite gold. Creative Director Daniel Calvo, who brings a rich heritage of artistic design influenced by Art Nouveau and fantasy literature, spoke with ELLE Arabia during his visit about the collections, his vision and the future...

Could you share with us some of the key inspirations behind your creative process? Besides art, traveling, and history, I'm also interested in seeing how aesthetics are evolving through electronic games, movies, and contemporary art. I think we are living in a moment where there is an eclectic fusion, possibly generated by the increased interaction of people through travel.

Carrera y Carrera is celebrated for its meticulous craftsmanship and the incorporation of mythological and natural motifs into its jewelry. How do you approach the integration of these elements into your designs? Our brand has always been characterized by the search for contrasts, hence the use of lightline (reflected by fusing glossy and matte gold finish) and the combination of fantasy and reality. It's our way of understanding the world of jewelry design, it's our unique vision.

What prompted the expansion to this region, and what unique opportunities and challenges do you foresee in this market? Our brand has been present in the Middle East for decades, but we are currently immersed in a process of renewal and repositioning of our collections in the most important markets in the world, among which, of course, is the Middle East. This is an area in constant evolution and an international reference for any luxury brand, and we are enthusiastic to be here.

Could you highlight some of the key pieces or collections that have resonated particularly well with Middle Eastern clientele? Our new collections Origen,

Infinito, My Angel, etc., are being very well received. I think our audience is looking for unique, exclusive, timeless, and different creations.

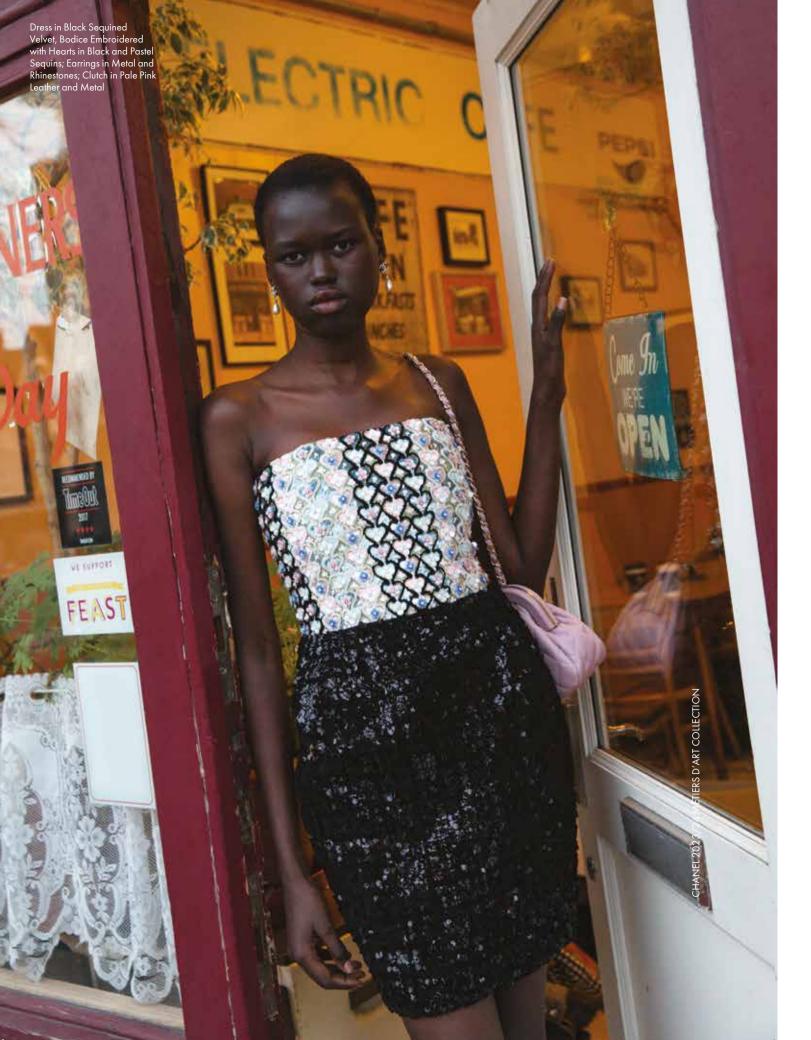
Are there any upcoming projects in the Middle East that you are excited about? It's a region where we appreciate an interesting openness to new cultures and artistic expressions. I'm planning to develop a new collection dedicated especially to the Middle East.

How has the landscape of jewelry design evolved over the years, and what trends do you anticipate? Thanks to the evolution of new technologies, we can create designs that would have been impossible in the past. The most important thing is to evolve while maintaining our essence and the know-how of our master craftsmen and Spanish legacy. Lastly, could you share any advice for aspiring jewelry designers? My best advice to them is to never lose their enthusiasm and passion for their work. Design always brings great satisfaction, but at the same time it requires constant effort and sacrifice. It's important to be aware of that.





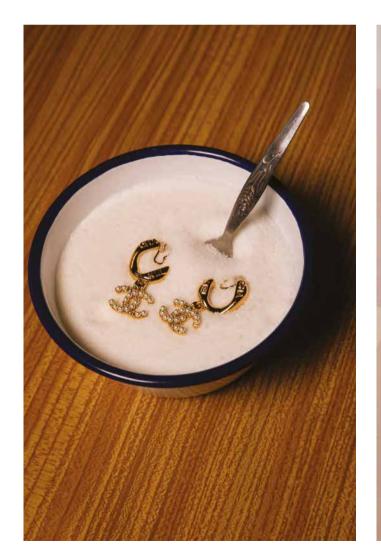








Heeled Sandals in Black Fabric and Pearls, Embellished with a Pale Pink Fabric Bow





