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EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the latest issue of the First Avenue Magazine! Trending with the latest in fashion, gossip and lifestyle...

Although we are technically still in the grips of late summer, fall fashion is in full swing. Temperatures are slowly taking a dip, but the heat index on the season's latest looks is hot as ever. This issue provides a sneak preview of what styles are scorching the fashion runways, with our detailed fashion pages as well as our style feature on Fall Beauty Trends.

This issue's cover girl actress Nicole Kidman, the Hawaiian born Australian-American and Academy Award winner talks to us about being 40 as well as roles in the upcoming films this year. Other stars, whether established or young, First Avenue has the latest stories in spades. Check out who's sizzling, in our 'In the spotlight' section with the latest celeb news and our equally hot feature "Celebrity Fashion Moments"! We left no stone unturned in pursuit of the Hollywood's best-dressed celebrities who wowed us with their memorable style.

Moving on, don't forget to discover the ultimate luxury dining destinations in the world as we travel from the cozy ambience of Masa in New York to the swanky Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée in Paris, and discover the top restaurants in the luxury league. And while we are on the subject of exquisiteness, check in with our travel and stay feature; 'Exotic Beach Destinations' for a rejuvenating escape to a tropical paradise.

Also, be sure to read our health and fitness feature, 'Health and fitness blue print' for ways to indulge one's taste buds without packing it on. Equip yourself with a healthy diet and fitness plan with the right combination of nutrition, fitness and motivation to maintain a healthy weight.

It doesn't get any better than this, well until the next issue...

Enjoy reading

Lamiya sami





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РЕКЛАМА

A woman with long brown hair is posing on a paved path. She is wearing a black, long-sleeved, lace dress with a wide black belt featuring a large gold buckle. Her hands are raised near her head. The path is lined with tall, green, manicured hedges. In the background, a building is visible. The overall lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

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PARFUMS DE MARLY

In the 18th century, France was the flagship of fragrance, with Grasse and Paris as its leading centers. Horses were the pride and glory of Versailles.

Perfume came into its own with the court of Louis XV, named "La Cour Parfumée" (The Perfumed Court), renowned for its scented extravagances. Every day the King requested a different fragrance for his apartments and streams of aromatic scents sprang from the royal fountains.

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 Château 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.

Parfums de Marly revives the spirit of lavish receptions and festivities held in the Château de Marly for the delight of members of the Royal Court and foreign dignitaries.

Through its original concept, Parfums de Marly rekindles the spirit of fragrances from the splendor of the 18th century when the finest perfumes were created for King Louis XV as a tribute to the prestigious horse races he so fervently admired.



We are proud and happy to let you discover above the new Parfums de Marly 30 Sqm Shop in Shop, opened 1st of June 2011 in the Paris Gallery of Dubai Mall.

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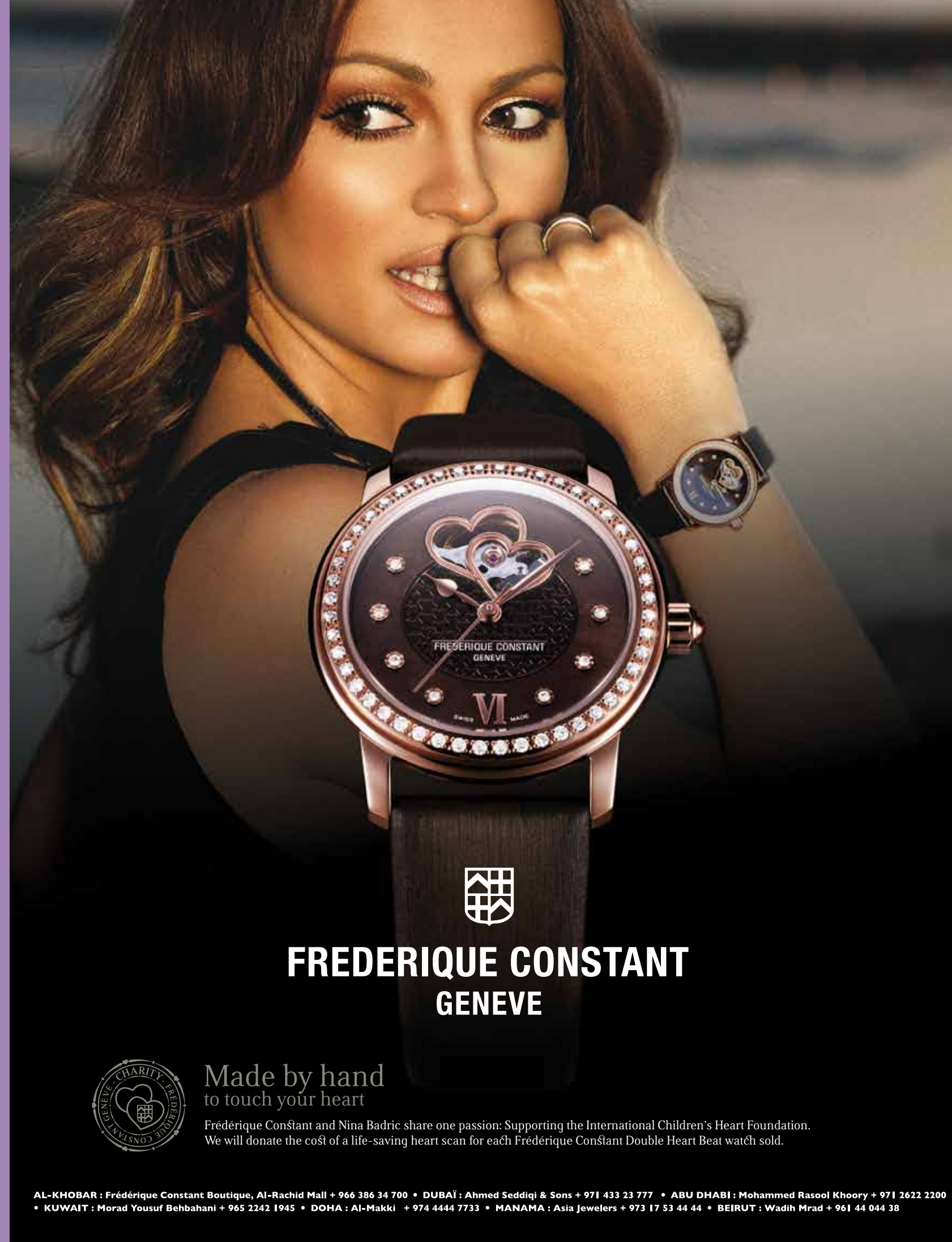
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Celebrity Fashion

Katy Perry at the 2012 MTV VMAs Red Carpet

Singer Katy Perry looked sexy at the 2012 MTV Video Music Awards at Staples Center in Los Angeles, California. The "Wide Awake" singer kept things relatively simple in a semi-sheer gown that featured pops of turquoise and coral



Alessandra Ambrosio at the 2012 Fashion's Night Out

Alessandra Ambrosio strikes a pose in a Balmain dress at the 2012 Fashion's Night Out in New York City. The 31 years old model served as the special guest at the Victoria's Secret store in Manhattan, and showed off her amazingly sexy legs exactly four months after giving birth to her second child.



Nicole Richie at the 2012 Style Awards

Nicole Richie rocked the red carpet at the annual Style Awards in NYC. The designer and fashionista looked gorgeous in a neck-plunging Anthony Vaccarello mini dress. To top off her stylish ensemble, Nicole added a chic clutch and a pair of stunning stilettos. If anyone knows how to work the red carpet, it's Nicole. The Fashion Star mentor always dresses to impress and lets her unique style shine every time.



Jessica Chastain at the Tony Awards

Jessica Chastain walked the red carpet and took the stage at the 66th Annual Tony Awards in New York with Harry Winston's Yellow Diamond Micropave Cushion earrings. Chastain will make her official Broadway debut in 'The Heiress' this fall.



Spring Breakers- TIFF Premier

Actors Selena Gomez, Rachel Korine, James Franco, Vanessa Hudgens and Ashley Benson stepped out in style for the premiere of Spring Breakers during the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival at Ryerson Theatre, Toronto, Canada.



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TERRA COLLECTION



Kristen Stewart at the premiere of 'On The Road'

Actress Kristen Stewart attended the "On The Road" premiere during the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto, Canada. The 22 year old actress returned to the red

carpet for the very first time since her shocking cheating scandal made headlines worldwide. Promoting her new film On the Road, a tightly smiling Stewart faced a sea of reporters and fans.



Halle Berry at the 'Cloud Atlas' TIFF Premiere

Halle Berry suits up for the premiere of her film 'Cloud Atlas' during the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto, Canada. The 46 year old actress wore a

Monique Lhuillier blouse, and was joined by her co-stars Tom Hanks, Hugh Grant, Jim Sturgess, Hugo Weaving, Jim Broadbent, and Ben Whishaw.



Emily Blunt at the 'Looper' Premiere

Actress Emily Blunt and husband actor John Krasinski attend the 'Looper' opening night gala premiere during the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto, Canada. The actress paired her body-hugging dress with loose blond locks and gold heels. The cut of the dress certainly makes her look svelte.

 A large advertisement for Al Ghurair Centre's 6 annual academic scholarships. The background is a light blue sky with a faint illustration of the Al Ghurair Centre building. In the foreground, a group of diverse school children in uniforms are walking. A woman in a red dress is partially visible on the left side of the frame. The Al Ghurair Centre logo, a stylized diamond shape with a cross inside, is at the top center.

