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FIRST AVENUE MAGAZINE

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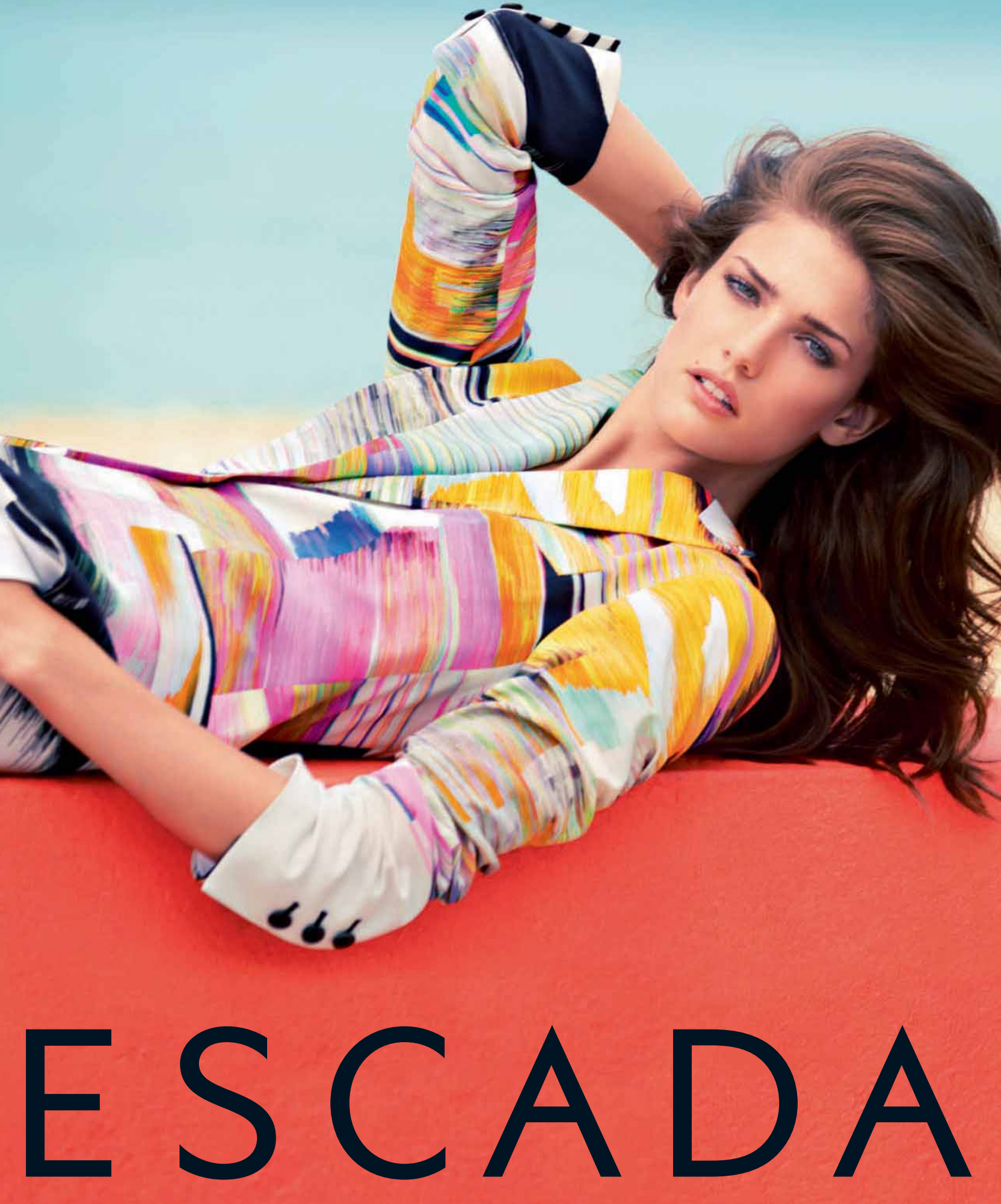
**The art of
GLAMOUR**
statement
accessories

FACE TO FACE

MILA KUNIS

We never really grow up! Especially men!





ESCADA

First Avenue

EDITOR'S NOTES

A touch of Modernity...

A touch of Humor...

A touch of Extraordinary...

A touch of Madness...

A touch of Elegance...

With all our respect...

We bring you the First Avenue!

Welcome to the latest edition of the First Avenue Magazine! First Avenue Magazine excels in capturing the urbane metropolitan lifestyle. Whether it's an in-depth profile of a stunning celebrity, a special feature on the chicest trends in design, cutting-edge fashion spreads or an in-depth review of the city's hot spots, First Avenue Magazine consistently engages the affluent reader.

This issue's cover girl is none other than the incredibly stunning and refreshing actress, Mila Kunis; starting her career at an early age she has taken Holly Wood by storm. In an exclusive interview with First Avenue, she talks about her career, roles and inspirations. On the same front, don't forget to get the latest scoop on celebrity look, in our Celebrity Fashion News section.

For a fit & healthy lifestyle, exercising is one surefire way to shed those extra pounds. With our *Easy Exercise Routine*, learn how easily one can work out anytime and anywhere, without any excuses. You are going to need it, with all the indulgences we've got on tap, in Fine Dining - Imagine dining at the top of the world.

This issue is also bursting at the seams with the latest home décor ideas to rejuvenate your space. Our feature brings you the best and chic way to bring a breath of fresh air into your living space.

We wrap up this issue with travel. Get the scoop on the hottest romantic destinations across the globe, in the Travel & Stay segment. We pack our bags for the loveliest places on earth, to relive romance and passion. Although, things are equally lively here at home too, from the mesmerizing dance of the famed Dubai Fountains to a day spent in the rustic Bastakia Quarters, we have compiled an ultimate to do list in Dubai.

On the fashion front we are fully loaded with latest runway reports, watch and jewelry collections and more. Our fab Fashion must haves section is a guide to stylish essentials, from sun glasses to perfumes. We've got all the luxurious accessories for you to glam yourself up.

So, read on and discover what you have been missing!!!

Lamiya Sami



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PARFUMS de MARLY

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In 1743, in memory of his great-grandfather Louis XIV, Louis XV commissioned Guillaume Coustou to sculpt his famous masterpiece for the grounds of the chateau de Marly (Marly Castle). This magnificent work of art, known as “the Marly horses”, earned a place on the Champs-Élysées Avenue in the heart of Paris in 1974 where it can still be admired today.

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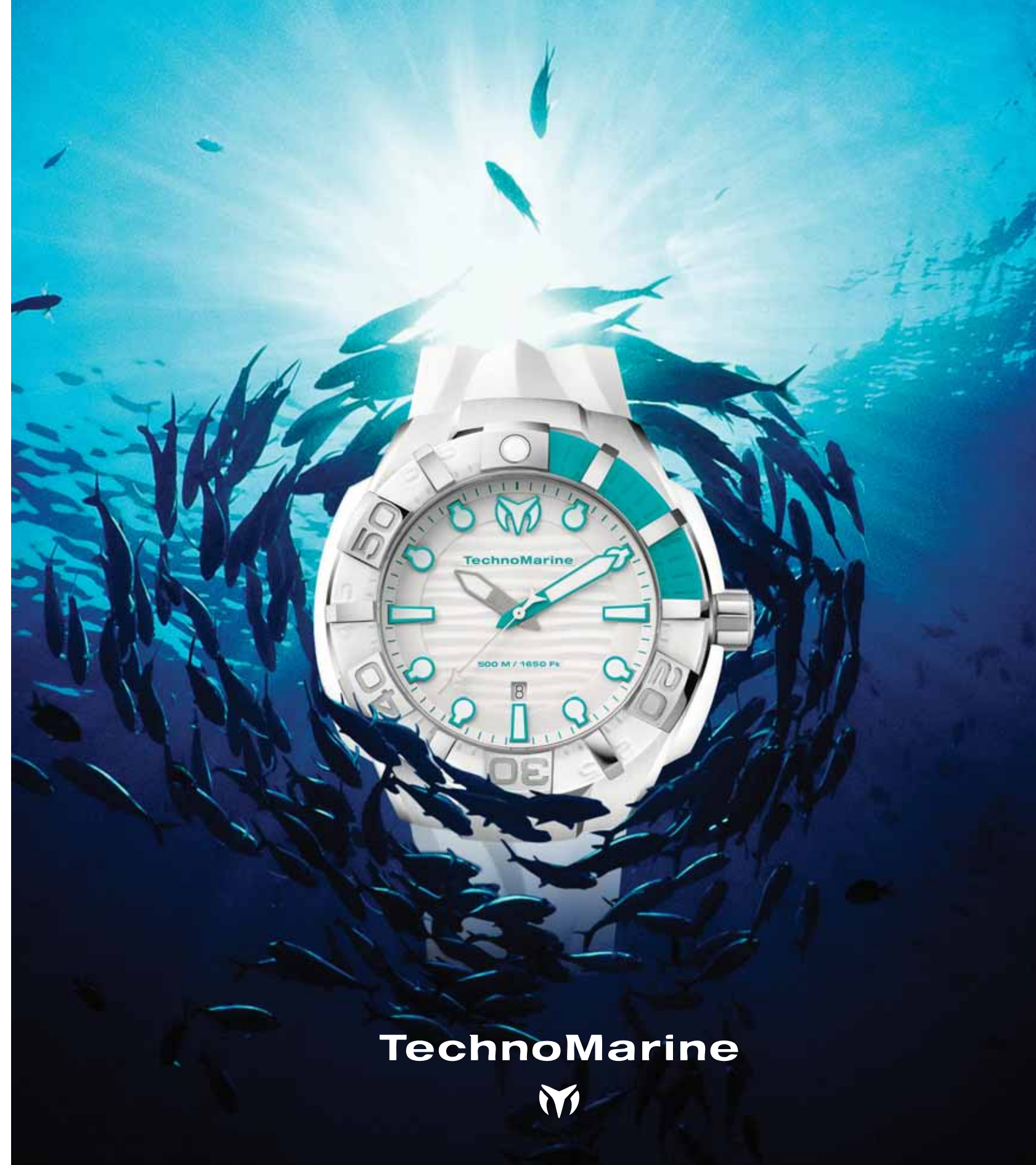
Emily Blunt - Critics' Choice Awards 2013

Emily Blunt walked the red carpet at the 2013 Critics' Choice Awards held at Barker Hangar in Santa Monica, Calif. The 29-year-old actress, was up for Best Actress, for her work in the Action Movie, *Looper*.