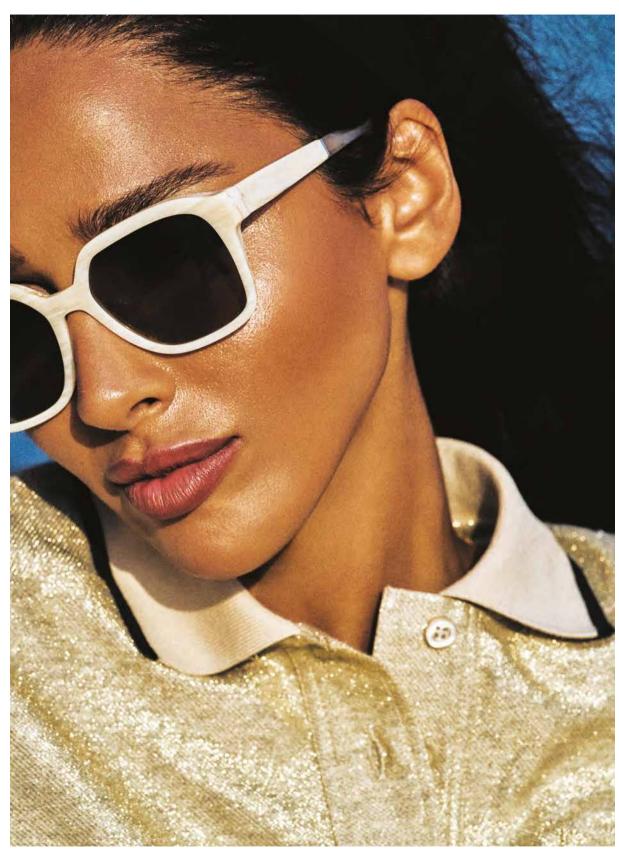




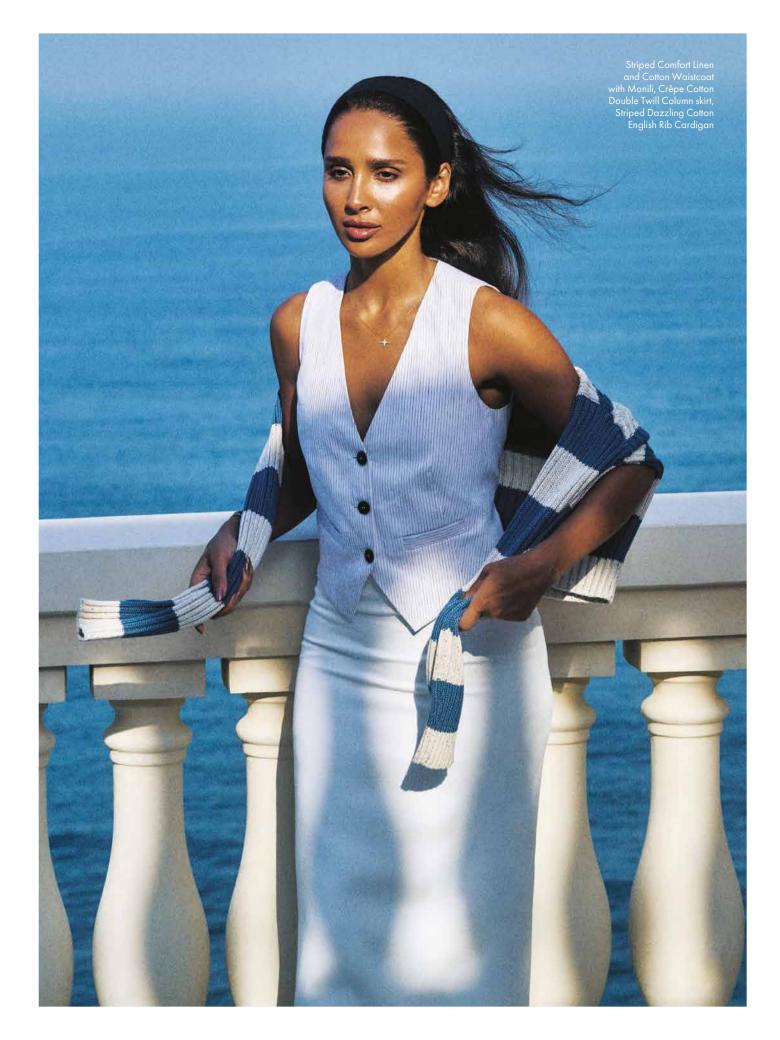


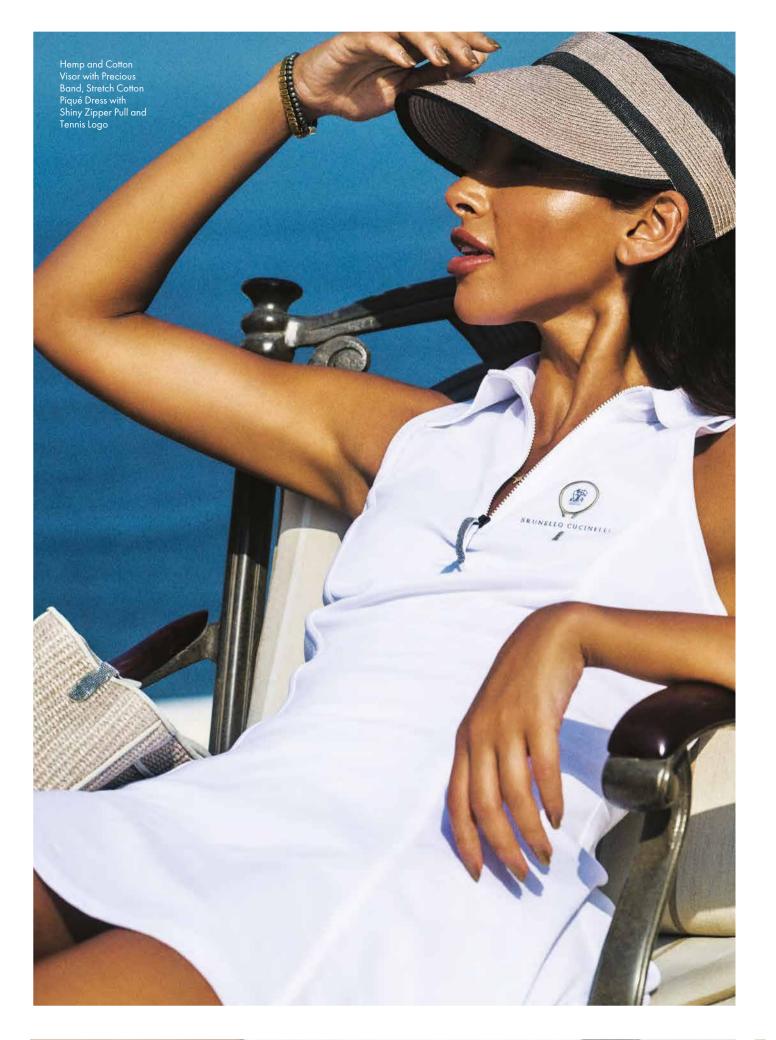
PHOTOGRAPHER ELLIOTT MORGAN, STYLIST/CREATIVE DIRECTION KATE HAZELI, MAKEUP VIOLET ZENG, FASHION ASSISTANT PRABH MALAIT, MODEL MAMI AKOI ® SELECT, IOCATION ELECTRIC CAFE IN LONDON, PRODUCTION KRISHAN PARMAR



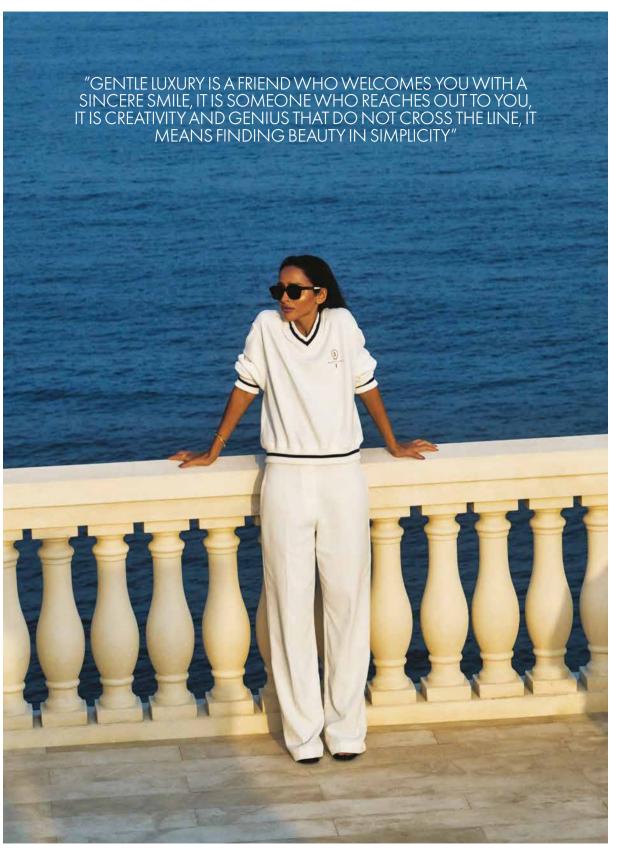


Sartorial Sunset Acetate Sunglasses (in "PANAMA"), Linen and Cotton Sparkling Jersey Top with Tennis Logo

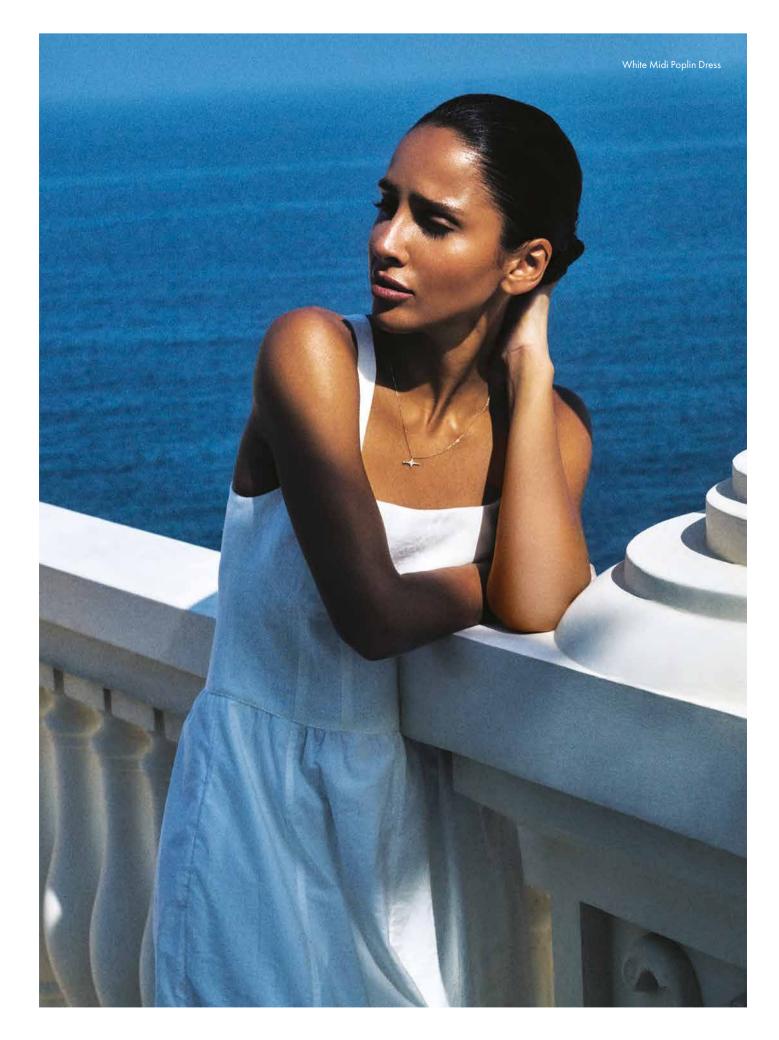




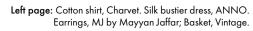


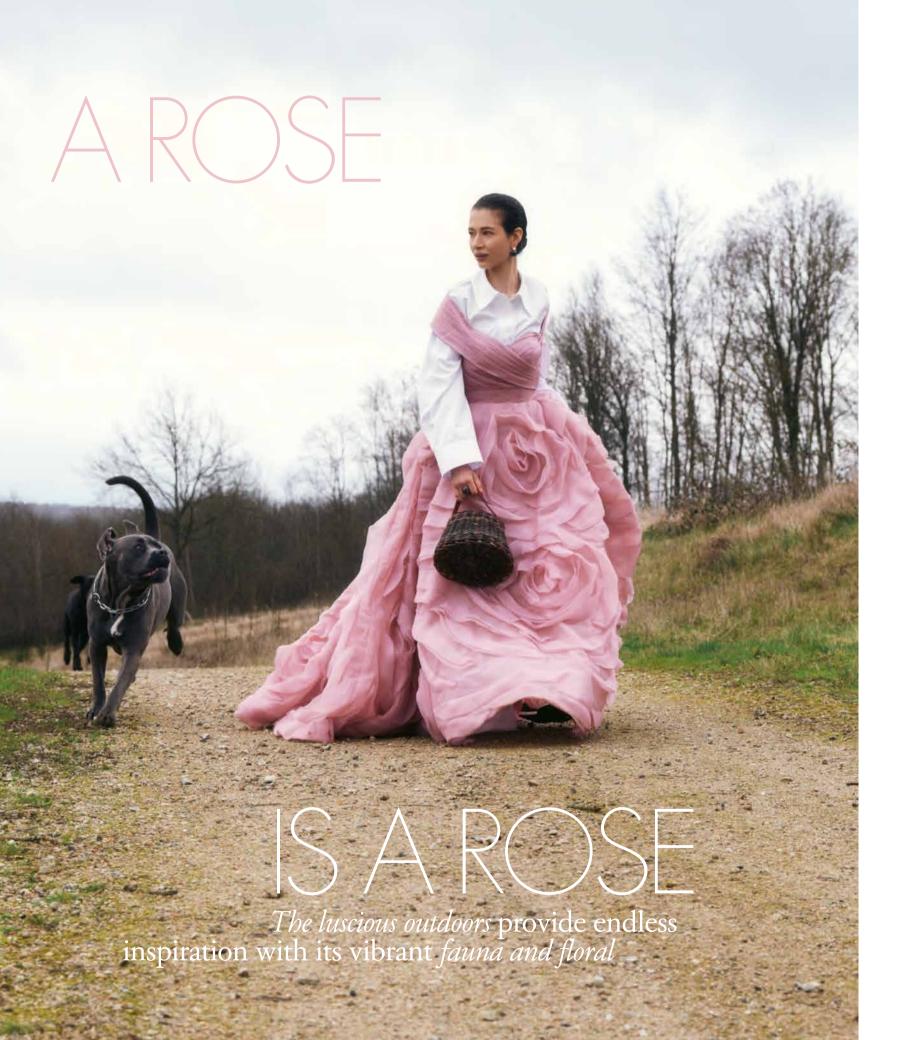


photographer: Greg Adamski; creative Direction/stylist. Jade Chilton; makeup: michelkiwarkis; hair: KUZ, stylist assistant: John Harryjay m. senier; location: raffles the Palm Dubaj; talent: hala Abdullah

