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Legend's Dream





A woman's hand with a large diamond ring and red nail polish is visible on the left side of the image. The background is a blue geometric pattern of triangles. The brand name 'dehres' is written in white lowercase letters in the center.

dehres

dehres.com

A

ONE DAY AT A TIME

As we put this issue of *Solitaire* to bed (in the midst of a global pandemic) a quote from Haruki Murakami's 2002 novel, *Kafka on the Shore*, came to mind.

"And once the storm is over you won't remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won't even be sure, in fact, whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm you won't be the same person who walked in. That's what this storm's all about."

All I have to say, to readers at this moment, is that the proverbial storm we are all weathering out will, at one point, come to an end. But until then, stay healthy, stay inside, and trust that we will come out of this stronger.



Anton D. Javier
Deputy Editor

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SPRING
AUCTION
2020



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3 JUNE 2020 · 1 pm

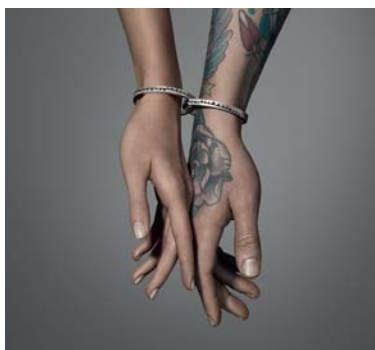
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10.25-Carat Natural Unheated Burmese Mogok "Pigeon's Blood" Ruby and
Diamond Ring
Estimate: HK\$ 25,000,000 – 35,000,000 · US\$ 3,200,000 – 4,488,000





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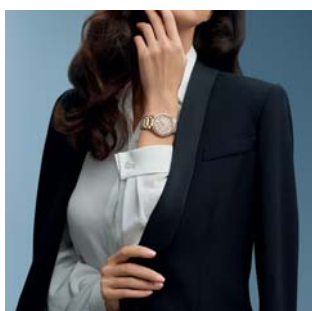
Chopard Haute Joaillerie Emerald Earrings

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www.EmperorWatchJewellery.com



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The partnership kicks off with Birmingham 2022



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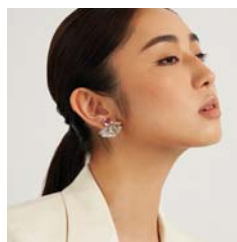
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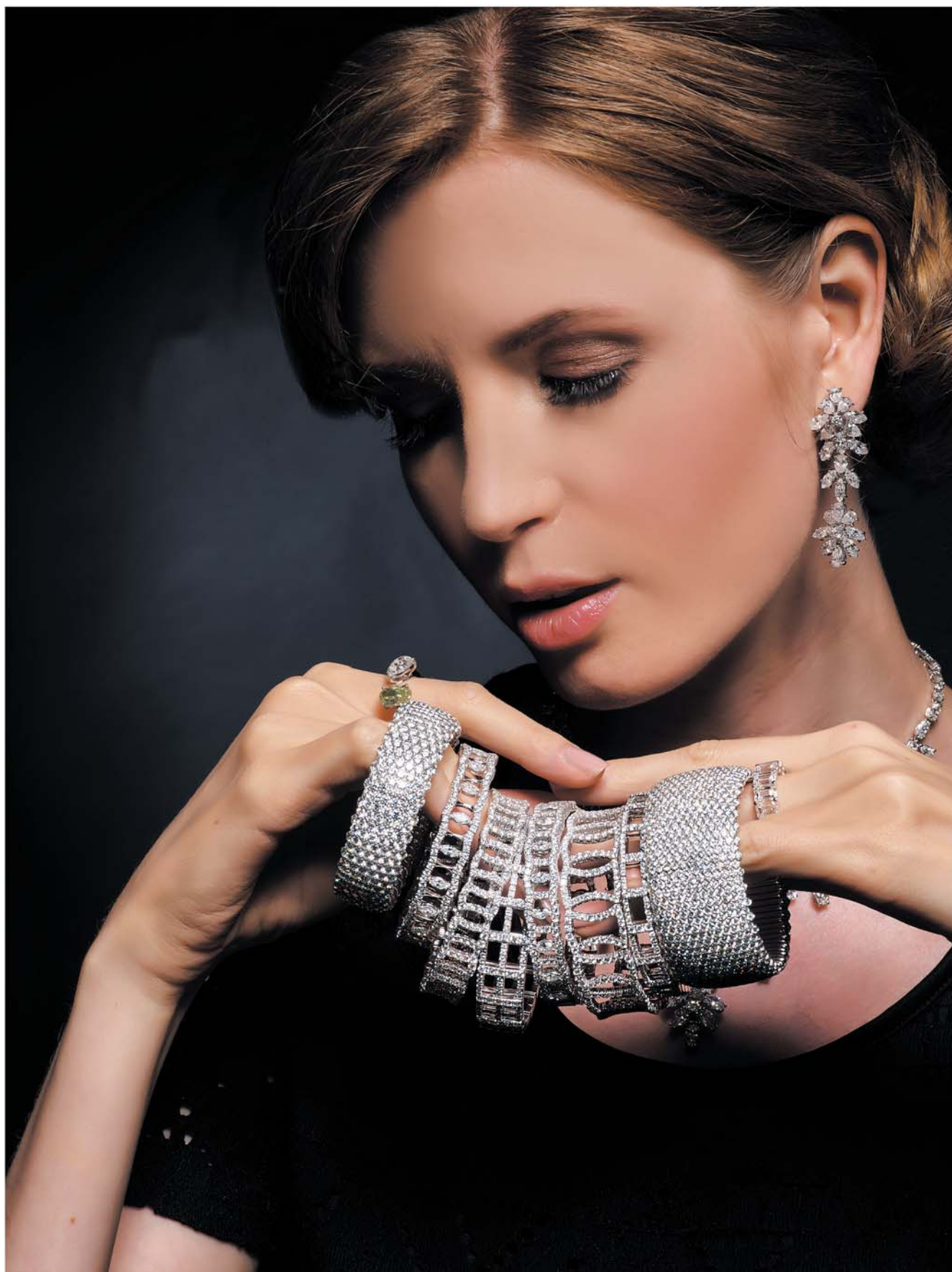
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EPHEMERA

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EPHEMERA



Tiffany & Co. debuts the Tiffany T1, a new range under the T Collection designed by chief artistic officer, Reed Krakoff. The T1 series galvanizes the belief in extraordinary jewellery to wear everyday. Kicking things off is an edit of nine 18K rose gold styles, with five of the nine designs set with Tiffany diamonds, resulting in bold yet refined statement pieces. The T1 range will soon include 18K white and yellow gold styles, as well as an exclusive high jewellery necklace. [tiffany.com](https://www.tiffany.com)

Objects of Desire

A selection of beautiful bits, baubles,
and style essentials to covet and have

Everyday Luxuries

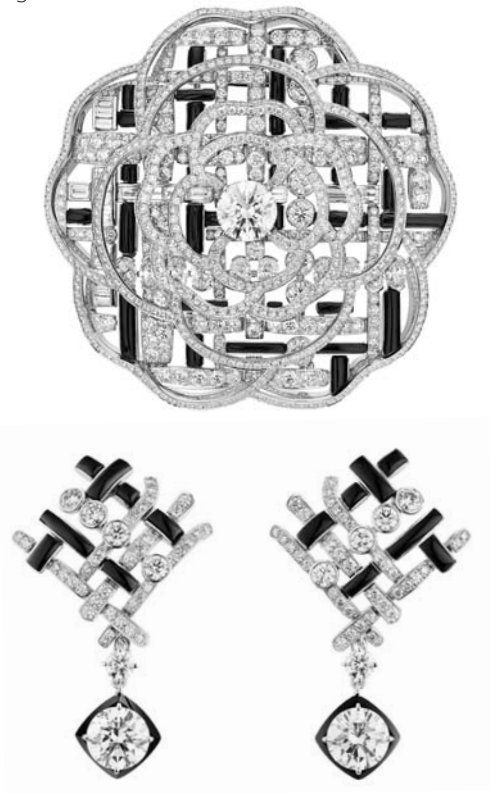
1 Byredo expands into the realm of fine jewellery with the introduction of “Value Chain”, a collection created in collaboration with jewellery designer Charlotte Chesnais. Using the chain link as a structure and a visual metaphor for the nature of the collaboration, the pieces, comprised of rings, necklaces, earrings, and bracelets, are both timeless and unisex. Available in gold, pavé diamonds, and sterling silver. byredo.com



2 The jewellery from the Avyanna brand is made for strong, beautiful, and powerful women, with each piece a keepsake to be treasured forever. At the brand's heart are simple, elegant designs that can be worn everyday, executed in either plain 14K solid gold, or mixed with diamonds like the rose gold bracelet, ring, and earrings under the Resilience range. avyanna.sg



3



3 CHANEL recently unveiled Tweed de Chanel, its first ever high jewellery collection dedicated entirely to tweed – a fabric that is closely linked to the brand's DNA. Taking its cue from tweed's depth and richness, necklaces, rings, and bracelets feature textured effects with gemstones like diamonds, pearls, and sapphires layered and intertwined for a graphic effect.
chanel.com

4



4 Sartoro's Hera earring is a pair that works for the woman on the go. Its dressy yet minimalist design is perfect for work or special occasions, making it a versatile piece worthy of any collection. The drop earrings feature 88 round brilliants, 108 marquise cut, two emerald cut, and two pear shaped diamonds weighing a total of 6.25 carats on 18K white gold.
sartorjewelry.com

5



5 Love is at the heart of Canary Diamond. And according to the brand, there's nothing that spells out self-love more than a woman rewarding herself with beautiful diamond jewellery. For those looking to treat themselves with a well-earned piece, Canary Diamond has a selection of baubles that feature both diamonds and coloured gemstones like pink sapphires and emeralds.
thecanarydiamond.com

Hanging Around

1 Young By Dilys' presents the Reversible Lucky Coin necklace in 18K white gold and set with white diamonds, resulting in a clean and modern look for an otherwise traditional piece of jewellery. Flip it over and tradition comes into play with the engraving of an age-old Chinese auspicious blessing. dilyscollection.com

2 Enter the brilliant world of Harry Winston with this pendant from the Winston Gates collection. At once delicate and symbolic, this piece represents opportunity, new beginnings, and good fortune. The pendant is set in 18K yellow gold and features 29 round brilliant diamonds weighing approximately 0.29 carats. harrywinston.com