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Fashion Must Haves

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

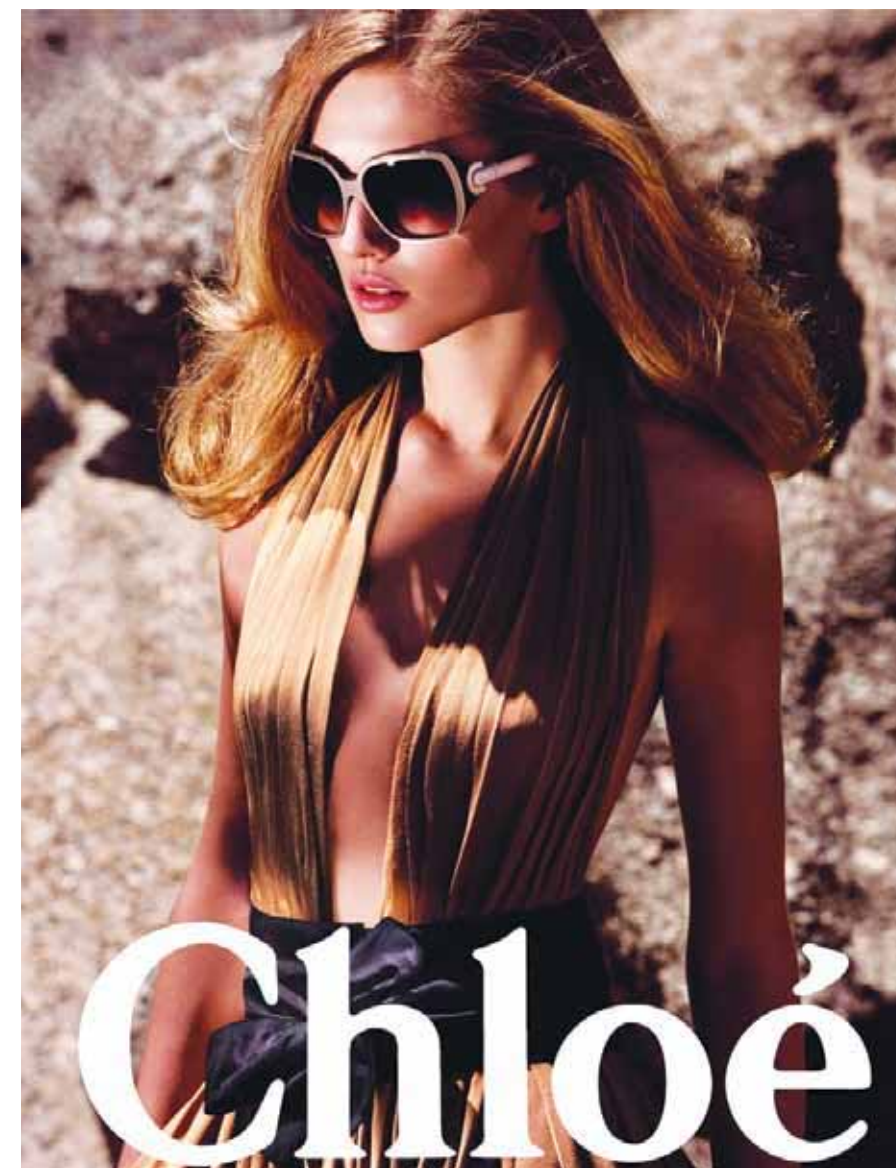
Giuseppe Zanotti Design

Raise the style quotient this season with Giuseppe Zanotti Design; pairs of glamorous new heels matched with fashionable clutches. Selected from the acclaimed Italian brands' most sought after S/S 2012 collection which has become an instant hit among celebrities across the world, these designs are the fashion conscious woman's definite must haves. The collection is available at Giuseppe Zanotti stores located in The Dubai Mall and The Mall of the Emirates.



Gucci Première

For this autumn, Gucci's Creative Director Frida Giannini has conceived a new fragrance legend in the iconic and sophisticated form of Gucci Première. Gucci Première celebrates the star in every woman. Inspired by timeless Hollywood glamour and fronted by a modern icon – Blake Lively, this new fragrance is an invitation to embrace one's own red carpet moment. Gucci, for the first time in its history, has launched Gucci Première outside its home turf Italy, and chose Dubai as its launch pad.



Chloe and Nina Ricci Sunglasses

La Moda Exclusives, the leading luxury eyewear retail chain has expanded its exclusive range with the addition of Chloe and Nina Ricci to its portfolio. The new collection from Chloe and Nina Ricci is now available at La Moda Exclusives in the UAE and Oman.



LANVIN 2012
Eyewear Collection

Lanvin Maison, in partnership with the De Rigo Group, developed its first men and women eyewear collection, under the creative guidance of Alber Elbaz. In keeping with the traditional style of the Maison, this exclusive line of sunglasses combines couture details with industrial aesthetics and with a mix of both retro and contemporary features.



Haute Bijouterie- Hermès

Hermès's haute bijouterie collection is designed with rose gold, white gold, diamonds, stones and metals. Their jeweler and shoe maestro Pierre Hardy created four different mini-handbags, inspired by the brand's iconic handbags, using gold and precious stones. Each functions as a bracelet and a small handbag.



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Diet & Fitness Blueprint

Want to lose weight? Then you need to follow a healthy diet and fitness plan! Whether you're looking to drop 5 lbs or 50 lbs, you've got to have the right combination of diet, nutrition, fitness and motivation to achieve weight loss success.



No matter what your food preferences, we will give you the tools to help you make a plan for a healthy lifestyle. The proposal is not just a sketch on how to lose weight but a fitness design to help keep it off and maintain a healthy weight range. Start by following the key strategies and you can knock off up to 12 pounds in 30 days.



Exercise or Walking

The main form of activity for a healthy lifestyle is exercise or walking. The sense of accomplishment, the break from daily stress and anxiety, the increased energy levels and mental focus, improved self-image and the sheer pleasure of moving and using your body will motivate you to make regular exercise or walking a part of your life. Not only does exercise help one to stay fit, it also improves one's body awareness, posture and strength by training it to sit, stand and move more efficiently and comfortably. Finding the time to go to the gym or for a walk can be very difficult, but remember that a 1/2 hour workout is only 2% of your day. You can also try to fit in short bouts of exercise whenever possible, like doing jumping jacks or crunches

during television commercials or dancing while washing dishes. This burns extra calories and keeps you away from mindlessly munching in front of the TV. Focus on how great you feel, how much better you sleep and how much more energy you have when you make exercise part of your daily routine. Physical activity is good for you whether you are trying to lose weight or not, so keep it positive and build a lifelong habit.

Daily activity

The winning formula for weight loss is a combination of structured workouts and an active day to day life. On top of the exercise and walking, try to do a

minimum of 60 minutes of 'meaningful activity' each week. It could be gardening, washing the car your self, popping over to the shops on a bike or playing football with the children. In addition, think about your lifestyle. Do you need to drive to the station? Do you need a shopping trolley or could you have used a basket? Could you have parked at the far end of the car park? Can you shun the lift at work and take the stairs? Keep a note of your active minutes to ensure you reach your target of an active life. The point is to help you become adept at spotting opportunities in your daily life when you could be more active.



Diet

Find out more about the fundamental components of a healthy diet, and step-by-step shift your eating habits towards lower fat choices and increase your intake of fruit and vegetables. Make sure that your plate contains up to 2 cups of fruits and veggies as the 'main course,' with 1/2 cup of wholesome carbs like wild rice, and 3 ounces of lean protein like chicken or steak. In this way by making produce the main feature of your diet, you can eat more, stay full, and easily cut up to 700 calories from your daily diet.

Start by focusing on eating the recommended 5-9 servings of fruits and vegetables each day. As a result, you're less likely to overeat because fruits and vegetables displace fat in one's diet. More than 200 studies have documented the disease-preventing qualities of phytochemicals found in natural produce. Work vegetables into meals instead of just serving them on the side. Buy seasonal vegetables and make stir-fries, frittatas, risotto, pilafs, soups, or layer in sandwiches. It is quite easy to buy a variety of vegetables and incorporate them into dishes. Protein is more satisfying as compared to carbohydrates or fats, and may be the new secret weapon in managing weight. Add spices or chilies to your food, they boost flavor and help you feel satisfied. Food that is loaded with flavor will stimulate your taste buds and may be more satisfying so you won't over eat. Diets higher in protein and moderate in carbs, along with a lifestyle of regular exercise, have an excellent potential to help weight loss," says University of Illinois protein researcher Dr. Donald Layman.

Weight Watch

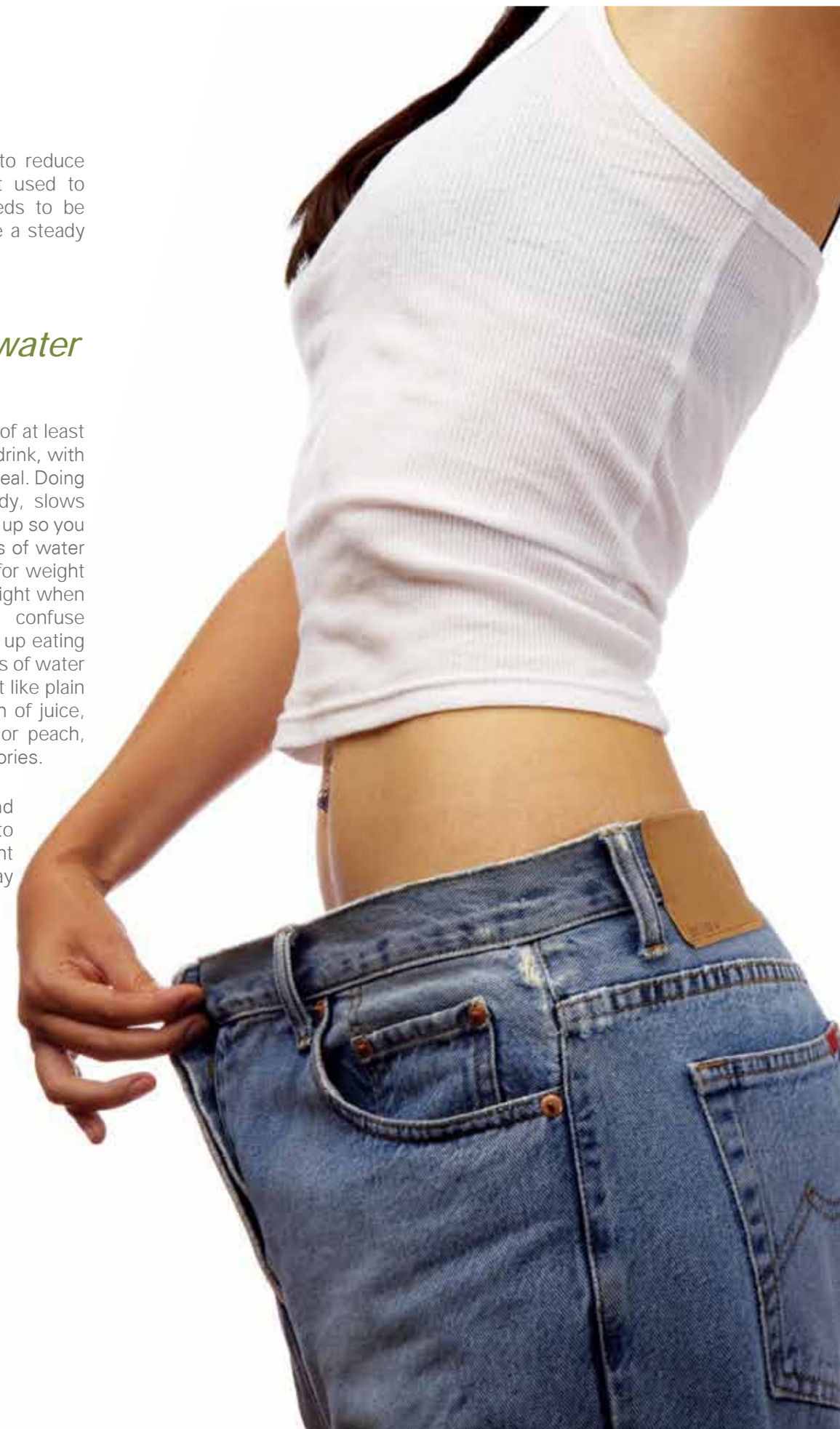
Always keep a watch on your weight. Body weight depends on a balance between 'calories in' and 'calories out'. Calories are another name for the energy content in food and drinks. Weight increases when the calories we consume are surplus to needs, when we burn insufficient calories through physical activity, or a combination of the two. Weight decreases when we consume fewer calories and increase the amount of time spent active. Overall, daily calories are the most important factor in weight control. That means it's still possible to gain weight on a diet of healthy foods if you're eating too much and exercising too little. However, the best way of reducing weight is by targeting high-fat foods because they don't satisfy the appetite and it's easy to consume too much. If that

approach fails, the next stage is to reduce portion sizes. Heavier people get used to eating large portions, so this needs to be tackled slowly over time to ensure a steady decline in weight.