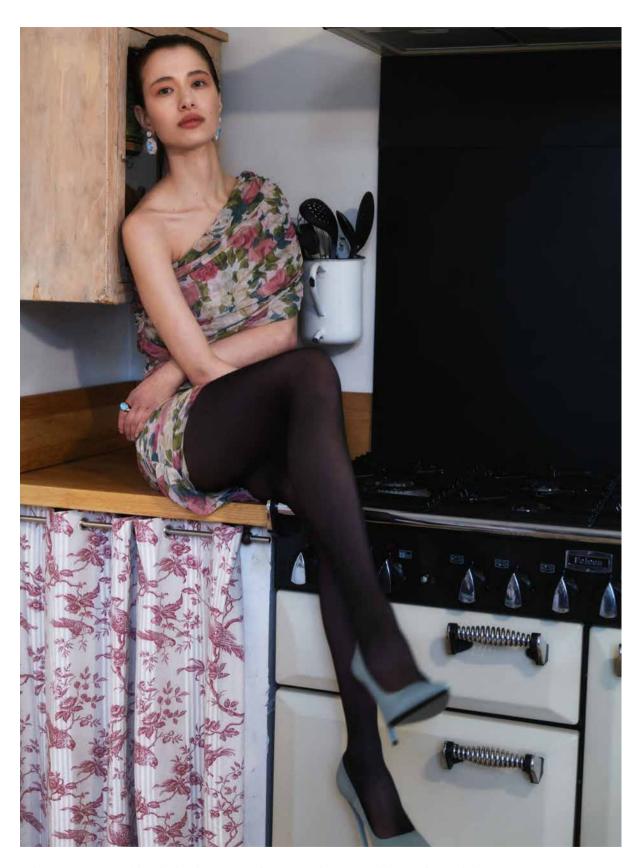


Sartorial Sunset Acetate Sunglasses with Polarized Lenses, Cotton Smooth French Terry Sweatshirt with Monili and Tennis Logo, Délavé Linen Wide Pleated Trousers







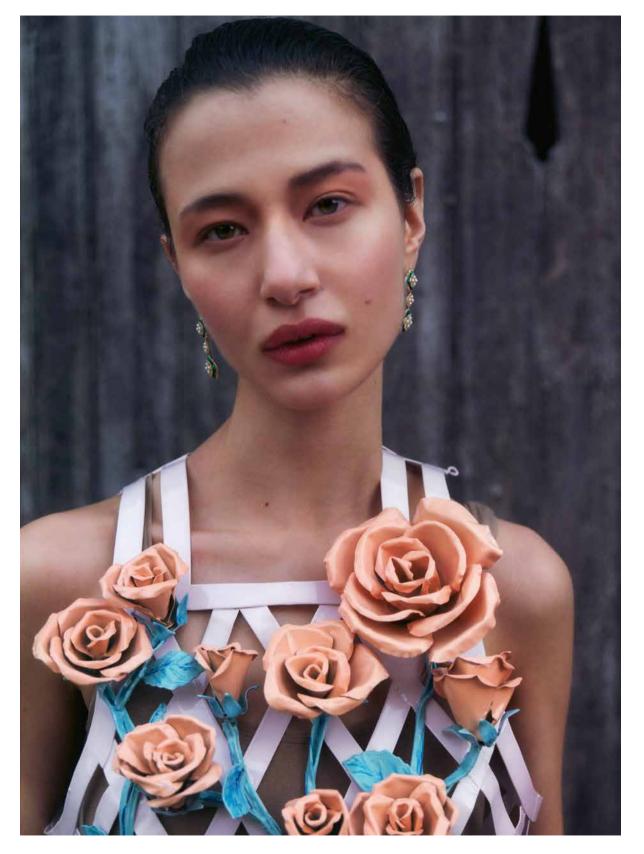


Right page: Latex coat and dress, leather gloves and shoes, Alaïa. Earrings, Al Mahmood Pearls.

This page: Mesh asymmetrical dress, stockings and stilettos, Saint Laurent par Anthony Vaccarello. Earrings and ring, MJ by Mayyan Jaffar.







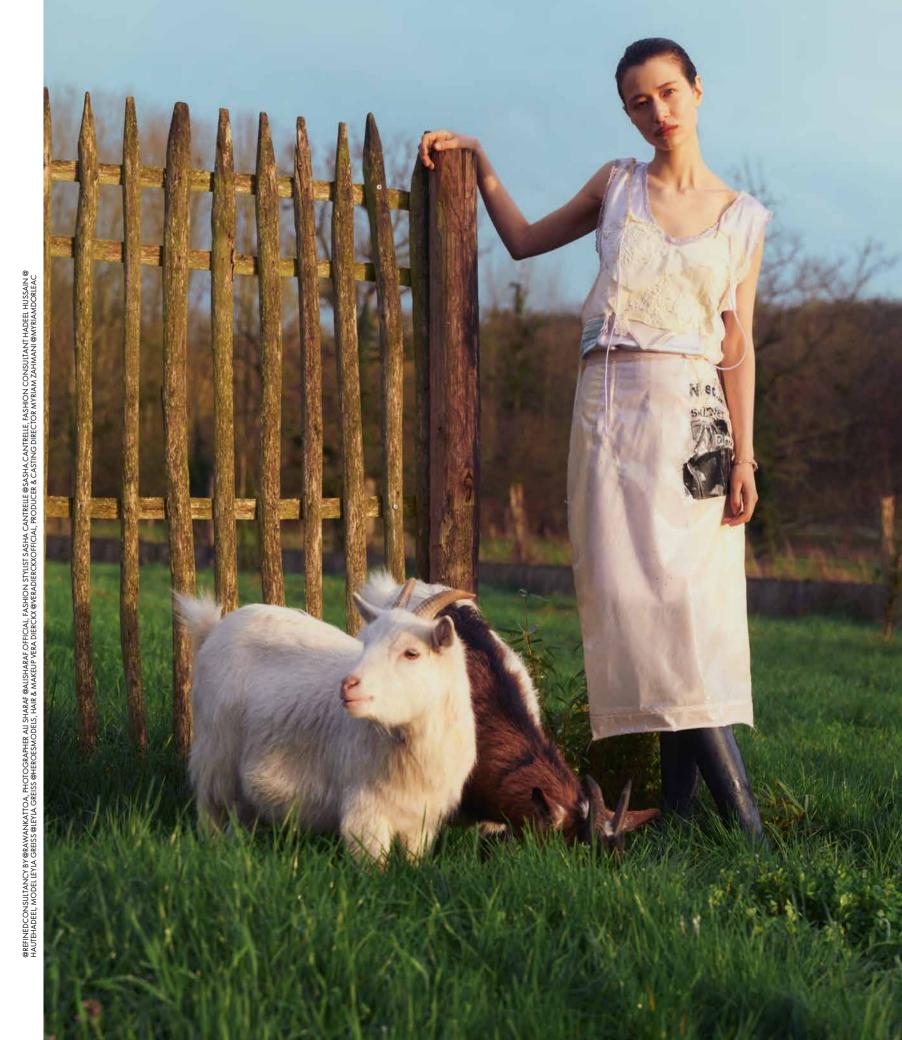
Leftt page: Faux vinyl dress and elastane pantashoes, Balenciaga. Earrings, MJ by Mayyan Jaffar.