3 In honour of Chaumet's 240th anniversary and the reopening of its hôtel particulier on 27 February, a limited edition range of Légende medallions will be presented exclusively at 12 Place Vendôme. The pieces will feature hard stones like lapis lazuli, malachite, and carnelian, recalling the Maison's savoir-faire in cameos and intaglios. chaumet.com

4 The Tiffany T pendant captures graphic angles and clean circular lines in one magnificent piece, creating a beautiful clarity that's representative of the Tiffany T collection. Available in rose gold, the pendants come with round brilliant diamonds and a selection between black onyx, pink opal, or mother-of-pearl. tiffany.com



Dilys'



1

Finishing Touches

1 Rouge Hermès, a collection of lipsticks under Hermès' new beauty range, is devoted to the inherent beauty of the lips. Available in 24 hues, the sophisticated selection is inspired by the infinite richness of silk, and is accompanied by a lip care balm, lip shine, lip pencil, lip brush in lacquered wood, as well as a selection of leather accessories like cases and a moon mirror. [hermes.com](https://www.hermes.com)

2 As part of the Louis Vuitton for UNICEF partnership, the maison launched the first Silver Lockit bracelet designed by Virgil Abloh. With each purchase, clients have the opportunity to support UNICEF's work to provide conflict- and disaster-affected children with access to water, sanitation, nutrition, education, health, and protection services. Available in four colours – black, orange, celadon green, and blue. [louisvuitton.com](https://www.louisvuitton.com)



2



3



5



4

3 Chanel's brand signatures – pearls, tweed, 3D quilting, neutral colours, and more – make up the characteristics and design direction of its Summer 2020 eyewear collection. In addition to statement-making pairs perfect for those with a more daring approach to fashion, you can also expect elegant and timeless styles with a discreet double C subtly hidden in lens corners. [chanel.com](https://www.chanel.com)

4 Bvlgari has joined forces with Fiat, resulting in a unique New 500 – a true jewel-car and the first ever electric model of the 500 series. The car comes as a convertible and incorporates the colours and the exceptional light of Rome: Imperial Saffron, integrated with a special gold dust. On the inside, the dashboard is covered in colourful silk, hand-painted with Bvlgari's iconic motifs. [bulgari.com](https://www.bulgari.com)

5 Fluid shapes, warm tones of the Mediterranean to notes of an Atlantic sunset make up Loro Piana's S/S 2020 Women's Collection. Expect a beautiful mix of textures from cashmere, Baby Cashmeres, silks, and linens in pieces like relaxed jumpers, trench coats, field jackets, anoraks, capes and more. The collection is complemented by accessories like sandals, satchels, shoulder bags, and more. [loropiana.com](https://www.loropiana.com)

LIGHTNESS OF BEING

Georg Jensen's popular Curve ring expands into a full collection, with each piece featuring a characteristic softness and sensuality, brought to life by Danish designer Regitze Overgaard

Photos courtesy of Georg Jensen

The Curve ring by Georg Jensen is the perfect example of a statement, with the juxtaposition of soft, sensual curves and sculptural intensity, taking on a life of its own as soon as it is slipped on the finger. At first glance, it is a vision of simplicity, but at its heart, it is incredibly complex: Elegant, classic, futuristic, artful.

Introduced in 2006, the Curve ring was designed by Regitze Overgaard who trained as a goldsmith in 1970 and regarded as a pioneer of modern organic jewellery designs. Her innate love of forms and shapes found in nature, combined with her sense of minimalism, resulted in works that are often fluid and elegant, showcasing an understanding of a jeweller's craft and, ultimately, the wearer.

For 2020, Overgaard and Georg Jensen have teamed up once more to expand on the Curve range, resulting in a collection comprised of bangles, necklaces, stacked rings, and earrings that bear the same cloud-like form of

the original ring. In addition to silver, the pieces are now available in gold – or in a combination of the two metals – for maximum style.

In this Q&A with Overgaard, we dive a little deeper into her creative process, understanding how she brings to life the perfect curve.

How does craftsmanship inform your design?

It's a great advantage because having craft skills helps you understand the nature of precious metals, and this allows you freedom to create.

What is the essence of the 'perfect' curve?

The shape must have the right tension. Too much and the curve becomes balloon-like, too little and it appears limp.

How do you make metal seem fluid?

The reflection of light has a great influence on how the form is perceived. I work with a graphic, but at the same time, organic, expression, which can make the metal appear soft and vibrant.



Regitze Overgaard



Curve earrings in sterling silver and 18KT yellow gold,
Curve bangles (slim) in sterling silver and 18KT yellow gold

How does it feel to reinterpret one of your iconic designs for today?

I am incredibly happy to develop the design because the expression is “so very me”. It’s classic and modern, and perfectly in tune with Georg Jensen’s DNA.

How did you extend the original Curve design into the new collection of jewellery pieces?

It wasn’t just a case of scaling the same shape up or down – that doesn’t make sense, as proportions will be wrong, and the result is imbalance. It was important to vary the design for each piece with individual details, so the smaller ring and bracelet are designed to be stacked, while the gold and silver metals combined allows an entirely fresh character.

The cuff is the hero piece in the collection. What makes it such a powerful statement?

I think the movement in this bold shape with soft curves makes it unpredictable, and, in a way, modern and sexy, too.

Is it important that as a designer you understand how women want to wear jewellery?

Of course, it is important to be aligned with what’s in fashion right now, but equally to be aware of how I think my jewellery should be worn. I like to surprise – and sometimes even influence – the customer’s choice. And, I’m delighted to say that I also enjoy designing men’s jewellery.

For more information, visit georgjensen.com



Curve collection

Ephemera – Pursuits



Curve ring in sterling silver and 18KT yellow gold



Curve bangle (medium) and Curve ring in sterling silver

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ADORN



The freedom to create one's own language of love that effectively communicates who you are is the beauty behind the COCO CRUSH range by Chanel. Ranging from rings, earrings, cuffs, and necklaces, slipping on a COCO CRUSH piece is an unabashed act of self-declaration. Every time you add, subtract, or combine, each piece and every combination creates a language that speaks of you. Remember that these pieces are not a lesson in style – but a lesson in choice. [chanel.com](https://www.chanel.com)



Aquafina Earrings

18K white and rose gold earrings, with Malaia Garnets, Aquamarines and Diamonds

Diamond Armour Ring

18K white gold marquise Diamond ring

Coming Into Bloom

As Calla Lily Fine Jewellers comes into its own, it carves a unique place for itself in Singapore's jewellery scene – one that is marked by colour, complexity, whimsy, and gems infused with the stories of the people wearing them

Words by **Anton D. Javier**

Photography by **Timothy Chow**

Assisted by **Coby Travis Lazaroo and Eric Tan**

Hair and makeup by **Nikki Fu using Redken and Nars**

Outfit: **Tom Ford S/S 2020**

Model: **Zamantha D / Upfront Models**



Whether it's coincidence or a really well thought-out career path, you'd have to agree that Emily Tan, founder and creative lead of fine bespoke jeweller, Calla Lily, was destined for this. The Penang-born, Singapore-based designer shares, "I have always been fascinated with making things, working with my hands, and with colours and textures." This creative leaning led her to pursue studies at the London College of Fashion, which, opened doors for her later on to flex her creative know-how at revered fashion houses like Jimmy Choo Couture in London and Marni in Milan.

Tan's professional foray into the world of design began in designing footwear, serendipitously followed by jewellery. "They actually aren't that different," she reveals. "You're considering a design from every angle and playing with structures and frames, so it felt like a fairly natural progression."

When Tan transitioned to designing jewellery, she initially did costume jewellery, but "the more cognizant I became of the amount of time and heart I was putting into the process, the more the idea of creating pieces that lasted took root." Because of this unexpected turn, she went and got her certification from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) a decade ago, allowing her to understand the true potential of gemstones and jewellery.

Now, Tan's approach to design is on a different level. It has gone beyond items driven by trends to something that transcends them. "I want to design jewellery that would outlive us, and that would be worthwhile heirlooms. Bespoke fine jewellery would end up being the culmination of all the various aspects of design that inspire me: Materials I enjoy working with; a creative process that captures both the story of the gem and of the wearer; and the styling of a piece for a person, an outfit, or a moment. To me, that's pretty special."

A Lily Blooms

"Calla Lily wasn't born in a single instance," admits Tan. "It was a series of moments that guided me in this direction. As a designer, I have always been inspired by materials and a desire to capture the stories of the wearer in the pieces I create. That's why bespoke has always been my inclination."



Bi-colour Tourmaline Ring

18K white gold ring with a pair of bi-colour Tourmalines (11.21cts), with pink and green Sapphires.

Butterfly Earrings

Tajikistan pink Spinel
with Paraiba Tourmalines
and Diamonds

Diamond Armour Ring

18K white gold marquise
Diamond ring





Butterfly Earrings

Tajikistan pink Spinel
with Paraiba Tourmalines
and Diamonds

Peacock Ring

18K white gold mint
Peridot ring, with
Tanzanite trillions,
and Diamonds

For Tan, a brand is also never a “finished” product, so developing Calla Lily Fine Jewellers and its unique personality is an ongoing mission. “Since the nature of my brand is bespoke, people should understand that it is not like fast fashion. It’s a slow, deliberate process built around the individual, one that takes time and care. Delivering that has to be an intentional choice.

As for the brand’s name, Calla Lily Fine Jewellers, it is a symbol of rebirth and change. “The creation of the company was the celebration of a new beginning; an opportunity to explore new directions,” says Tan. She goes on to explain, “The trumpet-shaped flower borrows its name from the Greek word for ‘most beautiful’ and symbolises triumph and strength – values that I associate with the brand.”

Designing Dreams

Tan knows that when a client seeks them out for their jewellery needs, they are looking for something entirely original. Based on her experience, the designs range from a playful spinning ring to a unique piece in memory of a beloved pet. Although, Tan admits that there are those who don’t have an idea of what they exactly want, so it’s her job to draw out details about their style or lifestyle, right down to things they like or dislike. “By finding out more about these, it sparks the conversation, and then the idea follows. Sometimes, we might even start with the gemstone and we allow that to steer a design,” says Tan.

“You could also say that at Calla Lily, we are more like ‘design therapists,’” Tan adds. We don’t force the design in any specific direction or trend. We tune into what is said, what is unsaid, and even body language. The client actually gives more clues than they think and that’s what makes the whole process interesting for us.”

