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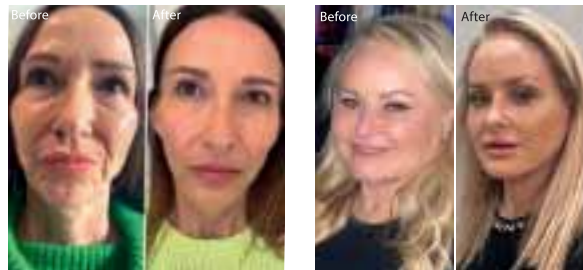
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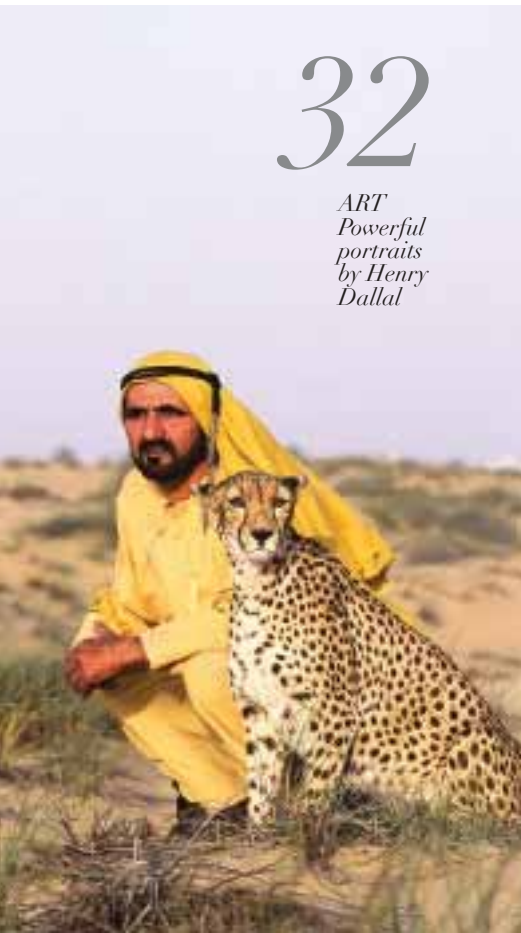
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COVER: MUSEUM OF THE FUTURE, DUBAI

mayfair times

Mayfair's house magazine for over 40 years. Made in Mayfair

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W

elcome to our special Dubai-focused edition of *Mayfair Times*, produced to coincide with Art Dubai and the Dubai International Boat Show, both of which we are partnering with this year. Not that we need an excuse as the synergy

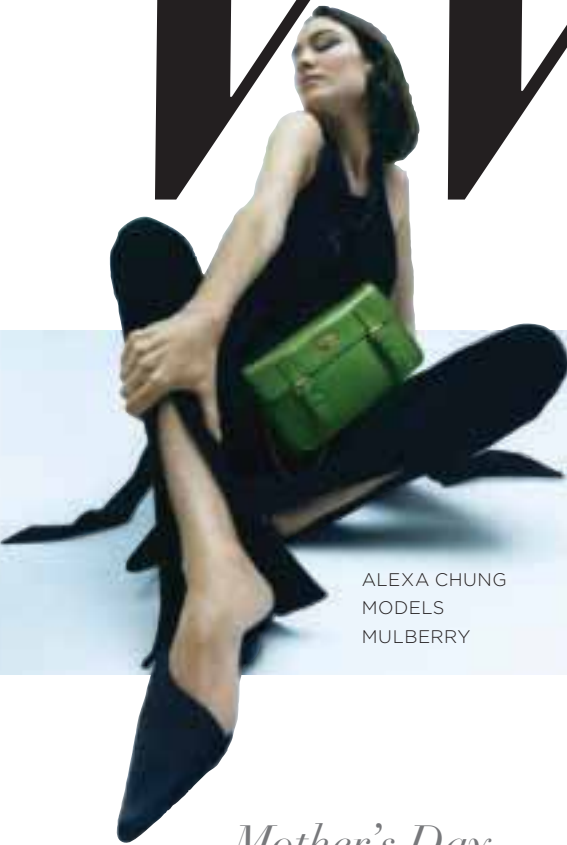
between Mayfair and Dubai continues to grow. Dubai has always been a popular tourist destination but is fast becoming an attractive proposition for property investors and homebuyers – many people own homes in Mayfair and Dubai. Mayfair's art galleries are increasing their presence there and there's hardly a Michelin-starred chef that doesn't have an outpost in Dubai now. The reverse is also happening. The UK and UAE governments recently signed an agreement that will help facilitate the sharing of technical knowledge, advice, skills and expertise, opening up new avenues for cooperation on energy and climate while boosting jobs and investment in the UK.



SELMA DAY
EDITOR,
MAYFAIR
TIMES

In this issue we look at the latest property news, highlight Dubai's art and cultural scene, showcase the hottest new restaurant and hotel openings and report on how the region is fast becoming a yachting destination.

Closer to home, Mulberry has closed its Bond Street store, saying the demise of tax-free shopping is making London "unviable". How many more stores need to close before the government sees sense and reinstates VAT-free shopping for international tourists? In the meantime, London will continue to lose out to the likes of Paris or Milan and, with places such as Dubai firmly establishing themselves as global destinations, London cannot afford to rest on its laurels.



ALEXA CHUNG
MODELS
MULBERRY

Mother's Day



HEAVEN SCENT

The Mulberry Fig scent from Floris evokes a floral amber fragrance, combining the soft powdery character of orris with hints of fruit and spice. It is inspired by nearby St James's Park, in particular the fig tree located next to the lake, which is thought to be one of the biggest in Britain.
£180 for 100ml, Floris, 89 Jermyn Street

TIME FOR TEA

Cliveden House has introduced a new Great Royal Gardens afternoon tea, with sweet delights inspired by flowers that grow in the King's Royal Gardens and savoury treats that use the finest products from Sandringham's farm. Highlights include the Buckingham honey and cheddar eclair, the Kensington poppy seed cake, the Buckingham rose and white chocolate bavarois and the Sandringham magnolia cake.
clivedenhouse.co.uk



IN THE PINK

In a pink and pale peach colour palette, florist Neill Strain's Mother's Day designs include hand-tied bouquets in varying sizes, a handmade basket filled with flowers, a signature Petite Couture arrangement with the floral "Belgravia" fragranced candle and another handmade basket design assembled with stunning new mini phalaenopsis orchids.
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MARCH

INSIDER

The ideas of March

WORDS JONATHAN WHILEY

NEED FOR SPEED

Concours on Savile Row will return for a second year, celebrating the collaboration between Mayfair's tailoring houses and the luxury automotive world.

The event, on May 24-25, will feature talks and activations exploring the relationship and craft that links the two industries.

The announcement by organisers The Pollen Estate and Hot House Media follows a successful inaugural outing which drew more than 6,000 visitors and 35 cars.

The Pollen Estate's Jenny Casebourne said it was "a fantastic opportunity to showcase the heritage of the street".



WATCH THIS SPACE

Omega will showcase its rich history of watchmaking for women in an exhibition in Mayfair this month.

A townhouse at 4 Hamilton Place will be transformed into Her Time House, marking the first outing for the Her Time exhibition in London following showcases in Madrid, Milan, Shanghai, Paris and St Petersburg.

On the ground floor, discover more than 100 years of the brand's history with art nouveau and Art Deco jewellery watches and mid-century masterpieces. The first floor will be a members' only space with a series of daytime and evening

events aimed at celebrating and inspiring women, with "very special guests from the Omega family" in attendance. Private previews are on March 8 before it opens to the public from March 9-29.



JENNY PACKHAM

PENINSULA GEARS UP

The Peninsula London has unveiled details of its creative partnerships ahead of its hotly anticipated opening this year.

The Hyde Park Corner hotel will offer 190 rooms and suites, a 25-metre pool and nine luxury boutiques.

Creative partners include Jenny Packham, who has designed a bespoke wardrobe for the hotel's staff, and 40 artists from the Royal Drawing School who have created nearly 200 artworks for the interiors.

English sparkling wine maker Coates & Seely has selected two special cuvées and chef Claude Bosi is at the helm of rooftop restaurant Brooklands.



IMAGE BY BERT CANN, GOLDFINGER © 1964 DANJAQ, LLC AND METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS INC

LICENCE TO THRILL

Legendary film producer Michael G Wilson has opened Eon's photographic archive for an exhibition of James Bond images.

The collection from the 007 production company – based in Piccadilly – spans 60 years of the franchise, with stills ranging from Sean Connery to Daniel Craig. It will be on display at Leica Gallery on Duke Street until March 21.

To accompany the exhibition, the camera company has launched the Leica D-Lux 7, a camera limited to 1,962 units as a nod to the release date of the first Bond film, Dr No.



TRIBUTES FOR HOTELIER

Stuart Johnson, the managing director of Brown's Hotel, has died. Sir Rocco Forte paid tribute to Johnson, who worked for Forte for nearly 18 years and was named hotelier of the year while at Brown's.

"He was an extraordinary coach and mentor to his team members, an attentive and warm host to his loyal guests, a much-loved figure in the travel agent community and overall, a legendary man of hospitality for the whole industry. Above all, he was a true friend who will be greatly missed."

Mayfair Times editor Selma Day said Johnson was "one of the most kind and gentle people I was lucky enough to have worked with – a Mayfair legend".



LET'S TALK BUSINESS

The 10° Sky Bar has launched a new breakfast offering exclusively aimed at the business community. The 28th-floor bar at Galvin at Windows – inside the London Hilton on Park Lane – is now open from 8.30am exclusively for business meetings.

Alongside spectacular London skyline views, a light breakfast menu from chef Marc Hardiman includes a selection of "ambient" dishes (seasonal fruits and pastries) as well as hot dishes such as French toast and scrambled eggs on sourdough with black truffle, smoked salmon or osietra caviar.

POETRY IN MOTION

A proposal has been tabled to open a learning and visitor centre in Mayfair to celebrate William Blake.

The William Blake Fellowship hopes 17 South Molton Street – where the famous poet and painter lived for 17 years – will be opened to the public.

A spokesperson for Grosvenor, which is creating the South Molton Triangle mixed-use scheme in which the property sits, said: “We’re open to the idea of a visitor centre dedicated to William Blake at 17 South Molton Street.

“We’ve had preliminary discussions with the William Blake Fellowship on their ideas and look forward to further positive conversations with them around their business plan.”



HANDEL & HENDRIX

HENDRIX APPEAL

Handel & Hendrix is seeking the public’s memories, photographs and films of Jimi Hendrix to create new exhibitions at the rock legend’s Mayfair home.

The American guitarist famously lived at 23 Brook Street from 1968 to 1969, while Baroque composer Handel lived in the adjoining house at number 25 from 1723 until his death in 1759.

The museum has begun a £3 million project to restore Handel’s home and to make new exhibitions about Handel and Hendrix’s lives and music. Currently closed for refurbishment, it will reopen to the public on May 18.

“Were you at Woodstock or the Isle of Wight? Did you see Jimi in a club in Newcastle or Bristol or Worthing, among others? We hope Hendrix fans around the world will want to see their memories, photographs and even film included in this new exhibition,” said deputy director Claire Davies.

The deadline for submissions is March 31 – visit handelhendrix.org



STEPPING UP

Arthur Sleep has opened a pioneering “micro factory” on Savile Row. The bespoke shoe maker is able to offer a same-day service with the process – from initial measurement to completed shoes – taking as little as five hours. Prices start at £1,000 for bespoke shoes, available for men, women and children.

CAPITAL GAINS

The Maybourne Hotel Group – which operates Claridge’s and The Connaught – has announced a new addition to its small but prestigious portfolio.

The Emory, based in Belgravia next to The Berkeley (also run by the group), will open this winter and will be its fourth hotel in the capital.

Designed by the late Richard Rogers and Ivan Harbour of RSHP, it will feature 60 suites over nine floors with a stunning rooftop for guests. Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten will introduce his “ABC” concept to London for the first time and the wellness space will feature a 22-metre pool. Knut Wylde will be general manager in addition to his GM role at The Berkeley.



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ON POINTE



The star-studded Ballet Icons Gala is promising to wow audiences when it returns to Dubai Opera this month. With some of the biggest names in ballet performing everything from classical favourites to contemporary masterpieces, it's a spectacular show that's not to be missed

The Ballet Icons Gala will be returning to Dubai Opera following its success last year with a stellar international cast celebrating the art of ballet on March 4.

The star-studded event has previously been attended by actors Ralph Fiennes and Jeremy Irons, supermodel Natalia Vodianova, singers Bryan Ferry and Boy George and designers Vivienne Westwood, Elizabeth Emanuel, Stephen Webster and Oswald Boateng as well as members of the royal families and international politicians, including the late Margaret Thatcher.

The show, which follows last month's sell-out Ballet Icons Gala at the London Coliseum, will be performed by international ballet stars and multi-award-winning principals from the Royal Ballet, English National Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, Staatsballett Berlin, Vienna State Ballet, Bavarian State Ballet, New York City Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, Ballets de Monte-Carlo and others.

It will feature highlights from the classical ballet repertoire such as *Swan Lake*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Giselle*, *Le Corsaire*, *Don Quixote*, *La Sylphide* and *Romeo and Juliet*, alongside contemporary masterpieces by leading choreographers such as Roland Petit, Jerome Robbins, Alexei Ratmansky, Akram Khan, Wayne McGregor, John Neumeier, Jean-Christophe Maillot and Mauro Bigonzetti.