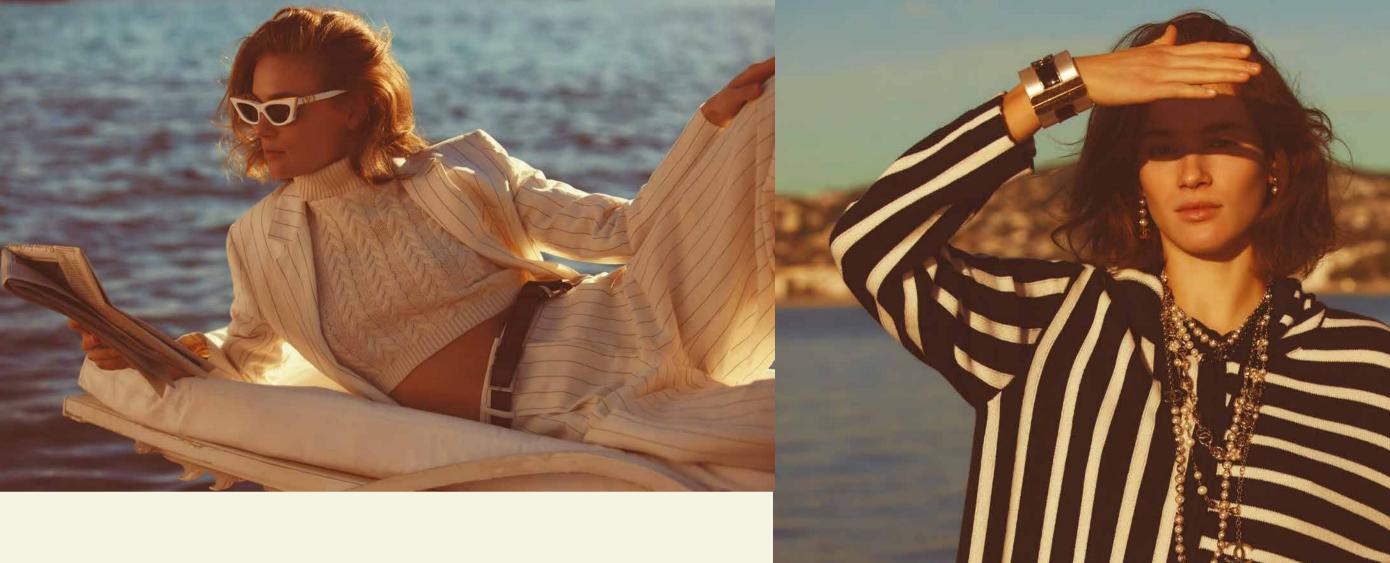
This page: Metal cage dress, Balmain. Earrings, Al Mahmood Pearls.

Right page: Silk and lace dress, latex skirt, Maison Margiela. Bracelet, Al Mahmood Pearls; Rain boots, Hunter.

This page: Silk top and leather pants, Jacquemus. Choker, Al Mahmood Pearls.







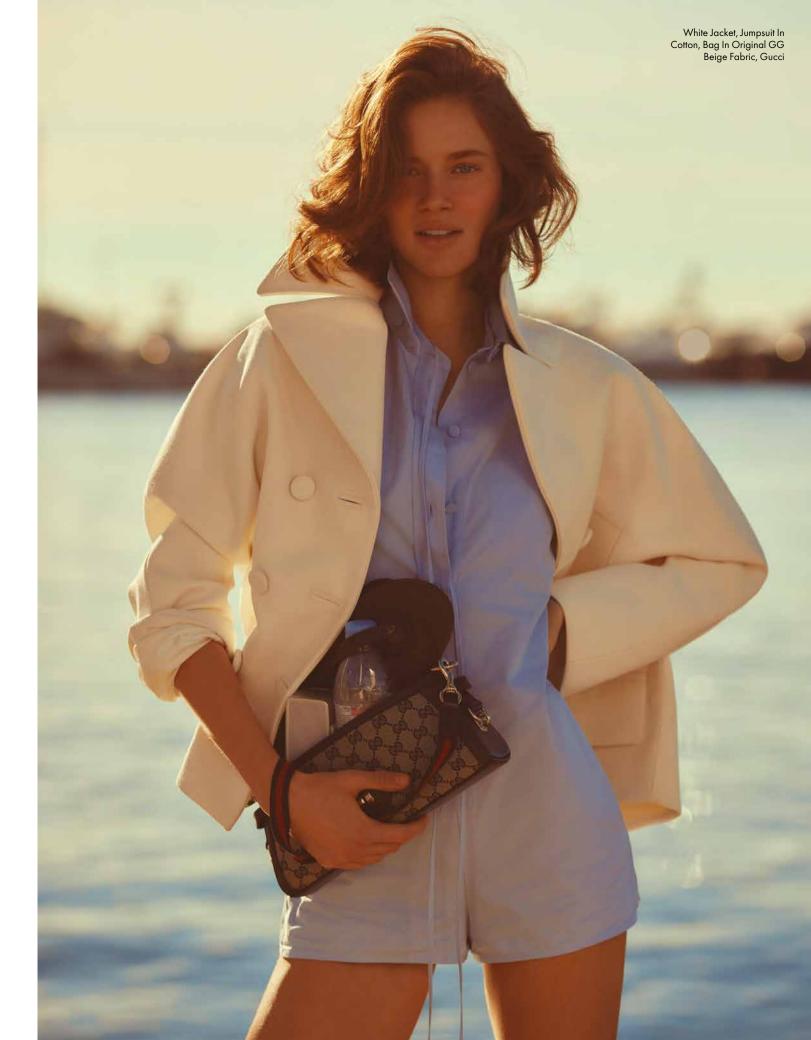
FRENCH RIVIERA

The blue coast becomes the muse of the reinvented jet set style, with sailor stripes and 70's jeans. The infallible touch? Maxi sunglasses and a lot of cashmere

Photographer MARIE SCHMIDT Stylist LAURA SEGANTI Fashion Editor CHARLOTTE DEFFE

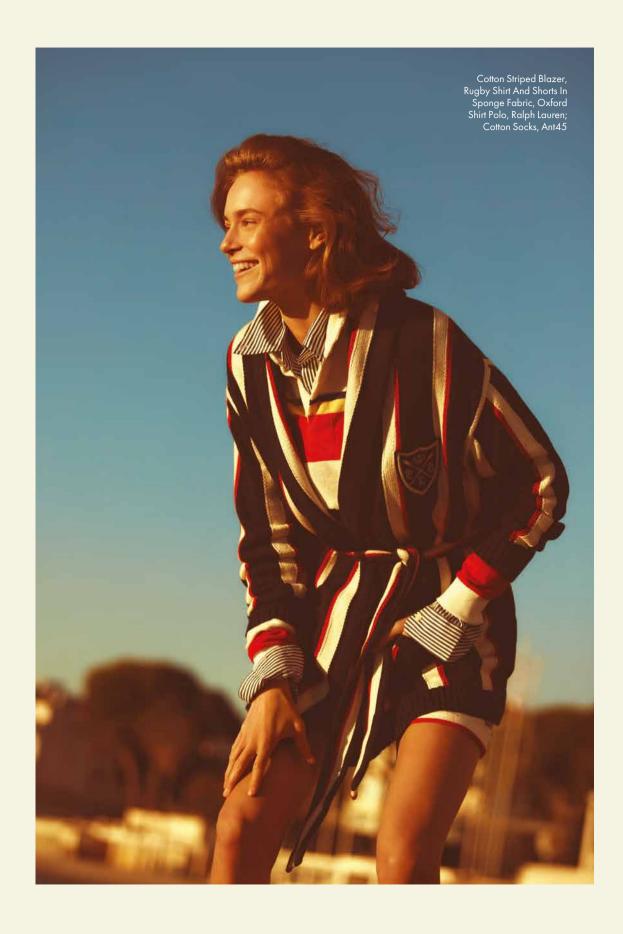


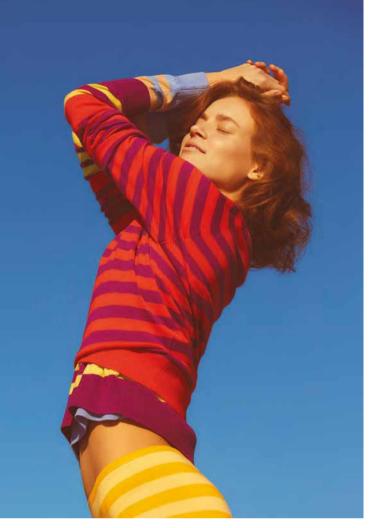








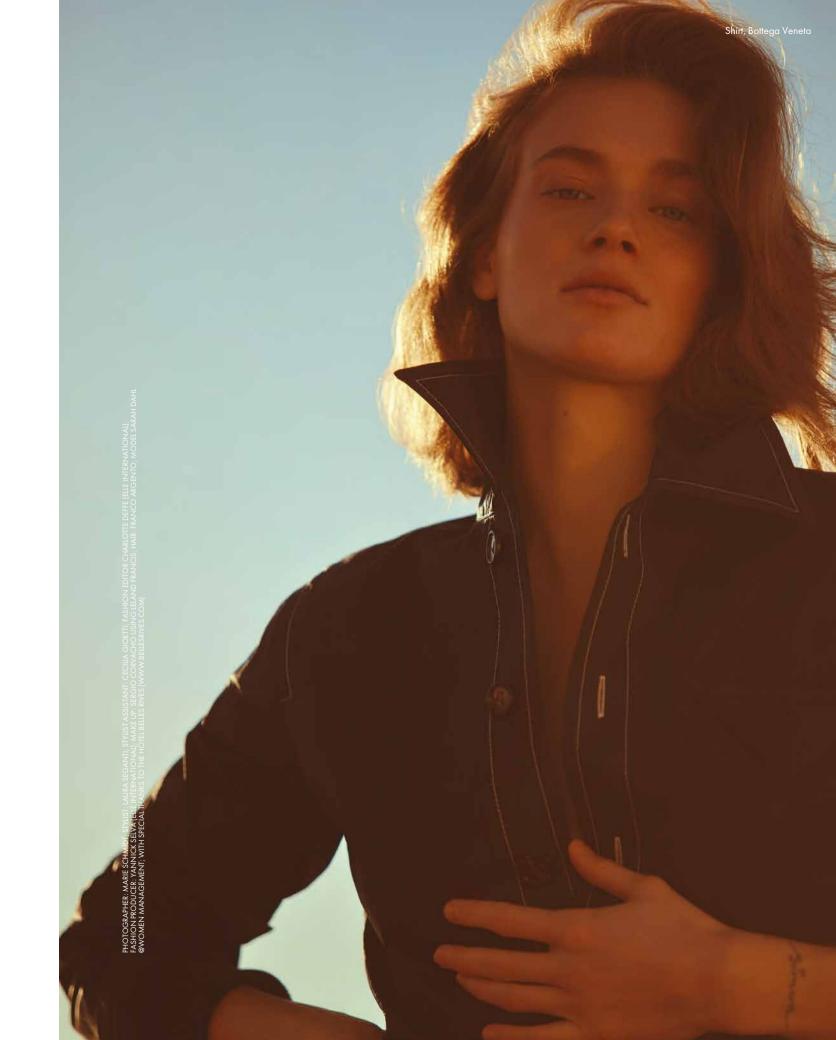






This page top: Cashmere Culotte, That's Alyki; Wool Sweaters Layered, Max & Co.