Drink 8 glasses of water everyday

At every meal, pour out a measure of at least 16 ounces of water for yourself to drink, with a goal to finish it by the end of the meal. Doing this, of course, hydrates your body, slows down your eating pace and fills you up so you feel satisfied. Drinking 8 to 12 cups of water a day is one of the key strategies for weight loss, since you hold onto water weight when dehydrated. People sometimes confuse thirst with hunger. So you can end up eating extra calories when an ice-cold glass of water is really what you need. If you don't like plain water, try adding citrus or a splash of juice, or brew infused teas like mango or peach, which have lots of flavor but no calories.

Try these basic strategies for a fit and healthy lifestyle, and don't forget to learn more tips and trick of weight loss in our next issue!!! So stay tuned with us...



Natural Beauty

Discover How to Care for Yourself and Maintain Beauty Naturally

In a world of lights, cameras and supermodels, natural beauty seems to be rare. However, natural beauty can be one of the most attractive and pleasing looks because of its simplicity. Stores and catalogs are full of cosmetic products that promise a natural look. In a bid to look beautiful but constrained by time, quite often we give in to the impulse and opt for the less complicated and relatively easier alternative; use of harsh chemicals and cosmetic products to look good. What should

be kept in mind is that although these quick fixes provide results, they do not assure long term skin health. Instead of spending loads of money on makeup and hair color, reduce your dependence on artificial products and be a real natural beauty by following some simple tips and advices to accentuate the beauty that already exists within you. Check out the simple lifestyle choices which can help you achieve the glow of natural beauty.



Diet

Water is one of the most important parts of a diet that sustain natural beauty. Water flushes out toxins from the body, allows body systems to function properly and provides skin with much-needed hydration. Some experts recommend drinking up to eight glasses per day to keep the body healthy and the skin moist. Your diet should also contain a variety of healthy foods. Certain vegetables and fruits, like spinach and berries, provide the body with anti-oxidants, which help repair cell damage. Healthy fats (unsaturated) also help the body to repair cells in the skin and muscles. These fats can be found in items like olive oil, salmon and tuna.



Exercise

Exercise is necessary for body systems to reach their highest potential. A regular exercise program can help you look more beautiful by keeping you within a healthy weight range, decreasing stress and flushing your skin of impurities when you sweat. Cardiovascular exercise increases the amount of oxygen flowing through your body, which in turn helps your skin to look radiant and your hair to maintain a healthy texture and shine.

Pampering

Take special care of your body in order to maximize your natural beauty. Sleep is a natural way to combat the aging process. Seven to eight hours of sleep per night reduces stress and facial puffiness. Sleep also allows for regeneration of skin cells. Make a regular habit of using a moisturizer with at least SPF 15. Moisturizers can improve the tone and appearance of your skin and the sun protection shields you from harmful rays that can cause premature wrinkles, blemishes and even skin cancer. Treat yourself to an occasional facial treatment, and you can also look for products at your local pharmacy.





Hair Care

Don't shampoo your hair every day, which can make your hair dry and brittle. Wait at least every other day to shampoo and be sure to follow up with a conditioning product. Brushing the hair helps distribute natural oils from the scalp to the rest of the hair. Try using a natural bristle brush, which can be found at most drug and grocery stores. They tend to be less damaging, since they stimulate the scalp, redistribute hair oils and break hair less often, which means fewer split ends!



Choosing the Right Makeup

Nothing is worse than a caked-on face of makeup. To get a naturally flawless glow without piling on the products, always remember, less is more! Natural-looking makeup does not mean a "no makeup" look. It means that the makeup should complement your skin tone and be light in coverage. Whatever brand or type of makeup you use, it should always harmonize and supplement your natural beauty. Using the right makeup and tools will help give your skin a natural look. Avoid stick or pancake foundations or foundations that function as a concealer; since these tend to look heavier. Choose light foundations, such as liquid, mousse, tinted moisturizers or mineral foundations. However, using the wrong foundation color on your skin can make you look older or sick. If you have blue undertones, you have cool skin. Look for a foundation with a slight pinkish hue. Warm skin has olive or yellow undertones. So look for makeup with a slight golden hue. Finally, in order to protect your skin, makeup should always be applied to clean skin and removed before going to bed.



Skin Care

Exposure to the sun and some of the harsher climatic conditions can ravage your skin, to shield your skin wear moisturizer and sunscreen. You can stay protected by applying a moisturizer with black tea extract before sunscreen; studies show the ingredient decreases the effect of UV radiation on skin and may help prevent sunburns. Exfoliation is also remarkable for the skin. You can make a homemade facial/body scrub by mixing equal parts olive oil and sugar. Keep it in a jar in your shower for a quick, invigorating scrub! You don't need an expensive product that will remove the natural oils from your face and then another one to add moisture. Instead, gently exfoliate your face and body every day, and then apply any moisturizer. Practice a regular cleansing routine to get a healthier looking skin. Cleanse, exfoliate, tone and moisturize daily to keep your skin healthy, firm and soft.



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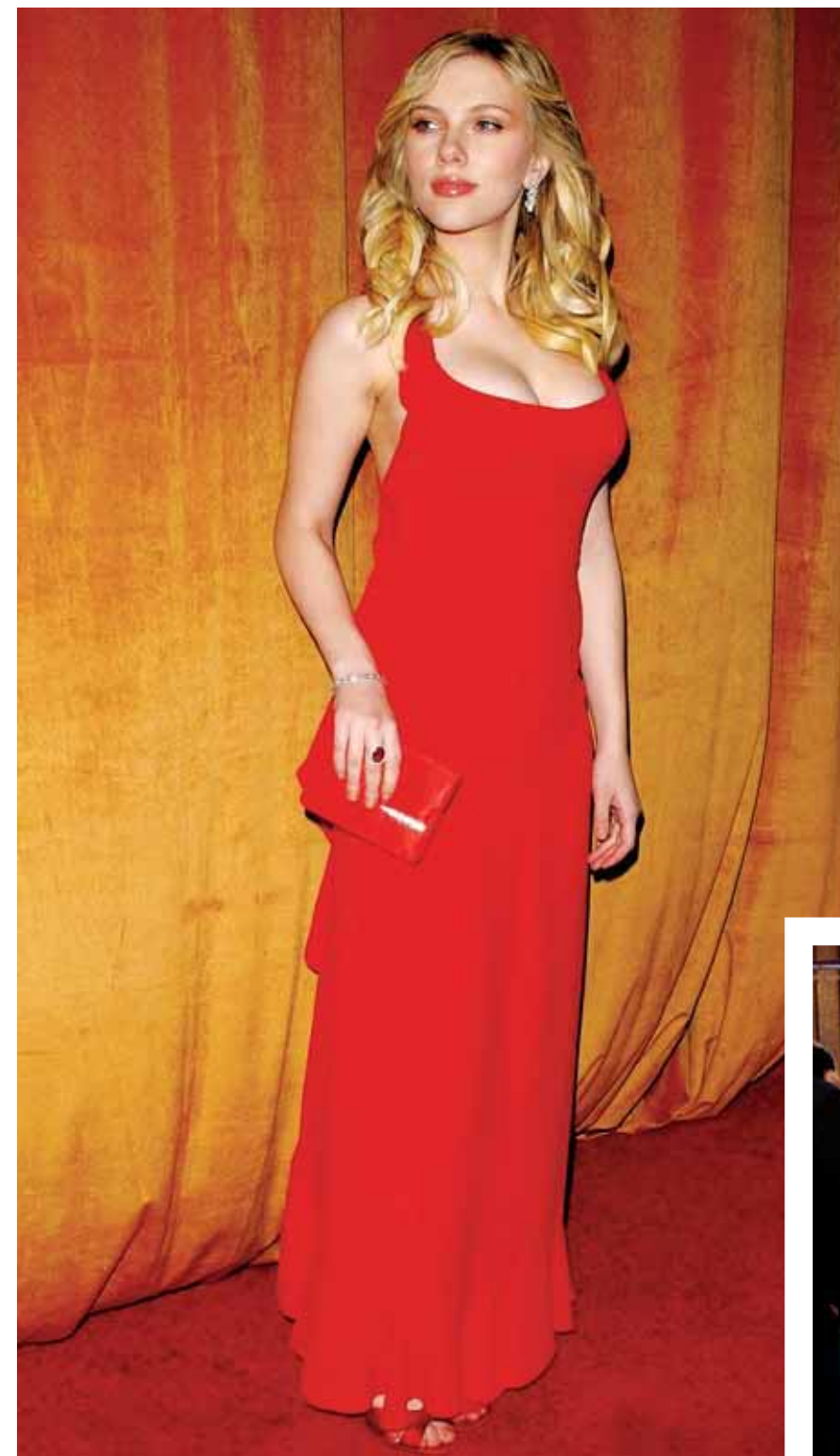
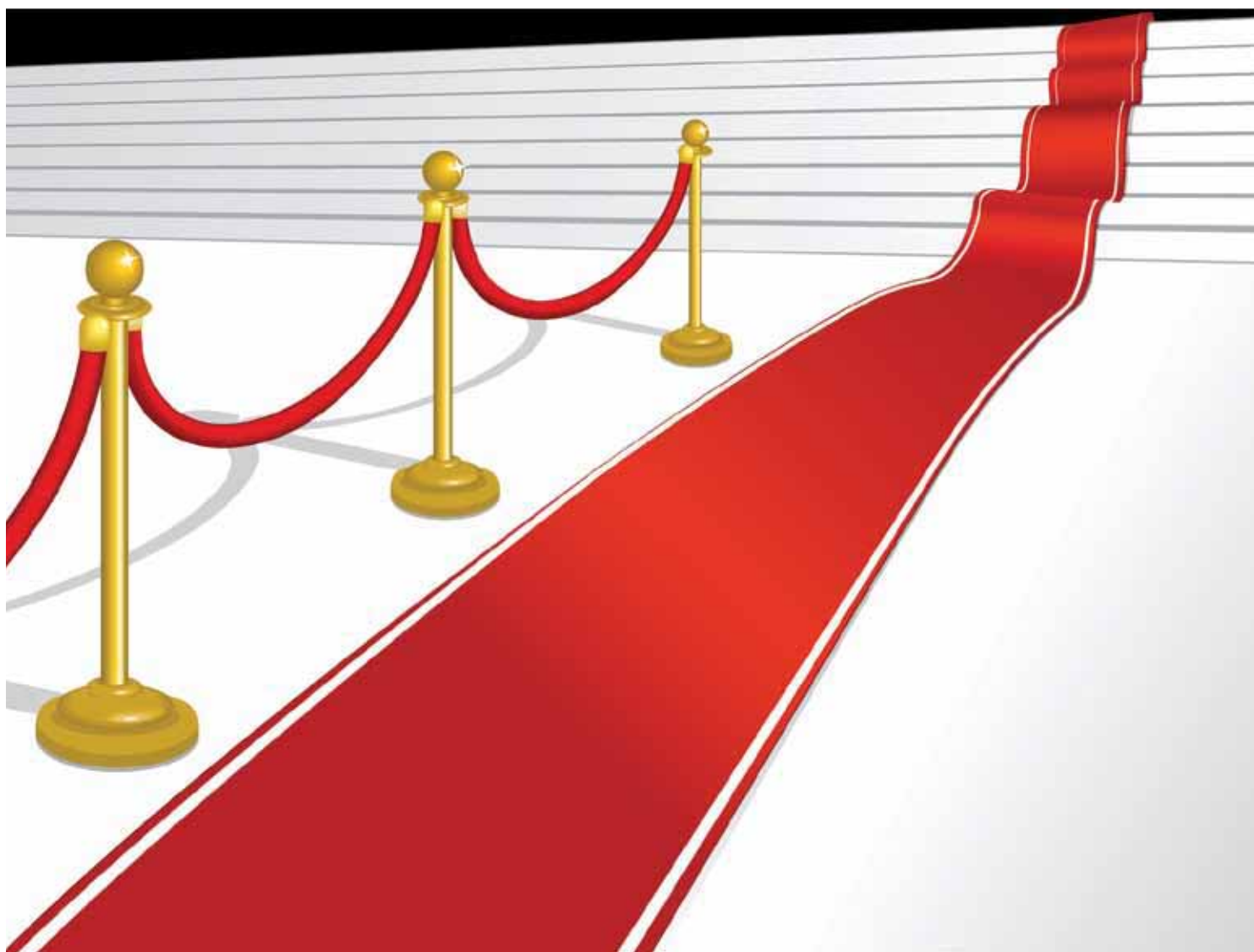