Among the performers will be Maia Makhately and Victor Caixeta, Dutch National Ballet; Iana Salenko and Marian Walter, Berlin State Ballet; Nicoletta Manni and Timofej Andrijashenko, La Scala; Yasmine Naghdi and Matthew Ball, Royal Ballet; Lucia Lacarra, Bavarian State Opera; Matthew Golding, Dutch National Ballet; Sergio Bernal, National Ballet of Spain; Evelina Godunova, Berlin State Ballet; Julian MacKay, Bavarian State Ballet; Polina Semionova and David Motta



Olga Balakleets

Soares, Berlin State Ballet; and Giuseppe Picone, Teatro di San Carlo.

Olga Balakleets, founder of the Ballet Icons Gala, said: "It is an honour to present these great masters of ballet performing on the stage under the aegis of the Ballet Icons Gala. The project at the prestigious Dubai Opera will be showcasing the ballet at its best."

Tickets for the Ballet Icons Gala 2023, Dubai Opera can be purchased via the box office at Dubai Opera on 04 440 8888 and via dubaiopera.com

Enquiries about VIP packages to include best seats at the gala and attendance at the gala dinner in the presence of the performing stars and celebrities should be sent to admin@balleticons.com.

To book VIP packages visit balleticonsgala.com/index.php/packages-dubai



Julian MacKay and Evelina Godunova

What is the vision of Dubai Culture & Arts Authority?

Dubai's cultural vision is to make Dubai a global centre for culture, an incubator for creativity and a thriving hub for talent. We have a six-year strategic roadmap that defines our sectoral priorities, where we strive to empower and support talent, enable engagement and participation and ensure Dubai's competitiveness on a global scale. We also lead a cultural responsibility to ensure that culture and art is made accessible to everyone, everywhere. We are also keen on developing the emirate's cultural and creative movement to increase the contribution of the sector to Dubai's overall economy via key pillars, including the business establishment, legislative and educational systems.

How important are the arts and culture for Dubai?

Behind Dubai's strong commercial appearance is a rich tapestry of cultural representations and an intense desire to witness those in the most artistic of ways. All of our communities within Dubai have their unique characteristics, and we all very clearly wish to learn from and be inspired by one another. The world would like to understand better how this remote pearling district blossomed into what it is today, and that story is told best through the community. Heritage goes hand in hand with arts and culture, and every year we see an increase in footfall at our events and cultural centres, which is testament to the growing appetite for culture by the community.

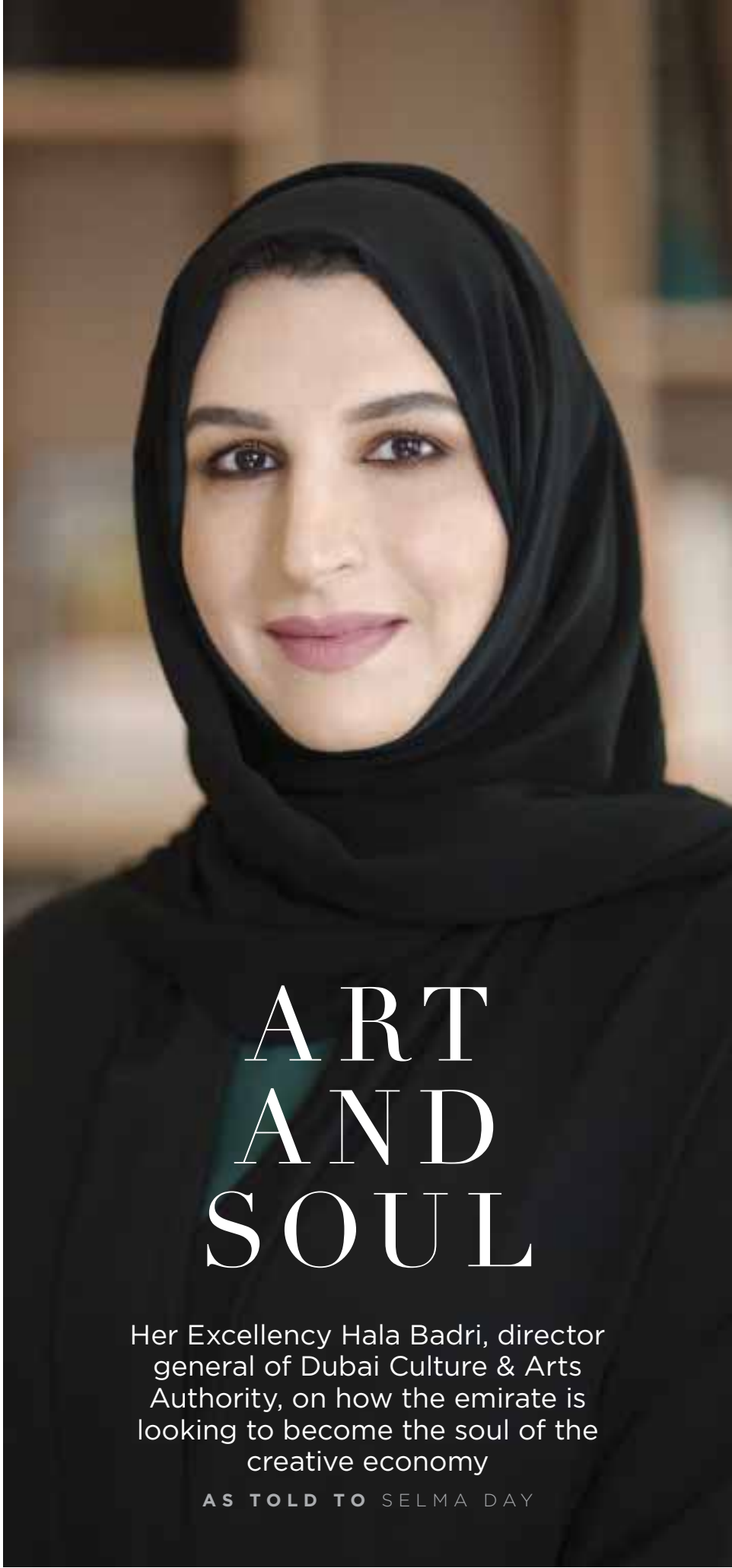


How are you nurturing creative talent in Dubai?

Creating an environment that aids the growth of Dubai's creative sector is the main goal of the Dubai

Creative Economy Strategy. It aims to cement the industry's position by increasing the sector's contribution to Dubai's overall GDP to five per cent, increasing the number of creative and cultural companies in Dubai to 15,000 and providing 140,000 jobs by the end of 2026.

The launch of the world's first 10-year, long-term cultural visa is an initiative that we are very proud of. We not only want to attract artistic and creative talent to come to Dubai and grow themselves here, but also to retain and support local talent via open calls, courses, activations, festivals and much more.



ART AND SOUL

Her Excellency Hala Badri, director general of Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, on how the emirate is looking to become the soul of the creative economy

AS TOLD TO SELMA DAY

Which cultural initiatives are you most proud of?

We are proud of every cultural and creative event taking place in Dubai, whether it is launched by the authority or any of the cultural and creative institutions.

Sikka Art and Design Festival is our annual flagship event under the umbrella of Dubai Art Season – a unique celebration of visual arts held in the Al Fahidi historical neighbourhood.

The Al Quoz creative zone is one of our ongoing projects to meet the requirements of creative talents and cultural and creative entrepreneurs wishing to invest in various areas of the creative economy. We're on course to deliver something that will positively impact creatives by providing a number of offerings and services that enable talents to establish and develop their businesses in Dubai more affordably and efficiently.

Continuing on that face-changing theme, our Dubai Public Art Strategy is transforming the emirate into a city of vibrant art experiences, offering an inspiring, valuable cultural exchange through public art, where we aim to develop Dubai's art scene.

The youth are a top focus in our strategy as are the performing arts; our Dubai Festival for Youth Theatre is an innovative initiative that provides a platform focusing on supporting and displaying the theatrical talent of Emiratis and UAE residents.

with an array of events. The Emirates Airline Festival of Literature is another key cultural extravaganza.

Is Dubai starting to get more recognised as a cultural destination and what impact did Expo 2020 have?

Dubai was one of the first cities to open post-Covid with one of the world's biggest events, including a rich programme of cultural and creative events and activities to support it. This contributed to cementing Dubai's perception as a welcoming and accessible cultural and touristic destination. The world was able to see how hospitable and tolerant Dubai is in essence by showcasing the diversity of cultures and backgrounds that all live in harmony within one city.

Mayfair is an international centre for arts and culture. Are you working with any Mayfair/London-based institutions?

Dubai Culture is well aware that British art has a formidable place in the international arena. British art people are also vividly present in Dubai. We always keep this in mind when we prepare activities and partnerships. We've had several official trips to the UK to meet art and culture institutions, attend festivals and liaise with representatives from many British sectors. We are present

there, just as they are here. These collaborations are important parts of how we do things.

As an advocate of women, what role do women play in your organisation?

We are a modern organisation and have always tried to present ourselves

as a guiding force in representation – 64 per cent of Dubai Culture staff are female, and the majority of the leadership team are too. In fact, Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum is our chairperson and an active member of Dubai Council, where she is spearheading Dubai's cultural vision.

Women have played an integral role in the advancement of global societies; and in the UAE, they have been a foundational keystone of our progress. They have raised today's leaders and are dreaming of the future for tomorrow's leaders.



What are the must-see cultural attractions in Dubai?

Dubai has a rich cultural calendar and has a wide variety of museums, many of which we manage including the UAE's largest museum, Al Shindagha Museum, and Etihad Museum, a distinctive national landmark that carries the history of a nation. The Museum of the Future is also a key cultural attraction that welcomes people of all ages to see, touch and shape our shared future.

Over two months of the year within Dubai Art Season, the emirate is transformed into an open art gallery





ALL ABOARD

With its world-class infrastructure, advanced facilities, year-round sunshine, luxury marinas, award-winning tourism offerings, rich maritime history and picturesque coastline, Dubai is fast emerging as the quintessential yachting destination. And where better to find out more than at the Dubai International Boat Show?

The largest boat show in the UAE, GCC and Middle East will take place this month, from March 1-5 at Dubai Harbour. The Dubai International Boat Show, which *Mayfair Times* is partnering with this year, will see the world's yachting elite gather for the event, where boats to the value of 1.5 billion AED (almost £340 million) will be on display.

Last year was a record-setting year for the show, with more yacht launches and deals than at any other edition, and this year looks to be even bigger and better, welcoming boat owners, captains, distributors and

marine enthusiasts from more than 55 countries.

Over 400 boat, yacht and watercraft brands will be brought together to showcase the latest innovations, announce new launches and create new business opportunities with global leaders and regional innovators.

At the 2022 Monaco Yacht Show, Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET) announced upgrades to marina facilities, new legislation, cruising permit extensions, the expansion of professional yachting and maritime academies for new industry talent and more seamless processes for obtaining charter permits, alongside the streamlining of immigration and customs

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The rapid expansion of this sector has been bolstered by significant investment in yachting facilities and continued enhancement of its offering for yachts, alongside Dubai's fine-dining restaurants, diverse experiences and tourism attractions all within close proximity to the marinas. It has also led to the unveiling of a number of mega projects including the redevelopment of Mina Rashid as a yachting destination in 2017, and Dubai Harbour, which is home to a range of upscale living, retail and hospitality experiences and mooring facilities.

Dubai is now home to 15 vibrant marinas with more than 3,000 docking spots, many of which can comfortably accommodate superyachts and mega yachts, reinforcing the importance of events such as the Dubai International Boat Show.

Highlights of this year's show include Super Yacht Avenue – a collection of some of the world's most beautiful boats from the likes of Feadship, Princess, Gulf Craft, Cranchi, Sanlorenzo and many more. There will also be

an area showcasing equipment, supplies and services and all the marine essentials and specialised equipment you could possibly need, ranging from satellite navigation systems to anchors, deck fixtures and engines.

Those seeking the ultimate thrill can head to the water sports area where they will find fun for all the family at the lagoon with kayaking, SUPs and pedal boats, while those looking for speed will find all the latest gadgets in jet skis, flyboards, kitesurfing and more.

The on-water display will celebrate design, craftsmanship and lifestyle, bringing together the world's elite boat-makers to showcase their latest projects, while at the Dive Mena expo and dive pool, enthusiasts will be able to join world-famous professional divers, explorers and underwater photographers to learn about new techniques, technologies and thrilling experiences.

As well as luxurious boats, visitors will be able to immerse themselves in some of the world's rarest supercars, which will be exclusively showcased at the boat show.

For further information, visit boatshowdubai.com



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GADGET GURU

Aston Martin has collaborated with Eon Productions and the Little Car Company to create a Bond-inspired, two-thirds scale version of the Aston Martin DB5 Junior. Use the hidden switch panel to create a smoke screen, activate skid mode or reveal a twin set of imitation guns that blast and flash.

From £90,000, Aston Martin, 113 Park Lane



FAIR PLAY

Dior has released its own version of backgammon, stored in a powder-pink leather case and featuring 15 pieces engraved with Monsieur Dior's lucky golden star. Pretty and portable, it'll make a stylish addition to game night.

£2,200, Dior, 160-162 New Bond Street



PAMPERED PETS

This robot mouse will give your cat hours of entertainment, with an LED flashing tail and the ability to jump back up when it's knocked over. It also has in-built object avoidance, so it won't bash into any furniture.

£49.95, Selfridges, 400 Oxford Street



MARCH

WISH LIST

Put a spring in your step with state-of-the-art screens, sparkling rings and a car fit for 007

WORDS ALICE CAIRNS



ALL AT SEA

The Princess S72 is the latest addition to Princess Yachts' S-class family. She features full length hull windows, sleek lines and smooth handling at speeds of up to 36 knots, with four beautifully appointed cabins and a large main deck saloon for entertaining.