This page left: Cotton Shirt, Tomboy Triomphe Shirt, Cotton Skirt, Leather Bag, Celine By Hedi Slimane; Cashmere Culotte, That's Alyki









Left page: Top & Shorts, Valentino; Tights, Stylist's own; Bag, Magda Butrym; Shoes, Malone Souliers; Earrings, Valentino

This page: Full Look, Erdem

Opposite page:: Top & Trousers, Les Benjamin; Earrings, Herald Percy (Poison Drop)

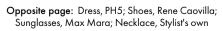
This page: Dress & Gloves, Erdem; Shoes, Jimmy Choo; Earrings, Stylist's own



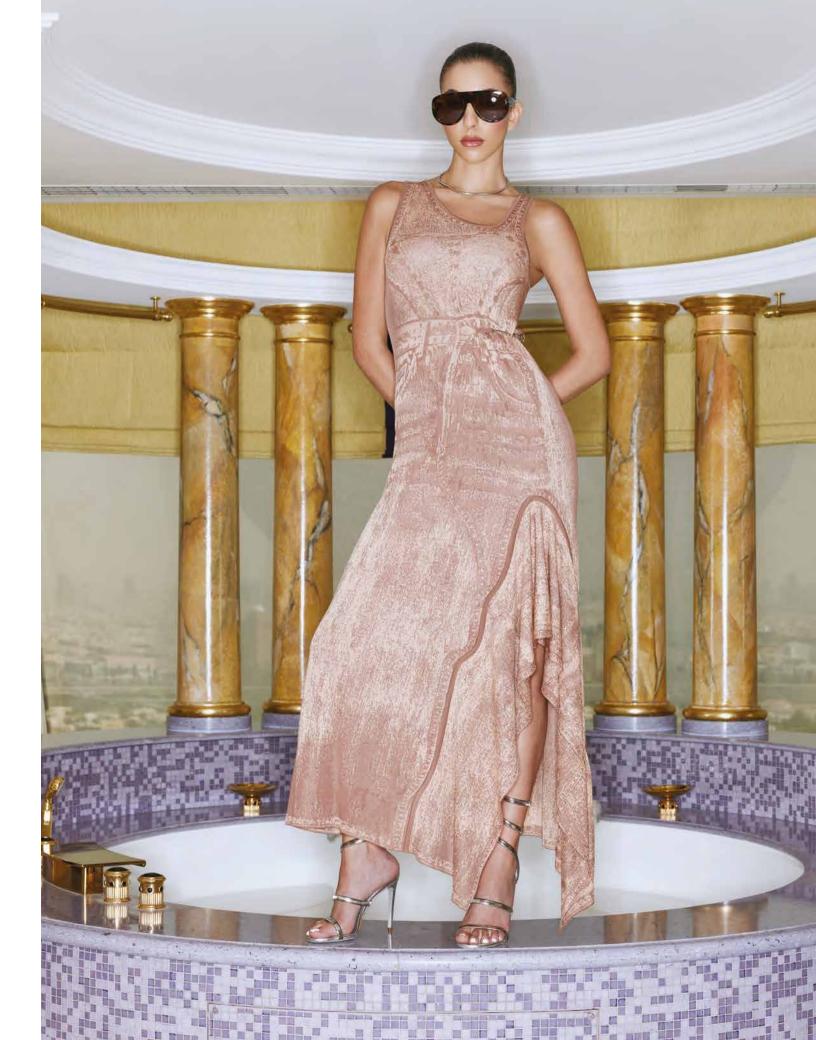








This page: Dress, Lime; Shoes, Rene Caovilla; Earrings, Begum Khan; Bracelet, Stylist's own





BOY METS GIRL

Embrace a spectrum of style from bold feminine looks to sleek androgynous statements



















New in Town

Prada Beauty has finally landed in Dubai and its serving up beauty inspired by the brand's iconic fashion archive. Think less about following trends and more about going with whatever you're in the mood for. From richly-pigmented mattes (the lipsticks are everything!) to skincare that uses adaptogens to turn back the hands of time, it's hot on our wishlist for summer.



So Cheeky

Kylie Jenner knows that cheat code for a healthy-looking glow any time of the year is a good blush and her new cream-to-powder launch offers instant color payoff that seamlessly blends into the skin to a blurred, soft-matte finish. Now that's what we call a royal flush!









Legs, legs, Baby

How to get your legs ready for summer? Slather on the soft body butter or luscious vitamin-packed oil and watch those pins come to life.

1. ILLUMINATING & BALANCING BODY OIL, ROSE INC 2. COCO MOISTURISING BODY LOTION, CHANEL 3.BODY CREME, OUAI 4. REJUVENATE INTENSIVE BODY BALM, AESOP 5. CHANEL 6. FRESH BODY LOTION, DIPTYQUE



Let it grow

Have a tough relationship with your hair?

TYPEBEA, Rita Ora's new hair line, is
here to fix that. Whether you're dealing
with thinning or damage, the formulas
used include scalp-care actives and hairnourishing ingredients that will have you
grow and learn to love your hair again.

The nude Game

Bare, simple and quintessentially chic, naked nails re proving to be the quietluxury maincure of the summer.

 $150\,$ ellearabia.com $151\,$

Beauty



L'Oréal Middle East marks its 25th anniversary, reflecting on a legacy of beauty, innovation, and community empowerment. Established in 1998, L'Oréal has grown into the region's premier beauty brand, impacting over 140 million consumers across ten countries. The company champions sustainable practices and innovative technologies, positioning itself at the forefront of the beauty industry.

In an exclusive interview, Laurent Duffier, Managing Director at L'Oréal Middle East, shares insights into the company's ongoing initiatives and future directions. With significant advancements in women's empowerment, youth employability, and environmental sustainability, L'Oréal Middle East continues to shape a future where beauty and technology meet societal needs...

Tell us about L'Oréal's partnership with AstroLabs in the region. How will this partnership help foster innovation in the beauty industry in the Middle East? This partnership is based on the belief that the future of beauty lies in 'beauty-tech,' which combines beauty and technology for enhanced product experiences. The second premise is that innovation often needs external input. Hence, we launched Tech-quest with AstroLabs - a competition for local startups. We reviewed around 500 startups, selected 14, and four have won the challenge. These finalists will have the opportunity to develop proof of concept projects with L'Oréal, marking the first initiative of its kind in the Middle East for a beauty company.

Tell us about L'Oréal recent partnership with Himayah, and how this collaboration helps support the organization's objectives. L'Oréal has always prioritized women's causes since its inception. Our recent partnership with Himayah, a Saudi NGO supporting women who are victims of domestic abuse, involves developing safe homes. These facilities not only shelter these women but also provide job training to help them reintegrate into society. This partnership is an extension of the L'Oréal Paris Stand Up Program against street harassment and includes a training program that has already involved 11,000 participants.

What trends have you observed in the beauty and cosmetics industry in the Middle East, and how is L'Oréal adapting to these changes? Beauty has historically been crucial in the Middle East, a fact underscored by findings like a 5,000-year-old lipstick from Mesopotamia. The market is expanding by about 10% annually after Covid. The fastest growth is in skincare, with increasingly sophisticated routines and new ingredients like Niacinamide. Post-COVID-19, makeup has made a strong comeback as social interactions have increased. We have new trends like "Lip Shine" with more visible shades, and many other exciting offerings for makeup. Additionally, haircare and fragrances - particularly niche brands like Kérastase, YSL Beauty, Armani Prive, etc. - continue to perform well.

Can you summarize L'Oréal's growth journey in the Middle East over the past 25 years and provide insights into the company's future goals? L'Oréal Middle East marked its 25-year official presence, although it has been in the region for 60 years and L'Oréal started in the world 115 years ago. L'Oréal Middle East office was established in 1998 to be closer to our consumers. Starting with three employees, we now have over 500. We serve 10 countries, targeting a potential 140 million consumers. Moving forward, we are focusing on beauty tech and sustainability to enhance our

impact in the beauty market. What are L'Oréal Middle East's sustainability achievements, and what targets has the Group set for 2030 in the region? L'Oréal' For The Future program, launched in 2020, sets targets for 2030, including 100% renewable energy, recyclable bio-based plastics, and 95% sustainable natural ingredients. We have also introduced a recycling program in Saudi Arabia with Garnier in partnership with Naqaa Solutions and Panda, recycling 340 tons of waste in two years. Future plans include promoting refillable products and implementing water-saving technologies in salons. We have ambitious programs, and also work with all the retailers to push them. Kiehl's has had a recycling program globally since 2009 and has an impressive figure of 7.6 million items that have been returned to the store - 2.7 million in 2003 alone, which is quite significant. We are launching Gjosa, a new showerhead technology in the salon which can save up to 70% of water. Salons consume millions and millions of litres of water so if we implement this in just the top 500 salons in the region, we can save 45 million gallons of water every year. We are also one of the first companies to have a fleet of electric vehicles in UAE in partnership with Mohebi and