Jessica Chastain Paints the Town Red

Looking ravishing in red, Jessica Chastain arrived at the 18th Annual Critics Choice Movie Awards held at Barker Hangar. The 'Zero Dark Thirty' scarlet siren was nominated for 'Best Actress' and walked away with the trophy. Jessica Chastain painted the town red wearing Harry Winston's ravishing diamonds & ruby earrings, set in platinum; a ruby and diamond bracelet and a diamond carpet bracelet, set in platinum.



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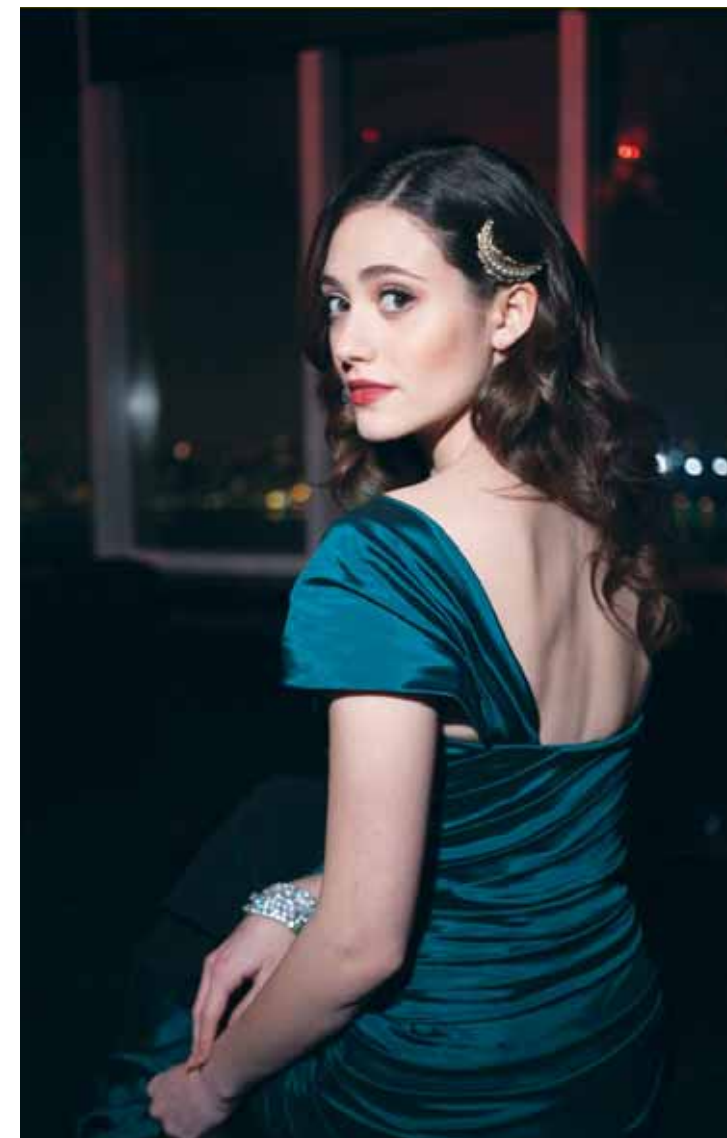
Jennifer Lawrence

Jennifer Lawrence looked stunning at the 2013 People's Choice Awards, held at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. The 22-year-old actress wore a Valentino Couture dress and bag, Nicholas Kirkwood shoes, and Cartier jewelry. Jennifer received two awards during the show – Favorite Movie Actress and Favorite Face of Heroism for her work in, *The Hunger Games*.



Robert Downey Jr. - People's Choice Awards 2013 Winner!

Robert Downey Jr., looked handsome, wearing the Giorgio Armani's grey suit, at the 2013 People's Choice Awards held at Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. The 47-year-old Iron Man star won a grand total of three awards – one for "Favorite Movie Actor," one for "Favorite Action Movie Star," and the last for "Favorite Movie Superhero"!



Emmy Rossum

Emmy Rossum shines at the exclusive listening party at the *Top of the Standard* in New York City. The 26-year-old actress performed songs from her upcoming album, *Sentimental Journey* at the party.



Scarlett Johansson - Cat on a Hot Tin Roof Opening Party!

Scarlett Johansson hit the red carpet wearing a sexy Dolce & Gabbana outfit, at the opening night party of the play, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* at The Lighthouse, Chelsea Piers in New York City. The 28-year-old actress received a very positive review from The New York Times, and called her the "lifeline" of the production.

A full-length photograph of Mila Kunis on a red carpet. She is wearing a black strapless dress and has her hands on her hips. She is smiling broadly at the camera. The background is a green wall with logos for 'SPIN' and 'GE' visible.

Exclusive interview with First Avenue

Mila Kunis

"We never really grow up, especially men..."



"I was impressed by how Aronofsky directs his actors always giving them the attention they need, and then also mastering the camera, the light and all the technical aspects that are specific to the shooting..."

With her sultry looks and laid-back demeanour, Mila Kunis is refreshingly unpretentious and undoubtedly one of the sexiest women alive. Born in Ukraine, Kunis relocated to Los Angeles with her family when she was 7 years old, and soon after, her parents enrolled her in drama classes to help her overcome her shyness. By the age of 9, she was working professionally. But her big break came when, at 14, she was cast alongside Ashton Kutcher, in *That '70s Show*. Her theatrical breakthrough came with a Golden Globe-nominated performance in Darren Aronofsky's gothic-horror film, *Black Swan* (2010), as a manipulative aspiring prima ballerina alongside Natalie Portman. But the list of other films that she has been involved in over the past years is long and varied, ranging

from comedies such as *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* (2008) with Jason Segel, *Date Night* (2010) with Tina Fey and Steve Carell, and *Friends With Benefits* with Justin Timberlake, to action-adventure movies such as *Max Payne* (2008) with Mark Wahlberg (based on the video game), and *The Book of Eli* (2010) with Denzel Washington. For the past 12 years, Kunis has also voiced the character of Meg Griffin on Seth MacFarlane's critically acclaimed animated series *Family Guy*. Mila recently teamed once again with both MacFarlane and Wahlberg for *Ted*, which co-stars a CGI teddy bear. Visiting Paris for the launch of her movie *Ted*, the beautiful actress had a face to face encounter with *First Avenue Magazine*, that took place in one of the Capital's most glamorous five star hotels.

First Avenue: The audiences know you since American Psycho 2 but Darren Aronofsky's Black Swan really kicked off your film career. How do you explain this?

MILA KUNIS: It's very simple. I played mostly in low-budget films, although often of very high quality. And then suddenly comes along Aronofsky's project on the life of a ballerina. A high budget movie with huge stars like Natalie Portman and Vincent Cassel, and a theatrical release worldwide. Inevitably, the public in the broadest sense of the term, noticed me, because they go to see this kind of film, while my previous small-budget

films ran mostly in small circuits. I would like to say though that the TV 70's Show in which I starred made me quite famous, but mainly in the USA.

F. A: How did you like working on the film Black Swan and what about the numerous dance scenes that were included?

M. K: I liked the filming pretty well. Everyone demonstrated great professionalism both in the artistic field and the technique. I practice dance myself, so I performed all of the dance scenes, except for a few little sequences that required a very

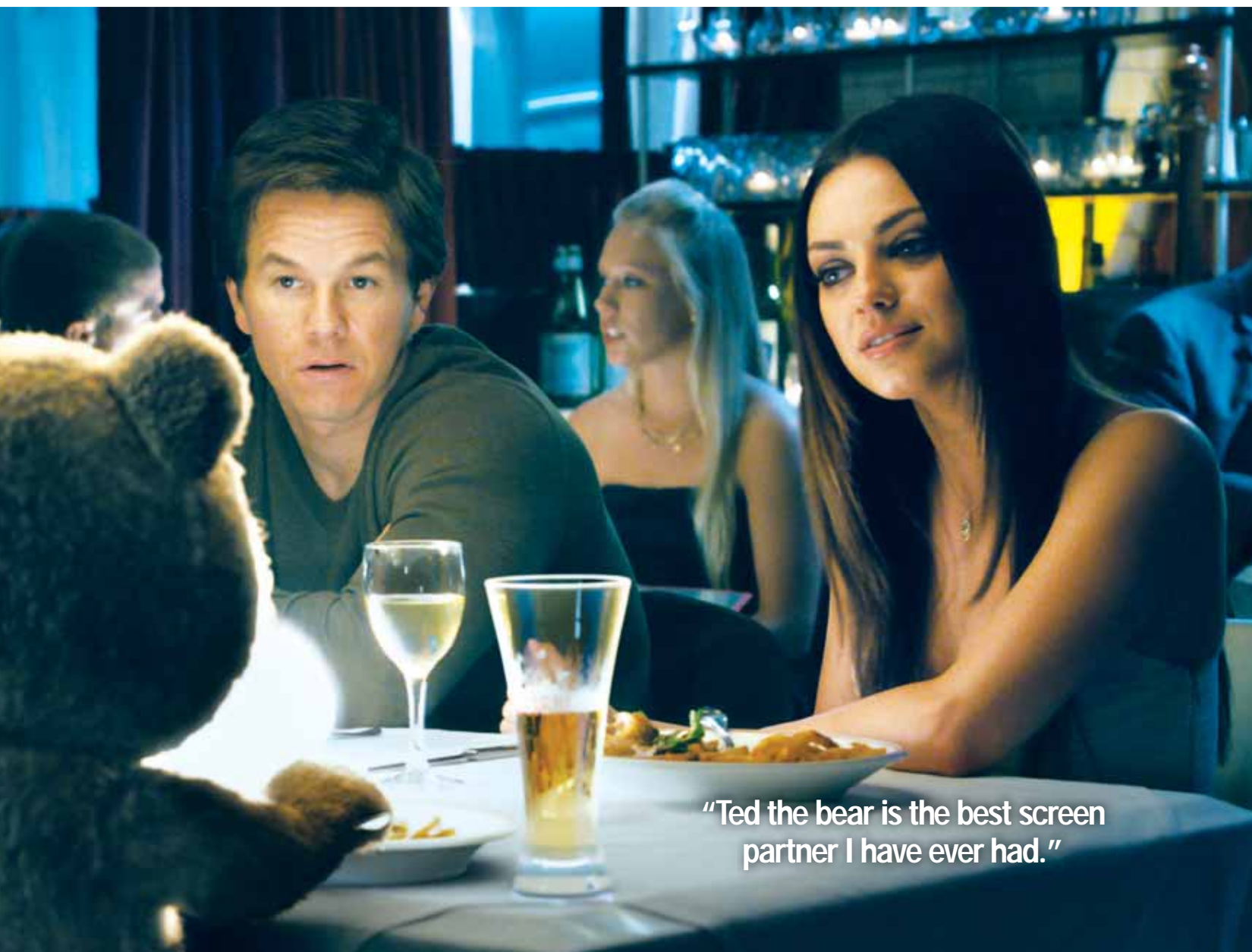
high level and where a very experienced dancer took my place. Of course none of that shows on the screen.