POA, Princess Yachts, 64 Grosvenor Street



SMOKE AND MIRRORS

This lavishly illustrated, hand-bound book from Assouline tells the story of the Arturo Fuente family and the evolution of modern cigars. It comes in a handcrafted clamshell box with hand-tipped cigar bands, along with signature white gloves for handling. £1,000, *Maison Assouline, 196a Piccadilly*



PUT A RING ON IT

The new SS23 collection at Swarovski is inspired by exotic flora and fauna from far-flung corners of the globe. This colourful turtle cocktail ring will add a touch of sparkle to any outfit. POA, *Swarovski, 328-330 Oxford Street*



WATCH OUT

The Tambour Slim Monogram Dentelle watch features diamond flowers against a black lacquered dial. A diamond-paved bezel and interchangeable alligator strap complete the piece. £6,995, *Louis Vuitton, 17-20 New Bond Street*

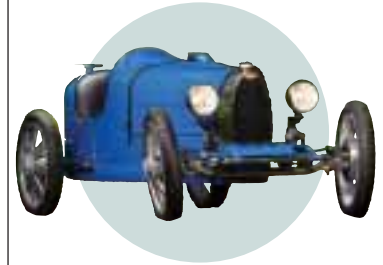


ON THE BOX

The Loewe Iconic TV has a unique sculptural form, designed to be every bit as beautiful as it is functional. Choose from a 55- or 65-inch screen, and enjoy room-filling cinema sound and a crystal clear picture. From £6,499, *Harrods, 87-135 Brompton Road*

3

TOP BUYS FOR KIDS



BABY DRIVER

Bugatti is celebrating its 110th anniversary with the Baby II, a limited-edition collection of 500 beautiful retro cars designed for ages 14 and above. POA, *Bugatti, 18-20 Bruton Street*



WELL HEeled

Children can wear Louboutins too with the LoubiFamily collection. These ballerina pumps are made from crepe satin and organza. £475, *Christian Louboutin, 17 Mount Street*



BEAR NECESSITY

This stylish Fendi teddy has an all-over print and is made from super-soft shearling - perfect for the fashionistas of the future. £4,550, *Selfridges, 400 Oxford Street*



OLIVER BROWN

When the dress code calls for something special, turn to the Pembroke smoking jacket from Oliver Brown. Traditional but with an edge, our pick is the burgundy velvet version, to stand out from the crowd. As you'd expect from the famed gentlemen's tailor, the cut is impeccable. £495, 75 Jermyn Street



OZWALD BOATENG

Nothing says "ready to party" like a silk purple shirt from Oswald Boateng. It doesn't really matter what you pair this with. It's bright enough that you'll be noticed – and admired – regardless. £400, Selfridges, 400 Oxford Street



TATEOSSIAN

Tateossian's Ipanema Fleur de Lis bracelet is subtle, but packs a hefty punch. The double wrap with freshwater pearls, inspired by Rio de Janeiro's famed Ipanema beach, is perfect for stacking and works well for both day and night. £350, 27 Conduit Street

PUTTIN' ON THE GLITZ
A touch of sparkle is always appropriate in Dubai. Get ready to dress up – these pieces add the perfect amount of bling
By Charlotte Pasha

MEN

PATEK PHILIPPE

Red dial, shiny black alligator strap with contrast stitching and – most importantly – a bezel set with 80 baguette-cut rubies. All Pateks are classics, but this one is a statement piece. £280,940, 16 New Bond Street





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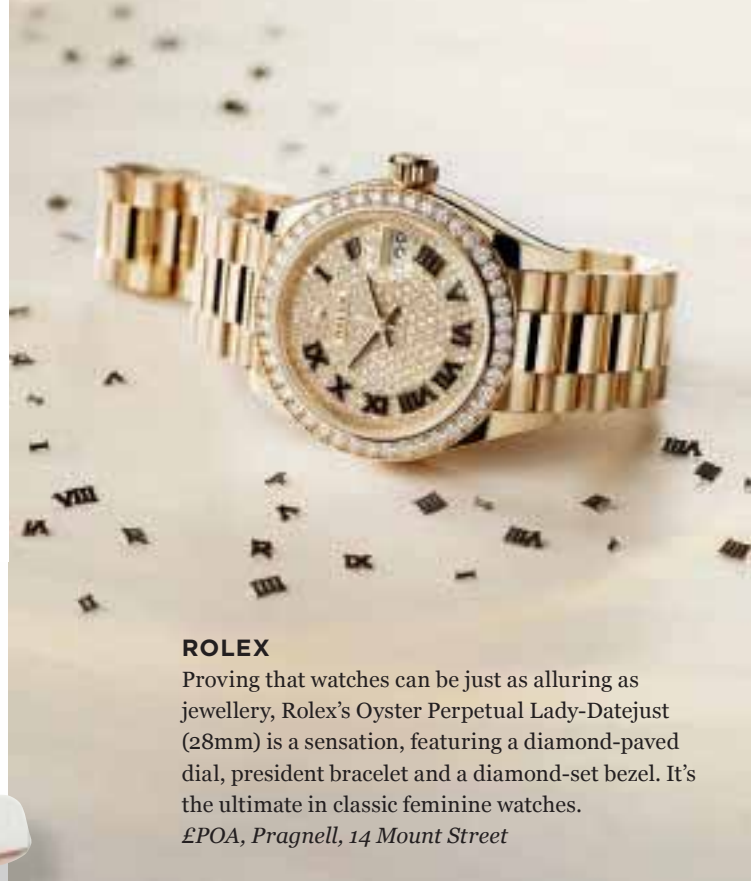
www.halatatiana.com



STYLE

MALONE SOULIERS

Shoe brand Malone Souliers has recently launched a collaboration with Lebanese jewellery house Latelier Nawbar, and the results are pretty wow. Working with a jeweller is a first for the shoe label and a celestial motif runs throughout. Step into the Perla sandals with a 70mm heel – the embellishment is the perfect accompaniment to any look.
£650, 19 Mount Street



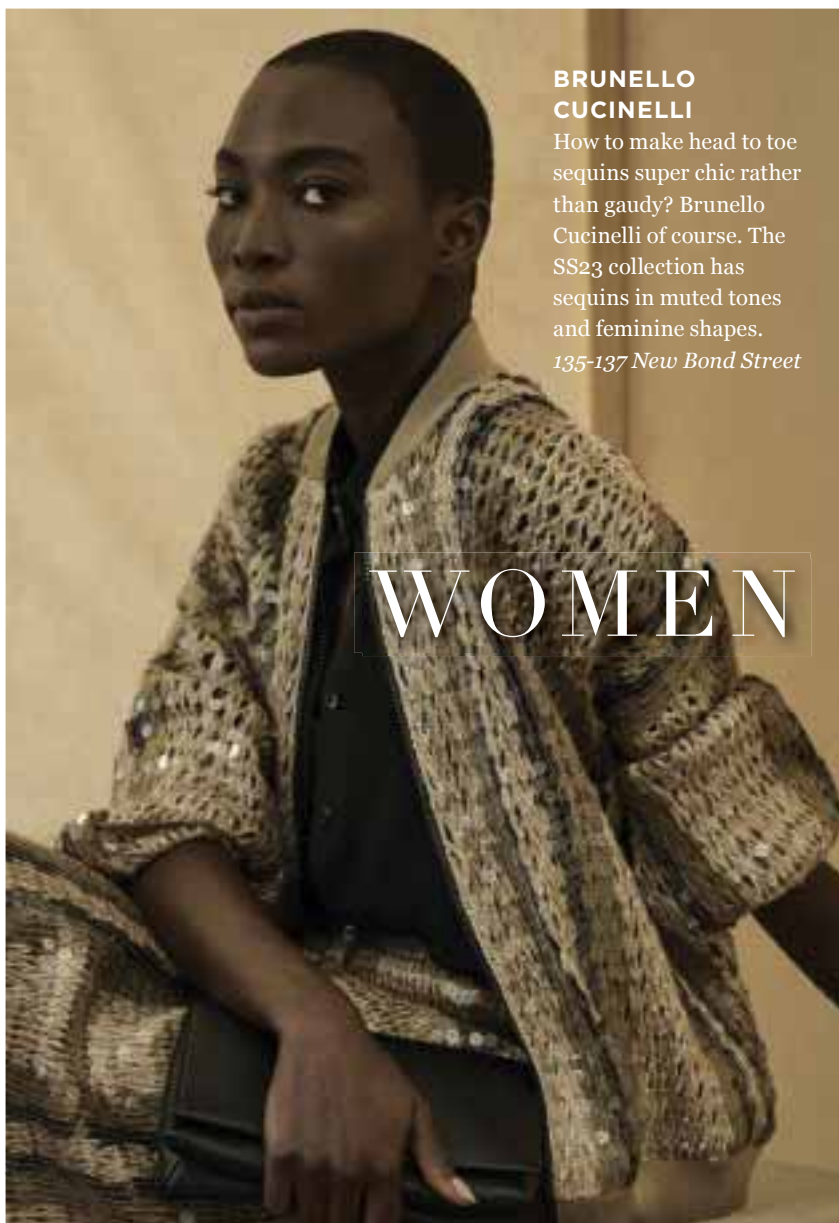
ROLEX

Proving that watches can be just as alluring as jewellery, Rolex's Oyster Perpetual Lady-Datejust (28mm) is a sensation, featuring a diamond-paved dial, president bracelet and a diamond-set bezel. It's the ultimate in classic feminine watches.
£POA, Pragnell, 14 Mount Street

BRUNELLO CUCINELLI

How to make head to toe sequins super chic rather than gaudy? Brunello Cucinelli of course. The SS23 collection has sequins in muted tones and feminine shapes.
135-137 New Bond Street

WOMEN



BY PARIAH

The perfect place to start with sparkle is jewellery, and this cocktail ring offers just the right amount. Carved by hand from a single piece of green aventurine – known as the stone of opportunity, summoning courage and zest for life in its wearer – and set in yellow gold and grey diamonds, it's part of the collection of Pebble cocktail rings, available in different carved stones.
£2,280, Liberty, Regent Street



MEERA GANDHI

Forging ahead with her message of peace and joy

Meera Gandhi is a well known humanitarian, philanthropist, social activist, mother, businesswoman and mental wellness advocate who divides her time between New York City, London, Mumbai, Dubai and Hong Kong.

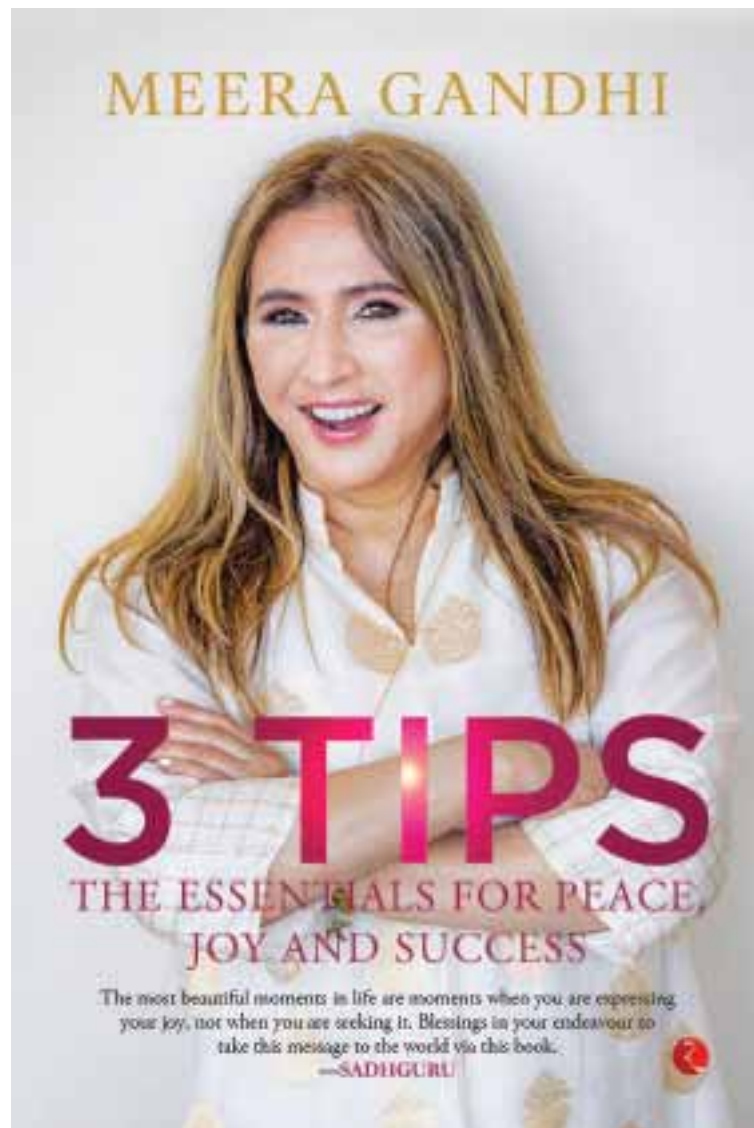
In her new book — **3 Tips: The Essentials for Peace, Joy and Success**, Meera explores the topics of self-guidance and preserving spirituality while meeting modern demands. In each chapter, Meera breaks down her complex life learnings on 52 subjects into three easy to follow tips that anyone can incorporate into their lives.