What are the Group's upcoming projects related to technology and innovation in the beauty industry? L'Oréal emphasizes 'beauty-tech' to improve product efficiency and accessibility. Technologies like diagnostic tools for product recommendations, makeup simulation filters, and the Airlight Pro hairdryer, which uses infra-red light to dry hair faster while keeping the hair hydrated, are key. For example, there's a tool that applies hair color for perfect results and it even helps recommend products. We also have Spotscan, where you can take a selfie and the tool will recommend a routine for particular skin problems. Technology can also help make beauty more accessible; the Hapta tool enables people with disabilities to apply makeup, especially lipsticks as it is quite difficult. Speaking of color, YSL Beauty launched Rouge Sure Mesure that can help to create personalized lipstick shades at your fingertips!

will be introducing it in Saudi as well.



or nearly two centuries, Guerlain has transformed perfumery into an art form, crafting fragrances that are more than mere scentsthey are masterpieces. The house's perfumers blend the finest raw materials to create unique compositions, each telling a sensory story of innovation, artistry, and tradition. In 2021, Guerlain relaunched its L'Art & La Matière collection, originally introduced in 2005. This collection exemplifies Guerlain's craftsmanship, using the finest ingredients in newly designed, refillable bottles inspired by the house's rich heritage. Building on this legacy, Guerlain recently celebrated the grand opening of its first official flagship boutique in the UAE, located in the Dubai Mall. This space represents a fusion of French luxury and Arabian allure, where Guerlain's heritage meets the vibrant culture of the Middle East. The launch event was a star-studded affair, featuring prominent figures like Balqees Fathi and Karen Wazen, and showcasing the brand's latest collections, including the newly launched 'Neroli Plein Sud' fragrance from the L'Art & La Matière line, which features a drawing by Saint-Exupéry on the bottle, reflecting the long-standing friendship between Guerlain and the famed writer.

Ann-Caroline Prazan, Director of Art, Culture, and Heritage at Guerlain, expressed her excitement about the new boutique, calling it a "dream come true." She emphasized the importance of heritage for Guerlain, stating, "Our brand has been inventing, creating, collaborating, and innovating for nearly 200 years. This boutique showcases the amazing products Guerlain has created, highlighting our continuous collaboration with artists and craftsmen." She highlighted the significance of these collaborations, noting, "Guerlain is a sensory and authentic brand, and La Parfumerie d'Art and

HERITAGE IS KEY FOR GUERLAIN, A BRAND
WHICH IS NEARLY 200 YEARS AND HAS BEEN
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ALL ALONG AND CONTINUES TO DO SO. WE WANT
TO SHOWCASE THIS HERITAGE IN THE BOUTIQUE AND
ALL THE AMAZING PRODUCTS GUERLAIN HAS CREATED,
REVOLUTIONIZING THE BEAUTY INDUSTRY"

ANN-CAROLINE PRAZAN
Director of Art, Culture and Heritage

our link with art is what makes us unique." Delphine Jelk, perfumer at Guerlain, spoke about the delicate balance between tradition and innovation in her creations. "I'm very lucky to create for Guerlain, a house with a great patrimony and so inspiring," she shared. Delphine highlighted the significance of the "guerlinade," a signature blend of bergamot, rose, jasmine, tonka bean, vanilla, and iris that defines

Guerlain's olfactory identity. "It's like a warm cuddle, slightly vanilla, slightly powdery - a treasure that allows me to be creative while staying true to the brand." She added, "With L'Art & La Matière collection, we aim to inspire our clients by showcasing our exceptional ingredients. Our goal is to allow customers to create their own scent trails, making their fragrance experience uniquely personal."

WHAT IS A GOOD PERFUME? ONE THAT IS RECOGNIZABLE, LONG LASTING, HAS A GOOD TRAIL, AND IS ADDICTIVE"

DELPHINE JELK, Guerlain Perfumer

One of the highlights of the event was the introduction of Neroli Plein Sud, the newest member of the L'Art & La Matière collection. This fragrance features a remarkable turmeric extract, adding a

unique twist to the essential oil of orange flower from Morocco.

Delphine Jelk shared her inspiration behind this creation:

"When I first smelled the Neroli, I was transported to

Morocco. The vibrant fields, the crisp air - it was an experience I wanted to encapsulate in a fragrance."

The new Dubai boutique offers a unique customer experience, where customers can explore the Maison's most precious creations, receive tailor-made consultations, and participate in masterclasses or bespoke facial treatments. The

boutique also emphasizes the art of personalization, offering endless possibilities to make each product unique. Delphine Jelk spoke about the importance of individuality in fragrance. "More and more people feel free to combine fragrances. I never suggest layering; it's better to combine to create your own trail, exactly like you create your own look." By blending its rich heritage with modern sensibilities, Guerlain continues to set the standard for excellence in the world of perfumery. As Ann-Caroline Prazan aptly put it, "We are a timeless brand, a luxury brand. There is no luxury without culture, and at Guerlain, we embody this philosophy through our dedication to art and craftsmanship."

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Under the Sun

Shopping for SPF for those long beach days ahead? Don't forget your hair needs protection. Here are 10 must-haves that will combat UV rays, chlorine and salty seawater all summer long.







4. HAIR AFTER THE 6. HAIR PROTECTIVE FLUID, SISLEY PARIS

DID YOU KNOW...

That using protection can actually give you even prettier summer strands, just minus the damage? Days spent out in the sun will see your hair pigments oxidize but it'll also damage and weaken those strands so using a hair SPF will ensure your golden mane keeps on shining!







GOLDEN HOUR WITH SIMONA BITAR

IT'S TIME TO DIAL UP THE SHINE, AND THAT COLOR, AND THE BEST WAY TO DO THAT? A SUN-KISSED SESSION WITH THE QUEEN OF BALAYAGE. HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Whether its rich espresso, spicy cinnamon or honey-gold blonde you crave, Simona Bitar will give it to you but only if she thinks it will suit you. Armed with more than 10 years of hair know-how, this beauty industry expert not only knows a thing or two about hair, snipping and styling it, but moreover, she's nailed the art of giving it the color it was meant to have. Some stylists will save themselves time and effort and go for whatever vision the client conjures up, regardless of whether it'll look good on them or not, but Simona (will bluntly tell you) does not. She does not take shortcuts or the easy way out and she most definitely does not compromise on her own intuition. "Everything is so individual and 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 their hair type, so let's find something that is for you!" explains Simona. Working out of the Collective hair salon, she's managed to build a cult following of clients who come (sometimes even fly out from abroad) for her holistic approach to hair. So how does it work? A session with Simona starts off with a consultation in the chair; she'll ask about your likes, dislikes, daily hair routine and from that conversation, she'll pluck out exactly what you want out of this and what your hair journey in the process will look like. "After years of experience fixing many clients during my early years in Dubai and trying various techniques, I discovered my own coloring technique that achieves the best blend and the most natural grow-out, reducing the need for frequent salon visits," she explains. The next step is to cleanse the hair with a bit of sage, a ritual Simona is adamant about to shed negative energy and in turn, create a harmonious environment for hair to shine and grow in. After, she's off to mix her concoction of hues that she paints freely by hand like a painter on canvas - freestyle with no exact direction, but resulting in the perfect placement of color throughout the hair. "I've come up with my own technique and it took years!" she says. "I aim to recreate the effect of how the sun naturally lightens hair, so basically a sun-kissed look." A conditioning hair treatment and toner session follow, important steps that give Simona's Balayage service the end result both her and her client crave. A beautiful blowout might signal the end of the appointment but for Simona your dye job doesn't end here. This is only the beginning of your hair color journey, and she's adamant about what you should do to keep it on the right path. "In Dubai, having a water filter is crucial for maintaining color longevity, as local water contains high chlorine levels that can strip toner quickly," she explains about post-salon care. "For lighter tones, a good purple shampoo helps combat brassy and yellow tones. Regular use of deep conditioning treatments like Davines Heart of Glass Intense Treatment, Olaplex No.0 and No.3 or K18 preserves hair integrity and health."

Book your appointment now at Theoriginalsimona.comwwwww

SS'24 hair colors jolting us

From warm caramelized blonde to sassy, spiced rum, it's time to turn up the dial and leave behind girl-nextdoor blonde and boring butter brunette for something that is more shout and less whisper. It's go bold or go to the salon!

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Unbound...

LET THE ARTS WHISK YOU AWAY THIS SUMMER!



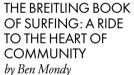


COASTAL by Gray Malin From the luminous waters of Maui to the pebble-filled shores of Nantucket and, photographer Gray Malin captures some of the best overhead beach photography from around the world. Whether you're looking for some beautiful blue locales or are in search of a memorable beach holiday, this is the book

to turn to for inspiration.

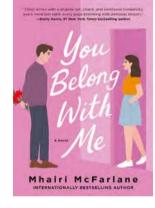


Crashing waves and condensing drinks, Loewe straw bag and in Hunza G swimwear with Alemais overalls – what a *cruel summer*; and we've got just the reading list that will inspire this year's getaway.



Surfing has one of the strongest knit communities around the world and this book manages to capture some of the world's

> most exciting professional and freestyle surfers talking about places and waves that have shaped their life and surfing. Told in their own words, their stories come to life in epic photography of this dynamic global community connected by the ocean.



YOU BELONG WITH ME

by Mhairi McFarlane A holiday isn't really a holiday without a book to keep you intrigued from the boarding gates to the gelato in the hammock. A follow up to the author's extremely popular, 'Who's That Girl?' this light hearted tale of romance with a generous dose of comedy will have you stuck pool/ beach side until you devour it all.



HOTEL ESENCIA by Melinda Stevens

Mexico's Tulum has become home to some of the most beautiful properties in the world, and one such property is Hotel Esencia. This bright yellow tome showcases the estate's serene beauty, from the sea turtle nesting grounds to its vibrant wildlife. Counted in one of the world's top 25 hotels, this hidden oasis should be on everyone's travel list!