F. A: And what about Natalie Portman?

M. K: She really believed she was a great ballerina, so...

F. A: What does that mean?

M. K: No, nothing, I'm just saying that it was better for the film because she had no difficulty integrating her character or playing the most difficult scenes. She believed in every word she said and in every move she made.



"Ted the bear is the best screen partner I have ever had."



F. A: Tell us about your relationship to actor Vincent Cassel?

M. K: He was charming to me. And I was very appreciative of his professionalism. Always ready when the director says "action", always going deeper in his character, even if he kept telling funny stories all the time off the record. I believe he is a great actor. We maintained excellent relations of friendship throughout the shooting of the film.

F. A: Was it more pleasant to be led by a great director like Darren Aronofsky rather than by others?

M. K: No. It was very nice indeed, but it was not in any way, more pleasant than with filmmakers like Nicholas Stoller, Will Gluck, Shawn Levy, the Hughes brothers or others with whom I have worked. Obviously, I was impressed by how

Aronofsky directs his actors always giving them the attention they need, and then also mastering the camera, the light and all the technical aspects that are specific to the shooting. He knows precisely what he wants and how to get it. A true maestro. Now, other filmmakers with whom I have worked, are also extremely professional, even if their films are seen less or have lower budgets.

F. A: You have worked alongside Justin Timberlake, Vincent Cassel, Denzel Washington and Mark Wahlberg in Ted. You must be very envied by your fellow actresses. Which of these gentlemen who appeal to women all over the world left you with the best memories?

M. K: Steve Carell certainly. Because although you do not quote him in your question, this man

with whom I played in *Crazy Night*, totally seduced me. Steve is a funny guy who constantly looks as if he was depressed, and he is such a professional actor that he learns his text in a phonetic way as if he did not understand English. He does this to amuse people on the set actually, then he builds emotions on the phonetic lines pretending not to understand a word he says, and gives you the illusion of the situation he plays. I had never seen this before in my life. He is a great actor who knows how to have fun while working, and that is very rare. Do you remember the movie *A Fish Called Wanda* with Jamie Lee Curtis and Kevin Kline, and how she literally melted when he spoke to her in Italian? I was like that on the set of *Crazy Night*, I melted like snow in the sun when Steve opened his mouth to speak to me in an English that he claimed not to handle. But lets not make anybody jealous and



"I liked working alongside Mark Wahlberg, it was very rewarding"

please forget all about what I just said and replace it with: best screen partner I have ever had. How about that!

F. A: How was it playing with the bear?

M. K: I have never seen any bear as he is a virtual creature that came along in the images after the film was done. We had, Mark (Wahlberg) and I, the obligation to pretend that he was there all the time and to look at him, speak to him, touch him even and all of that without him being there. It was my first experience with an unexisting screen partner and that makes him the ideal one.

F. A: It might be time for you then to talk a little about the movie Ted?

M. K: Ted is a strange film that I had a lot of fun to shoot. This is the story of a man who has a good relationship with a young woman and overnight realizes that the teddy bear fetish



"My favorite designer is no other, just myself!"



object of his childhood begins to come to life and talk. Suddenly, the man almost falls back, into childhood and starts to neglect his love for the benefit of his new relationship with the toy. This is actually a metaphor about the fact that we never really grow up, and some less than others, especially men! forgive me. Yet, the film is above all a romantic comedy. I liked working alongside Mark Wahlberg, it was very rewarding. I already knew him because he was playing in *Crazy Night*, except that we had no scenes together.

F. A: You were born Russian, do you speak that language?

M. K: Yes, I do speak very good Russian. Even though, I've lived in the USA, since I was seven; I am originally from Ukraine.

F. A: Are you a Fashion Victim?

M. K: No. But I like to follow what is happening in fashion just to be aware of trends. Then, I create my mixes myself with tops and skirts and other pieces. In fact, I create my own gowns from existing parts according to my personal taste. Therefore, my favorite designer is no other, just myself!

F. A: Dior named you as the brand's face. How about that?

M. K: I was very honored by all means, as Dior is one of the top fashion and beauty houses in the world and so representative of the parisian elegance. I love that responsibility and try to keep up to the level, of course.

F. A: How do you live up to the fact of being the sexiest woman alive according to a famous magazine?

M. K: I do not! Let them write what they want, I cannot stop anyone from doing that but I do not feel concerned about that matter, however flattering it may be to be treated as such.

Easy Workout Routine



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Fitting exercise into your life is essential, but it can be challenging, especially when you read the media reports, and get confused about how much exercise you need in order to lose weight. Is it 30 minutes a day or 60? Does it have to be done all at once, or can it be broken up? Should

it be cardio or stamina training? The simple answer to this is you can build muscle and burn fat in just 15 minutes a day — no cardio and no gym! Try this easy-to-follow workout routine, appropriate for all fitness levels which takes just a few minutes a day.

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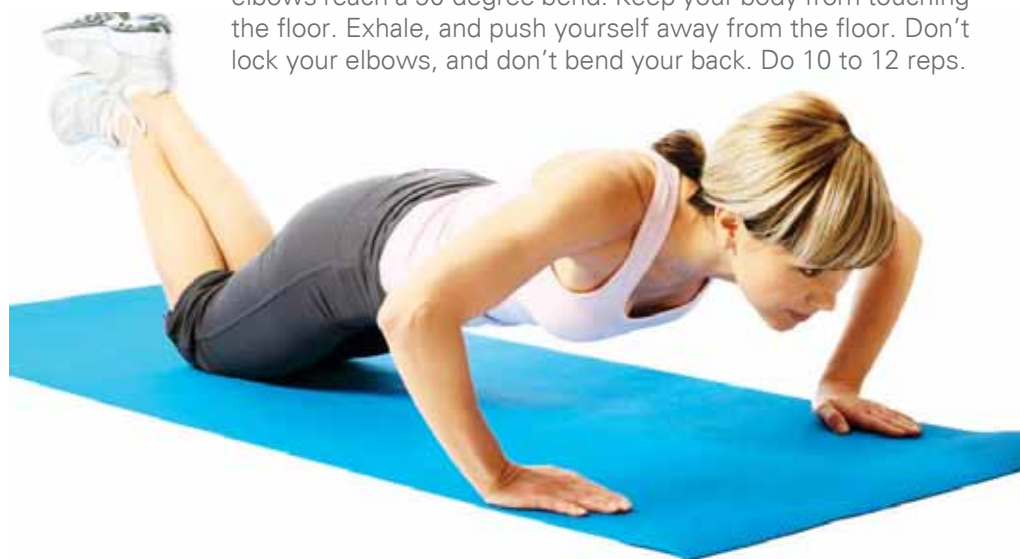


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Oblique Crunches

Oblique crunches are amongst some of the important workouts that help to reduce the fat stored in the lower abdominal area. To start with, lie down on your back, with knees bent and your feet about hip-width apart. Cross your left ankle over opposite (right) knee. Place the right hand behind your head and lift the right shoulder across, towards the left knee. Release, and lie back, down. Do 10 to 12 reps, and then switch sides.



Push-Ups

The great thing about push-ups is that they use your body weight as resistance, so you don't have to use equipment. They're a great way to tone the upper body, if done correctly. Get down on all fours, knees together. Move your hands outwards to a distance slightly wider than chest and lift the feet. Inhale as you lower yourself to the floor, stopping as your elbows reach a 90-degree bend. Keep your body from touching the floor. Exhale, and push yourself away from the floor. Don't lock your elbows, and don't bend your back. Do 10 to 12 reps.



Chair Dips

You can do chair dips anywhere you find a sturdy chair. Just imagine that you are about to sit in an imaginary chair placed directly in front of your real chair as you set up for this exercise. Stand in front of a chair. Face away from the chair's seat. Sit on the edge of a sturdy chair, with hands next to hips. Your hands should be on the edge of the seat and shoulder width apart. Slide your bottom off the edge and lower yourself, bending your elbows to 90 degrees. Be sure to keep your back close to the chair, and then push yourself back up. Keep your chest elevated and head up. Do 10 to 12 repetitions.

Chair Squats

Chair squats are a great exercise for the office worker or anyone who is forced to sit in the same position for long periods of time. Sit back in the chair with your hands on your knees and your feet evenly planted on the floor. Inhale deeply and push yourself off the chair, with your weight on your feet and knees, raising your arms into the air. This means you should be standing in front of the chair with your arms stretched comfortably above your head. Exhale as you descend back into the chair bending the elbows and knees as you sit back down. Pull in the stomach muscles as you lower the body, to add a little extra work to the movement. Do 10 to 12 reps.



Step-Ups

Place your entire right foot on a stair or a sturdy platform, and step up, with left leg following. Step down with left leg, reaching back about 12 inches; follow with right. Do 12 times, keeping your chest lifted, then switch sides and repeat. As you get stronger, try this move with weights. Start by looking at a bench in front of you and begin by lifting any one of your legs and then step-up onto the bench. You can either return to the starting position or lift the opposite leg up working your hip flexor. Once down at the starting position use the other leg for the next repetition.



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Simple Beauty Regimen

Get the red-carpet radiance!

Trying to look your best at all times can be a tiring task that usually involves a lot of effort, time and patience. However, there are easy

ways to make sure you look and feel fabulous, without much effort. Follow this simple beauty regimen to flaunt the beautiful you!



Glowing Skin

Who doesn't want to look gorgeous and glow, like celebrities on the red carpet? But getting that look seems painstaking and tiresome. The good news is, acquiring a glowing skin isn't that difficult, after all. Try this simple tip and you will feel a huge difference in your overall appearance. Facial massage every other day is an unbeatable strategy for getting an instant glow. Use your knuckles and finger tips to roll, knead and drum life back into your skin. These movements stimulate lymphatic drainage on puffy complexions and boost the vital supply of oxygen and nutrients to the skin. Massage used in combination with your skincare products increases their performance. Always remember that your skin speaks of your lifestyle, so make sure to drink plenty of water, exercise regularly, eat smart and take plenty of rest, every day.