While her latest book is doing rounds with accolades being showered upon it, her first- ever book she had authored touches upon the people who have inspired her to venture out into her philanthropic dreams.

The coffee table book – called **‘Giving Back’** – was published worldwide in the latter half of 2011 and narrates the stories along with stunning imagery from 75 charities who have devoted their lives in deeply personal ways to philanthropic causes.

As Founder and CEO of The Giving Back Foundation, Meera has dedicated herself to making a difference through her commitment to enhance the lives of others and create a more just world. **She is on a mission to spread positive energy and a message of well-being and she believes that ‘giving back’ is the way to move forward as a society.**

“I believe we have all the answers we seek inside us. So, if we are



in perfect harmony with the universe by simple measures like eating right, sleeping well and not letting stress get the better of us, we can make the best decisions for ourselves almost intuitively,” she says.

Meera has devoted her life to working for the betterment of children, the disadvantaged and the differently-abled. Her passion for making a difference at the grassroots is directed through **The Giving Back Foundation®**.

The organization’s avowed aim is to act as a catalyst in creating a new generation of leaders and thinkers from poor urban and rural communities around the world, particularly amongst women and children. The foundation focuses on educating and empowering youth, catalyzing positive dialogue and breaking the taboo against mental health to promote a holistic living concept.

Now available on Amazon. Find out more on www.3tips.org



“WE ARE TO THE UNIVERSE ONLY AS MUCH AS WE GIVE BACK TO IT..”



MAGIC MOMENTS

Henry Dallal has photographed world leaders including Queen Elizabeth II and Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the ruler of Dubai. He was also on the board of Dubai's Hamdan International Photography Award

AS TOLD TO SELMA DAY

HENRY, HOW DID YOU GET INTO PHOTOGRAPHY?

I started taking photos as a kid – mimicking my father with his Rolleiflex. When I was nine, he gave me a Box Brownie and I started taking my own photos and have been doing so ever since. I like to capture the magic of the moment whatever the moment is and whatever the magic is.

AS A LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO SPECIALISES IN EQUINE PHOTOGRAPHY, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS?

The travel. Equine pageantry, whether it's the Royal Mews, the Household Cavalry, Garde Republicaine or a native tribe and their endemic horse, is a global subject that captivates my lens just as much as great scenery or great world leaders. Another very special event for me is the Al Gaffal dhow [ship] race in Dubai – it is just spectacular. This is a remnant of the bygone days of pearl diving in the Gulf, where after a season of pearl diving, all the dhows return home to Dubai Creek in a race. It is very exciting to experience and photograph.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD PHOTOGRAPH?

Like a good painting, a good photograph has to give some kind of emotion to the viewer and engage the viewer's interest. The play of light on the subject can create magic in a photograph. I do not manipulate images so when one gets a good photo it is rare but treasured. To me, a good portrait is one where with

one single image you capture the whole essence and persona of the individual. That is the art.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN TAKEN FOR HER 96TH BIRTHDAY.

The image of Her Majesty with her two Highland ponies is a classic and iconic image that has been acquired by the National Portrait Gallery. We were closely watching the progress of the blossoming of a magnolia tree at Windsor Castle as when it bloomed we would then take Her Majesty's portrait. It was a very special photo – the magnolia resonating with the platinum jubilee year.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE PHOTOGRAPHING SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM?

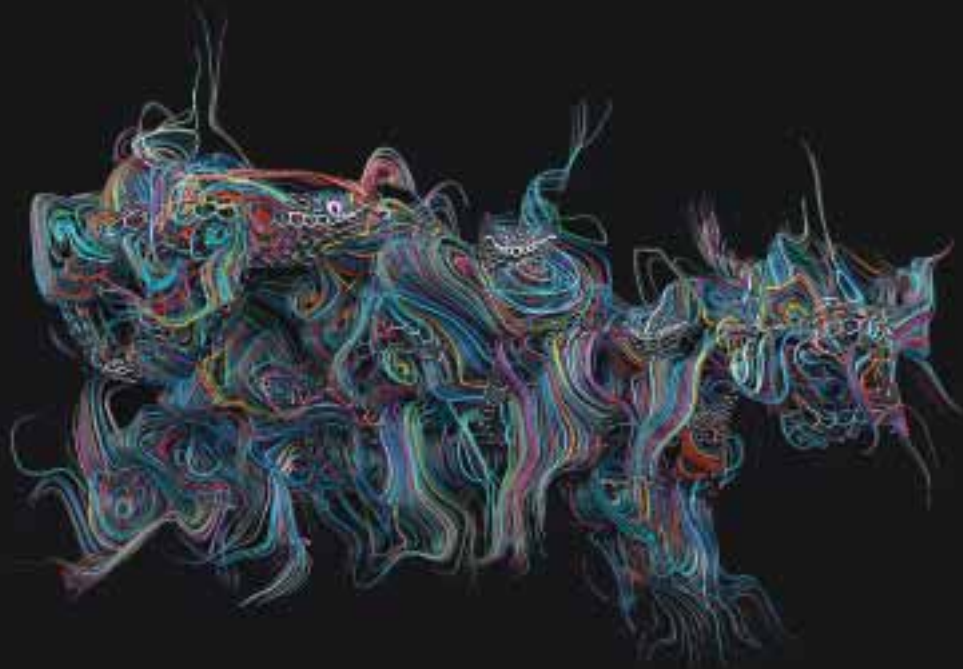
In this image [left], His Highness is pictured with one of his favoured endurance horses. It was his choice to go to the desert for the photo session as it is his favourite environment. When photographing people like Sheikh Mohammed, it is important for them to be at ease, and so too for you as a photographer. It is humbling and a privilege to photograph such world figures, but once I start taking the photos, it is more about being able to capture a good image, with the right light and with attentive horses – if they are involved!

henrydallalphotography.com

HIPAAE



ARTISTIC TRIUMPHS



Running from March 3 to 5 at Madinat Jumeirah, the 16th edition of Art Dubai will see the premier international art fair return with a more diverse roster of galleries and programmes than ever before – and a record number of Dubai-based galleries taking part. An array of Mayfair’s most prestigious galleries will be participating too, showcasing works by some of the world’s most sought-after artists.

Founded as a platform for art and artists from the Middle East and global south, the fair will reaffirm its reputation as a meeting point and a melting pot for creative industries and communities. Its longstanding mission to champion artists from the global south – and provide an alternative to mainstream, largely western-led narratives – will be rekindled as more than 120 participants from over 40 countries display work.

Spanning four gallery sections, with pieces from modern, contemporary, bawwaba and digital categories, the fair will once again showcase a diverse selection of artworks: from paintings and sculptures celebrating indigenous traditions and cultures to digital works reimagining how art is made and consumed.

Meaning “gateway” in Arabic, the bawwaba category is dedicated to new work, showcasing pieces created in the last year. Now in its third edition, this year’s category features 11 artists from Brazil, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, the Philippines and the UAE. As curator Vipash Purichanont puts it, these artists “work with their hands, creating works of art to hold and behold”. Shredded aluminium cans and capiz shells are ingeniously refashioned into twinkling tapestries and translucent paintings; while topics covered range from colonialism and palm oil exploitation in Indonesia to the liberating influence of the internet on young Iranians.

At the centre of the fair’s not-for-profit programme is Art Dubai Commissions, a platform that invites local and international artists to produce site-specific works. Taking place in a purpose-built space, the 2023 programme will comprise daily performances and food-based experiences that will explore timely themes of community, celebration, hope and connection. The programme is developed in close collaboration with leading institutions who are playing a key role in supporting artists and artistic production in south Asia.

Art Dubai returns in spectacular fashion on March 3, promising a plethora of contemporary exhibitions, artworks and thought-provoking exchanges

WORDS WILL MOFFITT



MOHAMMED AL MAHDI, DREAMS, COURTESY OF ALBAREH ART GALLERY

The fair's commitment to promoting and spotlighting the regions it represents has also been reinforced through its public announcement that it will be donating 50 per cent of the online ticket revenue to support earthquake relief efforts in Syria and Turkey.

In other news, Swiss wealth management group Julius Baer has renewed its partnership with Art Dubai until 2027, and will premiere a major new commission by artist of the moment Refik Anadol. The project will debut as part of the group's new initiative "Next", created to encourage the interdisciplinary exploration of trends across the arts, science and technology.

Inspired by the beauty and fragility of the world's glaciers, Anadol will process a dataset of visual materials from online and institutional archives along with personally collected glacier visuals, through machine learning algorithms. The work will then unfold in multiple chapters and locations, making its debut as an immersive room at Art Dubai.

Also debuting at the fair will be UAE First Immersion, a presentation of new artworks by some of the leading names in digital art, produced following the group's visit to the UAE in

November 2022. The presentation will be unveiled as part of an expanded second edition of Art Dubai Digital. Launched as a new physical fair section at last year's event, the segment delivers a 360-degree snapshot of the digital art landscape, exploring how artists are utilising new, immersive technologies to collapse the boundaries of the traditional art world.

Described by curator Clara Che Wei Peh as a "microcosm of the rapidly innovative global art world", works by Japanese media artist Yoichi Ochiai and Italian Loris Cecchini blur the boundaries between the physical and the digital, using novel technologies to redefine what sculpture can be. Meanwhile, blockchain art aficionados Fingerprints DAO will present digital artist Sarah Meyohas's *Bitchcoin*, one of the first tokenised artworks on blockchain, but also an important case study for how artists are questioning cryptocurrencies in relation to the value of art.

In the second year of collaboration with Art Dubai, 421, Abu Dhabi's independent platform supporting emerging artists will present a group exhibition curated by UAE-based artist and researcher Dania Al-Tamimi. Featuring artworks that pose the

question, 'Does time move through you, or do you move through time?' the exhibition will explore time as the binding element of the biography of objects, the active archive of lives and the solidifying catalyst of experiences.

Art Dubai's celebrated Global Art Forum is equally preoccupied with deep philosophical quandaries. Commissioned by acclaimed writer, thinker and curator Shumon Basar, an event titled Predicting the Present will consider the question, 'If it's the end of history and the end of the future, what happens next?' Through the prism of stories, experiments and speculations about culture, innovation and society these fascinating discussions will aim to provide solace and navigational tools for our age of discontents.

For those seeking further intellectual stimulation, Christie's will host its Art + Tech summit in partnership with Art Dubai. The sixth iteration of the event, and the first in the region, will survey tech trends, hear from artists incorporating tech into their work and explore current and future challenges and opportunities, bringing together regional and global leaders, innovators, artists and visionaries to foster meaningful dialogues on the intersection of art and technology.

Last but not least, the Collector Talks will offer a focus on the collectors and patrons who are driving the development



JAMES BARNOR, *AG/B CALENDAR MODEL*, 1974. COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND OCTOBER GALLERY, LONDON



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of art scenes across the global south and supporting the redistribution of cultural centres across the world. Sessions will examine emerging trends in both traditional and digital collecting across the region, and will explore what it means to be an arts patron in a place that is developing and implementing new institutional models.

With a plethora of contemporary exhibitions, diverse and original artworks and thought-provoking exchanges for visitors to immerse themselves in, this year's Art Dubai will see the premier international art fair roar back into life in spectacular fashion. What's more, it marks the return of an event that values originality and critical thinking above all else.

In the words of executive director Benedetta Ghione: "Art Dubai has always tried to reframe what an art fair can be."

To find out more, visit artdubai.ae



DICKENS OTIENO



M SMART, PUSSY CAT, TWISTED METAL



PHOTO BY CEDRIC RIBEIRO - GETTY IMAGES FOR ART DUBAI

3

MAYFAIR GALLERIES EXHIBITING AT ART DUBAI 2023

GAZELLI ART HOUSE

Gazelli brings Naqsh Collective back to Art Dubai with a materially diverse showcase of sculptural work. Channelling their Palestinian heritage, the duo present materially complex relief-based artworks and sculpture that continue the artists' career-long fascination with divergent materials and visual techniques.

In addition, renowned digital artist Brendan Dawes will debut his riveting new series *Persian Dreams*. The display comprises four screens of metamorphosing imagery: a fusion of AI, motion-captured choreography and algorithmically generated forms which combine visual and linguistic elements with audio and dance.

MAZZOLENI ART

Mazzoleni has announced its participation at Art Dubai 2023 with a booth entirely dedicated to the work of contemporary multidisciplinary artist Marinella Senatore, with a selection of never-before-seen light sculptures and collages.

One of Italy's most celebrated artists, Senatore's works call for contemplation and action with empowering quotes sourced from the arts and literature as well as social contexts and popular traditions. The works are created using LED and mercury-free neon lights with quotes themed around concepts of empowerment, emancipation and affection.

RONCHINI GALLERY

Ronchini will present a curated booth for Art Dubai 2023 featuring six artists across three generations who all focus on space and motion. The booth will house playful "pictorial objects" by Japanese artist Katsumi Nakai and new work by Italian painter Paolo Serra, who is known for his flat, multilayered works. Dutch artist Berndnaut Smilde, who creates "real" clouds in evocative spaces also features.

There will also be pieces by Jade van der Mark, who sculpts pictorial material into thick layers of oil paint to depict caricatural figures in decontextualised urban landscapes. A historical work by Luigi Boille also features, along with Italian sculptor Gianpietro Carlesso's *Curvatura* series, depicting ethereal representations of infinity.