Celebrity Fashion Moments

Glamorous celebrity looks we love!

Have you ever seen a celebrity wearing an outfit or dress so fabulous, so imaginatively put-together, that you can't get it out of your mind? We've pored through hundreds of red-carpet events and

handpicked some of the Hollywood's best-dressed fashionistas. Check out the top celebrity looks that wowed us with their memorable style, including our current cover girl Nicole Kidman.



Scarlett Johansson

In the spotlight from a young age, Scarlett Johansson exudes old Hollywood glamour. An iconic red (or sheer) lipstick, effortless curls, and a form-fitting silhouette are all hallmarks of her timeless style. While the color of her hair and the length of her dresses from floor-sweeping gowns to short, sweet frocks are subject to change, the actress has skillfully refined a classic look that makes an indelible impression. Our favorite Scarlet look is from the 63rd Annual Golden Globe Awards, Los Angeles, in 2006, where she epitomized glamour and beauty in a sheer red Valentino dress.





Angelina Jolie

Oscar-winning actress Angelina Jolie is a true style icon. She is always on top of the list of "the most beautiful women of all time". Apart from being a famous movie star and a Goodwill ambassador for the UN, she is a mother of six kids, and yet finds the time to appear glamorous and stylish. You can see her glowing beauty sparkle in just about anything she wears. Everyday women can relate to Jolie's style from the ever chic black dresses, red carpet glamorous looks to the everyday comfortable outfits. Angelina Jolie never fails to look stunning, yet her style is simple and sophisticated, accentuated with neutral makeup and easy hairstyles. Our favorite Angelina look is from *Mr. & Mrs. Smith* LA premiere (2005), in which she wore the scandalously skintight, black leather Versace gown.



Halle Berry

The actress who won the "Best Actress" Oscar for her role in, *Monster's Ball* is easily one of the hottest Hollywood actresses of the 90s. She has continued to wow everyone with flawless good looks and a gorgeous body. Whether she's walking down the red carpet, strolling with her daughter Nahla or just casually running errands, Halle has girls half her age wishing they



looked this good! Our favorite Halle Berry look is from the 74th Academy Awards in 2002, in which she wore a sheer Ellie Saab net dress.



Charlize Theron

Charlize Theron tops the list of the most glamorous actresses in Hollywood. Charlize has been at the top of best dressed actress lists for years and has been noted for her serious fashion drive. The South African beauty started her career as a model, her youthful good looks and glamorous demeanor landed her the gig as the face of J'adore Dior fragrance. Our favorite Charlize

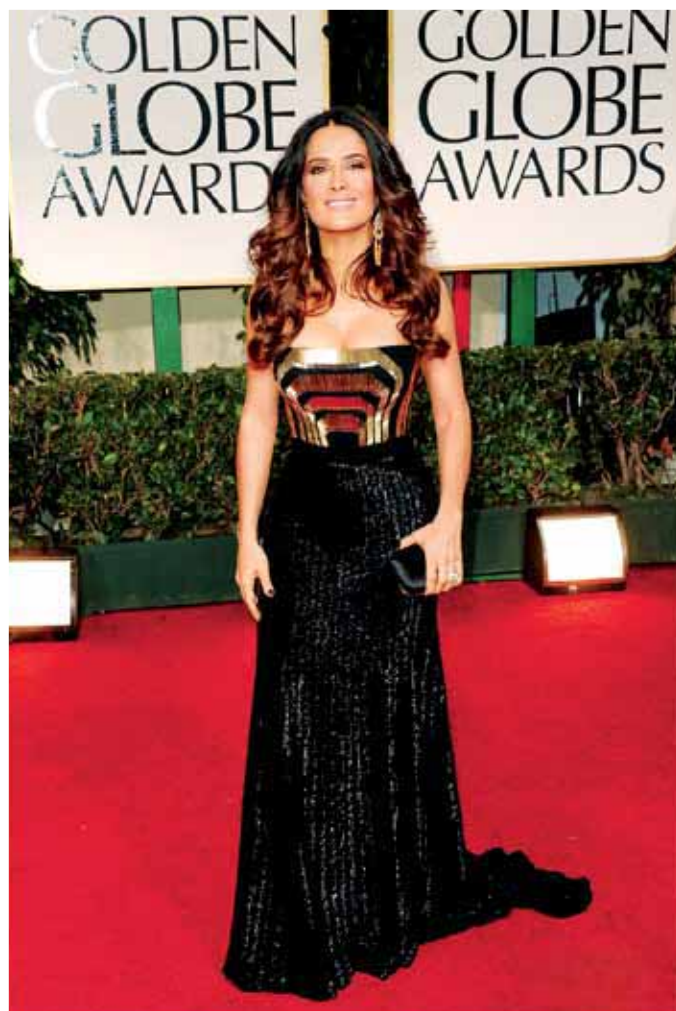
Theron look is from the 69th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Los Angeles, California, where she arrived wearing a stunning light pink Christian Dior haute couture gown with a plunging neckline and a super thigh high slit. Her dress' dramatic gliding train and multi-layered hip peplum adorned with a crystal brooch gave the dress a truly superb finish.



Nicole Kidman

Porcelain pretty and a rather coy actress, Nicole Kidman won the Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role, in 2003 for her portrayal of the famous writer Virginia Woolf in the movie, *The Hours*. The Australian actress had been nominated in the same

category for her role in *Moulin Rouge*. Our favorite Nicole Kidman look is from the 2011 Grammy Awards held at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. Nicole wore a Jean Paul Gaultier dress with Fred Leighton vintage jewels.



Salma Hayek

Mexican actress Salma Hayek is known for her va-va-voom red carpet moments; a signature bombshell style which she embraces. Although we're used to seeing the actress in her curve-hugging dresses and sky-high heels, she could do without the latter and still manage to look effortlessly stylish and beautiful. Our favorite Salma Hayek look is from the opening ceremony of the 64th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, where she wore a Gucci strapless silk evening gown.

2012 Fall Beauty Trends

Look through the fabulous 2012 fall makeup trends to draw inspiration for a hot new look for you!

From textured tresses to bold lips, this season's hottest looks consist of old fall classics blended with new modern makeup ideas. The beauty trends observed walking the fall 2012 runways are not only right for the approaching cooler weather, but perfectly appropriate for the sultry summer heat. Check out the hottest beauty trends for the 2012 fall season!



Statement Brows

If fall 2012 is anything to go by, strong brows are not going anywhere at least not anytime soon. With the main focus on retro elegance this season, it's no wonder that beautifully strong brows continue to draw attention. However, make sure that your enhanced brows look groomed rather than bushy. At fall 2012 shows, models showed off strong statement brows that gave off a dramatic effect. Well defined eyebrows really do enhance your overall look. To achieve this look, make your eyebrow the focal point by following the natural direction of the brow and extend the brow out to the temple. Additionally, an eyebrow gel could be used since it helps tame unruly hair and add depth to the eyebrow.





Bold Lips

This season designers and makeup artists favored wine colored lips with deep undertones. The finish ranged from creamy matte to high patent-leather gloss, all offset by perfect skin for contrast. This style looks best when worn with a clean makeup look so that your lips remain prominent and visually electrifying. At runways, models showed off this classic red pout that exhibited a sophisticated no-nonsense type of gal. These colors definitely add sensuality to the lips but remember that when you wear a dark colored lipstick, the rest of your makeup should be minimal. A key point to bear in mind is that what you leave out is just as important as what you put on. To wear the look, buff away any flakes with an exfoliating lip treatment. Then layer clear balm underneath your bold red lip color to adjust the intensity to your liking.