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

Play

C,XOXO BY CAMILA CABELLO

After debuting 'I Luv It' in March, Former Fifth Harmony singer's fourth solo album 'C,XOXO' is set to drop on 28 June. The cover art screams summer, and she describes it as having "an emotional immediacy and rawness" and her "boldest solo album."





See

MATILDA AT ETIHAD ARENA

One of my favorite books to read growing up was Matilda by Roald Dahl. When there weren't a lot of strong female protagonists, even in children's storybooks, there was Matilda. She was extraordinary, bright with a vivid imagination and daring to take a stand. She was my hero. Now, the story has been adapted into a multi-award-winning musical beloved by kids and adults alike. Catch the shows at Abu Dhabi's Etihad Arena in Yas Island from 20-23 June 2024.

Watch

BRIDGERTON PART 2 ON NETFLIX

Don't tell me you didn't inhale the first four episodes on the first day they dropped. I was going for Taylor Swift in Stockholm and still made it to that infamous "carriage scene". Safe to say, the next four episodes are about to be interesting. Will Polin survive knowing the truth about Lady Whistledown, and will Eloise and Pen ever make up? So many questions, so little patience. 13 June can't come fast enough





Listen

CALL YOUR GIRLFRIEND BY ANN FRIEDMAN AND AMINATOU SOW

This podcast is for long-distance besties everywhere. A conversational podcast sees these besties calling each other and chatting about every conceivable element of pop culture, from reality TV shows to filing your taxes and even some powerful interviews like the one with Chanel Miller, the victim in the Brock Turner trial.

LOVE A GOOD MEAL? INDULGE IN THESE PAGES WITH THESE WOMEN COOKING FROM SCRATCH



HANNAH NEELEMAN @Ballerinafarm

From milking cows to making pie crusts and growing her sourdough starter -Hannah is a true farm girl. Watching her videos almost convinced me to look into that slow, rural life. Follow for the ultimate homegrown inspo!



ALEXIA DELAROSA @Lex.delarosa

Cottage core with a side of baking aesthetic? Sign me up! But, just for watching. While I don't think I'll ever look that elegant making paper from scratch or sane from homeschooling kids – she makes it all look fairy-tale-like.



NARA AZIZA SMITH @Naraaziza

While she started her career as a model, Nara has since moved to creating really calm-sounding videos of her cooking things from scratch. This girlie was making chewing gum - literally two weeks postpartum!



From overcoming societal barriers to transforming the educational landscape, discover the remarkable story of Eman Alblooshi, an Emirati trailblazer in education and authorship

man Alblooshi's life narrative is not just about personal achievement but a testament to the transformative power of education and resilience. As the first Emirati English teacher in Abu Dhabi, a prominent author and a pioneer in healthcare education, Eman's journey through personal and professional hurdles showcases her profound impact on the UAE's educational system. Her story is a beacon of inspiration, demonstrating how unwavering commitment and passion can lead to lasting changes in society and empower the next generation.

"I grew up in a caring family, with my mother as a devoted housewife and my father diligently supporting us. In those days, education for girls wasn't prioritized as it was for boys. However, my mother persuaded my father to let me study, marking the beginning of my educational journey. During my fourth year of school, a visit to the dentist inspired my first dream: to become a dentist myself. I was captivated by the dentist's professionalism and kindness, which fueled my ambition throughout my schooling. As the eldest and tallest of five sisters, many suitors approached me, but my dream was not to marry young but to wear a doctor's white coat. My resolve led me to decline all proposals, much to my mother's dismay.

In 1976, my world changed. Returning from a National Day celebration, I found a stranger at our home with my father. He was a suitor whom my mother favored. Using her persuasive skills and parental authority, she convinced me to marry him on the condition that I could continue my education. However, after marrying, I learned that married students couldn't continue in the scientific department, a rule that crushed my dream of becoming

a doctor. Disheartened, I dropped out, but my mother insisted I at least finish high school. Despite my reluctance, I did so, receiving my diploma shortly after the birth of my second daughter.

Soon after, my husband's job took us to another emirate, thrusting me into the responsibilities of managing a home and caring for our children alone. I was only 19 years old at the time. Yet, this new life brought unexpected opportunities. The Ministry of Education was seeking high school graduates for a program to train teachers, aiming to nationalize the profession. I seized this chance, becoming possibly the first national English language teacher in Abu Dhabi. My entrance exam score of 98% led to an immediate teaching position, transitioning me from student to teacher within months.

The job was fulfilling, and I excelled, but I yearned for more. I took a four-year study leave from work to pursue English literature and French at the College of Foreign Languages. My husband was incredibly supportive, encouraging me to persevere even when parenting duties kept me from attending university. He bought me a car with tinted windows for the daily commute from Abu Dhabi to Al Ain, ensuring my comfort and privacy. My routine involved leaving home after dawn prayers, starting my lectures at 7am without breaks, and returning by 3pm to manage my children's education and household duties. Despite the challenge of balancing family life with academia and becoming pregnant with my fifth child during my final year, I maintained excellent grades throughout.

After university, I returned to teaching, this time at the secondary level, and later helped establish a private school, taking on the role of director for the American department. The school quickly developed a strong reputation in Abu Dhabi.

My career took another turn when I joined ADNOC to teach

English for specific purposes, a challenging role since I had previously only worked with female students and colleagues. I had to help qualify them to work in the oil fields. I studied the subject well before teaching it. That was a big challenge for me, but I was able to gain the respect and love of my students, so much so that they brought their friends from other classes to attend lessons with us. This new position broadened my experience and was fulfilling, allowing me to make significant contributions to my students' lives. That year I had my sixth daughter.

During my work at ADNOC, I volunteered as head of the orphans' department at the Emirates Red Crescent. During that time, I visited orphan centers affiliated with the Emirates Red Crescent outside the country to closely follow up on their affairs and assess their needs. Visiting the UNRWA refugee camps in Jordan had a profound impact on me and reinforced my gratitude for my own blessings. After two decades

of service, I retired in 2004 but didn't slow down. I ventured into real estate, although an unexpected pregnancy at 43 halted those plans. In 2006, a friend invited me to her office where I unexpectedly walked into an interview to help establish a college offering a bachelor's degree in nursing. One memorable comment from an interviewer was, "I was searching for a bird that I hunted in the sky, and suddenly there was a roasted bird in front of me." This marked the start of my role at Fatima College of Health Sciences, where I was the project manager for the foundation program, collaborating with Griffith University and Dr. Judy Wollin on the nursing program. This project was the pinnacle of my career challenges. Despite having no medical background, I embraced the task. The toughest part was attracting national students to nursing, but we succeeded, and the college gained recognition. I later became the Director of Student Affairs, overseeing branches in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, and the Western Region. By the fifth year, I proudly watched the first batch of my students graduate. After years of steady progress, I chose to retire once more as the college expanded nationally.

Post-retirement, I sought new challenges and knowledge. A visit to a clinic in Bosnia introduced me to biotherapy, a method that fascinated me so much that I learned it, along with the ancient Japanese technique Jin Shin Jitsu, enhancing my skills and broadening my horizons.

My journey into writing began with a collaboration with Judy Wollin from Griffith University. Judy is an optimist who cherishes life and visits annually for vacation. Together, we explore libraries searching for children's books that reflect our culture and reality, but found none suitable for 8 to 13-year-old boys featuring Emirati protagonists. This inspired us to create our own series, "Speed," which took five years to complete. I was motivated

to preserve Emirati identity through storytelling and Judy helped refine my writing skills - a talent I hadn't realized I possessed. Our debut book, "The Haunted Island," launched at the Sharjah International Book Fair 2023 and was a hit. It introduces Ali, an Emirati boy, and his Australian classmate, Dylan, as they explore the coastal village of Al-Jed and encounter the legends of Telegraph Island. The sequel, "Falcon Lightning," released in 2024, delves into the traditional Emirati sport of falconry, bridging cultural understanding as Dylan overcomes his aversion to birds.

Throughout my life, I've embraced each new challenge with the belief that 'I cannot' is not in my vocabulary. This spirit has guided me through various roles and achievements, continuously driving me to contribute to my community and expand my knowledge. Each phase of my life has brought its own lessons and opportunities, proving that personal growth and contribution do not cease with retirement."



I WAS MOTIVATED
TO PRESERVE EMIRATI
IDENTITY THROUGH
STORYTELLING
AND JUDY HELPED
REFINE MY WRITING
SKILLS – A TALENT I
HADN'T REALIZED I
POSSESSED"



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CONNECTING

H.E Huda Alkhamis-Kanoo has devoted her career to nurture creative talent, building bridges that connect communities across the world

rowing up in a home that cherished culture, H.E Huda AlKhamis-Kanoo enjoyed a childhood that made her develop a deep appreciate for visual and performing arts. "Growing up in Beirut, my early years were enriched by a tapestry of literary and artistic experiences that profoundly influenced me," she recalls, explaining how she is now supporting others to achieve their dreams in her role as the founder of the Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation (ADMAF). Established in 1996, H.E Huda has since come a long way in securing several partnerships and collaborations over the last three decades. "By partnering with more than 35 prominent cultural organizations abroad on co-commissions and co-productions, ADMAF's flagship, the Abu Dhabi Festival advocates for cultural diplomacy, fostering mutual understanding between nations and expanding Abu Dhabi's contributions on the global stage," she shares.

Recently, a first-ever understanding was established with the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the ADMAF, to explore avenues for a cross-cultural exchange. Based on the agreement, two historic exhibitions will take place - one at the Seoul Museum of Art and the other at the Manarat Al Saadiyat Cultural District, where over fifty artists from the Emirates will present the rich contemporary art movement from the Arab region for the first time in Korea. But that's not all, to foster an environment of creativity and art, H.E Huda has established notable awards such as the Dolce&Gabbana ADMAF Design Award, Total Energies Sustainability Design Award, Gulf Capital ADMAF Creativity Award, the Christo & Jeanne-Claude Award, the Gulf Capital ADMAF Visual Arts Award, and the ADMAF Design Fund Award, in partnership with L'École Middle East, School of Jewellery Arts, supported by Van Cleef & Arpels. "This partnership enables international brands to engage with unique local perspectives, recognizing Emirati designers as the future of the region's creative industries," she says.