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SOFT POWER

Emerging artists Lydia Smith and Evie Mae Jacobs will present the first female-produced exhibition incorporating NFTs on Bond Street next month

WORDS SELMA DAY



BE MORE LIKE A HORSE. SCULPTURE BY LYDIA SMITH

Lydia Smith and Evie Mae Jacobs will present Soft Spaces at 125 New Bond Street from March 7-12. The artists have created a unique experience by layering the filters between the digital and physical spaces. Through the manipulation, disfiguring and abstraction of ancient materials, such as clay and oil paint, they have crafted works that hold the weight of history.

Working primarily with their hands to guild these works, the artists create meditative and intimate experiences. Technology is their tool to look into the future while contextualising their practices in the past. They see the human form as a landscape in which the blueprint of the future can be discovered.

Smith has exhibited at the Saatchi Gallery, had a solo show in Soho with An Effort, has worked with fashion brand Epok at its store on Grafton Street and has exhibited at the NFT Gallery on Dover Street.

Jacobs, meanwhile, has had a solo show at 18.01 London, a group show at Copeland Gallery and has also worked with Guerlain and Dior. Her work focuses on the relationship we have as humans to sensory experience, comfort and dreams. She uses the traditional process of painting oil on canvas while embracing technological methods.

In this body of work she presents the human form as a soft landscape, with colour and layering informed by the dream-like world that we fall into as we sleep. Questioning memory, desire, femininity and human connection in many forms, her practice is governed by the slow, soothing nature of its own process and aesthetic.

Smith's work is a conversation between the digital and the physical worlds. The complex simplicity of her work is a break of consciousness to the viewer. A stop and a pause. Throughout this dialogue, her mind is imagining our future as beings, both our spiritual and avatar selves. She sees sculpture as a physicality that grounds us between these two worlds.

On March 9, the duo will present a talk hosted by Alina Davey from Sotheby's.

Please email softspacesexhibition@gmail.com to attend.



ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN. PAINTING BY EVIE MAE JACOBS



EVIE MAE JACOBS AND LYDIA SMITH
(LYDIA SMITH IMAGE: PHOEBE WINGROVE)

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WELCOME BACK

World-renowned chef Akira Back will make his UK debut at Mandarin Oriental Mayfair, which is due to open in Hanover Square this spring. He will be responsible for all of the food and beverage offerings with a focus on modern Japanese cuisine with a Korean-American influence.

Akira Back restaurant will offer all-day dining with a menu comprising the chef's greatest hits, designed for sharing. They will include the AB tuna pizza, consisting of a wafer-thin crunchy crust and umami aioli made with ponzu sauce, tuna sashimi, micro shiso and white truffle oil.

Dosa will be a culinary theatre experience with contemporary Korean dishes presented in an intimate 14-seater counter-style setting. ABar Lounge will serve small bites and creative cocktails with live DJs performing in the evenings, while ABar Rooftop will offer Asian-influenced cocktails and panoramic London views.



MAY THE SAUCE BE WITH YOU

Chef Yannick Alléno, who holds 15 Michelin stars across 14 restaurants around the world, will open Pavyllon London in early summer at the Four Seasons hotel on Park Lane. Alléno, who is known for his innovative sauce techniques, will bring his refined neighbourhood dining style to the restaurant, offering a British take on his signature modern French dishes.

The menus will reflect his passionate belief that chefs should look after the good health of their guests. He reduces the amount of sugar, fat, and salt in his dishes without compromising flavour.

FINE FARE

The latest food and drink openings in Mayfair range from modern Japanese cuisine to French favourites

By Selma Day



FRENCH FANCY

Last month saw the opening of Socca, a new bistro from Michelin-starred chef Claude Bosi and restaurateur Samyukta Nair of LSL Capital, the group behind Jamavar, Koyn and MiMi Mei Fair. Set on the corner of South Audley Street, the restaurant pays homage to the duo's love of the French Riviera.



Alongside a marble raw seafood bar, Bosi has crafted a menu that includes starters such as globe artichokes and Ortiz anchovy dip, alongside pasta dishes like blue lobster orecchiette. Other options include shellfish rice; gratin of tripe and cuttlefish; pieds et paquets à la Marseillaise; tronçon of turbot with romesco sauce; whole baked sea bass in salt crust; British shellfish persillade; beef cheeks Provençal; and veal cutlet with piccata sauce.

Puddings include crème brûlée; warm orange blossom madeleine; olive oil ice cream; and Menton iced lemon sorbet. A timber-lined bar is the perfect spot for a pre-dinner martini, beyond which is a second snug-style dining room plus a private dining space for 10 guests.



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▼ ROYAL ARRIVAL

Arguably one of the world's most talked-about hotel openings, Atlantis The Royal made headlines with a show-stopping launch in January that featured Beyoncé. The US star is believed to have been paid in the region of \$24 million for the gig – her first live performance in five years. Dubbed “the most ultra-luxury experiential resort in the world”, it features 795 rooms, including 96 suites with private pools and terraces and six signature penthouses. There are 17 restaurants and bars, including eight by celebrity chefs – such as the outpost of two Michelin-star Dinner by Heston Blumenthal – in addition to a 22nd floor infinity pool, hammam sensorium, helipad and a debut pool and beach club by Nobu. atlantis.com/atlantis-the-royal

DUBAI DREAMS

From the ultra-luxury resort where Beyoncé just performed to Nobu's new beach club, here's what's hot in Dubai

By Jonathan Whiley

► GREEN POWER

Contemporary artist Natalia Kapchuk will showcase a collection of her experimental work at an exhibition at ME Dubai. Women is Art: Series of the Lost Planet will run from February 28 until May 1 at the Zaha Hadid-designed hotel. Kapchuk is known for eco-oriented pieces; experimenting using materials such as tree bark, sand and fermented moss to raise environmental awareness and combat climate change.



► PRIME TIME

The Lana, part of the prestigious Dorchester Collection, will open this September. The five-star hotel – with 225 rooms, including 83 suites – is located in the heart of downtown Dubai and overlooks the Business Bay area. A striking 30-storey tower, it's designed by architects Foster + Partners and features both a royal suite and presidential suite. A Mediterranean restaurant will be set on the fourth floor – alongside an Italian cafe – while the hotel's signature restaurant will offer experiential dining on the 18th floor. On the 29th, guests can use a spa, wellness centre and gym and a spectacular rooftop pool with cabana service occupies the 30th. dorchestercollection.com



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▲ CITY SLICKER

The third opening in Dubai from the renowned One & Only brand, One & Only One Za'abeel is slated to launch later this year. Located in the exclusive Za'abeel neighbourhood, the dual-tower edifice has been designed by Nikken Sekkei architects and includes the Link – a panoramic sky concourse that connects the two towers 100 metres above ground. The hotel will feature rooms with floor-to-ceiling windows and a spa, fitness centre and infinity pool set on the 25th floor. There will be 11 restaurants – offering everything from Argentinian to Indonesian cuisine – with four celebrity chef restaurants located within the Link with 360-degree views of the city.
oneandonlyresorts.com/one-zaabeel

▲ CREEK CHIC

Set beside a wildlife reserve in a new district, Address Grand Creek Harbour opened in January with 223 rooms and suites and 794 serviced apartments. The waterfront retreat by Emaar Hospitality Group is the first five-star hotel in the creek and features an international restaurant, patisserie and Luma pool lounge with Mediterranean fusion cuisine. There is an adults-only infinity pool with cabanas, as well as a kids' pool and splash pad. Other facilities include a fitness centre, spa, club lounge and yoga studio.
addresshotels.com



▲ LET'S EAT

Dubai Food Festival returns for its 10th edition this year, once again showcasing the city's vibrant dining scene. Running from April 28 to May 7, it will feature live cooking shows, a chance to try some of the best street food and Dubai Restaurant Week, where diners can enjoy set menus at some of the city's finest restaurants for an affordable price.



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Istanbul is not for the faint-hearted. The cradle of civilisation – home to Roman, Ottoman and Byzantine empires – is not somewhere that one goes gently into that good night. The city – with the Bosphorus Strait neatly dividing Asia and Europe – is a place of kaleidoscopic colour, evocative charm and cultural crossover. Embrace the organised chaos and lose yourself amid the labyrinth of stalls in the centuries-old Grand Bazaar. Haggle for an intricately decorated ceramic or antique pocket watch as Turkish coffee – famed for its strength and viscosity – scents the air (one family-run kiosk here opened some 114 years ago). Marvel at the ambition and scale of the Hagia Sophia, an architectural masterpiece dating back to 537 and now a Unesco world heritage site.

While many of the city's premier attractions – including the Blue Mosque – are inescapable from the hustle and bustle, there are neighbourhoods to enjoy a gear change. Karaköy, one of Istanbul's oldest, has become one of its most talked-about recently. A haven for artists, it has become the epicentre of "cool" and a popular place to take in one of the many hip coffee shops and effortlessly Instagram-worthy cocktail bars.

Respite is perhaps best sought at one of the several luxury hotels dotted along the waterfront on the European side of the city. Shangri-La Bosphorus is located in



IMMERSED IN ISTANBUL

The Shangri-La Bosphorus is a luxurious base from which to explore the hustle and bustle of this beautiful city

WORDS JONATHAN WHILEY

the Beşiktaş neighbourhood, a short walk from the regal Dolmabahçe Palace. This is far from a sleepy territory – bars and restaurants remain on your doorstep – but the hotel rotates on its own calm and soothing axis. The glamour and generous bling – think Paris meets Dubai – belies its past as a former tobacco factory, while service throughout is exceptional.

Rooms are uniformly elegant with beautiful, spacious bathrooms – the best suites have private terraces with waterfront views – and staff have a welcome, light touch. One evening at restaurant Ist Too – where sprawling breakfasts are served on a stunning al fresco terrace – the general manager appears in chef's whites at the counter to assist with dinner and interact with guests (a unique experience that can be requested during a stay).

Elsewhere, Shang Palace delivers faultless Cantonese dining and there are excellent spa facilities with a large indoor pool and treatments (a private hammam experience is a must). Beyond the hotel, a sunset boat ride on the Bosphorus is another showcase of the city's vibrancy and a reminder to rage against the dying of the light.

shangri-la.com/istanbul



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During my three nights in Istanbul, I hear the phrase “to Bosphorise” a handful of times. The term eludes formal definition, but it seems to denote an impulse to laze by the Bosphorus and absorb the character of this ancient waterway.

Marrying the Black Sea, the Sea of Marmara and the Dardanelles, this strait – dotted with palaces, ruins and old Ottoman houses (yalis) – has seen kings and sultans come and go; empires rise and fall; and industrialisation and modernity disrupt centuries-old traditions. Yet its magnetic charm has never wavered.

Mandarin Oriental Bosphorus is a place to savour that shimmering magic.



Mandarin Oriental Bosphorus is an enticing blend of contemporary luxury and old-world charm

WORDS WILL MOFFITT

TURKISH TREASURE

Numbering 100 rooms, including 23 suites, and neighbouring grand old buildings – the decadent Beylerbeyi Palace and the steeple-topped Kuleli Military High School – the hotel is blessed with a panoramic view of the strait. The aesthetic has been dreamt up by design guru Adam Tihany with slanted facades, mesh panels and Istanbul’s recurring tulip motif featuring throughout, offering a modern spin on the city’s rich and layered history.

The rooms carry this aesthetic too, with wood coverings, panels, marble bathrooms and tulip-shaped lights. The suites, a popular destination for kings, senior diplomats and political leaders, are significantly more lavish, offering unparalleled waterfront views, personalised bars and gym facilities. The Naile Sultan Bosphorus – complete with a grand terrace, winter garden and a palatial living space – is billed as the most impressive suite in Istanbul.

The Mandarin’s two restaurants – a Hakkasan will soon make three – anchor the city’s bridge between east and west. Olea serves Italian classics and has the largest Italian wine cellar in the city. Meanwhile, Novikov Istanbul delivers pan-Asian morsels and brings a streak of Mayfair’s Berkeley Street glamour to proceedings.

Situated in Istanbul’s Kuruçeşme neighbourhood, the hotel is a short walk from Kuruçeşme’s historic streets, churches



and Ortaköy Mosque, which – like much of this city – is a wondrous blend of cultural influences.

After a long day exploring, why not return to the Mandarin to try one of the hotel’s myriad spa and wellness programmes. Afterwards, head to the bar for another view of that glimmering shoreline as it glows with passing boats and ferries. As the Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk wrote: “Life can’t be all that bad... Whatever happens, I can always take a long walk along the Bosphorus.”

The deluxe Bosphorus room costs £1,500 per night. For flights, visit turkishairlines.com





You are cordially invited to the most ultra-luxury experiential resort in the world - Atlantis The Royal. Commanding centre-stage on the prestigious Palm Jumeirah Island, Dubai's newest iconic landmark offers a truly one-of-a-kind experience. Crafted by the world's finest visionaries in architecture, design, and art, every detail is created to challenge your imagination. From the world's largest jellyfish tank to the first fire-meets-water fountain, you'll be taken on a journey of the impossible.

Soaring 43 stories high, select your sanctuary from a choice of stunning rooms and suites to utterly opulent penthouses. These illuminating spaces feature contemporary design with hand-sculpted décor and textures, with details such as premium Hypnos mattresses, 500-800 thread count satin sheets, and luxurious Frette

bathrobes. Pamper yourself with bespoke amenities from Graff and Hermès, and relax in the comfort of your home away from home by enjoying an evening dip in your glistening infinity pool.

Dine like a king with a choice of 17 world-class restaurants, eight of which are headed by celebrity chefs including Estiatorio Milos, Gastón Acurio, and José Andrés. Michelin-starred Heston Blumenthal presents both gastronomic and molecular mixology show-stopping experiences designed to blow you away. 'Dinner' by Heston Blumenthal invites you to embark on an exploration of historical British cuisine dating back to the 14th century through imaginative dishes. Be awe-inspired when entering 'Resonance' by Heston Blumenthal as you gaze upon the floor to ceiling jellyfish aquarium. Here, carefully crafted cocktails and food, are purposefully

designed to spark wonderment and curiosity.