Healthy Hair

The easy and healthy way to add body, personality, and longevity to your hair is to focus on two things; detoxifying and nourishing the hair. An at-home treatment for nourishing hair is to mix a quarter of a tablespoon of vitamin C powder, the same amount of cider vinegar and half a cup of hot water to freshly washed hair for a deep cleanse. You can also deep condition your hair at home with a detox mask (any good brand). When applying a hair mask at home, gently warm a hand towel in the microwave and wrap it around the hair for 20 minutes — the heat intensifies the treatment, helping it last around three weeks. When it comes to hair, always remember to go gentle with them, and avoid any harsh chemical based treatments to sustain the natural beauty of your tresses.



Beautiful Nails

Your nails can tell a lot about your health and yourself. You could be wearing the cutest outfit and a perfect hair style, but if your nails are messed up, it could ruin the whole look. To make your nails look healthy and strong remember these words of advice. Moisturize your nails constantly; Rub them with petroleum jelly or Castor oil, daily. Always dry your hands and nails thoroughly after washing. This prevents bacteria from growing due to moisture stuck underneath the nails. Regularly clean under your nails as well. Trim and file your nails regularly, trim straight across with nail clippers and file any thick areas for a clean, healthy look.



Stay Happy

Most people have no control over their emotional well-being. They feel ecstatic when good stuff happens and depressed when things go wrong. Always remember to look for reasons to be happy. Think positively and empower yourself with love, hope and growth. Above all always remember to wear a smile.

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Statement Accessories

The art of glamour!

Accessories are the most important details when it comes to pulling together a glamorous look. It is also one of the easiest ways to spruce up an otherwise simple outfit. If used creatively, statement accessories can make your

old clothing feel all bright, shiny and new again. It is an instant wardrobe renewal that also effects the way how we look and the way we feel. Here is a list of effective statement accessories to help you jazz up your look...



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Statement Necklace

From sparkly bibs to geometric collars, a statement necklace has a more dramatic effect than any outfit. When wearing a bold necklace, always remember to keep the rest of your look simple and sleek. Let the necklace make the statement. A classic wrap dress, elegant pumps and a smart, chic bag paired with your statement necklace makes the perfect, versatile look you can wear to work and beyond. Open necklines such as v-necks are very flattering to many body types; fill it up with some gorgeous statement necklace to add texture and detail. You can also add a statement necklace around the outside of the collar to spice up your formal outfit. It may seem like too much at first, but statement necklaces actually look great paired with other embellishments like ruffled collars or sequin tops.



Chandelier Earrings

An easy way to spice up any outfit is by adding a fabulous pair of chandelier earrings to it. Without a doubt the most glamorous earrings you can wear are chandelier earrings. These have the biggest wow factor when walking into a room and add instant glamour to any outfit. As beautiful as they are they are not always the simplest piece of jewelry to wear. Depending on the shape of your face you can go smaller or bigger. If you're very petite with small features avoid wearing extra-large earrings because they will make you look smaller. While pulling off a great pair of chandelier earrings, be sure to put your hair up in an elegant bun or high ponytail. Sweep your hair away from your ears to let your jewels really shine. Use them to dress up your daytime look. Chandelier earrings are the perfect accessory to go from daytime casual to nighttime chic with the same outfit.



Chunky Bracelets

Bracelets are a timeless fashion accessory that can be worn with anything, from a designer evening gown to a pair of jeans and a white t-shirt. Chunky bracelets make a fierce statement. Wearing the bracelet in just the right fashion is just as important as the fashion you pair the bracelet with. There are several different options to consider while choosing a new look. Bracelets can enhance an outfit as well as a nicely manicured hand. They are immensely versatile and can give your wardrobe a huge style boost.

Combining several different bracelets and wearing them on one wrist is also one of the jewelry trends this season. When you choose what kind of bracelet to wear, you need to pay attention to how well the color of the bracelet goes with the colors of the whole outfit. It is also important to match the bracelet with the style of the outfit. Just play with the styles and colors to create that unique and unforgettable look.



Cocktail Rings

A cocktail ring is a large, dramatic ring often worn at cocktail parties. The cocktail ring is the ultimate accessory, to make any outfit shine. Cocktail ring is an important eye-popping statement. Whether you're wearing a colorful whimsical dress or a basic black one, adding a cocktail ring enhances your overall ensemble. With so many rings to choose from, ranging from the bold and the beautiful, to bling-worthy conversation starters, cocktail rings are one of the best evening baubles in the fashionista's closet. Getting ready for a cocktail party is simpler than it looks. You just need a few bold pieces and a cocktail ring is the perfect accessory to make an outfit feel new and fresh, not to mention glamorous. When looking for the perfect ring, select one that you feel comfortable with. If you're not used to wearing bold, eccentric jewelry, opt for a smaller cocktail ring.



Wristwatch

Wristwatches come in all shapes and sizes. It is an accessory that can be worn simply to be functional or as a fashion statement. It can also be worn to show off your personality; from whimsical to the financially successful. Wristwatches conveniently express your style without the help of anything else from your wardrobe. Give yourself a sporty look by wearing a sporty watch or add some glamour by sporting a bejeweled wrist watch. Watch is not only an accepted standard of time length, but for some people, a watch is much more meaningful. It is a symbol of luxury, and style.



Fashion Must Haves

From the perfumes, shoes to eyeglasses, here are some fashion trends and accessories that you may want to consider purchasing...

VERSACE Crystal Medusa Sunglasses

Inspired by the Versace costume jewelry line, the new CRYSTAL MEDUSA collection epitomizes style and femininity, offering the glitzy and bejeweled look, Versace is renowned for. High-octane glamour and modern elegance are the distinctive traits of Versace eyewear for the season. Adorned by Swarovski crystals and colored enamel profiles, it sports an ultra-feminine engraved metallic embellishment with embossed Medusa. The glasses are available across all Paris Gallery stores in Dubai.



Stuart Weitzman's Swarovski-Encrusted Pavé Collection

A favorite of both Hollywood starlets and musical icons alike, Stuart Weitzman's Limited Edition Pavé Collection is now available at the world's largest shoe store, Level Shoe District, in the Dubai Mall. Crafted, using the finest evening materials, each shoe is hand-set with beautiful Swarovski crystals and takes two days for specialized artisans to complete. The Pavé Collection consists of evening styles glimmering in an array of colorful Swarovski crystal designs from elegant strappy sandals to decorated heels on pumps to unique pattern platforms. These sparkling stilettos can dazzle with as many as 25,000 Swarovski crystals.



Guerlain - Blanc de Perle range

Guerlain's new expert skincare products and innovative beauty rituals protect the skin's radiance, layer after layer, and maximize the whitening action of the Blanc de Perle routine, with a feather-light UV shield, protective spray for the face and body, and three make-up bases with true brightening effects.



Cardigan Abayas by Farfalla Haute Couture

Farfalla Haute Couture launches its new winter collection of embellished and beautifully crafted abayas. The collection with its cardigan range has taken the fashion circuit by a storm, receiving immense feedback from its customers. In this collection, Farfalla Haute Couture has paid attention to detail with beautiful cuts and elegant accessories adding the special touch to the collection. A sneak peek into the thirteen piece abaya collection by Farfalla encompasses fine textured cotton cardigans accented with multicolored hand embroidery work, attached with a simple black ribbon and embellished with Swarovski crystals, sequins and black embroidery in fine beads. With these breath-taking designs, Farfalla Haute Couture, has essentially changed the abaya.



House of Sillage

House of Sillage returns to the essential elements that define luxury, with the launch of six new fragrances, three spectacular new limited edition bottles as well as a signature collection. Each breathtaking bottle is tailored by years of experience and has been given time-honored attention from the rare and exotic ingredients to the brilliantly designed jeweled caps, which have made each fragrance a treasured

and collectible work of art. The Limited Edition perfumes, place House of Sillage in its own realm, into the sphere of the fashion forward innovators of the fragrance industry. The intricate bottle architecture and breathtaking, sparkling jeweled caps augment the transcendent fragrances. The Signature Collection allows House of Sillage's sought-after scents to be made accessible to a wider audience.

Top Romantic Getaways

Sights and sounds of someplace fascinating!



The idea of taking a break amidst all the chaos of daily life, to enjoy the sights and sounds of someplace fascinating and relax while just being close to the one we care about, is the fantasy we all try to accomplish. Our hectic urban lives have left us exhausted

and tired, unable to plan anything romantic to cherish sheer togetherness with the special someone in our lives. To make your life easier, we have compiled a list of some of the most romantic places on earth, for you to savor with the ones you love.



Paris

If there's any place that can surpass the word romance, it is Paris! It is almost synonymous with the word romance. The modern yet culturally vibrant city offers the romantic couples, unspoiled parks and gardens, unmatched dining experience and loads of intimate moments. Stroll down Champs Elysees, take a cozy ride down the Seine, have a picnic lunch in the Luxembourg Gardens or just explore the city with your loved one. The Eiffel Tower is also unarguably one of the most romantic spots in the world. Take an elevator to the third level, and share an exhilarating romantic moment over the city.

Venice

Venice exudes fairytale romance like no other place on earth. This magical city offers you the best of the old world charm infused with modern spirit. Enjoy the romantic experience of taking a gondola ride especially at sunset. Sip cappuccino in the sidewalk cafes, appreciate ancient architecture and get lost in Venice's countless alleys and narrow cobbled streets and watch out for small surprises. A romantic myth surrounding one of the bridges; the bridge of sighs, is that couples who share a kiss beneath its arch will find eternal happiness. A floating city with glittering waterways and charming bridges, Venice is undoubtedly the romance capital of the world.



Maldives

With a group of 1000 coral islands, Maldives has endless views of the sea from every angle. With the sun shining all through the year, the island is home to hundreds of resorts, water sports venues and underwater life perfect for those looking for a romantic getaway. A classic honeymoon destination, Maldives offers seclusion above water, and a spectacular undersea landscape below. Shoals of scuba-lovers come to explore the aquatic world, while couples and jet-set veterans come to experience the exclusive resorts. The place is made for romantic sun-soaking, star-gazing, and turquoise-ocean toe-dipping.



Sydney

For a more contemporary urban romantic experience, Sydney is the place to be. The sassy city offers luxurious hotels, myriad sightseeing experiences and sporting getaways , attracting romantic couples to this Kangaroo Island. The eye-popping setting, sprawled around one of the world's best looking harbors, keeps tourists captivated.