Straight Hair & Textured Tresses

Two hair styles seem to be the trend this upcoming fall; absolute straight hair with a side parting and textured waves with a sexy disheveled look. Pin-straight hair looks sophisticated and well-groomed. It is a very manageable and practical style to wear, whether you're going to work or a weekend party. Rag & Bone's fall 2012 show was inspired by a multitude of rich textures, but hair specifically took on a textured wave that felt sexily disheveled and fashionably grungy. Statement hair accessories also took center stage during the fall 2012 collections. From metallic studded stars at Rodarte to acrylic flower pins at Tory Burch, these ornate clips adorned the soft, poofy hairstyles worn by the models parading the runways. To get in on this sweet trend, skip the fluffy up dos, and instead place these fun pins throughout a loose braid or your textured hair waves.



Dramatic Eyes & Graphic Lids

The talk of the 2012 fall shows were bold and dramatically made-up eyes with vivid colors, that imitated the brilliant blue-brown plumes of peacocks (at Prabal Gurung), the cool painterly greens of landscapes (at Jason Wu), and the cobalt sea (at Anna Sui). For a chic and wearable version, look for shadows with hints of silver or gold mixed into the color to soften the effect and complement your skin tone. To achieve graphically detailed lids for the summer, tone down the black liner and instead line your lids with gray eyeliner, which creates a softer shape. Keep the emerald shadow at bay by focusing on the lower lid rather than the whole eye area. This year the smoky eye also took on a different look with peacock hues of blues, rose, purple, bronze, and emerald complementing the smoky eyeshades. These colors can really brighten the eye area and offer a very nice alternative to the same old grays and blacks of the traditional smoky eye.



Glowing Skin & Soft Make Up

Undone skin is usually reserved for spring, but it also made a surprise appearance on the fall runways. Makeup artists experimented with monochromatic contouring with nude tones at Valentino, fresh and inventive pops of lipstick on the cheeks at Michael Kors and dewy complexions aplenty at Vera Wang. At the fall 2012 Oscar de la Renta show, the makeup used on the models complemented and highlighted both the strengths and sophistication of the modern woman. To get the look, you need to focus on your face as a whole by attaining glowing, healthy looking skin that doesn't look tired, stressed, or any of the actual states women are in most of the year. Keeping the colors in the same range, lips, eyes and cheeks complemented rather than overwhelmed each other. This look also gives a chance to let our skin breath without all the heavy layers of daily makeup.

NICOLE KIDMAN

"IT TAKES WOMEN TO MAKE THINGS PROGRESS"



Australian redhead invades the screen with three new gems

Academy Award -winner NICOLE KIDMAN first came to the attention of the audiences with her critically acclaimed performance in the riveting 1989 Australian, psychological thriller, 'Dead Calm'. Standing at a willowy 5'11" and sporting one of Hollywood's most distinctive heads of frizzy red hair, the statuesque Aussie has established herself as one of the greatest actresses of her generation with commanding performances in Moulin Rouge, Cold Mountain and The Hours. In 2003, Nicole won an Academy Award, a Golden

Globe Award, a BAFTA Award and a Berlin Silver Bear for her portrayal of Virginia Woolf in The Hours, the actress hasn't stopped mesmerizing audience with her acting ever since...

She's also one of the most talented and most daring actresses Hollywood has known in decades. It only takes a glimpse at her filmography to confirm that fact. This year she's invading the big screen with three new films. At the festival, a French reporter described Nicole Kidman as the girl who

makes Sharon Stone's Basic Instinct sex scenes look like a Disney score compared to what she does in The Paperboy.

Visiting Paris to promote Joel Schumacher's Trespass, in which she co-stars with Nicolas Cage, the Australian Redhead who turned 44 this year, answered First Avenue's questions in a face to face interview about cinema, seduction, men, fashion, in short everything that makes life worth living!



"Nicolas and I have known each other for a very long time, therefore, we have fun working together in front of the camera."

FIRST AVENUE: *We often hear about actresses in their forties who are less lucky in finding good solid parts on screen, which does not appear to be your case at all. Do you consider yourself to be an exception, then?*

NICOLE KIDMAN: Not at all. There are other actresses who are over 40 and even some over 50, who are still offered good parts in films. But there is still work to be done in order to change the male mentality that prevails among Hollywood producers, who believe that the audiences will not be drawn to an actress if she is over 25 years of age. I am very confident that in the future the mind-set will change, as more and more studios are being run by women, or at least they have women on their management board, and it takes

women to make things progress in this world, doesn't it?

F. A: *In Hemingway & Gelhorn and The Paperboy that were screened in Cannes this year, you are involved in very hot scenes, so is this a way of bringing proof of your still amazing seduction power?*

N. K: Not for one bit and it would be sadly unprofessional, coming from me, to use my career in order to prove what I am or am not in the field of seduction. I play parts or roles on the screen, and therefore I do what becomes the character I portray in every new film, after having discussed the matter with the director and having been convinced of the necessity of shooting such scenes.

F. A: *What about those two films then?*

N. K: Hemingway & Gelhorn which was directed by Philip Kaufman, tells the conflictual love story between Ernest Hemingway and Martha Gelhorn who got married despite their obvious disagreement about all that makes a daily life. It's the story of a passion that did not last long. The film is of course based upon true facts. As for The Paperboy directed by Lee Daniels, it introduces a woman whose friend is a convict and who tries to convince a journalist to investigate the murder case in which her friend is involved and for which he has been sentenced to death. The two films are very different from one another although very intense, dramatically speaking.

F. A: Tell us about both Clive Owen and John Cusack your male partners in those two films?

N. K: Well, let me just say that they are so different from one another. The British and the American.

F. A: What do you mean precisely?

N. K: I mean that Clive Owen who is British and who performs the role of Hemingway in the film Hemingway & Gellhorn is a very quiet and cold blooded man in real life, but on the other hand he is capable of portraying violence and anger on the screen, in a magnificent and very convincing way. And John Cusack, the American, who seems so sweet and calm in his characters, is in fact a very nervous person capable of losing his temper in half a second. He even admits that acting is the best therapy for him to control his temper. So as you can see, both of them are interesting men each in his very special way.



"I love all that comes from Chanel and Karl Lagerfeld, the clothes, the fragrances, the accessories"

F. A: Which one is your favourite?

N. K: It was a pleasure dealing in front of the camera with each of them.

F. A: Yes, but which do you prefer in fact?

N. K: Please keep in mind that I am a married woman and that I have children, and avoid that type of question.



"I play parts or roles on the screen, and therefore I do what becomes the character I portray in every new film."

F. A: What about Trespass the film that you are now promoting?

N. K: It tells the story of a couple who live in a huge house, designed by the

wife because that is what she does in life, design houses, while her husband is in the jewel business. They also have a teen age daughter who tries to live her life as she pleases but finds

her parents in the way, whenever she makes a move towards freedom. One night the family is assaulted by a gang of three masked men and one woman, an event which will turn their lives upside down and focuses their attention on one single purpose: staying alive. The film is a thriller and it was wonderfully directed by Joel Schumacher who made Nicolas Cage and myself truly work as a team facing danger. Not any kind of team, a husband and wife team ready for whatever it takes to protect their daughter's life.

F. A: Was it fun working with Nicolas Cage?

N. K: Yes, Nicolas and I have known each other for a very long time, therefore, we have fun working together in front of the camera.

F. A: Are you a Fashion Victim?

N. K: I love all that comes from Chanel and Karl Lagerfeld, the clothes, the fragrances, the accessories...Does that make me a Fashion Victim? I don't know!



Exotic Beach Destinations

Escape to a tropical paradise with our pick of the best exotic getaways!



Imagine basking under the sun while lying in a hammock, sipping a fruit cocktail from a coconut shell, and enjoying the breath taking view of the ocean, far away from the hustle and bustle of your everyday life. Whether you're hoping to sunbathe on white sand or go snorkeling around coral reef; beaches have always been a

space for relaxation, rejuvenation and entertainment. When the hassle of everyday life starts to overwhelm, it's comforting to know we can escape to the warm sun and surf of a beach or just take a dip. There are many exotic beach destinations located in all corners of the globe, and here's our pick of the most exotic beach destinations.



The Maldives

The Maldives are a group of islands in the Indian Ocean that largely caters to luxury beach vacations. Most resorts are on their own secluded island and aim to offer the best services to luxury travelers. This is probably one of those places to go when your vacation is largely confined to lazy days by the beach or exploring the vast seas, as traveling between islands can be a bit of a hassle and observing local culture and lifestyle is largely limited to day trips. Maldives – idyllic beaches are a dream come true for sun and sand lovers.

Fiji – South Pacific

A Melanesian country in the South Pacific Ocean, Fiji lies about two-thirds of the way from Hawaii to New Zealand and consists of an archipelago that includes 332 islands which are mostly nature reserves. It is also a beautiful place to chill out and experience the local culture. The Fiji islands are surely the essence of a tropical island paradise. White sandy beaches, swaying coconut trees, pristine oceans & waterways and a range of things to do & see that will appeal to the most discerning traveler. The Fijians are also a very friendly bunch of people and always happy to include you in their century old ceremonies.



Hawaii - USA

Hawaii offers beach travelers some of the world's best beach destinations. About seven million visitors come to experience this paradise yearly. By serendipity and design, Hawaii is an almost flawless destination. It's an enchanting multicultural society with roots in Polynesia, Asia, North America and Europe, and it's an expression of nature at its most luscious and divine. If you want an easy resort vacation, head for *Oahu's Waikiki* or *West Maui*. For something more adventurous, aim for the Big Island or *Kauai*. If time is short, stick to one island and make the most of it. Honolulu is a teeming cultural and economic powerhouse, but in under an hour you can be alone in the rainforest or snoozing on white sand.



Phuket - Thailand

Made up of 33 islands, Phuket covers an area of 570 square kilometers (354 square miles). Although it is Thailand's largest island it is in fact quite small and that means you can discover most of it without having to waste a lot of time getting to and from the idyllic sites. This lovely island seduces travelers from every walk of life with some lush inland vistas, turquoise waters and mile upon mile of coastline that brags tons of water sports, delectable restaurants and decadent resorts.



Seychelles - Africa

Hidden discreetly from the modern world, the 115 islands that make up the Seychelles lie strewn across the warm Indian Ocean in a scattered pattern of brilliant green and white. The Seychelles, North of Madagascar, is another exotic destination that doesn't cater to mass large-scale tourism. This is a place for luxury travelers, but the price that you pay to be in this tropical paradise is very much worth your money. The beaches in this secluded archipelago are some of the world's best, with palm-fringed silvery sands, turquoise seas, misty mountain peaks and coral reefs coupled with tropical sun, starry skies and delightful people, the Seychelles are an idyllic escape for travelers.