Find yourself lounging by the water's edge at one of Atlantis The Royal's astounding beach clubs, letting the live music stir your senses as you relax in the sunlight with a beautifully crafted cocktail inches away, Nobu by the Beach combines Nobuyuki Matsuhisa's famous Japanese style restaurant within the setting of an elite Peruvian beach club - a cultural fusion in both cuisine and architecture. Float in the sky at Cloud 22, a stunning beach club where an infinity pool clings on the edge of the 22nd floor featuring breathtaking 360° panoramic view of the Persian Gulf and Dubai's skyline.

Re-centre yourself with a selection of 'Awakens' curated treatments such as a 24-carat gold covered volcanic stones massage or energy therapies using vibrational sound frequencies to clear your chakra. Find yourself exploring the serenity of the Hammam Sensorium, a traditional bathhouse reimagined in a contemporary way. And if it's thrills you seek, Aquaventure - the world's largest waterpark - awaits at your doorstep. Be the first to experience a new level of luxury and let us take you to places that no one has ever been before.

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ATLANTIS THE ROYAL

Dubai's newest icon is now open





Leslie Macleod-Miller, Claudia Pritchard



Tom Hammond-Davies, Alexander Armstrong, Selma Day



Nick Pritchard, Yu-Wei Hu, Johan Löfving



BACH AND BACCHUS

Last month saw the second in our series of cultural collaborations – an evening featuring the music of Johann Sebastian Bach along with wine tasting at Hedonism on Davies Street. The event – organised by Tom Hammond-Davies, artistic director of the Oxford Bach Soloists – was hosted by the ensemble’s patron Alexander Armstrong and was sponsored by Sebastiano Cossia Castiglioni and Jane Patterson. An intimate group of around 30 guests were treated to wines from Sebastiano’s organic vineyard Querciabella in Tuscany and performances of Bach by tenor Nick Pritchard, Yu-Wei Hu on baroque flute and Johan Löfving on theorbo, followed by dinner at award-winning vegan restaurant Stem & Glory.



Paul Keene, Mark Bolland, Isabella de Sabata



Brian Willetts, David Hodges, Christian Kwek, Oliver Tan



A BESPOKE HOME CARE SERVICE

Care tailored to you, that is what Cavendish Homecare private nursing offers clients

In recent years, home care nursing services has dramatically risen throughout the UK, and are expected to continue to rise. The pandemic has exacerbated the demand for in-home private nursing services.

People want to ensure that when a family member or loved one requires care, they will receive the highest quality. Families want the security and knowledge that their care is tailored to their needs. Private in-home nursing is how families can find that reassurance.

For over 30 years, Cavendish Homecare has provided a bespoke care service in the home. Founder and Registered Nurse Manager Mairead Liston says, "Our clients' nursing and care requirements are of the upmost importance. All clients receive a highly tailored, discreet, nursing and care service in familiar surroundings, and, most importantly, maintain family day to day contact."

Cavendish Homecare has close networks with doctors who operate in and around Harley Street, and links with many private hospitals and clinics in London. These relationships enable the hospital discharge process and transfer of any ongoing care and treatment to be seamless.

The nursing and care expertise that Cavendish Homecare provides ranges from complex care, post-operative treatments, to elderly care and travel support.

"ALL CLIENTS RECEIVE A HIGHLY TAILORED, DISCREET, NURSING AND CARE SERVICE IN FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS, AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, MAINTAIN FAMILY DAY TO DAY CONTACT."

Mairead Liston says, "We know the huge benefits that clients receive when convalescing in their home, and with our services and support, that is made possible with our experienced carer and nursing team".

Cavendish Homecare's values are evident in the high-quality care their clients receive, offering a discreet, holistic, compassionate service with highly experienced nurses and carers is what they have become renowned for.

Mairead Liston is highly regarded within the healthcare industry. Winner of Lifetime Achievement Award and listed as Top Recommend by Spears500, indicates the high bar Mairead sets when providing private carers and nurses in the home.

Whether you are coming to the UK for a holiday and need support to continue an

ongoing medical treatment or visiting the UK for a scheduled medical condition, Cavendish Homecare can support your stay with their highly qualified nurses and carers.



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ATLANTIS THE ROYAL

HOT PROPERTY

After its efficient and, for a time, world-beating response to the pandemic, Dubai has reestablished itself as a hotspot for wealthy overseas buyers and investors, with appetite for luxury homes soaring. What are the social and economic factors behind the emirate's resurgence?

WORDS WILL MOFFITT



BURJ KHALIFA

They came in private jets, brought their own tequila and blew up TikTok. In late January Beyoncé, Jay-Z, Kendall Jenner and hundreds of VIPs hit up Atlantis The Royal, a set of giant glass-encrusted Jenga blocks on the crescent of Dubai's Palm Jumeirah. Brought into being for a cool £1.1 billion the opening of the hotel seemed to cleave the global populace in two. Either you were at the Atlantis or you weren't.

The extravagant opening of the world's most expensive hotel sent social media into a tailspin, but it is also symbolic of Dubai's post-pandemic resurgence that has put it back on the map as a hotspot for HNWIs (high-net-worth individuals).

To put it bluntly, the emirate is booming. After rising by nine per cent last year, Dubai's GDP is expected to grow by five per cent a year until the end of 2025. House prices in prime areas have more than doubled in the past two years, sending the city state to the top of Knight Frank's global ranking.

With its hot, beachy climate, low taxes and ambitious plans for growth – Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Dubai's ruler, is seeking to double foreign trade and investment over the next decade – wealthy buyers are flocking to the emirate.

"A lot of visitors were ultra-high-net-worth individuals who came and experienced

firsthand the way in which the pandemic had been contained," says Faisal Durrani, head of Middle East research at Knight Frank. "Then, when you account for the climate, the safety and security and the fact that Dubai arguably has some of the best beachfront real estate in the world, it becomes a very attractive proposition."

Encompassing sea-view villas and swish high-rise apartments in the Palm Jumeirah, Emirates Hills and Jumeira Bay Island, Dubai's prime residential market saw record price growth in 2022. As per Knight Frank's

HOUSE PRICES IN PRIME AREAS HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, SENDING THE CITY STATE TO THE TOP OF KNIGHT FRANK'S GLOBAL RANKING

2023 *Prime Predictions* report, that trend is only going to continue, with Durrani and co envisioning it rising 13.5 per cent in 2023.

The figures aren't altogether surprising. With affluent Europeans seeking a slice of sun-kissed luxury, expats and wealthy Asians fleeing onerous coronavirus restrictions and Russians heading to pastures new, Dubai is an enviable base in a world undergoing frenetic global change.

Recently conceived residency programmes, enhanced travel links and social reforms

have been influential too. Moreover, with just eight villas in Dubai's prime precincts expected to be delivered by 2025, supply is failing to keep pace with demand.

Durrani is also keen to stress that the emirate does not only cater to the one per cent. It is, he says, an outlier in "affordable luxury", with prime homes transacting for around US\$800 per square foot, making Dubai one of the most "affordable" luxury residential markets in the world.

Businesses are also flocking to the UAE. Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Citigroup, Société Générale and Bank of America have moved hundreds of employees to Dubai. "That is driving a shortage of green, commercial office space, which is forcing rents up sharply quite fast," Durrani observes.

Another noteworthy factor is the absence of Chinese buyers who have been liberated from authoritarian lockdown restrictions.

"That could be another boost to demand that's yet to come," Durrani says. "There's the potential for 'revenge spending' to start coming out of China. The Chinese were routinely in the top five or top 10 buyers for three or four years before the pandemic, then they disappeared."

Those VIPs at the emirate's hottest new hotel might have left, but all the signs suggest that Dubai's post-pandemic party is here to stay.

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IN STYLE

The Jimmy Choo Academy trains, nurtures and promotes the next generation of fashion design pioneers from its Mayfair base. CEO Stephen Smith tells us more about the pivotal role it plays

WORDS SOPHIA CHARALAMBOUS

The next generation of fashion pioneers is being cultivated in the heart of Mayfair.

Jimmy Choo Academy (JCA), now in its second year, is well on its way to becoming not just an education centre, but an ecosystem that nurtures and promotes creatives, businesses and the future of fashion.

Located in a 1720s Georgian townhouse on Hanover Square, with shoe master Jimmy Choo at the helm, JCA is on the hunt for the next disruptors of fashion.

With an £18,000 a year fee, JCA prides itself on helping designers with their sartorial endeavours from the day they walk through the doors to when they open their store on the streets of Mayfair and beyond.

It has already enjoyed success; September's London Fashion Week saw select JCA master's graduates – Annabelle Barton, Maryam Orchid, Noon Khouri and Sophie Park – participate in the JCA x Patrick McDowell x MA Show.

It doesn't end there; a dedicated PR team worked with the designers, securing each of them multiple fashion editorials and two front covers. One designer, Melissa-Kate, won the British Emerging Designer Womenswear award at Northern Fashion Week 2022.

CEO Stephen Smith and Jimmy Choo have known each other for the best

part of 20 years, and actually came up with the idea for the academy around 17 years ago.

"We could see there were lots of things not working in higher education, we weren't very happy with students from a learning perspective or what would happen with the learners when they wanted to go into industry," Stephen tells *Mayfair Times* from his office in the academy.

He says the new government in 2017 were not happy with the inefficiency of higher education and with that came a drive for providers to stimulate and innovate the market. At that point the duo seized their opportunity to set up the academy in Mayfair.

"Mayfair was one of the earliest decisions that we had made because where else would we be if we want to be a world-renowned institution that supports sustainable designers," says Stephen.

"Designers that are sustainable by business ideology but also businesses that sustain themselves by lasting more than one year."

Location really is key; Stephen says JCA has already had meetings with everyone from the head of Apple to the executive of LVMH just by being located a stone's throw away.

In fact, with key fashion schools London College of Fashion, Fashion Retail Academy and Condé Nast College moving elsewhere, it leaves JCA as the only higher education



institution in Mayfair and the West End.

Its process of selection is interesting; hopefuls are asked about their fashion ambitions for five to 10 years' time, rather than solely how many A-levels they have.

When JCA launched, it took on 30 undergraduates and five master's students. The first year these were solely from the UK but the second selection included a few from overseas.

It even has a summer school for 13 to 17-year-olds and professional short courses for those in industry to make sure they don't miss any talent.

Everyone from straight-out-of-school young designers to mature students is encouraged to apply to the course with access to mentors including Jimmy Choo himself.

Stephen adds: "We're not training pattern cutters, we're building designers who own their own brand, employ their own people and set up shop, either on Oxford Street, Regent Street or Bond Street."

With the mention of such prestigious fashion streets, we move on to talking about luxury, and whether the purpose of JCA is to create luxury brands.

"People will naturally assume it's couture or some of the big fashion houses, but luxury also pervades streetwear, it also pervades sports," explains Stephen.

"Luxury for us is about bespoke independent labels – if you're an independent label then we will support you.

"Like Jimmy – Jimmy is a bespoke independent label that's got bigger and bigger."

The next venture they're on the hunt for is a permanent location in Mayfair to showcase the fashion that comes out of JCA.

"We did have a unit, which was going to be a permanent space, but what we were finding is despite being in Mayfair the footfall in that location was not as great as we thought it would be," admits Stephen.

They've started a partnership with a pop-up business to showcase the designers in spaces that best suit their aesthetic, but something a bit more substantial to call their own is the goal.

Another interest moving forward in 2023 is in overseas campuses, to be able to follow the fashion cities, and allow designers to move from one campus to the other.

Stephen sums it up: "We focus on three things: education, incubation [incubating and accelerating existing businesses] and community, and we mean that with a big and little C.

"It is a word that can be described in many different ways, but is inclusive of those who are interested in design to observe or to participate."



STEPHEN SMITH, JIMMY CHOO AND HA SMITH

A CUT ABOVE



Known as one of the best places to learn the art of tailoring globally, Savile Row Academy offers full-time courses, summer courses and online courses for aspiring tailors. The academy, founded by Maurice Sedwell director and master tailor Andrew Ramroop, opened in 2008 and allows students who complete all four modules to leave with a Bespoke Tailor's Certificate. The course content ranges from studying modules in pattern-cutting, fitting, remarking, waistcoat-making, trouser-making and jacket-making to gaining the skills needed for jobs in tailoring or setting up a businesses.

9-10 Savile Row

LET'S COLLABORATE

Established fashion houses are supporting the next wave of designers



COS X YEBOAH

Cos and emerging British designer Reece Yeboah have launched his namesake brand Yeboah with a new collaboration, Metamorphosis. The street-luxe pieces are inspired by Yeboah's life experiences.
Cos, 222 Regent Street



YMC X BEEN LONDON

YMC has teamed up with east London's sustainable luxury handbag brand Been London for the limited-edition Hanbury collection. Each recycled tote rescues up to 12 bottles from landfill.
YMC, 11 Poland Street



SPERRY X PLEASURES

Sperry has joined forces with streetwear brand Pleasures to reimagine its iconic boat shoe and other styles including a comfy mule and sliders.
Flannels, 161-167 Oxford Street

THE BEAUTIFUL LIFE

Huda Kattan began Dubai-based brand Huda Beauty with a set of false eyelashes and now has an estimated net worth of \$400 million according to *Forbes*. She and her sister Mona, who leads the fragrance arm Kayali, are championing Middle Eastern beauty

WORDS SOPHIA CHARALAMBOUS

Huda, how does it feel to be putting non-westernised beauty on the map?