At the end of the day, the Calla Lily experience – and product – will be something completely unique to the client. Each piece created, from the chosen gem to its setting, is inspired by individual stories and personalities, and even designed to suit skin tone and face shape. “Our clients can also expect unexpected twists in terms of designs and details, and my eclectic design style sometimes presents a couple of surprises,” reveals Tan. “I move quite easily from minimalist and subtle to highly ornate, inspired by the complex twists and flows of nature. However, where we end up always depends on the client and what best suits them.”



Lagoon Tourmaline Art-Deco Earrings

18K black and yellow gold earrings with a pair of cushion-cut lagoon Tourmalines, and fancy-cut Diamonds



Aquamarine Fireworks Earrings

18K white gold earrings with a pair of Brazilian octagon-cut Aquamarines (4.89cts), Opals, and indigo Tourmaline and Diamond rounds

Tan also takes her fashion background into consideration when designing jewellery. She says that certain elements within fashion have always captivated her, like the flow and movement of drapes, or the way colour palettes and colour blocks come together. It is no surprise then that she is drawn to using vibrant, colourful gemstones in her work. “Every gemstone brims with energy and a history, but I especially love neon ones because they possess a special glow that draws me. It comes from elements unique to where they are from. For example, there are Vietnamese spinels, which have a unique neon pink and lavender glow compared to, say, their Burmese counterparts. Sometimes, it’s the nature of the stone – less iron and more chromium, for example, lend a certain radiance, as is the case with red spinels and pink sapphires, or rubies. Beyond these, I also love mint tourmalines, mint tsavorites, African fiery atomic garnets, and Mahenge red spinels.”



Making A Mark

A beautiful product is one thing, but how else does a local brand like Calla Lily Fine Jewellers stand out in a well-heeled market like Singapore, which has access to the biggest brand names?

“I acknowledge that Singaporeans are very cosmopolitan and well-travelled,” says Tan. “These days, however, they aren’t just looking for specific brands, but are after something more distinctive. In addition to our highly personalised and whimsical take on bespoke fine jewellery, the client experience we provide is distinct, allowing us to stand out. From the moment you walk in, the process is about you. We aren’t designers-on-demand. We see ourselves more like stylists that help you better understand the stones you’re investing in, and we co-create it with you. Our range of rare and unusual gemstones meet the collective imaginations of our customers and that’s another element that makes the Calla Lily experience special.”

To further differentiate the brand, Tan reveals that they are striving to push out their technical capabilities – from design to fabrication. “This means being able to redefine our design limits and create even more unique pieces. We’re continually reinventing ourselves. It’s really about staying true to ourselves, while being able to pleasantly surprise our clients at the same time.” 🌀

For more information, visit callalily.sg

Lagoon Tourmaline and Aquamarine Square ring

18K white and black gold square ring with a duo of Tourmaline (1.20cts) and Aquamarine (1.39cts) trillions, indigo Tourmalines, and Paraiba rounds



Everyday Elegance



Jewellers who took part in the recent VicenzaOro jewellery show in January make a case for pieces that are made to be worn everyday – and not languishing in a safety deposit box

Words by Pooja Agarwal

Where better than the VicenzaOro jewellery show to find that perfect fit between wearability and creativity? After all, the world usually turns to Italy when searching for design inspiration and innovation.

“Being unique and innovative is the only way (forward) to the future, more so than ever,” says Vicenza-based jeweller, Roberto Coin. “There is more innovation in Italy now than we’ve ever seen before,” he adds, referring to the January 2020 edition of the show, organised by the Italian Exhibition Group (IEG) at the Expo Centre in Vicenza.

Despite current market turbulence, over 35,000 visitors – the highest number in the last 10 years – attended from over 126 countries, with Asia being well represented by buyers from Japan, which saw an increase of 22 per cent.

Opposite page:
Bracelets by Crivelli

This page:
Rings by Roberto Coin



A clear macro design trend was seen across the halls of the show, that of minimalist jewellery, within which emerged a micro one: Everyday jewellery.

“Lately, we find huge demand for casual, daily wear jewellery. People are looking for delicate, modern pieces they can wear day to night, for both casual and formal occasions,” reveals Michael Hakimian, CEO of Yoko London. Out of this desire, the brand’s bestsellers, ‘Trend’ and ‘Starlight’ collections, with freshwater and South Sea pearls alongside diamonds in contemporary designs, were born.

Upon closer observation, everyday jewellery is diverse, taking on various forms. “It can be characterised by smaller, yet dynamic, volumes, but also by extended gold and sinuous surfaces. Always light with a visual impact and using stones,” muses Carlo Palmiero, founder and CEO of Palmiero Jewellery Design, known for its use of colours, pavé, and shapes.

“Jewellery lovers want to have the possibility of wearing their pieces every day, on all occasions,” Palmiero adds. Staying abreast with this growing trend, the brand introduces minimalist designs to their otherwise grand offerings, but with innovation. “I love to play with



colours, not only by using stones, but also through enamel and different shades of gold.”

Leonori’s dialogue with various artistic disciplines led to the creation of the new Victoria collection. “The inspiration came from the ‘Bella Vita’, and at the same time, the contemporary epoch,” shares Eleonora Leonori, creative director of Leonori. Classic lines bring to life the magic of the Italian savoir-faire, which lies at the very DNA of the Italian jeweller, headquartered near Florence. “Jewels are like eyes. A window to the soul; a declaration of personal identity. The Victoria line is for the woman who chooses to be unique every day,” adds Leonori.

At times, when a woman dresses up for the day, it is her jewellery that is at the heart of it all. “People want smaller, whimsical jewellery that they can wear everyday. At least in Northern Europe, women want jewellery for everyday and not just for special occasions,” analyses Marcus Mohr, CEO of Victor Mayer. “These days, it is all about pieces with intricate designs, a lot of little details, and movement.”

The German jeweller revisits the past with specially designed rings, which become a symbolic jewel to wear daily. “Vintage-inspired signet rings are a hot item at the moment. We make them the way they were made in the last two to 3,000 years,” reveals Mohr. “Younger women wear them on their pinkie, enjoying a look that calls to mind nobility, and getting a feel of how it is to be a royal. For a while, it used to be tacky to wear such an heirloom piece, but now it’s a statement. It says you have class and are interested in tradition.”

For Vicenza-based Fope, daily-wear jewellery is not a trend. Rather, it is part of their brand DNA. “Elegant, distinctive, and comfortable – our jewels can be dressed up or down according to the occasion, but you



This page:
Necklace by Fope;
interchangeable earrings by Kahn;
signet ring by Victor Mayer

Adorn – Trend



This page:
Pearl and diamond
earrings and necklace
by Yoko London





This page:
Ring and earrings by Palmiero

Opposite page
Victoria collection necklace
and rings by Leonori



will actually wear and enjoy them everyday,” explains Diego Nardin, Fope Jewels’ CEO.

Some may ask, “What are the characteristics of ‘everyday jewellery’, really?” According to Hoey Ho, founder and managing director of Kahn High Jewellery, “Casual, everyday jewellery should at least have interchangeable features.” The Hong Kong-based brand’s new collection of earrings can be worn in a casual manner, but also becomes more elaborate with the addition of a motif that’s easily inserted. Ho adds, “Today’s generation wants to wear jewellery in a convenient, easy, and playful way. Jewellery that is stackable or transformable makes it easy for women to create new looks.”

This translates into a woman having more pieces, but not necessarily having to pay more. “People are looking to buy more often and have a wider selection – but preferably at a lower price. That’s what everybody is thinking about,” sums up Roberto Coin.





La Panthère Necklace

WILD SIDE

As Cartier introduces new creations to its Panthère de Cartier collection, we examine the role this alluring icon has played in the history of the maison

Words by **Zara Zhuang**

Cartier unveiled new items within its Panthère de Cartier collection, including La Panthère bracelet in yellow gold, onyx, emeralds and brilliant-cut diamonds, in a continuation of the style signature that has been associated with the maison since 1914. Comprising 11 rings, six bracelets and one brooch, the pieces slated to debut in 2020 feature a refreshed interpretation of the iconic feline thanks to innovative gemsetting and goldsmithing techniques not used before. In yellow gold, pink gold and platinum, set with heliodor, citrine and emerald, the pieces mark an

inflection point from those that have come before in terms of the colourways and materials employed, leading the incoming pieces to be described as “the contemporary feline expression of a free, elegant and sensual femininity.” This brings the collection to 59 items, made up of jewellery, watches, bejeweled accessories, sunglasses and even perfumes.

The collection’s sleek, modern interpretation of the panther may belie the fact that it has been more than a century since the feline entered the lexicon of Cartier, at a time when

large cats were a popular motif among artists, from François Pompon to Rembrandt Bugatti to Paul Jouve. The panther made its debut in the Cartier universe in 1914 via a jewellery exhibition invitation card “Dame à la panthère,” commissioned from artist George Barbier; that same year, Cartier Paris created a ladies’ wristwatch in platinum and pink gold, decorated with a spotted pattern of diamonds and irregularly shaped onyx pieces.

Cartier designer Charles Jacqueau was one of the first in the maison to work with the panther coat motif. Then, the feline was recreated in two-dimensional profile to adorn the cover of vanity cases that Cartier crafted between 1925 and 1930.



Three-dimensional panther brooch



La Panthère Earrings

Other contemporaneous objects of note include a 1915 watch-brooch in platinum set with onyx and diamonds, subsequently sold to Pierre Cartier, and a 1930 bracelet in platinum and gold, with black enamel and strands of fluted coral beads, and onyx spots interspersed among round old- and single-cut diamonds on the clasp.

Since then, highlights from Cartier bearing the panther emblem have displayed its sleek, majestic form perched insouciantly on brooches; its spotted fur recreated with pavé diamonds, onyx, sapphire and lacquer on necklaces and bracelets; and its gleaming eyes and imposing mien peering intently from watches and rings.



La Panthère Ring

Master Mind

One person who could be credited with single-handedly cementing the panther's position in the iconography of Cartier is Jeanne Toussaint, who joined the maison in the late 1910s and served as creative director of Cartier's jewelry department from 1933 to 1970. Fond of bold prints and exotic inspirations — red Tatar boots and Chinese silk pajamas were part of her wardrobe — Toussaint had style in spades and possessed a taste for the unconventional, such as pairing yellow gold with vibrantly colored gemstones. After they went on a safari tour in Kenya, she and Louis Cartier introduced panther-inspired jewellery. Toussaint's own nickname, "La Panthère," was earned through having to assert herself as an authority in Cartier (a challenge considering

women in France could not vote until 1945) and her personal fondness for the feline, whose form embellished some of the jewellery, vanity cases and boxes she owned. But her appreciation for the large cat went beyond the beauty of its coat; she admired it as a symbol of power and fearless independence, which was particularly pertinent at a time when she likely sensed that society was on the cusp of a new era of modernity, femininity and freedom of expression.