Curaçao Island - The Caribbean

This enticing island known for its gorgeous coral reefs is located in the southern Caribbean Sea, off the Venezuelan coast. Chosen as the Favorite Caribbean Destination for 2012 by the readers of About.com, one of the Top 10 Destinations for 2012 by Frommer's and a 2012 Honeymoon Hot Spot by Condé Nast Traveler, the small, yet bustling island of Curaçao has become one of the hottest destinations in the Caribbean for discerning travelers. A utopia for scuba drivers and nature lovers, its ruggedly beautiful landscape provides endless opportunities for fun. Conquer the island's open spaces and enjoy exhilarating hiking, biking, and ATV tours. Locals and visitors mingle in harmony throughout the island, as tourists relax and unwind amidst Curacaoans working, playing, and enjoying life to its fullest – the same as they have done for generations.



Zen Home Décor

Looking for a calm oasis minus the sea of stress when you return home? Decorating in the Zen style may be the perfect answer!

There is nothing worse than coming home at the end of the day, only to feel that your stress has followed you home. If this sounds familiar, you may want to consider a design overhaul for your home. Zen design applies elements from the Zen philosophy to interiors and surroundings. A Zen decorating style based on the principles of harmony help you to relax and escape the effects of a hectic and stressful day. Zen décor focuses on mindfulness, you need to be mindful of every element in the rooms and know their purpose. It is a calming

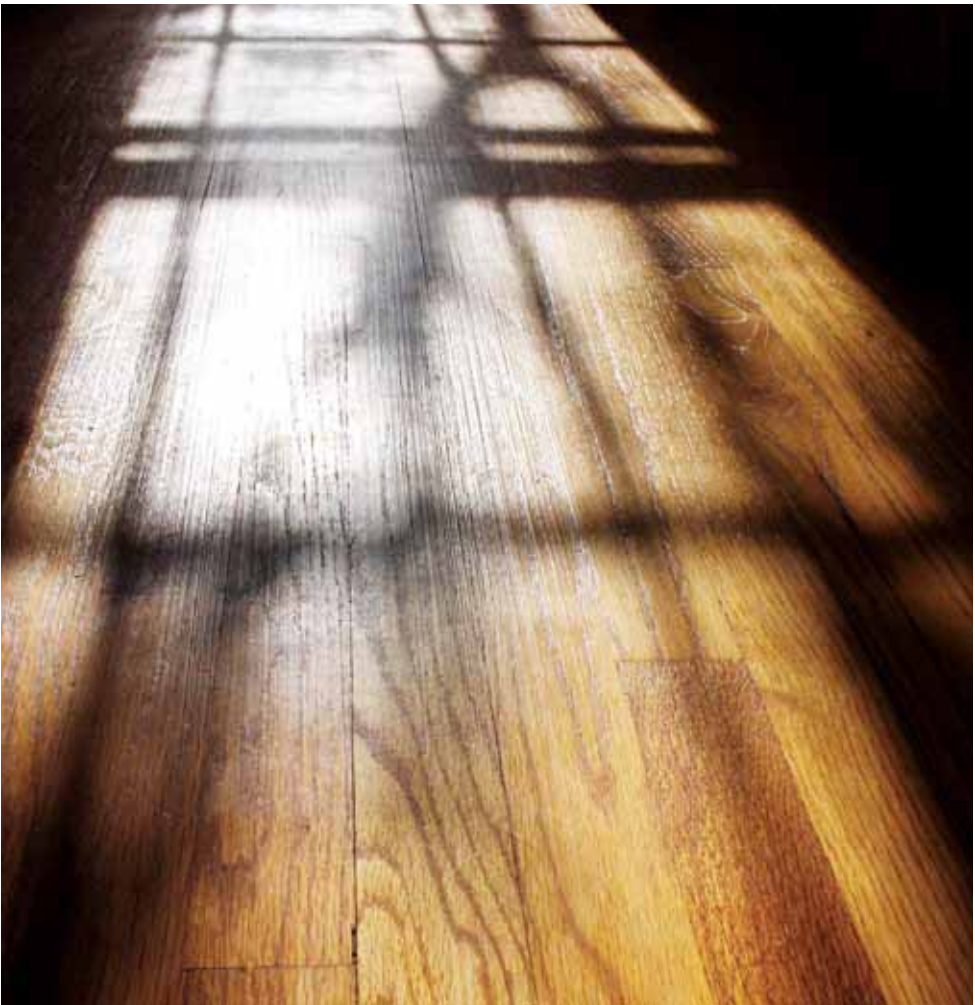
décor style that can bring peace to your chaotic life. Zen interior design means different things to different people. To some, a Zen aesthetic is all about clear, open spaces with minimal decoration. Others believe that Zen interiors need a traditional or contemporary Japanese touch. Over all Zen décor is all about creating a relaxing and inviting home for one to unwind, which is essential to a healthy home. Creating a space with natural fibers, nature inspired colors are what a relaxing Zen environment is all about.

Here are some tips for adding the relaxing Zen inspired decor to your home.



Colors and Designs

Zen decor is characterized by warm and neutral colors, as well as earthy tones. Find items with clean lines, natural colors and paint rooms in white or natural shades. Choose furniture in earth tones such as cream, brown or tan, avoid busy patterns and bright ornate furnishings. Choose a coffee table, display cabinet or sink basin made of glass to create an atmosphere of tranquility. Always remember that natural colors are relaxing, they can uplift and relax your mind.



De-Clutter

Clutter encourages chaos, which is against the Zen philosophy. Ensure that there is space for everything you need and get rid of the things you do not need or enjoy. Clutter is not calming, and Zen design aims at fostering peace and calm. So, the first task, if you're going Zen, is organize your space.



Minimalism

Minimalism is one of the most important principles of Zen decor. Take a look at the furniture and decorations in your home and eliminate the items that are not functional or necessary to your lifestyle. For instance, keep your dining room simple by including no more than a table, several chairs and a light fixture that provides dim lighting. Aim to have as much open space as possible. The furniture you choose should have simple, low lines. Modern or Asian furniture in neutral solids would work best.

Harmony with Nature

To get the ultimate Zen style, accessorize with items that incorporate the five elements of nature. Wood, earth, fire, water and metal, are said to help increase harmonious interaction with nature. For the element of fire, look no further than a fireplace or an arrangement of solid colored candles on wooden tables, bathroom counters and other surfaces. Contemporary, simple wood furniture or an arrangement of bamboo rods in a floor pot, will channel the wood element. While, metal is easily incorporated through the use of metal storage containers or light fixtures. In addition, because vegetation is often the first thing we associate with nature, scatter some simple green plants throughout your home.





Lighting

Bring natural light into your home. Avoid blocking windows with heavy drapes or open them during the day. Arrange furniture so that the light can flow from one room to the next. Large windows are better than small, you can

maximize the windows you have by avoiding ornate window treatments and busy pictures near the windows. Recessed lighting is perfect for Zen design, since they are streamlined and uncluttered.

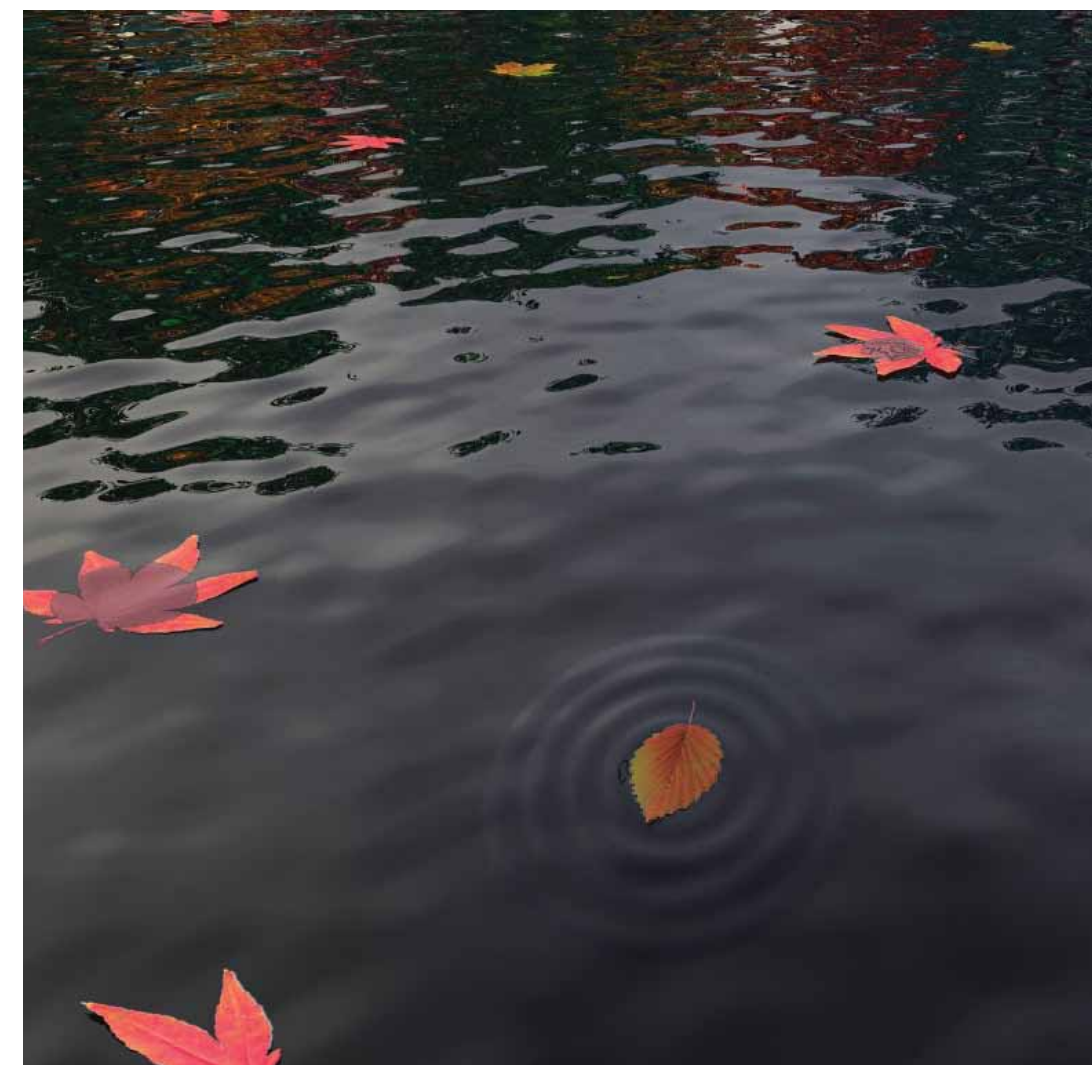
Water

Many Zen decors feature arrangements that combine the soothing effect of water and rocks. The sound of water is wonderfully calming, so adding a water feature to the room makes it more tranquil. It can be a large feature in the middle of the room or a small fountain on the tabletop. Placing a small fountain in your home is an ideal way to get the soothing and simple style of Zen decor.