New York City

The epitome of a modern city, New York is aptly branded as the land of young lovers. The city never sleeps for romantic couples, wishing for the unforgettable moments. Experience the carriage ride in Central Park, spring skating at Rockefeller Center, or simply indulge yourself with a candle light dinner, there's something for everyone. For the love birds looking for a more sophisticated experience, you may also enjoy art and culture in SoHo, or see a show on Broadway, the city truly never sleeps.





Vienna

With its monumental palaces, gilded opera houses and stately boulevards Vienna feels like an imperial capital still looking for its long lost empire. The old world charm and magic is tangible as one walks through the impressive gardens and schlosses, through various picturesque buildings representing its high culture and romantic history, creating the perfect setting for a romantic holiday. Couples can enjoy pastries with traditional cups of coffee in dark wood cafes or take a ride on the river Danube, visit the imperial Schmetterlinghaus (Butterfly House) or view Vienna atop the Riesenrad Ferris wheel. A hangout of philosophers, musicians and composers like Schubert, Brahms and Mozart, this city offers numerous opportunities to indulge ones-self in its art scene, which can be fully appreciated by the art-loving, lovers.

Bali

A tropical paradise, Bali is the all-in-one destination; no other place in south-east Asia can offer the spectacular combination of culture and history, breathtaking beaches and lush tropical vistas, great shopping and awesome hotels, sensual spas, bars and restaurants, in one location with some of the most dramatic and stunning sunsets. The only problem however, is to decide what to do each day...



Dubai - To do list



Dubai is a happening place, which literally means that there's always something interesting or exciting going on, in this city of lights. With an unbeatable infrastructure, iconic land marks, cultural happenings and exciting

festivals, the city always keeps its visitors and residents engaged. We have compiled a list of some of the most interesting things to do and see in Dubai, all year round. So read on and discover what you've really missed...



Dubai Fountain

A world-class water, light and music spectacle, Dubai fountain is set in the thirty acre Burj Khalifa Lake, right outside The Dubai Mall on the lower ground waterfront promenade of the Burj, the world's tallest building in the heart of downtown Dubai. Choreographed to music, the fountain performs daily, shooting water jets as high as 500 feet. Designed by creators of the Fountains of Bellagio in Vegas, the fountain assures a vibrant musical and visual experience. Over 6,600 lights and 50 color projectors create a visual spectrum of over 1,000 different water expressions that enchant the visitors of every age. Different combinations of water-forms of The Dubai Fountain perform to select musical pieces chosen from classical to contemporary Arabic and world music.



At the top of Burj Khalifa

No building in modern history has provoked so much inquisitiveness and intrigue as the iconic Burj Khalifa. From your vantage point on level 124 of the world's tallest building, floor-to-ceiling glass walls provide a breath-taking unobstructed 360-degree view of the city, the desert and the ocean. Experience the modern architectural and engineering marvel and know at last what it is like to see the world from the highest standing structure in the world. With multimedia presentations learn about the history of Dubai and the fascinating story of Burj Khalifa, or take a tour with special telescopes providing virtual time-travel visions of the scenes beyond and below.

Gold Souq

Dubai is famous for its gold offerings. Whether or not you want to buy, a trip through the glittering Gold Souq is a must, to savor the culture and the atmosphere of Arabia. The shops offer almost all types of precious metals, including platinum, diamonds and silver, and the government maintains vigilance over quality of all the goods.



Bastakia Quarter

Amid the concrete jungle of futuristic high-rise, Bastakia Quarter summons the old nostalgia of the quiet fishing village that Dubai once was. The Bastakia Quarter lies between the Dubai Creek and the buzzing Bur Dubai district. It is a mini labyrinth of wind-towered buildings, a clutch of which have been transformed into art galleries and cafés. To experience the contemporary art from across the Gulf region a trip to XVA Gallery is a must. Also, don't forget to visit the Majlis Gallery to continue discovering the Middle Eastern art. Last but not the least, the Basta Art Café offers an interesting menu to savor in a cozy courtyard.





Jumeirah Mosque

Jumeirah Mosque is one of the best known mosques in Dubai. An awe-inspiring white stone building with intricate detailing and a prominent huge central dome, it is emblematic of modern Islamic architecture. This mosque is the only Islamic place of worship in Dubai that welcomes non-Muslims to take a look inside and gain an insight into Islam with the guided tours. The Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding organizes tours of the Jumeirah Mosque as part of its Open Doors, Open Minds policy, designed to bring different nationalities together. All visitors need to dress modestly and women are expected to wear head scarves. Photography inside is allowed and the organized tour of the mosque is conducted every sat, sun, tue and thu at 10 am.



Dubai Aquarium & Underwater Zoo

Located inside the Dubai Mall, the Dubai Aquarium is one of the largest tanks in the world. It is home to more than 33,000 living animals, including 400 sharks and sting rays and offers a close encounter through its acrylic walk through tunnel. The Underwater Zoo brings you face-to-face with piranhas, giant catfish, otters and a penguin colony.

Ski Dubai

Ski Dubai is one of its kind first indoor ski resort in the Middle East that offers an amazing snow setting to enjoy skiing, snowboarding and tobogganing, or just the simple pleasure of playing in the snow. Ski Dubai is a unique mountain-themed attraction that offers you the opportunity to enjoy real snow in Dubai all year round. From beginner to the snow sport enthusiast, there is something for everyone, for every age.





Home décor



A Breath of Fresh Air

Bring the outdoors; Indoor & purify the air around you, Naturally!

Adding plants into a living space to perk up the interior designs is a trick that has been used by interior designers for years, but the benefits these plants bring into your living space are incalculable. Most significantly, indoor plants are powerful filters that purify the air around us. Several studies have been conducted which show

that certain plants can rid a room of up to 89% of harmful VOCs like formaldehyde and xylene. If you or anyone in your family has allergies, smokes or just wants to breathe fresher and cleaner air, read on for an update on indoor plants that purify the air and remove pollutants around.

Orchids

Orchids have a bad reputation as being fussy and difficult to grow, but in reality, the opposite is true. Orchids actually love to be neglected and most people end up killing their orchids with kindness (too much water and sunlight). Aside from being easy to take care of, orchids rid the air of xylene, a pollutant found in many glues and paints so they make wonderful housewarming gifts for anyone who recently moved into or renovated a new space. Unlike some other plants, orchids also respire and give off oxygen at night - so they're great for the bedroom.



Ferns

Ferns have survived since Prehistoric times, dating back to 320 BC, possibly because they require minimal care. Although they have a reputation for being a little mundane, they're favored for their soft, feathery leaves. It's those same large fronds that help rid the air of pollutants like toluene and xylene, which are found in many paints, nail polishes and glues. This plant's benefits go beyond the aesthetic: for instance, the Boston fern acts as a natural humidifier, absorbing common air pollutants and releasing water vapor. The best way to care for your fern is to simulate its native tropical woodland. Hang it by an east or north-facing window as ferns like moderate indirect light. Water very often and keep the soil moist but not soggy. Mist fronds regularly and keep between 60° to 70° Fahrenheit.



Peace Lilies

The peace lily, a.k.a. spathiphyllum, is an ideal plant to have in your home if you love flowers but don't want to buy bouquets that die after a few days. Peace Lily plants are proven to improve air quality by absorbing common pollutants such as Benzene as well as toxins emitted from synthetic carpeting and plastics. Spathiphyllum thrives in the shade in temperatures below 55 degrees and removes harmful toxins like acetone, ammonia, benzene, ethyl acetate, formaldehyde, methyl alcohol, trichloroethylene and xylene. Thought to be good luck, the peace lily will be happiest out of direct sunlight and in a warm room.



Spider Plant

Even if you tend to neglect houseplants, you'll have a hard time killing this resilient plant. A native of tropical South African climate, it is a perennial herb with lots of rich foliage and tiny white flowers. The spider plant battles benzene, formaldehyde, carbon monoxide and xylene, a solvent used in the leather, rubber and printing industries. It serves as a good air freshener, unlike chemical air fresheners, which actually add chemicals to the air. The spider plant is the easiest plant to propagate, as a mature plant starts to grow plantlets on its long stems, which can be left there to create an impressive hanging plant display or potted separately to develop an array of spider plants. All you need is partial or indirect lighting, water and minimal care.

Philodendrons

Philodendrons are houseplants that need very little attention. Their unique coloring makes them an attractive addition to your home and they're known to rid the air of xylene, a toxin that's found in many glues and leathers. They come in all shapes and sizes, but philodendrons share a few common characteristics; they want to be watered and fed moderately. You can either place them in a terrarium or give them something to climb on (they will wrap around an entire beam or a wire to show off their shapely leaves).



Jade Plant

Also called a “money tree” and thought to bring good luck, Jade is recommended for its longevity. Water your jade plant with the “drench and drain” method, allowing the soil to dry out before completely soaking the root system again. There’s no need to spend more on a large plant, the best thing about a jade is watching it grow huge and healthy under your care. A separate plant can easily be grown, by cutting off a stem below the node and planting it directly in moist soil.



Song of India

As versatile as its name is poetic, dracaena reflexa or ‘Song of India’ is easy to identify because of its telltale green, lime and yellow leaves. These plants are easy to grow in both high and low light and absorb undesirables like formaldehyde, toluene, xylene.



Pothos

Pothos, also known as devil’s ivy, is characterized by its golden heart-shaped leaves and is extremely popular in North America. It’s a hardy plant that can survive in low light and colder temperatures. It is great for offices, homes and garages, since it rids the air of carbon monoxide and formaldehyde, a major element of the car’s exhaust.

Palms

The palm family of plants, also known as Arecaceae or Palmae, is extremely popular and it’s easy to see why. These hardy houseplants are easy to grow and are a way to lift people’s spirits and draw attention, from otherwise drab surroundings. They are also known to be natural air purifiers. Palms specifically target and remove formaldehyde, benzene and carbon monoxide (which is especially helpful if someone in your household smokes cigarettes).



Fine Dining - Cuisine from around the world, far above the ground

Enjoying the succulent flavors and relishing the aroma of well-cooked fare, must rank as the prime attraction, in itself. Complement the flavors with outstanding ambiance and you have an unparalleled experience for the senses. Add the vertical dimension for panoramic views and you reach a new pinnacle, in terms of a feast for the spirit. World over, spaces for dining out

have opened up in colossal, tall buildings, where one may have unique culinary experiences. For feasts in atmospheric settings we looked around the world for a selection of dining options far above the ground. Review this selection of skyscraper restaurants where one may enjoy a meal while taking in some of the most spectacular views in the world!