Promoting culture, art, and music, she leads the way forward for the nation's youth encouraging them to realize their dreams, while giving them the chance to have the world as their stage.







COASTAL VIBES

Step into the Yacht Club and you might just forget you're in the middle of the desert. The restaurant's atmosphere channels the charm of an Italian coastal trattoria, complete with views and a vibe that's both upscale and inviting. It's the perfect setting to dive into a menu that blends tradition with innovation.

WHAT'S COOKING?

The new offerings start strong with a variety of raw seafood dishes featuring everything from crustaceans to mollusks. If pasta is more your style, try the 'Linguine alle vongole veraci.' The standout, though, is the grill section: Chef Romito has introduced a large, open grill that uses top-quality wood and charcoal to impart a



Navigating New Waters

Bulgari Resort Dubai's
Yacht Club Restaurant has
unveiled a new menu, and
it's all about seafood. If you're
into Italian cuisine with a
modern twist, you'll want
to check out what Chef Niko
Romito has whipped up

delicious, smoky flavor to the seafood. Dishes like 'Chitarrina all'uovo con sugo di astice' showcase this technique, bringing out the best in these fresh ingredients.

WHY VISIT?

With Chef Niko Romito at the helm, known for his expertise from two Michelin-starred Il Ristorante-Niko Romito, expectations are naturally high. He's joined by Chef Filippo Ristori, the new Chef de Cuisine, who comes with a stellar resume that includes stints at the Four Seasons and various Michelin-starred restaurants across Italy. Their collaboration promises a menu that's both innovative and rooted in Italian culinary traditions.

BEFORE YOU GO:

Don't Miss the Grill: The new grill is the heart of the menu. Try anything that comes off it - you won't be disappointed.

End with Dessert: The desserts, especially the lighter, updated Tiramisu and 'Vanilla pannacotta with seasonal fruit,' are perfect for wrapping up your meal.

Book in Advance: This spot is gaining popularity fast. Make sure to reserve your table early to secure your spot.

Under the culinary guidance of Chef Niko Romito who is also the Executive Chef behind the two Michelin-starred Il Ristorante-Niko Romito, the menu celebrates the rich traditions of Italian seafood cuisine while incorporating innovative techniques to elevate the dining experience.



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2. GLOBE-TROTTER
3. BRIC'S
4. PARAVEL



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ARIES

20 MARCH - 19 APRIL

Dreaming about the future is easy, and cheap; but if you are ever to make your ambitions a reality, you must do some serious calculation about much it will all cost, both in time and in money. Also, whether the other parts of your life are strong enough to give you the support you will need later on. The answers to all these questions are positive: you are ready, and you can afford it. Time to get started.

CANCER

21 JUNE - 21 JULY

Mars and Jupiter, active planets which have been driving your work and ambitions for the past few months, both move on in the next few weeks. They will continue to help from their new positions, but in a more relaxed way - and that's the way you will be feeling, too. Slowing down a little will give you a chance to think before you act, and maybe a chance to go back and correct a few things. All very useful.

TAURUS

20 APRIL - 20 MAY

Something attractively priced is often old stock, or no longer in fashion, or both. So it is this month when a chance to do something you have always said you wanted comes along. A few years ago, it would have been perfect - but now it belongs to your past. This year has already brought great changes, and there are more to come; so, however tempting this offer might be, you should smile and say no.

LEO

22 JULY - 22 AUGUST

What's at the top of your wish list? Whether it's personal or professional, the planets say it's yours for the taking this month, so you'll step up and claim it, as you should. Good for you, obviously. In addition, it will boost your profile with friends and work colleagues, which you hadn't expected. Is there a downside to any of this? Only that it may limit your options a little later on, but right now you won't care about that.

VIRGO

view accordingly.

GEMINI

21 MAY - 20 JUNE

This is where your year really starts

to gain some momentum, as Jupiter

moves into Gemini, where he will

stay for a while. New opportunities

of all kinds will come your way in

the next few months, and you must

look carefully at them. Sometimes

you choose things simply because

they amuse you, ignoring any deeper

potential; but Jupiter works on a large

scale, and long-term, so adjust your

23 AUGUST - 22 SEPTEMBER

When you see the size of the challenge now facing you at work, your first thought is that it's beyond your abilities. In fact, the exact opposite is true: you are the only person who has the insight, the skills, and the patience to see this task through to the end, and make it a success. This may be your breakthrough moment, the point where your talents are properly recognised. All you need is to believe in yourself.



LIBRA

23 SEPTEMBER - 22 OCTOBER

Some holidays are soon forgotten, but on others you find yourself falling in love with the country, the language and the people, so that you want to make them a part of your life forever. As the sun and your ruler Venus conjoin this month they create an entertaining, enjoyable but also surprisingly deep experience which goes straight to your heart and stays there. Enchanted? Inspired? Enriched? All of these, and more.

CAPRICORN

21 DECEMBER - 19 JANUARY

You are fussing too much about how you are going to do something. Naturally, you want it to go well, and you want it to look good, too. But perfection in performance is not the prize here; the satisfaction is simply in doing something which has real meaning for you, and doing it yourself. Waste no more time; make a start. If it goes wrong, try again. Learn as you go, and change things as needed. But do it anyway

SCORPIO

23 OCTOBER - 21 NOVEMBER

A new personal relationship seems to be forming. You're fine with that, and it may well be that you are actively pushing the process. Naturally, you want to be in control of it all, so that everything is played by your rules but this time, that won't be possible. The other person is in charge, and you will have to trust their decisions. If you don't like it, you can always walk away, but you should at least give it a try.

AQUARIUS

20 JANUARY - 18 FEBRUARY

It's strange how the last words you say as you leave are the truest, isn't it? Maybe it's because you've already used up all the polite phrases and the careful avoidance of the real issue, and all you've got left is the bare truth. You've moved on since then, and happily; but what you say this month, almost as a throwaway line, shows that you have understood what the upset was really about, and that you're fine with it.

SAGITTARIUS

22 NOVEMBER - 20 DECEMBER

There are some very big planetary alignments going on at the moment, all of them parts of long-term cycles that unfold over decades rather than just a few months. Such things do not provide specific life-changing events, but instead create beneficial environments in which your own projects can grow and prosper. The great ocean currents of destiny are taking you forwards; hoist sail, and feel the wind in your face.

PISCES

19 FEBRUARY - 19 MARCH

You could be in danger of making what you think will be a new start, but is actually a repeat of what you did before. You may think that it's good to stay with what you know, but that simply makes it easier for you to make the same mistakes. There is no need to go through it all again. The only reason for you to revisit the past is to demolish it completely, and build something different and better for the future.

FRUIT PUNCH!

Bright and juicy lemons, oranges, pineapples, dragon fruit and cherries make every look sweeter









BIKINI, AMIR SLAMA

PLATE, LES OTTOMANS





FRUIT BASKETS - ANTHROPOLOGIE



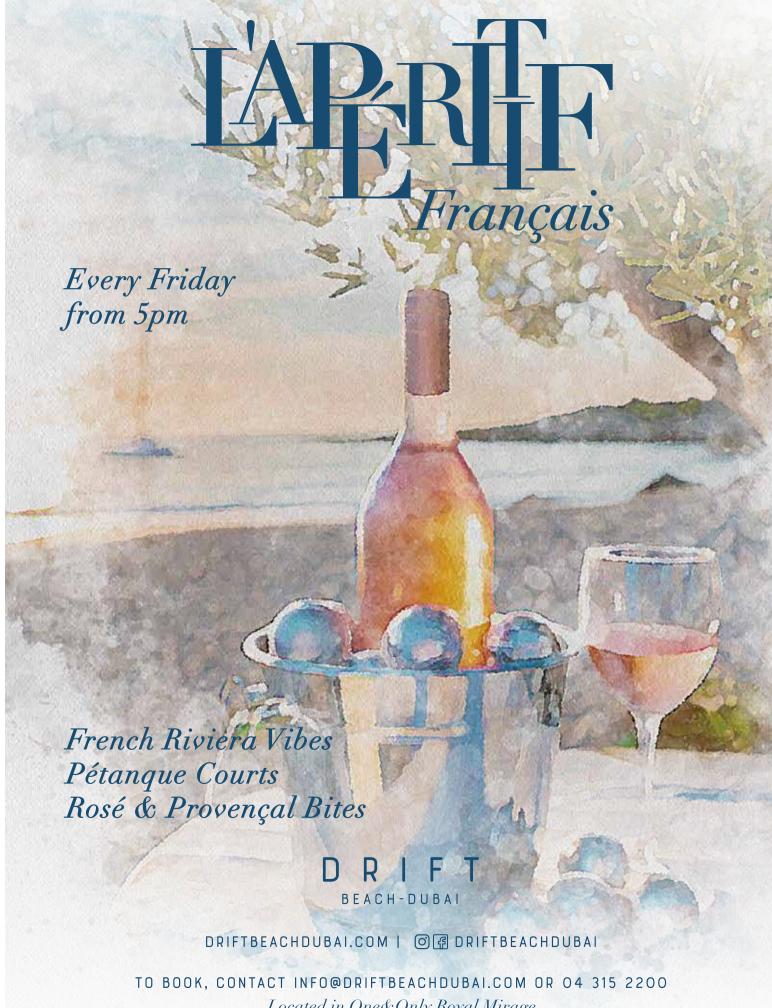
SANDALS, AQUAZURRA





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