Incredibly important in terms of smashing traditional beauty standards. Growing up [in the USA] as a little brown girl in the south was a challenge, as I was very confused and couldn't fit in. There wasn't somebody similar to me, not even remotely close. I felt I wasn't pretty, and that I had to conform to a beauty standard. And not having brown girls to look at bothered me. Today, part of my narrative comes from my experience as a kid, and the belief that I don't want my daughter to grow up like I did. It's so important to me that everyone, wherever you grew up, whatever you look like, whichever gender you relate to, you feel beautiful and included in the beauty narrative. I started Huda Beauty through wanting to share and inspire how I used makeup and skincare, because there was no one who looked like me doing this. When I started my blog, I'd talk about a lot of beauty ingredients that the west had never heard of but were so big in south Asian and Arab culture, like amla oil and henna. I was giving people the opportunity to have a different perspective.

What sets the Dubai beauty scene apart?

I think Dubai will be one of the leaders of modern beauty. You can get the very best products here, some of the



best Hollywood doctors and dentists practise here, and because the city is very young, it leads the way with beauty trends. Dubai offers unlimited possibilities. I moved here permanently in 2008 and it was a really interesting time in my life. It was a time of self-discovery and what the UAE represented for me was limitless opportunities. The Middle East is a really vibrant market and the beauty industry is fast-growing, particularly when it comes to indie and niche beauty brands. I feel like beauty is a necessity in the Middle East. Because of their amazing features, women in the Middle East wear more makeup to enhance their big beautiful eyes and bold brows. They've always loved makeup. Being very glam and over-the-top is a part of Middle Eastern culture and history; it's as though it's in your blood to love beauty.

Mona, what does fragrance mean, culturally, to you?

I have always loved fragrance. From a very young age I literally spent all my money as a kid on buying perfume. And if you like perfume, Dubai is a candy land. People here use it as so much more than just an afterthought. It's not something you do just when you go out. It's something you do as part of your rituals: it's how you start your day, it's how you celebrate important moments, it's part of your identity, it's so much more than just a fragrance. I fell in love with the rituals that are part of my culture. I thought, "If I ever have my own brand one day I

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would love to create a perfume that celebrates Middle Eastern culture and makes it more global.”

How does Kayali do things differently from other fragrance brands?

Kayali itself has been inspired by my Middle Eastern heritage and the rituals of fragrance layering, and the name Kayali translates to “my imagination” in Arabic. I absolutely love layering it and so does my husband, Hassan. I believe layering fragrance will feature heavily in the future landscape of fragrance, which is ever changing. I want my fragrances to ignite people’s imaginations and transport them to new places every time they spritz. The bottles feature multiple diamond references and motifs typical of those found in souks across the Middle East. They feel like treasure and made me feel like a princess. That’s what I wanted for my brand.



RIGHT: HUDA AND MONA KATTAN

BEAUTY NEWS



MASAJ

Contemporary massage house Masaj has opened its second location in Marylebone. Offering a bespoke approach to massage, you are free to choose the area of focus, oil used, music played and even the level of communication from the therapist. Absolute bliss.
From £50 for 30 minutes, 34a Paddington Street



SKIN LAUNDRY

The thermal fractional facial uses a brand-new fractional skin heat device to resurface the skin by applying thermal energy to the epidermis through a grid of tiny titanium points. As the skin repairs itself it improves discoloration, fine lines and wrinkles for all skin tones.
£300, 9 Newburgh Street



JONES ROAD

The beauty brand with a cult following - and beauty guru Bobbi Brown at the helm - has launched in Liberty. Designed to accentuate a person’s natural beauty, a bronzer range has just been added to colour correct and add warmth to the skin. Another must-try is the miracle balm, which is self-explanatory.
£32, Liberty, Regent Street

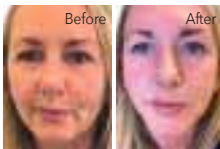
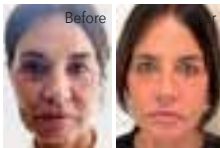
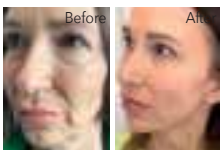
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EXPERTS IN THE NATURAL LOOK

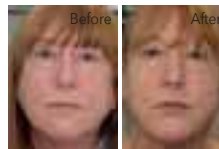
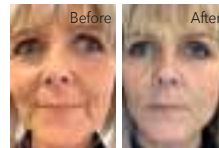
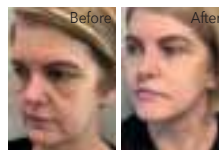
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PROPERTY AND INTERIORS

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Top designers on the latest trends in Dubai



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MARCH

PROPERTY

CONDÉ NAST IS ON THE MOVE

WORDS WILL MOFFITT

CONDÉ NAST TO LEAVE MAYFAIR AFTER SIX DECADES

It has housed supermodels, celebrities and royalty but after more than 65 years Condé Nast is moving out of Vogue House. The publisher behind *GQ* and *Vogue* magazines will leave the premises on Hanover Square next year and aims to move staff to its new office on John Adam Street in Embankment.

Synonymous with fashion and style and known as the longstanding headquarters of British *Vogue* that birthed the career of Anna Wintour, the seven-storey building was completed in 1958 and is owned by the Church of England.

“There’s no other way to say it – leaving our iconic Vogue House will be hard,” said an email sent to staff. “After many attempts to find a way to expand and redesign the space to meet our needs, there were just too many challenges to be able to do so.”



SIR MORTIMER WHEELER HELPED MOVE THE REMAINS AT ABU SIMBEL TO PROTECT THEM FROM FLOODING

ARCHAEOLOGIST’S FORMER HOME FOR SALE

The Whitcomb Street home of famed archaeologist Sir Mortimer Wheeler is on sale for £1.35 million. The 971 sq ft maisonette comprises two double bedrooms with en suite bathrooms arranged over the upper floors of the blue plaque period building.

Born in Scotland, Wheeler is recognised as one of the most important British archaeologists of the 20th century, who encouraged public interest in the discipline and advanced methodologies of excavation and recording.

The property is on the market with Dexters, which has acquired rival firm Marsh & Parsons in a £29 million deal. Dexters will retain the Marsh & Parsons brand name, which is well known in the London market, and plans to double the size of Marsh & Parsons in line with its ongoing expansion plans.

Founded in 1993 and led by CEO Andy Shepherd, working alongside chairman Justin King, Dexters has 120 offices and over 1,700 staff. It currently has over 30,000 landlords on its books and facilitates more than 28,000 property transactions across London per annum.

The new combined business will operate 150 offices across the capital, with 2,000 staff serving over 37,000 landlords and advising on the sale of over £5 billion-worth of property per year.



RISING TO THE TOP

Buoyed by audacious projects like the Burj Khalifa, Dubai has come a long way since the 1980s when its architectural marvels were few and far between. Now a new generation of architects are crafting bold and innovative buildings that are gaining international attention

WORDS WILL MOFFITT

Rising over 800 metres into the air like a giant glistening needle, the Burj Khalifa still reigns supreme in a skyline where buildings vie for attention. When it was inaugurated in January 2010, the world's tallest building stood for many things. First and foremost, it was a remarkable feat of architecture.

Designed by Adrian Smith of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, the thin steel structure was partially inspired by the Islamic tradition of building in stepped ascending spirals. Rising from a flower-shaped base, the building is a structural masterpiece, able to withstand both the thousands of tonnes bearing down on it and Persian Gulf temperatures that can reach 50°C.

As a symbol the Burj has transcended those feats of engineering. Named after the former president of the United Arab Emirates, Khalifa bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, it is a less than subtle paean to Dubai's towering ambition; a structure crafted as tangible proof of the emirate's growing presence in a fast-changing world.

Rising 77 metres above the ground Dubai's latest statement of architectural intent might not have the gargantuan proportions of Smith's shimmering high rise, but it has made a lasting impression. Designed by local architect Shaun Killa, the Museum of the Future is a torus-shaped edifice with a facade of 1,024 steel panels covered in Arabic calligraphy.

Billed as a hub for visionaries and great minds from around the globe, the museum seeks to predict how factors such as space travel, climate change and technology might change civilisation, inviting visitors to "embark on a journey to the year 2071". The unknown form and sequence of future events is represented in the void at the building's centre. If the Burj is symbolic of a confident ascent to new heights, the Museum is a thoughtful homage to a nebulous future.

Located on Sheikh Zayed Road in the city's financial district, the project's positioning is telling. After all, it was here in 1979 that the Dubai World Trade Centre was erected as a solitary skyscraper in the sand. Fast forward two-and-a-half decades and Dubai's appetite for development had become insatiable. Before the financial crisis it was estimated that the city housed up to a quarter of the world's construction cranes. Some of

those projects have since been completed, others have not, but the architectural ambition remains.

"The last decade has been the most exciting concerning the architectural development of Dubai," Mohammed Adib, chief design officer at Dewan Architects + Engineers, one of the oldest practices in Dubai tells me. "A unique style has emerged, and an identity for the city was born."

This evolution, Adib says, has transformed the desert city into a design hub for the region and a reference point worldwide, one that attracts ever-growing clients from farther parts of the globe.



Since establishing its first office in Abu Dhabi in 1984, Dewan has been integral in imagining diverse landscapes, enhanced cities and suburban communities throughout the Middle East.

The firm's previous projects include Mamsha Al Saadiyat, a luxurious nine-building waterfront residential community in Abu Dhabi. It's part of an architectural masterplan that houses the Louvre and will also incorporate the Guggenheim and Zayed National museums when they open.

Dewan also designed Address Fountain Views, a mixed-use residential development with four resplendent hospitality and residential towers. Located in the heart of downtown Dubai, it consists of three buildings perched atop a multi-level podium, a glass-heavy high-rise that grants its inhabitants a perfect view of Dubai's ever-evolving cityscape.

For some the sheer volume of projects conceived during the emirate's construction boom has been unnecessary. Others have criticised the quantity of modernist skyscrapers that have been produced, citing them as superficial creations lacking in originality. Adib,

on the other hand, sees these buildings as representative of Dubai's nascent architectural identity which is still evolving and changing as the city develops.

"Part of the path to maturity of any market always starts with implementing the modernist skyscraper as an easy way to reach that goal," he says. "However, with time, this reverts to locally grown styles and buildings that adapt more to the regional aspects than those globally accepted."

In recent years, developers have become more conscientious about the environment and Arabic heritage. More efficient heat-resistant materials are increasingly being used in



MUSEUM OF THE FUTURE. BELOW: AN ORIGINAL SKETCH OF THE MUSEUM

construction, and more architects are incorporating traditional designs into their work. Dubai's leaders have also made a concerted effort to protect the emirate's architectural heritage, reconstituting the city's Bastakiya old quarter and opening museums and cultural centres to pay homage to those early feats of design.

"The traditional buildings in Dubai have always been human-centric in the scale and way they look inwards and are self-protective of the elements," Adib says. "We apply [those principles] to all our designs, but more importantly, the cultural identity of Dubai with its 200-plus nationalities is what we design to. Buildings are for the people that use them and must be designed accordingly."

As Dubai has developed, so too has Dewan. The firm now operates in dozens of countries across Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Describing his team as a band of "500 optimists and innovators", Adib talks of the firm's mission to "push the boundaries of architecture".

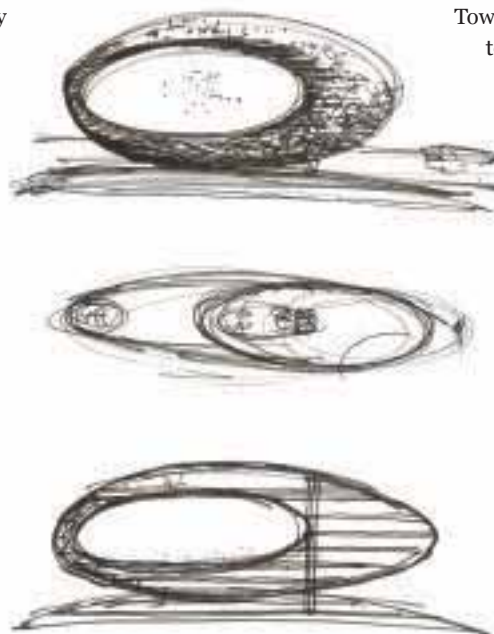
Working out of Dubai Dewan is overseeing projects from Africa to the Far East and

experimenting with new technologies that blur the boundaries between physical and virtual worlds.

Most recently it turned heads with Babel 4.0, an architecturally inspired NFT modelled on the mythical Tower of Babel, crafted to encourage communities to exchange ideas in the metaverse. The company is developing a dedicated design research lab to support investors and virtual developers entering the complex realm of the metaverse and NFTs.

Describing the initiative as a response to "the gap of today's architecture industry; the physical and the metaphysical", Adib sees the digital domain as a place that could have positive real-world consequences. "Future generations will likely use this digital infrastructure to engage in problem-solving and resolution practices that previously could not have been considered," he says.

Not content with stretching the limits of architectural possibility in the physical domain, Dubai is now seeking to conquer the digital world too.





BY DESIGN

Collectional is the one-stop solution marrying designers and clients to create the most luxurious spaces imaginable

Collectional is a platform that facilitates creative and innovative design solutions to bring a space to life.

Working as a design concierge service, Dubai-based Collectional is constantly evolving to provide the best in design to connect to their clients.