At.Mosphere – Burj Khalifa, Dubai, UAE

On the 122nd floor of the world's tallest building, Burj Khalifa (2,700 feet) in Dubai, At.Mosphere is recorded in the annals of Guinness Book of World Records as the highest restaurant in the world, from ground level. Just two stories below the observation deck, At.Mosphere offers two choice venues; The Lounge and The Grill at a height greater than 2,000 feet. Visitors can relax and enjoy a leisurely cup of coffee in the Lounge or experience a more scintillating menu for lunch or dinner at the Grill. The highest

restaurant in the world, designed to exude an aura of luxury with mahogany walls and hand tufted carpets. The menu features prime cuts, scintillatingly simple seafood dishes and exclusive selection of wines. You can opt for Pearls & Oyster or begin with summer leaves, heirloom tomatoes, grilled watermelon, foie gras and more. The main course offerings include seafood concoctions and steaks. While you savor the taste, the visual spectacle includes the tallest dancing fountains and Dubai laid out below.

Ding Xian – Taipei 101, Taipei, Taiwan

Seated thirteen thousand feet off the ground, visitors to Ding Xian 101 can dip into Taiwanese seafood servings. On the 86th floor of the skyscraper Taipei 101(1,700 feet tall) Ding Xian is part of a successful Taiwanese restaurant chain, which is famous for Dan Zai noodles. Frequented by businessmen and entrepreneurs, the Taiwanese food here, has a decidedly international flair. In Taipei 101, this restaurant occupies an entire floor. Its divided into private rooms named after Taiwanese cities; Taipei suite, Kaohsiung Suite, Chiayi Suite and so on. In the Palace Banquet Hall, the décor is decidedly Baroque, giving it a very graceful

and elegant feel. Food is served in exquisitely detailed Wedgewood china with elegant Christofle silver flatware from France and drinks served with the luxury and sparkle of German Nachtmann crystals. The extravagance of Ding Xian is reflected in the equally exquisite food presentation. Grandeur and splendor of Taiwanese cuisine is evident in Oa chian with foie gras, Jiu Hi Ke and Dan Zai noodles. The food is prepared with organic ingredients for the health conscious. At the same time, it incorporates modern and international ingredients in local fare.



The Metropolitan Club – Willis Tower, Chicago, USA

On the 66th and 67th floor of the Willis Tower in Chicago is The Metropolitan Club. Willis Tower is the eighth tallest building in the world at 1,450 feet with 110 stories in total. Offering a panoramic view of Chicago and breathtaking scenes of Lake Michigan, this exclusive club is for members only. The Metropolitan Club recently opened its doors and invited people to enjoy modern American cuisine and the lofty viewpoint from its tables or the Skydeck's ledge. The Metropolitan Club has a number of spaces to dine. The Globe offers contemporary cuisine from around

the world, using local produce. At the Wine Bar, one can enjoy the selection of wines or sample an Express Lunch or tasting plates in the evening. Walk into The Met Grille for breakfast, a quick lunch or after work drinks or partake of a lunch buffet in The East Room. Alternatively, order a lunch to go, from Club Express or try the smoothies, salads, soups and sandwiches at the Met Club Café. For a more hands-on, behind the scenes experience, diners can join the chef at the Chef's Table, for a cooking demonstration, dinner samples and wines.



Sixteen Restaurant – Trump International Hotel & Tower, Chicago, USA

The restaurant Sixteen, is on the 16th floor of the Trump International Hotel and Tower, which has 98 floors and measures 1,389 feet. At 200 feet, Sixteen offers a more intimate look at the Chicago skyline and Lake Michigan. Sixteen is known, not just for its spectacular view but also for its décor. The restaurant is divided into intimate spaces, which open up as you walk in. The central dining room, The Tower, has a 30 foot dome-shaped ceiling made of West African wood, fitted with mirrors and furnished with Swarovski crystal chandeliers, allowing diners to experience the view, no matter where they may be seated. Sixteen has received praise for its architecture, location and last but not least, for its cuisine, its lengthy wine list and sumptuously extravagant new take on American cuisine. Dinner options include a la carte as well as multi-course tasting menus. The seasonal menu offers three pre-fix menus of 4, 8 or 16 courses with wine pairings. Highlights of the tasting menu include Sangria-poached foie gras, white asparagus panna cotta, porcini mushroom soup, rabbit sausage and rolled veal with herbs. While the staples may include

lobster salad with heirloom melons, radish and lemon-verbena drops, poached halibut, curry-perfumed summer squash, coriander-laced broth and lemongrass sabayon, to be enjoyed in the unpretentious but breathtakingly modern ambiance.

The highest hotel in the world is the Ritz-Carlton, in the 118 story fifth tallest building in the world, the International Finance Center, Hong Kong, measuring 1588 feet, has three major dining options on the 102nd floor. The 101st floor of the same building is leased out to a number of five star restaurants. In the Shanghai World Financial Center, the fourth tallest skyscraper of the world, measuring 1,614 feet, there is the Park Hyatt Shanghai, occupying 79th to the 93rd floor surpassing the Grand Hyatt Shanghai in the neighboring Jin Mao Tower. Meanwhile, The Four Seasons Hotel, on floors 74 through 98 of The Guangzhou International Finance Center in Guangdong, China, is scheduled to open in the next few months with several fine dining restaurants.



St. Regis– Kingkey 100, Shenzhen, China

The Kingkey 100 building, designed by Sir Terry Farrell, maybe the eighth tallest building in the world, but its rooftop garden and dining area of St. Regis is the second highest at 1,400 feet. St. Regis Shenzhen occupies the top 28 floors from the 73rd to the 100th floor. On the 95th floor, the 99th and the 100th floor, diners can enjoy outstanding views in addition to exceptional cuisine at a medley of signature restaurants and exclusive lounges. On the 95th floor, Tian Gong is an intimate Chinese restaurant offering private dining in one of five dining rooms. Also on the 95th floor, Social offers all day dining featuring international cuisine and endless views in a lively atmosphere with an open kitchen. Elba, located on the 99th floor, offers authentic

Mediterranean dining and fine wines in a lively atmosphere centered around an open kitchen. Located in the St. Regis Lobby on the 96th floor, The St. Regis Bar and the Drawing Room brings back the hotel glamour of the early 20th century with classic cocktails and the enduring tradition of afternoon tea. Decanter, on the 100th floor, is a sky-high urban wine bar offering one of Shenzhen's largest selections of wines alongside impressive views and a private tasting room for small gatherings. On the penthouse level, the St. Regis Shenzhen introduces a new concept with Malt and Library, a whisky and cigar bar featuring an extensive menu of single malts served with Cubans.

Rima Jbara

For the love of written words

Rima is a writer on edge. She pours her heart and soul out to the world and bares all that only the brave writers can do. Facing her conflicts, her fears and her inner voices, she dares to enter the realm of unflinching demons that surround her reality... An Arab writer of modern times, who has been writing for more than a decade, we talked to Rima about her work, words and woes...



Tell us about yourself?

I am a writer whose life brims with words to be read, felt and absorbed. This is where I am today, at life's crossroads. I am living out great experiences. I want to be what I am, a dreamer, so take me as I am. There is more to what you read about me, and maybe, not just what you think of me.

What inspires and motivates you to write?

Writing for me is an exercise that energizes my brain. I want to share my thoughts, ideas and imaginations with people regardless of whether they find it interesting or not. Writing is the only matter that grants me serenity, contentment, and fulfillment. Writing is as natural as breathing to me. Since I was twelve years old, I have felt the need to write. I thought it was a phase and it would fade with time, but as I grew older the need became a passion. I write the best when I am sad or in a very dark mood. The words just flow easily out of my mind and on to the paper. I find it difficult to write when I am happy. The words simply run away, in all directions. Isn't that funny? But, I could still write when my mood is neutral and that is not that often. I would also add that history can be one aspect, like the Aztec Civilization and the Moghul Empire or people like Frida Kahlo and Eva Peron.

How often do you write? Do you have a set routine?

I don't have a particular time to write. Sometimes, I am not capable of writing for months. Then, all of a sudden, I wind up writing a great deal of pages. I presume it is associated with my mood, the

ambience surrounding me and any inspiration sparking up. There is no certain routine for my writing so it can be very unpredictable but purely thrilling like me. I find words running away from me when I open my laptop. I prefer writing the old fashioned way, using a pen and paper. Music should be in the background especially Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov. I love a scented candle too on my vintage Victorian desk.

What are the major challenges you face being a female Arab writer?

Being an Arab writer, writing in the English Language in the Middle East was not an easy decision to make. At some point, it sucked me into despair. I lived in a nation that mostly read in the Arabic Language and the Westerners here preferred internationally recognized writers. My readers were very limited. They would be Arabs who had mastered the English Language and few Westerners. Today, somewhat matters have changed and I've started publishing internationally for a wider readership.

How does it make you feel having won the "writer of the year 2011" award?

I honestly never expected to be given this award or any other award. I was just living my passion without any expectations. All I wanted was for people to be carried away as they read my books. It was a sudden surprise. Winning 'Writer Of The Year 2011' award by L'Officiel Magazine for Arab Women

was like telling a child here is your candy after being a good child. Every award is like candy to me. I felt satisfied for being recognized and appreciated. It gave me the urge to write more and more. I would like to thank them again for giving me this award.

Name a book or a story you wish you'd written?

My most favorite book is Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy and that is the only book I wish I had written. The book is perfect beginning from the first page till the last page, a pure masterpiece. I have always said and continue to say, God bless the fingers of Leo Tolstoy for writing these immortal words and the brain behind it.

What is your favorite book written by you?