In 1948, as part of a gold and black enamel brooch fashioned with a 116-ct emerald cabochon intended for the Duchess of Windsor Wallis Simpson, Toussaint rendered the three-dimensional panther in its entirety, a first for Cartier. The following year, the duchess acquired another

Top to bottom:
La Panthère Ring;
La Panthère Bracelet;
La Panthère Bracelet



*“Since then,
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spotted fur recreated
with pavé diamonds,
onyx, sapphire and
lacquer on necklaces
and bracelets.”*

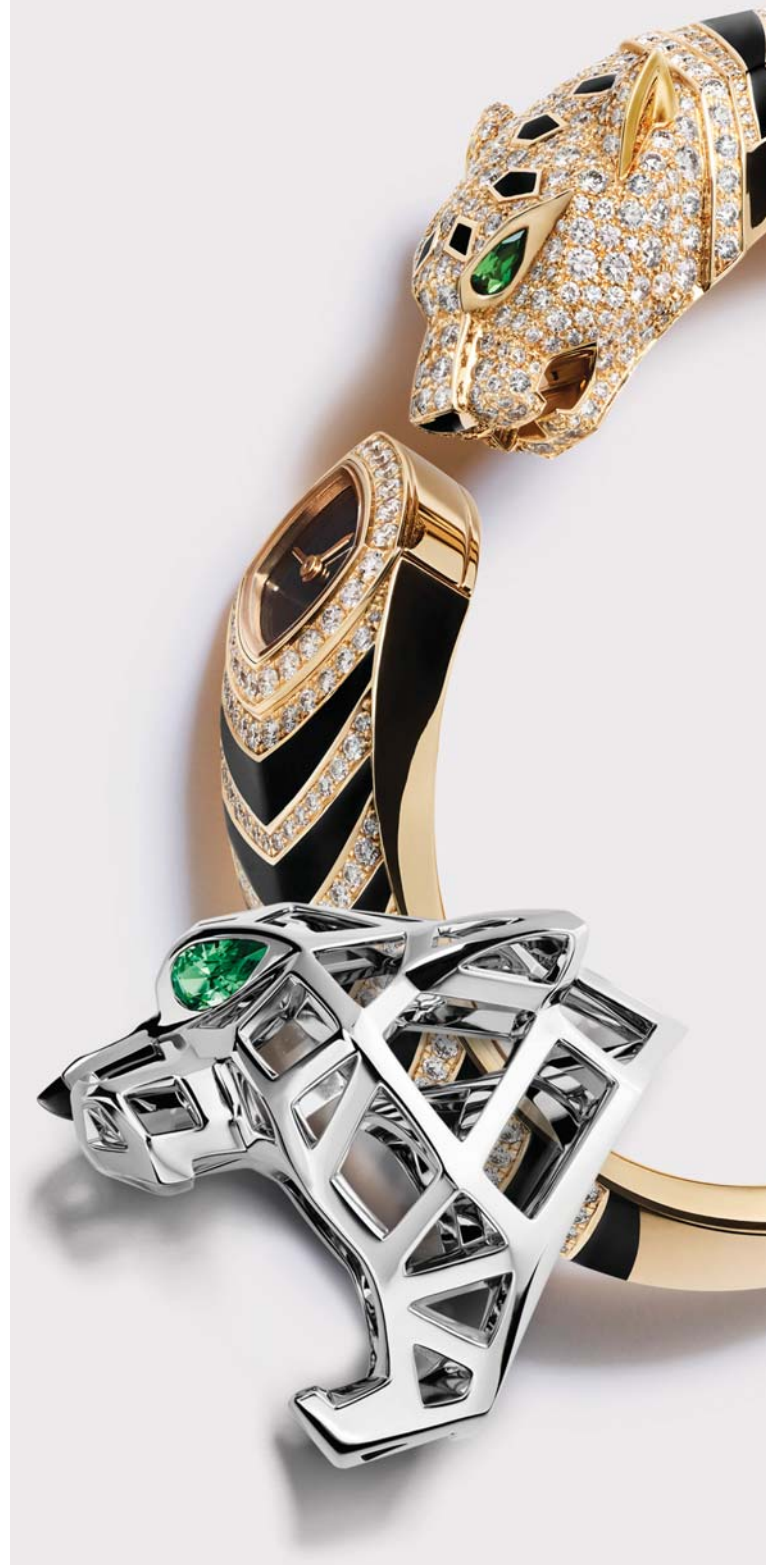




La Panthère Ring

Cartier brooch featuring a three-dimensional panther, this time made of platinum, white gold, diamonds, sapphire cabochons spots, and one 152-ct Kashmir sapphire cabochon. The panther motif was soon embraced by contemporary style icons, such as Mexican actress María Félix, French socialite Daisy Fellowes, and Princess Nina Aga Khan.

In the 2013 tome “Cartier Style and History,” Hubert de Givenchy called Toussaint’s style “very personal, very particular, very Cartier” and her creations “universally admired because they are lively, avant-garde and extremely elegant.” “She revolutionised luxury jewellery by rejuvenating and modernizing it, much in the manner of a great painter, not only playing with very beautiful precious stones but also displaying great innovation in her creations,” he added.



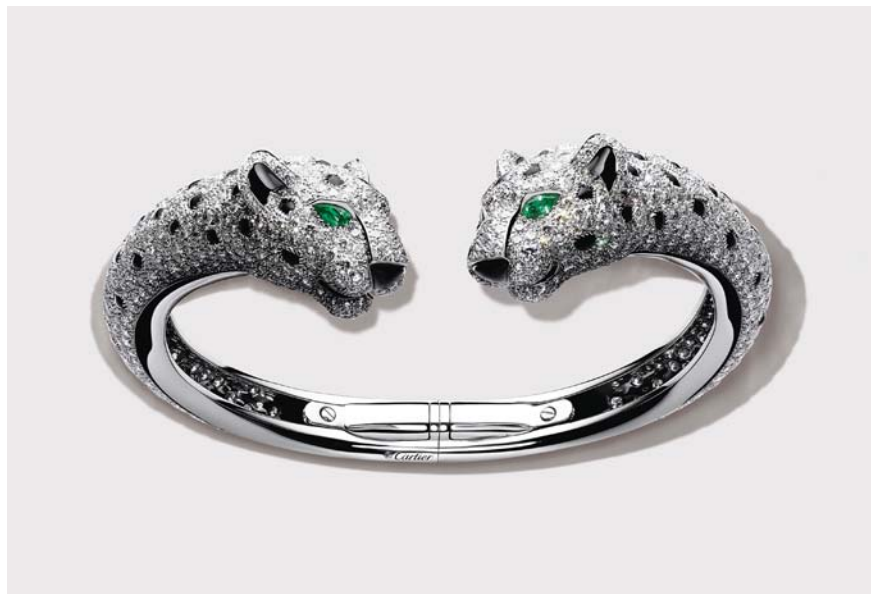
Savoir Faire

One key feature integral to Cartier's lifelike panther emblem is the maison's own "fur" setting technique, which recreates the appearance of the panther's fur through gemstones, such as onyx and sapphire for the spots: Each stone is cut to measure, then sorted and set into a lattice, with fine metal threads folded toward each stone to hold it in place.

Bringing the panther to life also means paying intense attention to detail, to achieve a faithful representation of every one of its features and evoke its majesty and poise. In 1927, Cartier designer Peter Lemarchand spent lengthy periods observing the panthers at the Vincennes Zoo as research for fashioning realistic versions out of precious materials, and the well-worn copy of Mathurin Méheut's "Études

d'animaux" in the Cartier library for designers showed that the figures of panthers were frequently referenced and intently studied by the maison's creative masters.

Though its personality and expression have evolved over the decades — from fearsome in the 1950s to playful in the 1960s to faceted and futuristic in the 21st century — the panther motif remains a vital signature of the maison. "For over 100 years, no other creature has achieved such iconic status, whether at Cartier or in 20th-century jewelry as a whole," says Cartier Heritage Director Pierre Rainero. "No other creature or jewel is so indissolubly and emotionally linked to the stylish women of the 20th century, the 20th-century female ideal, or the Cartier legend." 🌀



La Panthère Bracelet





ALL IN THE ANGLE

What inspires such contemporary, sculptural jewels? Diverse talents share their inspirations

Words by **Smitha Sadanandan**

Mike Joseph Jewellery earrings, ring and cuff

With minimalism in design on the rise, designers are borrowing judiciously from geometry for their creations. The results are pleasingly contemporary with fantastic forms and striking angles, most mirroring art deco elements and futuristic renditions.

London's rule breaking designer **Hannah Martin** loves the excitement created by strong lines and angles in juxtaposition with sensual, sculptural forms. "I am passionate about creating jewellery which has a feeling of power and exudes energy," she says. Her edgy designs reflect "the clash of hard and soft, masculine and feminine, and the areas in between the borders" that have always held her enthralled.



Hannah Martin Emerald Hexagon earrings



Ming Lampson Art Deco Amethyst hoop earrings

Another sought-after designer on the London jewellery scene, **Ming Lampson's** art deco amethyst hoops are the result of a few different ideas and concepts coming together. "For a long while I had been thinking about a hoop with attitude and I liked the idea of trying to make soft coloured stones feel full of strength and power." A spike or elongated triangle, says Lampson, naturally feels fiercer than an oval stone.

Nikos Koulis Art Deco earrings



Greek jewellery designer **Nikos Koulis'** distinctly modern creations are an homage to his love of art deco. He infuses the art deco spirit through arresting forms and colour contrasts. His penchant for glamorous designs – the use of mixed-cut stones to accent geometric elements and mis-matched styles (especially for earrings and rings) – result in pieces that are swoon-worthy. Geometric accents also underscore **Jessica McCormack's** modern designs. Her open silhouette rings, available in an assortment of colours, and diamond hoops from the Hex collection, borrows from the outline of a hexagon.