Projects vary in size, from a villa in a remote part of the city to luxury hotels and residences in the heart of Dubai and the rest of the Middle East.

Utilising both regional and international designers to add a personal touch to each project, Collectional facilitates everything from interior design to furniture, lighting and decorating, sourcing for projects of various sizes across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region and beyond.

Luxury hotel projects include the Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah Beach, NAMMOS Dubai and Jumeirah Al Naseem.

The Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah Beach was created in collaboration with international interior design firm, Sybille De Margerie, with a brief to create

harmony between outdoor and indoor spaces, and inspired by the surrounding natural elements – water, seabed, sand dunes and desert wind.

A refresh of the 11 imperial suites led to taking on 34 rooms at the hotel, arranging everything from furniture, lights, curtains, and overall design elements, including artwork and installations.

NAMMOS Dubai was an end-to-end solution, completed in collaboration with London design office Elastic Architects, and featured a made-to-order interior space, including furniture, decorative lighting, outdoor lounges, and umbrellas.

It took inspiration from authentic Mykonian materials, with the outdoor terrace and beachfront featuring the iconic blue and white umbrellas, custom-made by Tuuci, while the sculptural furniture and hand-crafted rugs, ceramic tabletops, custom chairs were all manufactured by Collectional through their extensive network of partners.

Jumeirah Al Naseem involved the enhancement of the royal suite to elevate the space for the customer experience, achieved

by the updating of furniture, lighting and accessories.

Cristiano Baccianti, CEO of Collectional said: “What makes us unique within the region is every project we undertake gets its customised solution, where we provide a one-stop answer that meets our client’s needs.

“Our involvement goes beyond just the concept and design, it is also within the overall project evolution to the very last details of a special piece that becomes a focal point within a home.”

Collectional collaborates within the design community and across the spectrum of designers and brands, with over 140 local and international partners.

The platform has also recently launched Gallery Collectional – Dubai’s first permanent collectible design gallery.

A one-of-a-kind first in the GCC, Gallery Collectional works with the best artists and designers from around the world to acquire exclusively commissioned pieces and collectable design products.

The space, located in Dubai’s Eden House Complex features many artists including Sabine Marcelis, Laurids Gallee, Niko Koronis, Andres Reisinger, Hector Esrawe, Christopher Duffy, Corine Van Voorbengen, Christopher Boots along with international brands like Delcourt Collection, Collection Particulier, Dimore Milano and many others.

thecollectional.com





DO KEEP UP

High-end Dubai-based interior designers share the current biggest trends in the emirate

WORDS CHARLOTTE PASHA

Welcome to Dubai, where the marble is smooth and the gold is shiny. Known for its super opulence, there's a certain "look" we associate with the glitzy city. But what exactly are clients asking for these days, and what is currently in vogue?

Interior designer Cecilia Clason moved to Dubai to work for Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and says: "What I discovered was a diverse and inclusive city with a passion for architecture and interiors." She adds: "In the last 18 years, the city's population has grown from 1.3 million to 3.5 million. Dubai is constantly growing – it's

such a dynamic city. It feels like the centre of the 'new' world."

Paul Bishop of Bishop Design, with offices in Dubai and Miami, agrees. "Although the beginnings in the region were tough, the possibilities that started opening in this part of the world, especially for a design professional, were unlike anywhere else. Dubai has been and continues to be a land of opportunity for those willing to work for their dreams."

As you might expect, Clason confirms that the high-end interior market is very international, and that what clients want often depends on nationality.

PAUL BISHOP AND
CECILIA CLASON



“Taste is always down to cultural references and personal experiences,” she says. “That said, there is a certain Dubai look. Generally, we use a lot of finishes and materials. We use different marble, timber, specialist paint finishes, fabrics and custom joinery to give rooms a focal point. And floors tend to be polished marble, which adds instant glamour and feels great in the heat.”

But while it is international, the market is changing as people are starting to lay real roots in Dubai, Clason says. “The Dubai market has always been transient but now Dubai is becoming a ‘forever home’ for many. With that comes stability and longevity and the need for quality workmanship and quality product. Previously the attitude to interiors was more like fast fashion.”

Space is important, she adds. “The Dubai audience is looking for large homes to entertain in, while providing the room to accommodate large extended families.

Homes tend to be bigger, with a mixture of formal and family spaces. Large walk-in wardrobes and top-end bathrooms seem to be a constant request.”

Both Clason and Bishop source locally and internationally. In Dubai, “Purity has an impressive existing portfolio of furniture, kitchens and more,” says Bishop, who also mentions Neel Shukla, a local art consultant. “He has delivered iconic pieces for some of the region’s most notable projects and we are fortunate to have collaborated with him on several of ours.” Clason shops at the Odd Piece for interesting vintage finds and Marina Home for “that comfortably modern, French, vintage mix”.

As for particular trends at the moment, “I’m seeing that people still want luxury but are conscious to not be too wasteful. If furniture or materials can be reissued or upcycled, people are happy to do so, irrelevant of how much money they have,” Clason says. Also, she adds, “people need to express their personality in the home, more so than ever.” People are being less conformist; moving away from a restrained beige box – previously the “ultimate statement” – to “being freer in their self-



expression and telling their own stories through their personal spaces.”

The advent of platforms like Instagram has made clients more aware and prepared than ever, Clason says. “Before, references were harder to come by, making the designer the creator and the client the receiver. Now it’s more collaborative, as the client uses some of the same tools we have. As designers, we take their initial ideas, add ours and use our design skills to push the concept further.”

Another byproduct of the advent of social media, says Bishop, is the recent trend he’s noticing within the hospitality industry: ‘dinnertainment’ or ‘eatertainment’. “High-end operators are focusing on providing more than just exceptional offerings to their guests,” he says. Now, they feature entertainment too: “acrobatic equipment, theatrical costumes, live performances, opportunities for creating Instagrammable

moments and audience engagement throughout the evening.” Of course, this hugely impacts design. “The art of storytelling by transporting guests on a sensual journey has become a vital aspect of the dining industry.”

I ask Clason what she thinks is next in the luxury interior world

in Dubai. “Sustainability and the nurturing of local talent. I think local luxury brands will develop as we have a huge skill base and potential for this.”

As for Bishop, he says the next big thing is all about challenging the conventional perception of luxury. “People seem to be craving authenticity and getting back to nature more than ever, but do not want to sacrifice the luxury element that they have been accustomed to.”

So, what’s the biggest misconception about interior design in Dubai? According to Bishop, it’s that everyone has limitless funds. “Contrary to popular belief, budgetary constraints are tight for many projects and the time frames are incredibly demanding. There are not unlimited funds to bring ambitious visions to life, so we need to be smart about our approach.” And for Clason? “That Dubai style is tacky!” From what we’re seeing these days, it’s anything but.

WHERE TO SHOP THE DUBAI LOOK IN LONDON



Russell Young, *Marilyn Crying*, £POA, Maddox Gallery, 9 Maddox Street



Zebre vase clear, black enameled, £24,000, Laliq, 47 Conduit Street



Amber Aoud candle, £145 for 300g, Roja Parfums, 51 Burlington Arcade



Horizonte range sofa, from £13,920 + VAT, Minotti, 77 Margaret Street



This Old Thing London pre-loved metal goblets, £2,950, Selfridges, 400 Oxford Street

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Burlington Gate, Mayfair W1S

2 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms | 2 reception rooms | 24 hour concierge | EPC B | Leasehold: approximately 992 years remaining
Approximately 2,469 sq ft | Service charge: approximately £41,530 per annum | Ground rent: £2,700 per annum | Council Tax band H

An immaculate penthouse duplex apartment in a prestigious modern development, offering extensive entertaining space and amenities, with four west-facing terraces.

Guide price £12,500,000

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Carlos Place, Mayfair W1K

3 bedrooms | 2 bathrooms | Reception room | Approximately 1,891 sq ft | EPC E
Leasehold: approximately 165 years remaining | Service charge: £38,000 per annum | Council Tax band H

Situated in an elegant Victorian building, this bright and spacious lateral apartment has period features throughout and offers a live-in porter and a private roof terrace.

Guide price £7,850,000

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Superb Mayfair Apartment

Upper Brook Street, Mayfair W1K Bond Street Underground Station: 0.4 miles

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1,141 sq ft | Guide £3.75 million



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| For Sale – Upper Brook Street, Mayfair, W1K

£3,750,000



A beautifully presented two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment within a sought-after building with lift and porter, just moments away from Hyde Park. The property spans over 1,100 sq. ft. and boasts a generous reception room with a dining area ideal for entertaining.

Tenure: leasehold (and share of freehold) with 91 years and seven months remaining | Service charge: £8,800 per annum (inc. hot water and heating) | Ground rent: Peppercorn
EPC Rating D | Local authority & council tax band: Westminster City Council, band H

| For Sale – Upper Grosvenor Street, Mayfair, W1K

£3,350,000



An attractive two-bedroom, two-bathroom penthouse apartment situated in a short walk from the world-renowned Grosvenor Square. The property, set within a building with lift access and 24-hour concierge, benefits from a lovely reception area with fireplace and hardwood flooring, air conditioning and far-reaching rooftop views.

Tenure: leasehold with 101 years and ten months remaining | Service charge: £12,150 per annum | Ground rent: £90 per annum | EPC Rating E
Local authority & council tax band: Westminster City Council, band H

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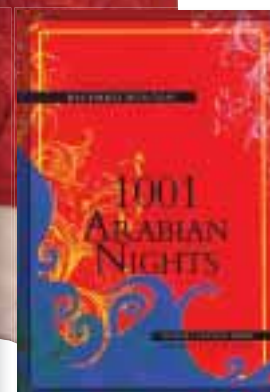
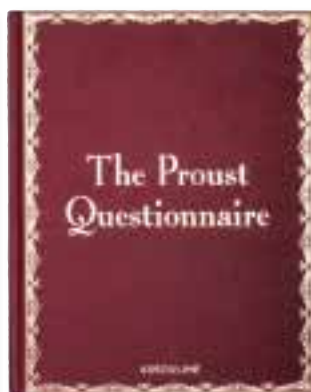
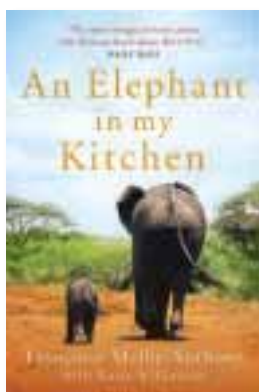


This superb three-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment occupies the first and second floor of an elegant red-brick building situated on the architecturally beautiful Green Street. The property features exceptional ceilings heights throughout, a spacious reception room leading to a private balcony, a large family kitchen and a lovely master bedroom with en-suite bathroom.

Tenure: leasehold with 108 years and one month remaining | Service charge: TBC | Ground rent: TBC | EPC Rating D
Local authority & council tax band: Westminster City Council, band H

JO MALONE

The fragrance guru and founder of Jo Malone London and Jo Loves shares five books she would take to a desert island



AN ELEPHANT IN MY KITCHEN

Françoise Malby-Anthony

It's a true story. She was from Paris, he was from London, they fell in love and he whisked her to South Africa where he had bought this amazing plot of land. He had a call one day from the conservation project who said, 'We have nine rogue elephants that are going to be killed because they were misbehaving - could you take them?' It's the story of rescuing those elephants. I read the book and fell in love with conservation, elephants and Françoise. Then while on a speaking engagement I was telling this story and a man put his hand up and said, 'I know Françoise, would you like to speak to her?' I spoke to her that evening and a month later I flew to South Africa and met the elephants from the book.

THE PROUST QUESTIONNAIRE

Marcel Proust

A friend gave me this book and said, 'Jo, this will make you think differently about people and life', and it does. It made me look at fragrance differently, so it was a turning point for me creatively. We don't ask what the top, middle and bottom notes are, we ask, 'What is the

threat in the fragrance, what is the historic part, what is the sweet spot, what is the moment that makes you feel safe?' It freed me to create Jo Loves in a completely different way.

THE HUNDRED-FOOT JOURNEY

Richard C Morais

I'd left Jo Malone and I was in that five-year hiatus where I had a lockout so I was prevented from entering the industry, but I could feel the desire to create again. I'm dyslexic so sometimes it can be a struggle to read but this book came so easily to me. It's about an Indian chef who leaves India and moves to France. He becomes a Michelin-starred chef and then he remembers who he is and all he longs for is to return to the flavours and simplicity of the food he grew up with. As I was reading this book I was right in his footsteps. It gave me the strength to reach out, start again and be who I truly was.

JO MALONE: MY STORY

Jo Malone

I know this is a funny one. Why would you want to take your own story to a desert island? But I look

back at my life and I'm going to be 60 this year. To write a book about your life is such a privilege because you leave it for the next generation. You remember where you came from, your roots, your grandparents. Success doesn't always come easy. I think it's good to look back and realise how much you've grown and say, 'Well done, you did it.'

1001 ARABIAN NIGHTS

Translated by Richard Burton

This is my son's influence - he is doing Middle Eastern studies at university. It's a collection of stories that a queen put together so the king wouldn't kill her. My adventure for 2023 is to create 101 stories of fragrance notes just like *1001 Arabian Nights*. I'm going to the Middle East and other parts of the world to look through the eyes of those countries and what they can teach me - and I'll bring my Jo creativity to that note.



Jo Loves' new fragrance Ebony & Cassis is inspired by Jo's travels to the Middle East, with notes of blackberry, cassis, nutmeg, myrrh and dates. £78 for 50ml, £115 for 100ml, Space NK, 63 South Molton Street



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