Uniting the outdoors with the indoors

Zen inspired decor is largely based on creating the union between the outdoors and the indoors. By using natural finishes such as cork, bamboo, wood and plant materials, blurring the line between your outdoors and your interiors can create a peaceful space; a sanctuary that you love to retreat to, daily. Take advantage of large windows in your home, to bring the outdoor views inside and to mimic colors of the outdoors in your space.



Luxury Dining

Visit one of the most expensive restaurants in the world and discover the exquisite culinary dream!

The world offers a large variety of cuisine for any budget. However, the most expensive restaurants always offer the best food available. Be it an urban hot-spot, middle eastern fusion or classic French, what makes these

exclusive restaurants special is an incomparable combination of ambience and culinary art, their unique locations and first class service. Here is a list of the top most expensive restaurants in the world.

Discover which restaurants really take the culinary art to the luxury league.



Ithaa, Maldives

Ithaa, which means mother-of-pearl in Dhivehi, is the very first undersea restaurant in the world located below sea level at the *Conrad*, Maldives. The 5-by-9-metre mostly acrylic structure has a capacity of 14 people with a transparent roof offering a 270°

panoramic underwater view. Food served in the restaurant has evolved over the years and is now best described as western with an Asian/Maldivian twist. The tasting menu is 23 courses long costing a minimum of \$300 per person.



Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée, Paris

Offering modern, authentic French cuisine in an upscale environment, Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée oozes old school glamour. It is dominated by a huge, fragmented chandelier, whose 10,000 crystals shimmer like raindrops in the sun. Plaza Athénée in Paris is a flagship restaurant of superstar chef *Alain*

Ducasse, who holds enough Michelin Stars to fill a firmament. Classic dishes include *langoustines* topped with caviar and pigeon fillets in a shallot and mustard sauce. It remains closed during the summer months and a few days before Christmas, every year. The average cost per person is \$231.



Aragawa, Tokyo

Aragawa has the typically understated style of Tokyo's greatest restaurants. It is the finest place in the world to treat yourself to Kobe beef. The hand-fed beef comes from a single nearby farm, and it melts in your mouth. Aragawa is one of the most expensive restaurants in the world, with the average meal costing \$368 to \$450 per person.



Masa, New York, USA

With a tasting menu costing \$480 to \$680 per person, Masa was opened by Chef Masa Takayama in 2004 and is considered one of the most expensive restaurants in New York City as well as in the world. Entering Masa's huge wooden door is like stepping through the looking glass. In the demure, temple like, 26 seat room, Chef Masa Takayama

himself greets guests, then begins to conjure divinely tasting food. You're not presented with choices, but a wondrous seasonal array, such as wild watercress tempura and lobster and foie gras hotpot. Masa garnered the Michelin Guide's highest rating starting with the 2009 guide and was the first Japanese restaurant in the U.S. to do so.



El Bulli, Roses, Gerona, Spain

El Bulli, perched above a remote bay two hours north of Barcelona, opens only six months a year. Its chef, Ferran Adrià, spends the winter in a laboratory, creating new culinary concoctions. Eating here is a Willy Wonka like experience. Each of the 15 tables gets a different menu (around \$426 per head), which might include parmesan

snow, pinecone mousse, freeze dried foie gras, and olive oil spirals that rollercoaster through flavours as they dissolve in your mouth, and so on and on for 30 courses. To get a table requires tenacity because as soon as booking opens, the restaurant sells out, with around 500,000 enquiries for 8,000 places.

The French Laundry, California, USA

The French Laundry is a perennial awardee in the annual Restaurant Magazine list of the Top 50 Restaurants of the World. You have to reserve at least two months ahead for the French Laundry, a modest stone building, and one of the hallowed halls of fine dining. Thomas Keller is often cited as one of the world's best chefs, famous for intense dedication to beautiful food and exquisite ingredients. He uses around 300 purveyors, often name checked as the waiter introduces the dish (the eggs are handpicked by so and so in New York, etc). The standard tasting menu costs



Gordon Ramsay, London

Gordon Ramsay is a British chef, who made his venture into the field of restaurant business with his eponymous restaurant in 1998. They only have 13 tables but still face a crowd every evening. The mainstay features of the menu are Cornish Lamb and pigeon with foie gras. The average meal costs \$183. The chef puts everything he knows into this restaurant to make it an outstanding dining experience.

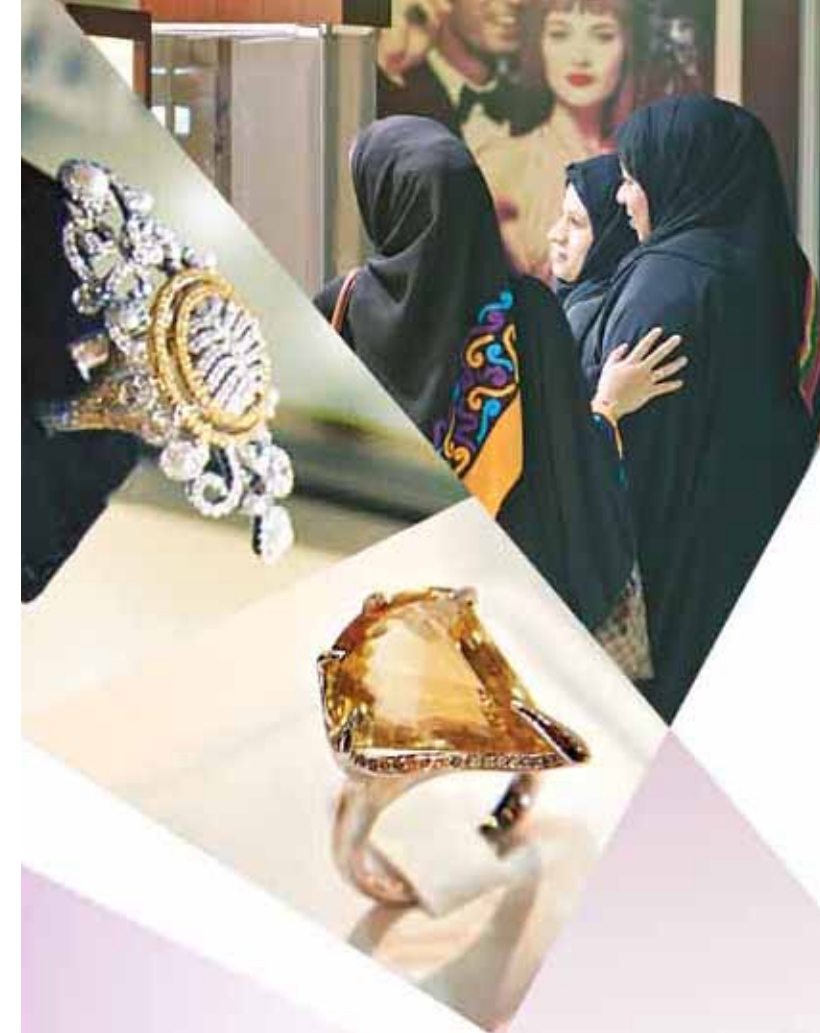
Whampoa Club, China

One of Shanghai's foodie hotspots, the Whampoa Club, has chef Jereme Leung at the helm. The bright, expansive Art-Deco style restaurant in the popular Three on the Bund complex in Shanghai has a luxurious ambience that draws you in. In recent years, the restaurant's Chef Jereme has continued to rise to new heights, winning countless prestigious awards for his exceptional culinary concoctions.



Sushi Kaji, Toronto

Known for the food offerings of Mitsuhiro Kaji, the executive chef Sushi Kaji offers menus priced at \$80, \$100 and \$120. Culinary delights for the food buffs vary from barbecued eel, fried fluke with spicy tomato sauce, pickled cucumber, strawberry and watermelon soup. Sushi Kaji combines exotic flavors with everyday food to give customers an experience they are sure not to forget.



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Jewelry & Watch Collection

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



Miki Pearls Collection

Showcasing peerless freshwater pearls crafted in 18k yellow gold settings, these graceful necklaces, earrings and rings are highlighted by a tasteful sprinkling of diamond brilliants, designed to enhance their innate glow and

charm. Aaron Shum's Miki Pearls collection is designed around a central wave motif which artistically depicts each precious pearl as being lovingly held by a curved hand, studded in turn with pave diamonds.



Spring Collection 2012- Damas

Damas the jewelry and watch retailer in the Middle East, has unveiled its new Spring Collection 2012. The new collection captures the essence of spring, with its playful and colorful designs with bohemian influences, crafted in 18k yellow gold, semi-precious stones and diamonds.





Piaget Rose Collection

See life in rose and diamonds. With its generosity and efflorescence, the rose that was dedicated to Yves G. Piaget by the famous plant cultivator Alain Meilland was a natural source

of inspiration for Piaget's creative team. The Piaget Rose collection blossoms as tender rose is transformed into gold and diamonds.



Fauna and Flora Collection from Gemtique

Aaron Shum Jewelry unfurls two magical choices from *GEMTIQUE* collections - Fauna and Flora which flutter with life in a kaleidoscopic combination of *SWAROVSKI* Genuine Gemstones and a tasteful sprinkling of diamonds. The *GEMTIQUE* collection uses 925 sterling silver for the very first time in addition to small amounts of 18 k gold to present a luxury, fine jewelry line at extremely tempting prices.



Nouf ring Collection

LIALLI Jewelry unfurls glamorous new designs in its exclusive Nouf ring collection! Exotic and beautiful, Nouf's handcrafted rings feature tantalizing combinations of select white, brown and black diamonds, pink, yellow, orange sapphires, topaz, citrines, amethysts and smoky and white quartz. The exotic Nouf ring collection is available at all LIALLI outlets across the UAE.



Sevan Bicakci

There are worlds within Sevan Bicakci's jewelry that only his eye has imagined and distinctly his own. Born in Istanbul, Sevan's exquisite pieces reflect a sensibility steeped in Istanbul's myriad Oriental charms - exotic spice bazaars, majestic mosques, whirling dervishes, fairy-tale like

minarets and imposing images of past Sultans. From his studio near Istanbul's 500-year-old Grand Bazaar, Bicakci crafts one-of-a-kind jewels crafted from high-karat gold, sterling silver, rose or antique-cut diamonds, and a host of uniquely cut gemstones.





The FRÉDÉRIQUE Constant limited edition

To celebrate the 24th edition of La Carrera Panamericana race, we introduce two unique timepieces, both edited in a limited edition of 1888 pieces for each dial version. Featured with a 43mm diameter polished stainless steel case, the unique introductions are equipped with the unique FC-435 hand-wound calibre with small second. Water resistant up to 10 ATM, you will be able to see the decorated movement

through the case back thanks to its sapphire glass. Two silver dial finishing, either with stainless steel hand-applied indexes or with rose gold plated hand-applied indexes. These two unique limited editions display the original logo of the race on the dial and on the decorated movement. This collection is entirely inspired by the magical universe of classic and vintage cars.