Lebanese talent **Ralph Masri's** clean and bold designs have been a huge hit since he debuted his first collection. The angles, lines, and slants all stem from his love of architecture. "I generally gravitate towards clean lines and minimalist forms; I don't like when things get too busy," he says. Masri's Arabesque Deco, Scared Windows, and Modernist collections mirror his reverence to architecture. Do his creations align with the aesthetics of a wider audience? "Yes," says Masri. Geometrical shapes, he feels, have a universal appeal and more timeless than figurative forms and resonate well with a younger demographic.



Jessica McCormack
Orange Sapphire Hex ring



Ralph Masri Pink Sapphires
Triangle earrings

Armenian-born designer **Mike Saatji**'s two-part collection for the brand **Mike Joseph Jewellery**, Mutinies and Misfits, strikes a fine balance between tension and proportion. The sculptural designs of Misfits, all accentuated through sharp angles, "recalls the conundrum of fitting a square peg into a round hole," while the Mutinies collection is inspired by non-binary and gender fluid rights. The 22-piece jewellery collection is realised in white gold and accented with diamonds, each with a yellow gold and diamond counterpart. "I wanted to create mix of all emotions. Sharp angular corners and solid frames, but delicate tiny chains incorporating tension," explains the creative director of the Bangkok-based brand. "For me, it's all about the mood," adds Saatji, whose innate sense of unconventional style hinges on fun, bold, and whimsy.



Mike Joseph Jewellery gold ring



Meanwhile, British designer **Stephen Webster**'s edgy fine jewels and statement pieces are influenced by varied muses – from architecture to the visual iconography of Hitchcock's noir psychological thriller, *Vertigo*. "Whereas *Vertigo* is directly influenced by modern and more radical architecture, *Dynamite* is fragmented, as the name implies – something explosive that has physically changed from whatever was there before," explains Webster. "Some of my first collections were inspired by art deco buildings and structures. I also preferred to look at architectural elements and interpret my own style from that. During that time, which was the mid-to-late 80's, new gems were entering the jewellery arena; I was very quick to incorporate these fresh new gemstones into my pieces," he adds.

Stephen Webster Dynamite earrings and necklace



Recurring signature motifs from **Kavant & Sharart** include architectural shapes and angular styles set with baguettes and round-shaped gems. The couple behind the brand, Kenny Yongkiettakul and Shar-Linn Liew, constantly come up with eclectic and fashionable jewels, primarily inspired by the ocean, cubism, and origami as seen in the Origami collection, as well as art deco-inspired shapes in the GeoArt collection.

Kavant & Sharart necklace and earrings

Boghossian earrings



Tasaki necklace



Tomasz Donocik's Electric Night melds art deco with a futuristic style, inspired by “the neon-lit skyscrapers of cult sci-fi movie, Blade Runner.” His Stellar collection combines sharp lines set in a delightful pattern; this line draws upon artist Frank Stella’s vivid geometric paintings from the 1970s. Meanwhile, **Graziela Kaufman's** Titanium collection includes matte purple titanium drop earrings with layered geometric shapes, while buildings and geometry fire the imagination of architect-turned jeweller Marcia Budet. In addition, jewellery brands like **Boghossian**, **Tasaki**, **Noor Fares**, **Melanie Georgacopoulos**, **Emily P. Wheeler**, **Jane Taylor**, **Rush Jewelry Design**, **Bia Tambelli**, and **Mania Zamani** also have minimalist designs referencing sculptural elements and angular shapes. ©

Tomasz Donocik
Morganite Cocktail ring





Minimalism in a Maximalist Country

Words by Preeta Agarwal



Above Pearl Rose Deco bangle with Akoya pearl and white diamonds set in 18ct white gold

Below Pearl Rose bangle with Akoya pearl and white diamonds set in 18ct white gold

Pearl Rose earrings with Akoya pearl and white diamonds set in 18ct white gold



Pearl Rose earrings with Akoya pearl and white diamonds set in 18ct white gold

Doha, one of the richest countries in the world, plays host to the Doha Jewellery & Watch Exhibition (DJWE) every year in February. Unlike other end consumer-targeted jewellery exhibitions, Doha is perhaps the only place with the power to pull the world's most renowned names like Graff, Boucheron, Cartier, Tiffany & Co., and more, under one roof.

Targeting affluent Arab women and families – who are major buyers at the show – one can be sure to spot numerous candy-sized diamonds, necklaces loaded with Paraiba tourmalines, or one-of-a-kind creations while walking down aisles.

However, the same audience might also be looking for fun, unique, and chic baubles for daily wear, especially for bracelets, rings, and earrings. Here's what we spotted this year.

Beloved Pearls

London-based jeweller David Morris is much loved in the Middle East. Each year, they craft a capsule range especially for their Arabic clients. For 2020, it was all about 'Pearls – the Queen of Gems', which have a long and rich history in Qatar.

CEO and principal designer Jeremy Morris created 'Pearl Rose' – a collection that would appeal to the natural pearl devotee. Utilising cultured Akoya pearls, David Morris celebrates the beauty and rich lustre of the perfectly spherical Japanese Akoya pearls rich with colour, ranging from white to silver pink. The pearls sit in beautiful channel-set lanes with diamond rows on each side, resulting in a style that is contemporary and striking.



Pearl Rose ring with Akoya pearl and white diamonds set in 18ct white gold



Desert Rose necklace by Thameem Jewellery



Qatari Flavours

Every year, DJWE gives premium space to a select few 'Young Qatari Designers'. One of them is Thameem Jewellery, founded by sisters, Mariam and Noora Al Meadadi, and is creating quite a stir with their jewellery inspired by Qatari motifs.

The 'Desert Rose' collection takes inspiration from the rose-shaped crystal rock that is found in the desert, symbolising willpower. The 'Al Huwah' collection seeks reference from the namesake plant with undulant leaves that grows in the midst of the desert in a circular shape. Stylised forms of the rose and the leaves turn into sweet looking pieces of jewellery in shades of gold, perfect for everyday wear.

Desert Rose collection by Thameem Jewellery



Flower Power

Floral designs are a universal favourite. At DJWE, the five-petal ‘Petit Joli’ and ‘Ton Joli’ flower by Pasquale Bruni, offered in shades of sky blues, natural greens, pastel pinks, deep blacks, and serene whites, brought out child-like wonder from the guests.

The collection was designed for women looking for balance – sophisticated yet natural and dreamy yet down-to-earth. At the same time, it is also the simplest range that allows one to discover Pasquale Bruni’s vibrant universe.

“A stroll over at Pasquale Bruni’s stand will immerse you in an array of vibrant beauties, which will enliven your soul in a spark of a moment,” said Roberto Bocus, Global Commercial Director for Pasquale Bruni.

Pasquale Bruni Petit Joli rings in various colors

Unisex Jewellery

The new Akillis collection, 'Capture Me', is somewhere between seduction, provocation, and edginess. Here, designer Caroline Gaspard breaks all jewellery norms evoking love in a different and innovative way.

Graphic lines with triangular design motifs line this new creation, making it fiercely edgy and unisex. This universal collection offers bracelets and bands, and is available in white gold, pink gold, or titanium, along with a few options for earrings and necklaces as well.

With a religious forbiddance for Muslim men to wear gold in the Middle East, and considering their love for jewellery, the titanium wrist bands work best for men, while the diamond studded ones in pink gold are most preferred by women.



Akillis Capture Me rings



Dancing Open Ring by Marie Mas



Swinging earrings by Marie Mas



Swinging Pampille diamond ring by Marie Mas

Playful Baubles

Among the impressive list of jewellers offering some serious pieces of high jewellery, one designer was there to have fun. Paris-based Marie Mas by Marie Cabirou's collections, 'Swinging Stones' and 'The Wave', were a hit as they danced together with the wearer's movements.

The 'Dancing Open' rings and bracelets, with shades of blues on one side and purples on the other, were a hit as everyone stopped by to try them on. The precious stones are set back to back, while a mechanism allows the gems to rotate and switch colour in sort of a domino effect.

Blue Paillettes earrings
by Chantecler



Colour Me Up

Colour in every form is popular in the Middle East, from gemstones to coloured gold, from titanium to enamel. Italian brand Chantecler aimed to add more colour and sparkle with their fun enamel collection called 'Paillettes'.

Paillettes is the epitome of a happy and free era. The inspiration comes from paillettes that are used to decorate cocktail dresses to make them sparkle. The creations come in cascading necklaces closer to the neck, long chains that can be layered, tasseled rings, and earrings. Pink gold surrounds the colorful powder pink, sea green, white, black, and light blue enamels. You can opt to layer them in a single colour or wear multiple colours together for instant glamour and energy.



Blue Paillettes long chain necklace
by Chantecler



Blue Paillettes ring by Chantecler

Yoko London Belgravia Collection ring with South Sea pearl, blue sapphire, ruby and diamonds



Yoko London Belgravia Collection ring with South Sea pearl, rubies and diamonds

Stack 'Em Rings

Stackable and top-open rings were very much in demand at the show and Yoko London delivered with their 'Belgravia' collection. Extremely sleek in design, the rings feature a fine quality South Sea pearl accented with a gemstone and diamonds.

In addition to rings, the collection also offers bracelets and earrings, each celebrating classic precious gems, adding a mesmerising touch of colour. Known for their fine quality pearls, Yoko London is also famous for their rows of pearls in a variety of shades. In addition, the brand also offers very unique creations using pearls, resulting in a new look that gives the precious gem a new avatar. 🌀



Yoko London Belgravia Collection ring with South Sea Pearls, blue sapphire and diamonds

THREE'S COMPANY



Italian jewellery brand, Pomellato, introduces three new collections for 2020 that feature modern yet timeless designs perfect for everyday

Photos courtesy of Pomellato



Fantina

Stripped back to reveal its refined simplicity, Pomellato's new FANTINA collection of gold jewellery appeals to modern, independent women who take charge of their destiny and untamed by convention, all while valuing style with a distinct character. The word "fantina" is Italian for a female jockey; therefore, it calls to mind women with a strong character and fierce spirit.

The range is designed with abstract, sinuous curves and infused with the minimalist spirit of Milanese architecture. The collection is comprised of bangles, a ring, earrings, and a pendant in rose gold, alongside more luxurious versions set with diamonds, as well as a white gold diamond version. True to the range's sophisticated design ethos, the diamonds are skillfully set on the inside curves of the pieces, highlighting the curved architectural forms.





Nuvola

When Pomellato launched Nuvola in 2018, it was the brand's unconventional take on diamond jewels. Nuvola, which means cloud in Italian, was born as an alternative to the traditional solitaire prong setting and featured a diamond inside an irregular-shaped rose gold orb. Today, the collection has expanded to include rings, earrings, and a pendant that's enhanced by brown diamonds.