My most favorite book that I have written are *Hope* and *Riot In My Senses*. In these two books, my dark complicated

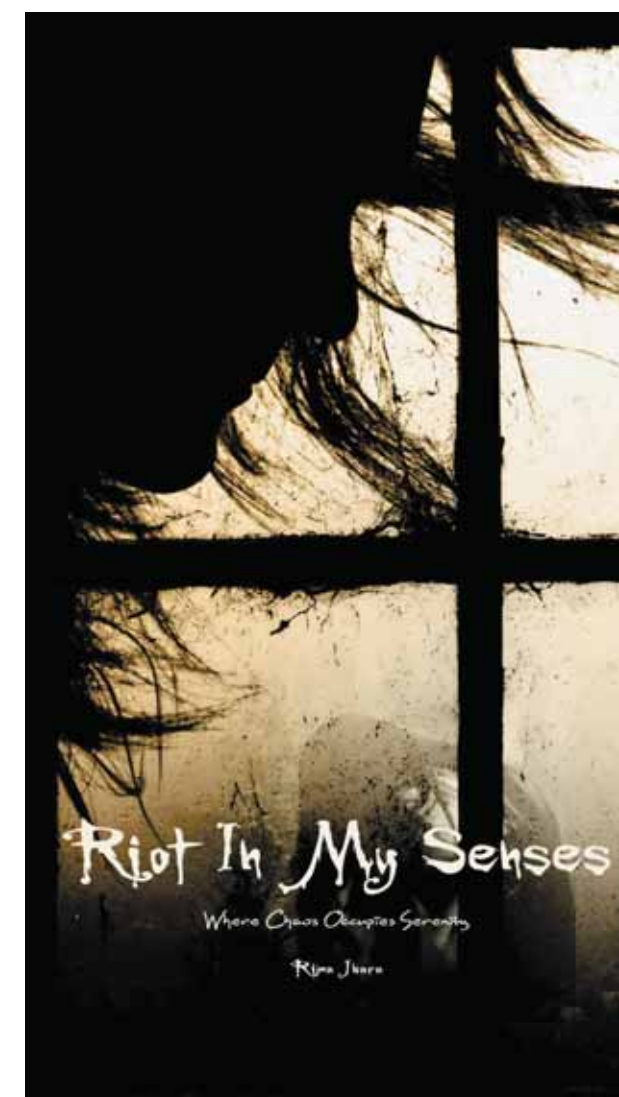
moody character is all written between the lines. Both include vague intermingling gloomy passages and psychological reflections, also, enticing and eerie detailed metaphors to abide by, on the darkest yet most hopeful times.

Are you currently working on a new book? If so, when might we expect to be able to read it?

Yes, I am currently working on a new book. A collection of short stories called '*The Never Ending Stories*'. It is my first book of its kind. I have been working on it for the past two years. I honestly don't know when I will finish it. Sometimes, after finishing the first or the second draft I end up rewriting the entire book again if I am not satisfied.

What advice might you have for aspiring writers?

I have been rejected by some publishing houses because they believed that the topics I selected were not in demand. I was asked to write horror, science fiction and supernatural fantasy novels. I was shocked.



They took writing as a business not as an art. You can never tell a writer what to write. A writer should write what they believe in. I felt despair as I read the rejection letters and emails then I pulled myself together to continue the journey I have set for myself. My advice is to never give up. This line of business as 'They' call it is far more difficult than becoming a singer, or an actress. So, keep writing even if no one reads your words. Keep believing in yourself, no matter what. You have to become a warrior if you want to pursue your dreams.



Jewellery & Watch Collection

Inspired pieces to unique and exceptional creations, contemporary gem stones to innovative and revolutionary designs; check out our selection from the latest high-end jewelry and watch collections



Faberge Launches in Dubai

Fabergé, legendary jeweler to the Russian Imperial court, brings its High and Fine Jewelry collections to Dubai within the luxury emporium Damas, at the Burj Al Arab and at the Dubai Mall. With a heritage bridging

three centuries, contemporary Fabergé creations - including the iconic Les Favourites and the much-loved Les Saisons Russes collections.



Fruits Glaces by Nina Ricci

Drawing inspiration from the archives of the Nina Ricci establishment, the Nina Ricci jewelry is based on detailed sources, creating a range of jewelry where the chains are fine and delicate, in which the faceted

and translucent stones capture and play with the light, taking the shape of delicious glacé fruit. The Nina Ricci Jewelry is exclusively available at Paris Gallery.



OMEGA - Dewdrop Jewellery Collection

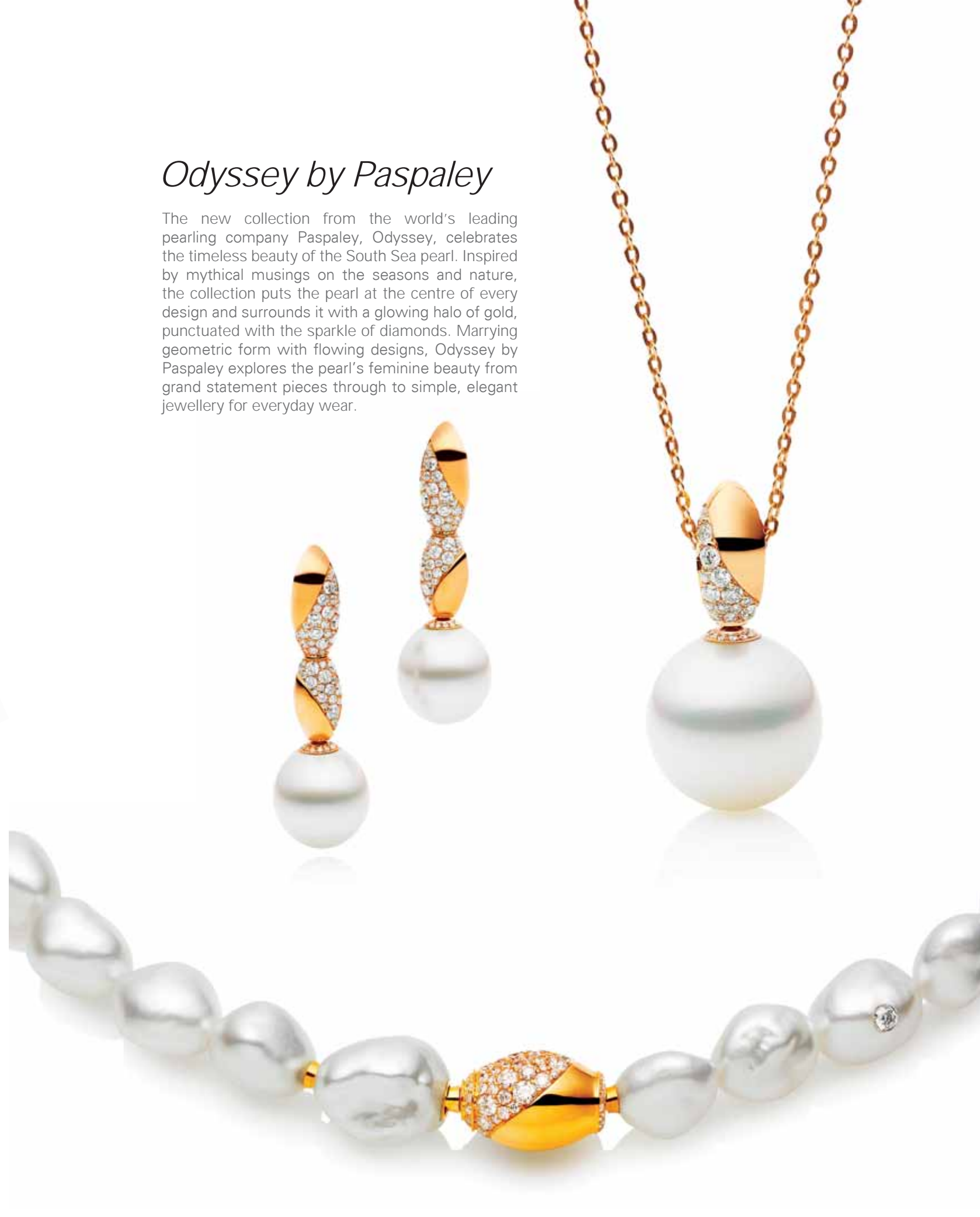
The round “drop” shape of the captivating Omegamania Dewdrop jewellery collection is a creative interpretation of the OMEGA symbol – the last letter in the Greek alphabet, which its founders used to express accomplishment,

eternity and perfection. A source of life and emotion, the Dewdrop shape communicates youth, elegance and lightness and the entire collection exudes feminine sophistication.



Odyssey by Paspaley

The new collection from the world’s leading pearling company Paspaley, Odyssey, celebrates the timeless beauty of the South Sea pearl. Inspired by mythical musings on the seasons and nature, the collection puts the pearl at the centre of every design and surrounds it with a glowing halo of gold, punctuated with the sparkle of diamonds. Marrying geometric form with flowing designs, Odyssey by Paspaley explores the pearl’s feminine beauty from grand statement pieces through to simple, elegant jewellery for everyday wear.





Jaeger-LeCoultre and Aston Martin

The partnership between Jaeger-LeCoultre and Aston Martin was celebrated with the presentation of the AMVOX7, the first vertical-trigger chronograph equipped with a radial power-reserve display. Developed by the manufacturer from the Vallée de Joux, the AMVOX line has for almost a decade been appealing as much to devotees of fine watchmaking as to motor sport fans. The AMVOX7 Chronograph displays the signature characteristics of an iconic collection within a new case featuring an even more ergonomic shape, and testifies to the avant-garde spirit of an alliance entirely dedicated to aesthetic and technical innovation, inspired by the prestigious British car maker.



De Witt - Academia Seconde Retrograde Serenity Collection

Renowned Swiss luxury watch brand De Witt presents its stunning new Academia Seconde Retrograde Serenity collection. Defined by resolutely dynamic lines this ultra-virile model features the retrograde seconds in an exciting new fashion on a white gold fan-shaped display. Available in a limited edition of 250 pieces, it blends strikingly attractive colour combinations and noble materials. Its beating heart is the Calibre DW1102, a mechanical self-winding movement with 42 hours power reserve and a frequency of 28,800 vph housed in a powerful angular case stamped by an aura of imperial nobility.



TechnoMarine- Treasure

The St. Tropez born brand TechnoMarine, celebrates unconventional luxury with its iconoclastic marine roots with an astonishing new watch 'Treasure'. Engraved with an enigmatic treasure map, TechnoMarine's Treasure is studded with a colorful array of precious and fine stones, expertly cut and polished by hand: blue and pink sapphires, purple amethysts, green tsavorite, golden spessartite, faceted diamonds, and a ruby, carefully placed to mark the hidden treasure. In classic TechnoMarine style, the jewels, along with 18 carat gold case, hands and a white silver dial, are all remixed with a transparent plastic cover and white silicone straps.

Louis Erard by Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons

Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons, has added Louis Erard, the swiss mechanical watches, to their portfolio. Founded in 1931 by Louis Erard, the watch company has regained exceptional momentum over the past nine years. Buoyed up by celebrations of its 80th anniversary in 2011, it launched its new "Excellence" line representing the most exclusive embodiment of the brand. Its range is now composed of four exclusively mechanical collections: 1931, Emotion, Héritage and Excellence. They form a world pervaded by a refined aesthetic, classical and elegant timepieces.





Fashion Report



Spring / Summer 2013 Collections

Check out the exclusive photos of the Spring / Summer 2013 collections,
from top fashion designers of the world.