The new Nuvola jewels include three sizes of rings, with a central brown diamond ranging from 0.50, 1.00, or 1.50 carats. The central stone is then surrounded by a halo of intense, brilliant-cut brown diamonds set in blackened gold. Complete the look with matching stud earrings and a pendant, which both feature 0.50-carat diamond. What's more, the pieces are made from Fairmined gold, while the diamonds featured are sourced from members of the RJC (Responsible Jewellery Council).



2020 Nudo Collection

The NUDO range is loved for its use of vibrant coloured stones and its prong-free “naked gem” design that merges circle and square, resulting in a perfectly irregular shape. Its playful, stackable, and unconventional characteristics allow for mixing and matching, resulting in a variety of chic combinations.

This year, NUDO in Rose Quartz blossoms with a precious stone that’s often referred to as the magnet of love. Its delicate pink hue, doubled with chalcedony, sparkles with Milanese audacity. The NUDO rings are available in three sizes – petit, classic, and maxi stones, set atop rose and white gold bands encrusted with brown diamonds. Complementing these are the NUDO stone earrings, as well as necklaces like the classic one-stone pendant, a two-stone lariat, and the seven-stone sautoir in rose and white gold with brown diamond accents.

*For more information,
visit pomellato.com*





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TIMELESS



The Cartier Santos-Dumont XL watch has recently been enhanced in an extra-large size, highlighting the purity of its lines. With its wide, generous dial, it stands out on the wrist, which, in turn, retains a focus on both style and the timepiece's essential elements. In addition, the Santos-Dumont XL watch is available in 18K pink gold, 18K pink gold and steel, and steel, all complemented by a grey, black, or navy alligator leather strap respectively. cartier.com

IT'S ABOUT TIME



ÉGÉRIE ENCHANMENT

Vacheron Constantin recently launched Égérie, a timepiece collection dedicated to women. The range brings haute horlogerie and haute couture together, resulting in watches that feature a classic look that is “draped” with a mischievous touch that reflects today’s women: Inspiring, independent, and charismatic. Available in Self-Winding and Moon Phase, the collection features a signature design of two intertwined circles and is available in either rose gold or steel, with a diamond-set bezel. vacheron-constantin.com

UNIQUELY YOURS

A fine watch does more than just tell time – it is a personal object that symbolises a deep connection between special moments and treasured memories. Reminding us of this is Jaeger-LeCoultre’s iconic Reverso and its accompanying engraving service. It is offered to owners of steel or gold Reversos, whether new or second-hand, and may be requested upon purchasing or at a later date. The service is available at any Jaeger-LeCoultre boutique or online at <https://engraving.jaeger-lecoultre.com>. jaeger-lecoultre.com





DARK MATTER

For the first time ever, Mido is now offering a new version of its Commander Shade timepiece, treated entirely in black PVD. Bold and captivating, the watch, which has been in production for over half a century, boasts a streamlined design with a dial that features a gradated finish in black and blue. What lies beneath is a latest-generation automatic movement – the Caliber 80, which offers precision and up to 80 hours of autonomy.

midowatches.com

ZENITH'S REVAMPED SINGAPORE BOUTIQUE

Swiss luxury watchmaker Zenith unveiled its newly revamped Singapore flagship boutique on February 2020, which is located at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands. Spanning over 800 square metres, the refurbished boutique reflects the brand's spirit with a central blue element stretched from the entrance, on the floor and ceiling, representing a yearn to reach for "your star". The modern space is also decked in cool grey hues, complemented by clean lines. Visit today at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, B2M-205, Singapore



TIMELY TWEAKS

They say, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." But sometimes, a change can do you good. Case in point: IWC Schaffhausen recently unveiled a reworked version of the popular Portugieser Chronograph, an iconic timepiece with a clean, open dial, two recessed totalizers, and flange with quarter-second scale. However, IWC now uses a high-quality in-house movement from the 69000-calibre family on the inside, which can be seen through the transparent back.

iwc.com



SIMPLY SPEAKING

With their clean lines, these timepieces
boast a sense of balance and proportion,
making timekeeping a bit more pleasurable

Artwork by **Rachel Fong**



BLANCPAIN LADYBIRD ULTRAPLATE

White gold, diamonds, white mother-of-pearl dial

blancpain.com



JAQUET DROZ PETITE HEURE MINUTE

White gold, applied ring, steel case, aventurine dial

jaquet-droz.com



CHOPARD HAPPY DIAMONDS ICONS

Rose gold, diamonds

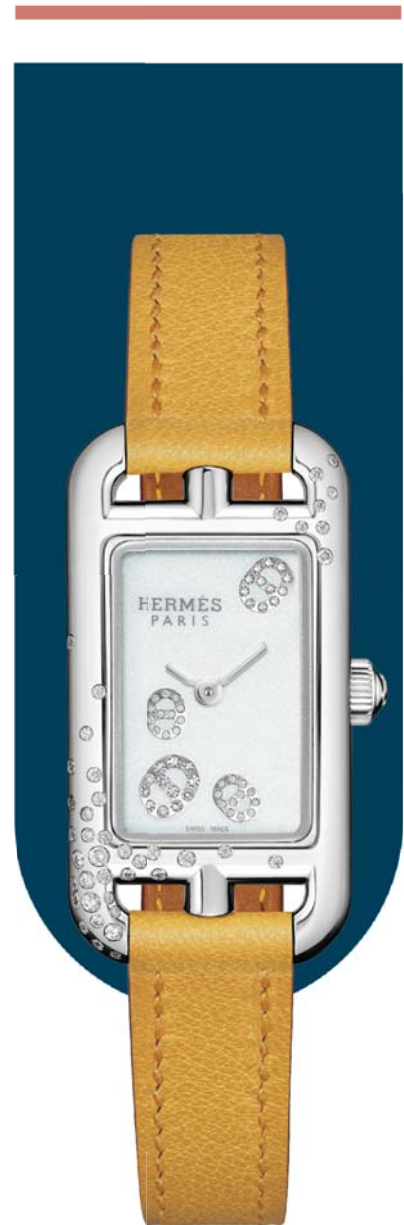
chopard.com



BVLGARI SERPENTI SEDUTTORI

Rose gold, diamonds, white silver opaline dial

bulgari.com



HERMÈS NANTUCKET

Steel case, diamonds, sapphire crystal

[hermes.com](https://www.hermes.com)



It's a Woman's World

Words by **Alfonso Pereira**

Photos courtesy of **Patek Philippe**





“Today, as women’s tastes and needs evolve; with their lifestyle becoming increasingly active and dynamic, a watch that simply looks good just doesn’t cut it.”



With the popularity of Patek Philippe timepieces like the Nautilus and Aquanaut, which are often highly favoured by gentlemen, we won't fault those who might overlook the brand's outstanding offerings for women. However, a quick history lesson proves that it has devoted quite a lot of attention to its female clientele.

Take for example Patek Philippe's pocket and pendant watches, which were lavishly decorated with artisanal techniques. These pieces attracted sophisticated female customers, among them Queen Victoria, who purchased a blue enamel timepiece in 1851. Fast forward to 1868, the brand was also responsible for crafting the first Swiss-made wristwatch for a Hungarian countess. Meanwhile, the art deco period also gave Patek Philippe the opportunity to demonstrate its affinity with female tastes through countless

watch models that featured different shapes and fitted with decorations.

Today, as women's tastes and needs evolve; with their lifestyle becoming increasingly active and dynamic, a watch that simply looks good just doesn't cut it. Enter the new Patek Philippe Twenty~4 Automatic – a timepiece with a self-winding mechanical movement in a round case. It is a highly contemporary watch that was created specifically to accompany and support the eclectic and vibrant lifestyle of the 21st century woman.

Anytime. Anywhere

Decision making women who lead active lives are on the rise, which is why the Twenty~4 Automatic – with its understated elegance – is a watch for any time of the day, complementing every facet of daily life, be it at work, leisure, with family, as well as private

and social engagements. Its ability to match a wide spectrum of women's outfits, ranging from casual wear to evening gowns, is also unparalleled.

While digitally savvy, the modern woman might also prefer the reliable company of a mechanical timepiece on her wrist. The Twenty~4 Automatic is sure to deliver with the caliber 324 S C within, which is a self-winding movement with a Spiromax® balance spring in Silinvar® that can be admired through the sapphire-crystal case back.

Sleek Yet Complex

The timepiece features an exclusive bracelet featuring gently cambered central links framed by delicate two-tier outside links. It offers a supple fit while gently and elegantly hugging the wrist. On closer inspection, the 36 mm case features prominent yet subtle contours, where a puristic style melds with refined details. Also worth noting is the beveled, diamond-set bezel that echoes the profile of the central bracelet links at 12 and 6 o'clock, emphasising the harmony of the overall design.

Looking at the Twenty~4 Automatic's dial also makes for easy timekeeping

with an uncluttered design that's readily legible. It boasts Arabic numerals in gold, as well as baton hands with rounded ends and luminous coatings. To tie it all together, the slightly domed sapphire-crystal glass manages to underscore the sculpted profile of the case.

Make Your Choice

The Twenty~4 Automatic gives the wearer style options because it is available in five versions. There are two models in steel with diamond-set bezels, two in rose gold with diamond-set bezels, and an outstanding one in rose gold with diamonds set in the bezel, the bracelet, and the crown. Noteworthy is the "Dentelle" (lacework style) gemsetting technique that produces two-row configurations of offset precious stones, highlighting their radiance.

All of the diamonds used are immaculately cut flawless Top Wesselton grade and comply with the directives of the Patek Philippe Seal and are set to the most exacting jewelers' standards. ⌚

For more information, visit patek.com







Golden Times Ahead

What are watches doing in Vicenza? Don't worry, they are not stealing the limelight from diamonds – rather, shining a torch in the direction of “old is gold”.

Words by Pooja Agarwal

Running concurrently with the VicenzaOro jewellery show in Vicenza, Italy, VO Vintage (VOV) was held from 18 to 20 January. The event featured 30 leading exhibitors: From vintage dealers like Stefano Mazzariol, one of the world's greatest Rolex Daytona experts, to experts in quality watchmaking like Giulio Papi, Master Watchmaker and Director of Audemars Piguet Renaud & Papi; Professor Ugo Pancani from the Fondation de la Haute Horlogerie; the AHCI (Académie Horlogère des Créateurs Indépendants) with top masters Vincent Calabrese, Antoine Prezioso, and Vianny Halter; and Verga Vintage, master in the art of assessing and restoring vintage watches.

“Being the first edition, there were a lot of interesting pieces and a lot of people,” noticed Bruno Bergamaschi, founder of

Orologi & Passioni, a leading Italian Watch forum. Sandro Fratini, one of the world's greatest watch collectors, found VOV to be “well-organised and interesting”, especially with the new studies on movements by young artisans, with amazing hand-crafted works.

But why choose the theme “vintage” for a new show? “Vintage watches and jewellery have a lot to do with passion,” divulged Marco Carniello, Director of Jewellery and Fashion Division at Italian Exhibition Group (IEG), organiser of VOV. “It can't be ignored that the rarest vintage models are among the most significant investments of the last 30 years. It's a booming segment.” To note, Italy has played a primary role in the vintage market and in the evolution of trends in the world of watches. “Vintage



watches are experiencing great success because their value usually increases and people are treating them as investments,” says Bergamaschi. What’s more, it’s important to note that there are interesting vintage watches produced every year and not just a particular era. “However, the two best performing brands are Patek Philippe and Rolex,” he reveals.

A question new hobbyists always ask is how does one begin collecting? Bergamaschi shares, “I’d focus my attention on the two brands I’ve mentioned, but instead, look for models that are not yet in the hype.” As for Mazzariol, he reveals, “Buying from professional sellers and auctions is advisable. Buy the best watch you can find and afford, as the best price does not exist, but the best watch does.”

A PASSION FOR VINTAGE

Italian watch collector and author of

My Time, Sandro Fratini is known for his massive collection of over 2,000 watches with an estimated total value of 1 billion Euros. Taking the opportunity at VOV, we asked him some questions which plague new and old collectors alike.

For someone with such a vast collection, what else are you on the lookout for?

Simply put, I’m looking for that watch I still haven’t found. I’m a dreamer and I think that somewhere, somehow, there is a watch I don’t own yet and that is the one I’m always looking for.

In your opinion, what era produced really great timepieces and what brands excelled?

For me, the period that gave us the highest production craft was between 1940 to 1950. This decade also best represents me as a collector, with special timepieces from Patek Philippe, like the 1518 (the first to combine the

complications of a perpetual calendar and a chronograph) and the Rolex 6062.

Can you give some tips for those who are starting to get into the hobby?

Everything is more complicated these days as there's no specific place to go to find watches. The world is the stage where the research takes place and the market trend is decided by retailers, and of course, by the interest that buyers show during auctions all around the world. For the



Vintage Rolexes at VOV



Sandro Fratini and son, Giulio

new generation collector, I would suggest to focus on the feeling they get from the watch, rather than its market valuation and retail price.

Which vintage models would be best to buy now?

I would advise to buy those that have less market demand and lesser value. For example, the Rolex Prince or maybe a rectangular-shaped Patek Philippe.

What challenges do you face in collecting vintage watches?

Maybe the only challenge is the one against time... You have to be quicker than other collectors if you want to be the first to buy the timepiece of your choice!

Are you interested in any of the newer makes?

Regarding newer watches, I have a great interest in Audemars Piguet because I think they represent everything I like in a wristwatch – in terms of aesthetic and mechanical standards. The Gérald Genta design for the Royal Oak is something really amazing. ⌚

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LIFE BEYOND FIRST CLASS

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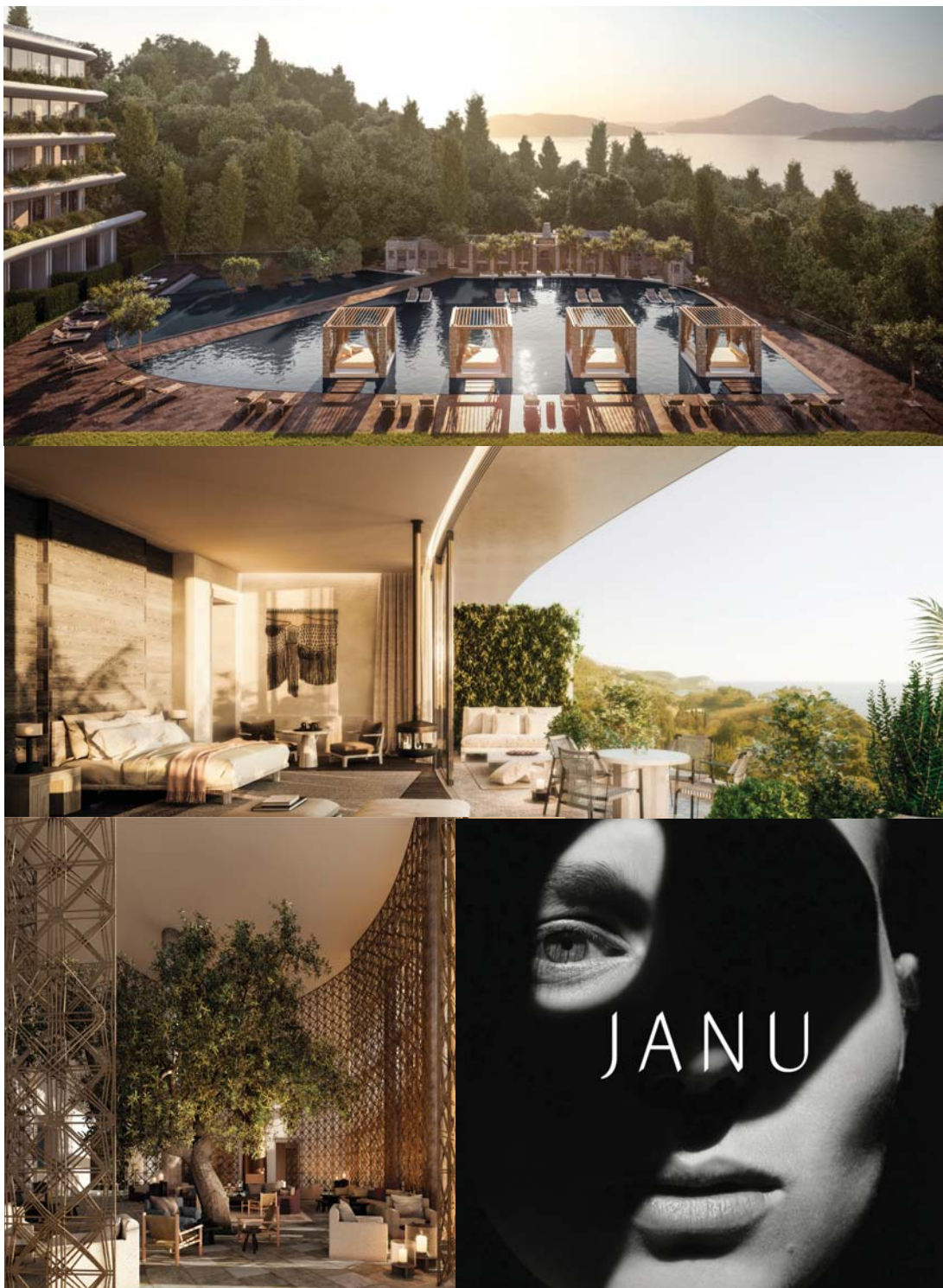


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LUXE LIFE



We are hopeful that we will all be traveling the world again. By 2022, the destination on our must-visit list will be Montenegro, which will be home to the first Janu hotel. The new hotel brand from Aman aims to create environments that nurture purposeful connection to bring balance to the head and heart, and rekindle the soul. As travellers seek a sense of purpose, Janu promises to answer the call for a contemporary approach to journeying, with a conscious mind. janu.com





FABULOUS FEASTS

Top tables worth the indulgence

Words by Anton D. Javier

THE NEXT CHAPTER BEGINS AT PRELUDIO

Following its successful first chapter, Monochrome, Preludio introduces its next: Time. In this new phase, Chef Fernando Arévalo draws inspiration from many things where time is concerned: A particular moment, an unforgettable experience, or simply the amount of time it takes to prepare an ingredient or dish. This is best exhibited in Time Machine, where a series of expertly executed bites feature preparations that range

from one hour to eight months. In Old Quack, flavourful aged duck dumplings are paired with the elegance of Jerusalem artichoke. And in an attempt at humour, Out of Time (white asparagus, cod liver, sour cherry, and black truffle) is prepared tableside, as if the kitchen ran out of time preparing it.

Visit Preludio at 182 Cecil Street, #03-01/02, Tel: 6904 5686

**NEW À LA CARTE MENU AT BRASSERIE
LES SAVEURS**

The St. Regis Singapore recently welcomed newly minted Executive Chef Thibault Chiumenti, who introduced a selection of French culinary classics to the à la carte menu at Brasserie Les Saveurs. Diners can now indulge in a French brasserie-style experience with dishes like Salade de Crabe, which is comprised of sweet and succulent Alaskan king crab, crisp greens, and a refreshing, creamy dressing. The Cassoulet en Cocotte is a hearty dish, bubbling with pork belly, sausage, duck confit, and a bed of paimpol beans. Meanwhile, the Bar en Croûte de Sel is an impressive fish dish, where a whole sea bass is baked in a salt crust, sealing the moisture and fresh flavours of the fish.

*Visit Brasserie Les Saveurs at The St. Regis
Singapore, Tel: 6506 6860*





EXCITING ASIAN FLAVOURS AT 1-V:U

Located at The Outpost Hotel in Sentosa, 1-V:U (pronounced “one view”) boasts a day club concept where guests can enjoy music from resident DJs, cocktails, and familiar bar food. However, for us, it's the 60-seater indoor restaurant that's incredibly exciting. With Chef Ace Tan at the helm, expect interesting executions of Asian favourites, from Singapore to South Korea. To fully enjoy the creations, opt for the Tasting Menu (S\$98), which offers a flavourful insight into his progressive Asian philosophy and techniques. Standouts from the current menu include the Two Sides of Hamachi with Housemade Koji Kaffir Shoyu, Red Snapper with Fish Bone Garlic Shoot Sauce, and Kabocha Rice and Tsukemono with ‘Lei Cha’ Thunder Tea.