Kate Spade - New York, Spring 2013 Collection

Spring 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of Kate Spade New York, and this year is all about celebrating the things we love. This season's collection was inspired by a few of creative director Deborah Lloyd's favorite things, beginning with Ormond Gigli's iconic photograph "girls in windows", which was shot in new york in 1960. The image features women dressed to the nines in full technicolor hues, all standing in the windows of a terrace of brownstones. The colorful contrast, the sophisticated style, cut with a bare of daredevil attitude, and the details of well-placed bows worn on their shoes, gloves, and dresses inspires the spring 2013 collection. This season is all about a high-spirited approach with streamlined silhouettes in confetti color pops of shocking pink and cobalt blue, shaken up with mint cream and orange whip, strawberry sundae and lemon soufflé. The prints this season are vibrant and over the top, in bold graphics and a fanciful mix of florals.





Lanvin - Spring / Summer 2013 Collection

Essays in black and white have been a theme at the Lanvin Spring Summer collection. The designer Alber Elbaz has approached with a thoroughly personal exercise. Fashion is moving away from the limited, single-statement look. The models walked fast and furious, self-possessed and confident in their clothes. The proportions of the pantsuit were defined, refined, riffed on: with cropped bell-hop jackets, or longer, sleeveless gilets, with asymmetric white lapels worked in with half-belts, tied in with Japanese obi-bows. Besides the minimalistic, Alber Elbaz also exhibited his maximalist side. He gave it full vent in a sequence of chunky gold and silver crystal-embroidered suits and dresses, amped up further with jeweled neckpieces and chokers. But in between, there were moments of calm, too: a long, simple black silk column with flat sandals; a couple of black-and-white short-jacketed skirt suits.



Paul Smith's Spring / Summer 2013 Collection

Youthful, optimistic and modern, Paul Smith's Spring Summer collection exudes boyish elegance. Dressing like a pretty boy implies that you don't really care about what people think and that you haven't really tried to ponder too much about clothes. Paul Smith was one of the first in fashion to introduce androgyny lines, and this season he delivered easy masculine pieces that are offset with the right amount of femininity. There were no profound cultural or sociological influences, just clothes that are easy to put in your own wardrobe and mix & match with stuff you own already.





RED Valentino Spring / Summer 2013 Collection

As usual, the famous brand's offerings scream romanticism and become remarkable through a particular dreamy feeling. Adorable silhouettes and details keep the looks original and make us feel incredibly feminine and free. The RED Valentino spring/summer collection seems an ode to absolute femininity. From elegant trench coats, dresses and skirts to ultra-cute blouses and shorts, from timeless black to pink hues and eye-popping floral prints, these creations are beyond gorgeous. Not to mention the array of embellishments and details such as ribbons and bows.



Aigner - Spring / Summer 2013 Collection

The unique designer clothes for this season's Fashion Show are characterized by the incredible combination of elaborate materials, linear forms and voluminous silhouettes. Glamorous glass pearls, metallic-look textiles, delicate chiffons, Swiss lace, exclusive prints and floral patterns together define this amazing fashion look. Aigner's Chief Designer, Christian Beck, took his inspiration from a fantasy world full of frippery and freshness; a world where baroque elements are given a modern interpretation. Here the artistic charm of the baroque period mixes with the vibrant graffiti and street art found in the world's fashion capitals, setting the mood for the collection.

Paolo Terenzi

Of moments, joys & sorrows...

Paolo Terenzi is a multi-faceted perfumer; a student of legal philosophy and a jazz musician at heart, he approaches fragrances as if they were emotion, reminiscent of past happiness and sorrows. A passionate approach yet the end result is always profound. He is the nose behind some of the best fragrances—which include perfumed candles for

brands such as Ferragamo, Aqua di Parma, Poltrona Frau di Montezemolo, Bally, Baxtor and Versace, etc. As his antecedents, Paolo has focused on crafting unique fragrances out of natural and valued raw materials, and painstakingly attending to every little detail, not letting go of the values and reputation his family has carefully created.



Tell us how you started your career in the business?

I was born in the company. The business started in my grandfather's small house. So when I was a kid they looked after me there and I played with the candles, with the wax and the perfumes, those were my toys. This was my first training ground before I entered the company. After this period... when I was a teenager, I started to play jazz music, because I fell in love with music and I still am, but I don't have the necessary talent. I've played with international names, and even studied jazz, I had a very good teacher... but I know that wasn't my talent. After this I went to university to study law, and after that I wanted to join the company and my father told me that you have to start from the bottom in the company and step by step I grew... and after my father died, I became the president.



What is your favourite way to create with scents?

I create through emotions; it's my journey, when I have good and bad experiences, I try to write these experiences in my note book. Afterwards, I try to recreate the particular moment, to try to capture my memory and feeling, through the notes of the fragrance. It's like a poet and musician, I try to create through this diction. So I use a note book and write down every moment in my life and afterwards, I translate these moments into perfume, so, it immediately goes to the mind and works on our emotions.

Have you had any mentors?

My grandfather is my mentor. First of all he taught me everything about the molecule and how to extract the them. He and my father, both encouraged me to experiment and create perfumes. And I have been through this experience almost every day in my life playing with fragrances and molecules. As it is a family owned business, it is in my DNA...

You have created 4 new fragrances? Which one of your creations is your favourite and why?

My favourite creation is ecstasy; it reflects a very important moment in my life... I produced this fragrance the day my father died (April 4, 2004). It is a mystical fragrance and captures the feeling I had when I lost my father. The first notes are like a jab in the face, you don't know what's going on, and then it is followed by a feeling of loss. Before, I had my father to watch my step and support me. Then you have the white flowers and sweetness that gives you serenity and tranquillity. It was like the love of my father and the feeling of him being close to me. I have now matured, become a man with power. His soul will always be alive in my heart. It is the feeling of when you lose and find a moment of tranquillity to accept and move on with the feeling of love and the memories.

Tell us about the notes of Ecstasy?

Yes the first note is part of my tradition,

because it happened during the funeral ceremony of my father, but after this, the white flower is like a carpet to heaven. In this part I put the sweet part of Bakhour ... and this is where the fusion happens and it bridges your culture with ours.

What influences you and how do you start the creative process? Do you use the traditional olfactory pyramid rules?

There are 2500 molecules available in the world. I want to work only with natural molecules. If you start to think differently without the influences from your study or even background, you are not in a condition to know or use the classical rules. You try to forget any classical rule, and try to make new rules.

What are your plans for the Middle East?

Sprecher Berrier is our partner for the Gulf region. Big launches will take place later this year... We also have expansion plans for the USA, through Barnes, and we are ready for Russia, Germany, Holland, UK & France.

Are you nervous about the response from the market?

I am very curious and worried about the feedback from the market. The first feedback from the professional market has been very good, the people loved the fragrances. We have had big success with the candles, but for us it is important to see how people would react to the new line of fragrances. I have developed new fragrances which are in my pocket, I develop other three fragrances, but I'm not ready for the launch. Because all the line is completely handmade, so they ask me about the quantity and all but I am not ready because it is only for the niche... and the molecule is natural and for that we have to wait and we can't work with the synthetic chemical.

What do you think about the perfume market in Arabia?

The culture of the perfume is very strong here. The Arabian people have a strong, very good, nose. I appreciate this fact. They know about the raw materials; which is actually not present anywhere else... People here, love and know a lot about perfumes, I love to be in Arabia. They have taught me a lot and you can learn so much more from them. You can also find nice fragrances in local shops. I love this kind of culture in relation to perfumes.

What piece of advice would you give to a perfume lover?

It is very difficult; nobody can tell you what you should try. It is not something you simply wear. It is something like entering the mood of the perfume. It depends on the mood, whether you are happy or sad, you look for that emotion through the scent. I always say you don't choose a perfume; it is the perfume that chooses you.





Miss Golden Bridge Lady's Watch from Corum

Lebanese singing superstar and brand ambassador for Corum, Elissa Khoury, recently visited the Swiss luxury watch brand's workshop at La Chaux-de-Fonds. The Arabic pop star was given a close look at the making of her favourite Miss Golden Bridge model and later posed for an exclusive photo shoot at the brand's Geneva boutique. The svelte and charming Elissa, typifies the grace and beauty of the masterpieces

emanating from the Corum workshops. The dreamy-voiced crooner has already bagged three World Music Awards and her seven albums feature performances that resonate superb musical talent combined with the epitome of feminine grace. Elissa is also known for her crossover collaborations with international big names like Chris De Burgh, The Gypsy Kings and Tupac.



Accolades in Vienna

A. Lange & Söhne, the luxury watch brand, received four awards at the "Die Presse" watch gala in Vienna, Austria. The Grand Lange 1, won two first prizes in the "Classic Elegance" category at the gala event organised by the Austrian daily "Die Presse". In the "Grand Complications" category, the Datograph Up/Down won two second prizes. The gala in Vienna ranks among the most prestigious events of its kind in German-speaking Europe. Overall, A. Lange & Söhne has received more than 175 awards since 1994.



BMW Individual Cars Launched at Exclusive Haute Couture Fashion Shows

BMW Group Middle East, together with its importer in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain, Abu Dhabi Motors, chose a series of exclusive Haute Couture fashion shows to showcase its bespoke optioning programme - BMW Individual, which enables customers to select unique features that suit their individual style. In the company of a select line-up of 700 VIP guests, including a host of the UAE's fashion elite, BMW showcased the BMW Pearl Series, 88 specially designed and produced BMW 7 Series Pearl and 6 Series Pearl Individual models, alongside masterpieces from a number of renowned international designers, including Giambattista Valli, Alexis Mabille and On Aura Tout Vu by Livis Stoianova and Yassen Samouilov.

VIP Lounge at Yas Marina

Bringing the VIP Lounge concept to race weekend for the very first time, Tactical Connections and Flash got ready with an impressive portfolio of brands and successfully combined both a selection of local and regional brands to international guests. Showcasing an impressive array of top international and local brands, global celebrities included, Eminem, Kylie Minogue, Nickelback, and VIP's attended the race weekend and caught the action in true luxury style.





Bally Sets the Scene for a seasonal change at 'Dubai Winter Wonderland'

Bally, the Swiss luxury leather goods house, in partnership with the highly respected Jashanmal Group, held a distinctive winter wonderland at Dubai's Voda Bar in celebration of the Swiss brand's growing presence in the Middle East. The event witnessed a special appearance by Lebanese superstar 'Elissa'. Winter Wonderland event also hosted VIP guests and media from across the region allowing them to exclusively experience the refined beauty of Bally's Winter Collections for women and men.



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