Visit 1-V:U at The Outpost Hotel, Level 7, 10 Artillery Avenue, Sentosa, Tel: 6513 7708



SMALLS IS BIG ON FLAVOUR

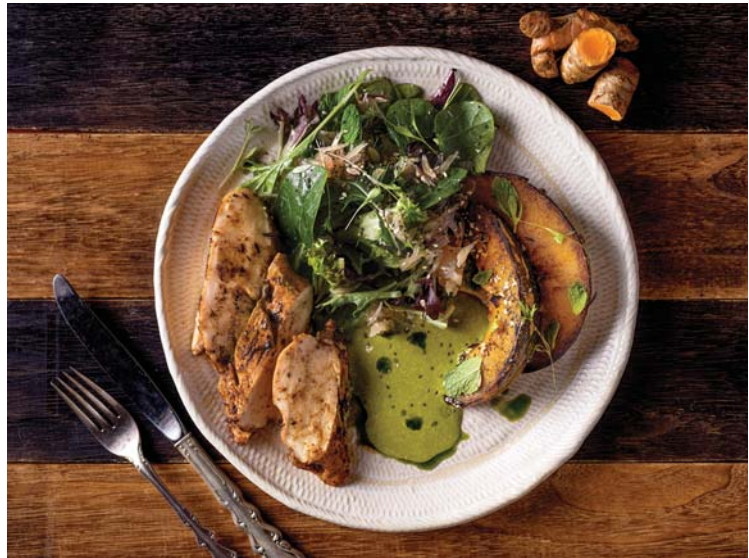
Smalls is a four-seater bar located within Chef Bjorn Shen's ever-popular Artichoke. Given his proclivity for food that's not shy when it comes to flavour, this easy-to-miss corner is something of a mad scientist's food lab. However, expect more successful experiments here compared to disasters. At the moment, what takes centre stage at Smalls are the pizzas inspired by Neapolitan-style pies that Shen had in Japan. For the pizza "omakase" menu, expect the high-moisture dough to make an appearance in various forms, alongside other inventive dishes like a Caesar salad-inspired bagna cauda, fries topped with uni and caviar, as well as his somewhat irreverent yet oh-so-good take on the Vietnamese banh mi.

Visit Smalls at 161 Middle Road. For reservations, visit <http://smalls.as.me>

SUPERB OFFERINGS AT TIONG BAHRU BAKERY DINER

Tiong Bahru Bakery Diner at Funan boasts more than just baked goods. At its helm is Chef Paul Albert, who used to work in some of Paris' most exciting cafes and bakeries. Given his culinary experience, Chef Albert brings a gut-friendly and plant-forward menu that's rich in taste and exacting in technique. Both vegetarians and meat lovers will enjoy flavourful dishes like the textural Chayote Kimchi and Mung Bean Salad topped with crispy buckwheat and toasted peanuts, as well as the Super Green Warm Soup that blends Chinese spinach, bok choy, chye sim, lady's finger, and kaffir lime in a mushroom broth. For something more filling, both the Miso Whole Wheat Spaghetti with Broccolini and Hot Chicken Salad and Caramelised Pumpkin are satisfying options.

Visit Tiong Bahru Bakery Diner at Funan Singapore, #04-22/25, Tel: 6877 4866





HOLDING ONTO HISTORY

Once a home ground for drafted soldiers, The Barracks Hotel Sentosa is a new home built on heritage

Words by Katherine Arteche

Redrawn and reprinted on canvas, the floorplan of the old barracks on Sentosa island is framed up, and hangs on the wall in one of the lounges in The Barracks Hotel. The current hotel suites are easily identified by their square layout sitting neatly in a row, with door openings on the front and back, each opening towards a main corridor and a private balcony with a pool view below. Various fonts are written in its place, each pertaining to a different time since the original development of the Blakang Mati Artillery Barracks from 1904. One's eyes would glaze over the labels

written in its place: 'Naval Training Classrooms', 'Tailor's Shop', and 'Shoemaker's Shop', until 'Holding Area for Prisoners-of-War' will hold your gaze for a longer moment than the rest. How contradictory that the now lavish Barracks Hotel was once a confinement area designed for the opposite end of the spectrum?

Before one would throw their arms up in revolt, it is undeniable that The Barracks Hotel is a property that is rich in history. In fact, the hotel prides itself on the preservation of the original building that now houses



luxurious rooms, despite its ill-fated participation in the Second World War.

The rooms are modernly designed, albeit adopting a vintage spirit. Half-walls, headboards, nightstands and the mini bar trunk are clad in leather with distinct stitching, a statement standing lamp gives out warm light that reflects against its brass skeleton, and on the writing desk, pockets of stationery drawers are covered in carefully woven straw. The walls are refreshed with a light shade of cream, and the high ceiling exposes the natural timber beams above. The only decorations in the room are retrospective framed photographs on the wall, each depicting either a plane, a letter, or soldiers that were drafted for the army. All 40 rooms were designed by Kunio Iwata of KKS International, while the exterior was a project undertaken by Laurence Liew, Director of Arc Studio Architecture + Urbanism.



The hotel is designed in almost-perfect symmetry. Two lap pools flank either side of the central glasshouse named The Living Room, where breakfast, tea, and evening cocktails are hosted. Six king-sized suites trump the ground floor, where each comprises their own private patio and direct access to the pool. All guests of The Barracks Hotel are entitled to a round-the-clock equerry service and daily heritage tour of the grounds. One would discover that the fresh lawn that makes up the vast foreground was once a parade square for soldiers of the First Singapore Regiment Royal Artillery in 1947, while an adjacent building with rows of upscale dining restaurants once served as a military mess hall where causing a ruckus was a venue more suited.

Behind the contemporary façade of quiet respite, it is perhaps here that one would seek not only a rejuvenated stay, but also of mindful enlightenment, upon learning the historic riches of the hotel's past. 🌀

For more information, visit thebarrackshotel.com.sg

WATCH



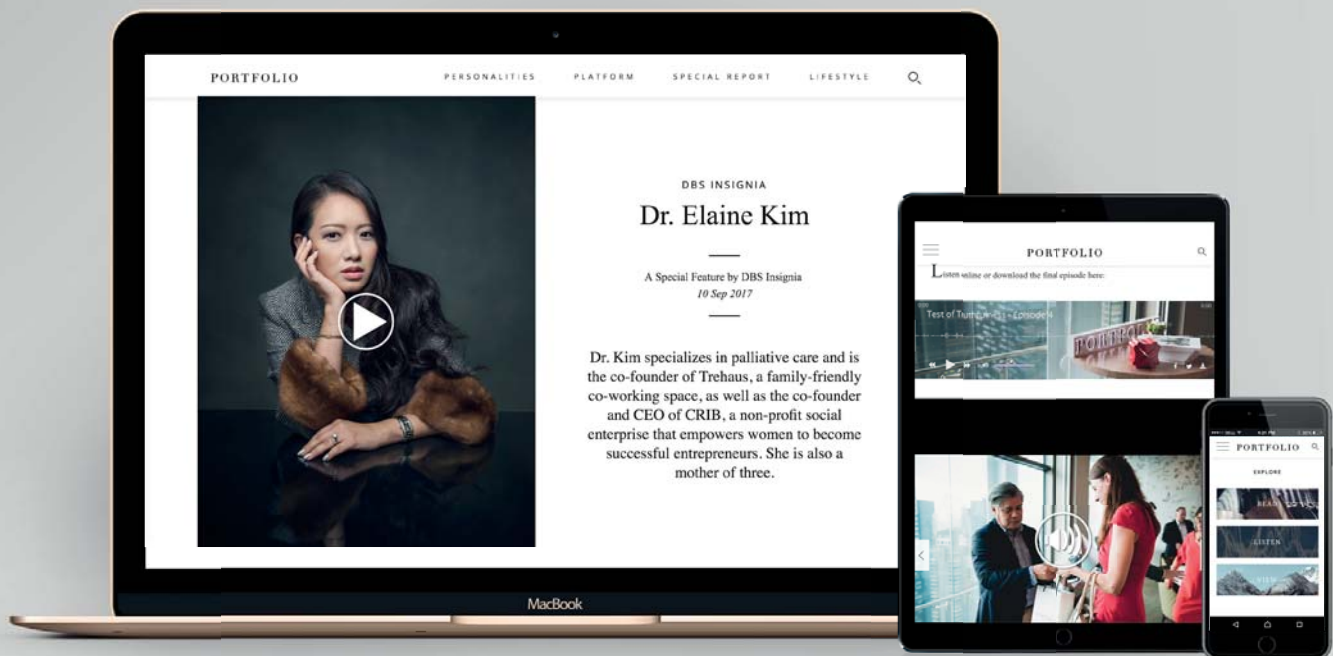
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CGF AND LONGINES TEAM UP FOR THE NEXT THREE EDITIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

The partnership kicks off with Birmingham 2022



1



2



3

In an exclusive partnership with the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF), Swiss watchmaker Longines will be the Official Partner and Timekeeper for Birmingham 2022, as well as the 2026 and 2030 Commonwealth Games. The new partnership sees Longines provide all timing and scoring equipment for all events within the next three Commonwealth Games.

What's more, the partnership also means that Longines is named as 'Presenting Partner' of rugby sevens, table tennis, gymnastics, and athletics. This historic agreement reinforces the strong ties between Longines and the Commonwealth Games.

According to CGF CEO David Grevemberg CBE, "I am absolutely delighted and privileged to have Longines join with us as the Inaugural Partner of the Commonwealth Sport Movement. It marks an exciting new chapter in the longstanding friendship we have had with Longines that dates back to the Perth 1962 Commonwealth Games."

As for Longines Vice President Marketing, Matthieu Baumgartner, he shared, "Our brand has a long history of innovation and precision in sports timekeeping, dating back to the late 19th century. For the three next Commonwealth Games, starting with Birmingham 2022, Longines is perpetuating this history, together with athletes and sports fans from all over the world."

- 1 Official launch of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Countdown Clock on 9 March 2020
- 2 Representatives from the CGF and Longines at the launch The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Countdown
- 3 The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Countdown Clock outside the Birmingham Library during the launch



Chopard Haute Joaillerie Emerald Earrings

It's all about exceptional gemstones for Chopard Haute Joaillerie. The maison, which is known for its know-how and boundless creativity, works its magic on some of the Earth's most precious gifts, resulting in jewellery with pure design that enables the intrinsic beauty of each stone to shine through. This is best seen in this pair of show stopping titanium earrings set with two octagonal-cut 25.6 and 25.2-carat emeralds, two 6.4 and 6.3-carat emeralds, and brilliant cut emeralds from Colombia. ©

For more information, visit chopard.com



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