Mother of Pearl- F.P. Journe

The Mother of Pearl is the latest creation of the Boutiques Collections by F.P. Journe. It elegantly combines the mysteries of mother of pearl in an hour circle adorned with Arabic numerals, with the timeless elegance of a guilloché Clous de Paris in its center. With an annual production of

around 900 watches per year, the new Mother of Pearl collection with gold and silver guilloché is available for the Chronomètre Souverain, the Octa Automatique Lune or the Octa Automatique Réserve, with 18K red gold or platinum case.

Zenith Star Open - An Anthem to Femininity

Embodying the philosophy of absolute performance, the Zenith Star Open pays tribute to the El Primero calibre. Right at first glance, this model draws the gaze to the expressive strength of its original cushion shape accentuated by an opening at 10:30 revealing the legendary heart of the mechanical automatic movements, El Primero Calibre 4062. Governed by the unshakeable conviction that the true perfection of a work of art is perceptible in its smallest details, the movement decoration is visible through a sapphire caseback. Available in three models, the Zenith Star Open watches represent exceptional creations that clearly belong to the heritage of a brand that fully dedicates its outstanding expertise to the pursuit of precision, elegance and performance.



Lange 1 Tourbillon Perpetual Calendar - A. Lange & Söhne

The latest model by A. Lange & Söhne; the Lange 1 Tourbillon Perpetual Calendar, surpasses all boundaries, mirroring the brand’s drive to constantly craft the world’s finest watches. It is the German manufactory’s latest haute horlogerie masterpiece which unites two classic complications with the expressive Lange 1 style. The mechanism is designed such that it must only be advanced by one day on March 1st of the secular year 2100. And the moonphase display will even run true for 122 years before it needs to be corrected by one day.



Arceau Grande Lune by La Montre Hermès

Arceau Grande Lune is one of the latest Moonphase watches by La Montre Hermès. Part of the renowned Arceau family, it was designed in 1978 by Henri d’Origny, and inspired by a saddlery element: a hoop-shaped part of the stirrup. Its classic, timeless and elegant aesthetic, along with its evocation of the equestrian world, make it an iconic model – and one that is particularly representative of the inimitable style of Hermès.



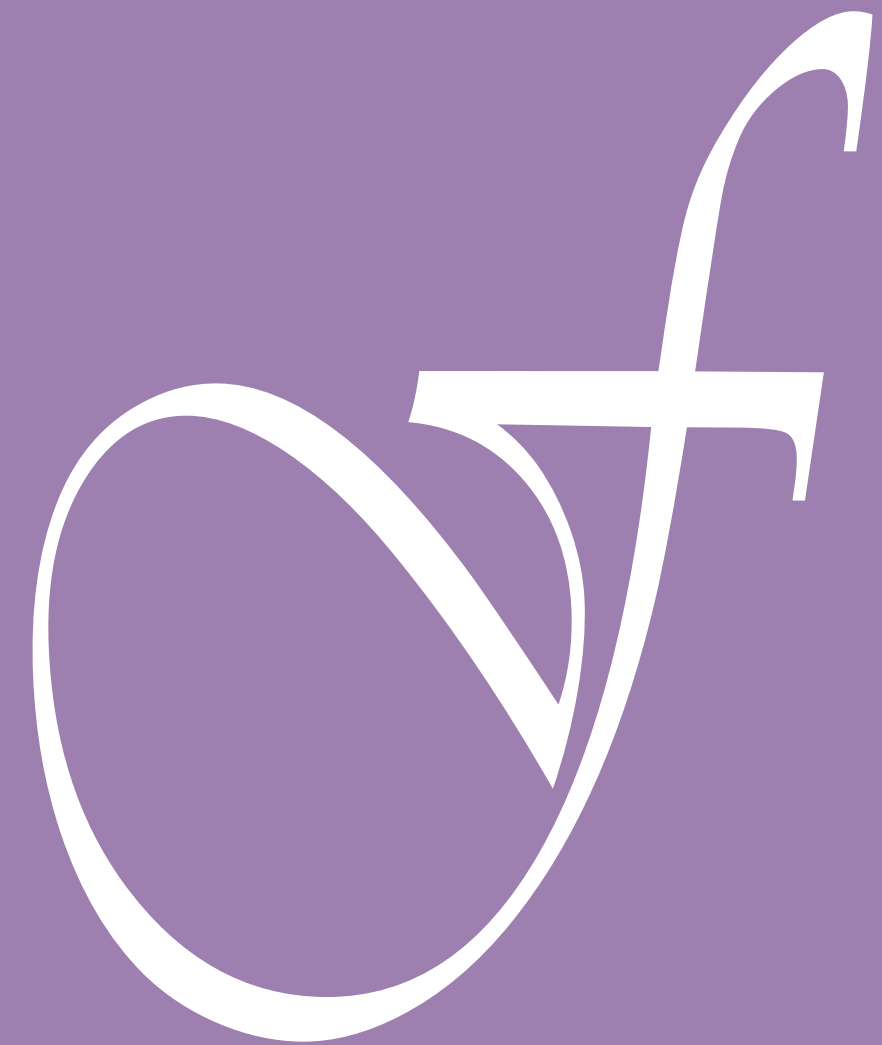
EBEL 100 – Brown & Black Strap Edition

EBEL 100 recalls the most compelling design elements of the vintage age of fashion and combines them with the best mechanical automatic watch movements. The 40 mm alternated brushed and polished case watch is available in brown and black semi-mat alligator strap and stainless steel buckle. The new models demonstrate classic and understated elegance in line with modern minimalistic trends for those who value essential timepieces for all times.





Fashion Report



Haute Couture Fall Winter 2012-13

Check out the exclusive photos of the Haute Couture Fall Winter 2012-13 collections, from top fashion designers of the world.



Versace Haute Couture



Fall Winter 2012-13

Versace came back to couture with a bang and they made an impactful statement with their first Fall/Winter couture runway show in 15 years. The collection wowed front row audience and featured signature Versace dresses, taking it up a notch with thigh high slits, python prints, corsets, gorgeous hair, feminine silhouettes with signature bustiers.





Chanel Haute Couture Fall Winter 2012-13

Alongside the dominant palette of gray and pink, sometimes black, lilac and white, and a few touches of blue and red garnet, were the colors predominant at this Chanel Haute Couture Autumn-Winter 2012-2013. Karl

Lagerfeld called this new collection "new vintage". The collection showcased 1940's lines, broad shoulders, swiny coat, cape backs in a color palette of black, gray, silver, and dusty pink that spoke of film noir interiors.



Valentino Haute Couture

There is beauty in simplicity, that's one of the lessons Valentino's haute couture collection has taught us. Impeccable, reserved, dignified and youthful are the absolute adjectives to define Valentino's haute couture collection. Valentino is a house that traditionally reads red, but Chiuri and Piccioli dialed down to blue, introspection and reflection versus the extrovert essence of house habit. The collection feels light, airy, and romantic and the silhouettes are constant with this romantic feel; feminine and simplistic.



FallWinter 2012-13

Giorgio Armani Privé- Haute



Haute Couture Fall Winter 2012-13

In a season in which pants are making a strong comeback, it made perfect sense for Giorgio Armani to remind the world what an authority he is on the subject. His couture collection was based around the image of nightfall, the colors of daybreak, sunset, and the starry night skies. He focused on easy jackets with a broad, slightly peaked shoulder,

trousers with a generous volume and flat shoes. This collection was all about pastels and shine mixed in with lots of grounding black (velvet). The pastels were a mix of lavenders, blues, mauves, pinks. With this mix Armani showed his duality; the balance of feminine curves and masculine tailoring which is his signature.



Christian Dior Haute Couture Fall Winter 2012-13



The newly appointed creative director for Christian Dior, Raf Simons debuted this year for the brand, giving more than expected for Dior. The entire collection was exquisite with pastels and dark hues forming classy and elegant bustier dresses that looked like modern day ball-dress. Playing with volume and proportion created something that reminded us of ball gowns. Delicately embroidered in floral motifs and paired with slim pants and pointed shoes (mostly from Christian Louboutin's Capsule Collection 2012) gave the whole feminine couture collection an edgy look.



Elie Saab HauteCouture Fall Winter 2012-13

'In Constantinople's Wake' was the name Elie Saab gave his show. The Byzantine Empire proved fertile territory for the designer. The collection displayed almost entirely cocktail dresses and evening gowns. The garments used were beautifully made with crystals, sequins, and luxurious golden silk jacquards,

Chantilly laces, and mosaic inspired printed georgettes filled to the brim with a decadent beading and lace awash in pretty hues of pale pink, gold, nude, and even a few pops of teal. Saab shied away from his usually muddy color palette and opted to use softer hues of blues, pinks, and black.



Harry Winston at the Biennale
Des Antiquaires Paris 2012



Chosen for their intrinsic beauty, the one-of-a-kind creations presented at the XXVI Biennale des Antiquaires, in Paris pay eloquent tribute to the expertise of Harry Winston, the man known as "The King of Diamonds". Among the most spectacular creations that traveled to Paris in September from the legendary workshops on New York's Fifth Avenue is a new high jewelry collection dedicated to nature's most precious elements. Unique in its kind and exclusively unveiled at the Biennale des Antiquaires, this collection heralds a new chapter in the history of Harry Winston with extraordinary, newly imagined designs.



Roberto Coin launches exclusive
jewelry parure for the UAE

The Italian jewelry designer Roberto Coin, famous for his bespoke designs, has launched an exquisite one-of-a-kind jewelry parure to mark the opening of his new boutique at the Mall of the Emirates, Dubai. The signature set, which consists of a matched collar, bracelet, earrings and ring, were unveiled during a preview event.

Hermès in Abu Dhabi

Hermès recently celebrated the opening of their Abu Dhabi store, at the Etihad Towers. RDAI, the French agency responsible for the architecture of all Hermès stores worldwide since 1978, has overseen all the work necessary to capture the spirit of the Parisian House. With its multiplicity of ambiances, accessible through the cut outs in walls and accentuated by differing ceiling heights, Hermès Abu Dhabi provides visitors with a sense of the interplay of public and private.



Jaeger-LeCoultre Boutique

Swiss watch manufacturer Jaeger-LeCoultre opened its seventh boutique in the Middle East, at Abu Dhabi's renowned Etihad Towers. The luxurious boutique was inaugurated under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, United Arab Emirates Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and H.H. Sheikh Suroor Bin Mohammad Al Nahyan, and in the presence of the Swiss Manufacturer's International Sales director, Mr. Jérôme Favier on behalf of CEO Mr. Jérôme Lambert.



Vacheron Constantin THE HOUR CLUB

Exclusively reserved for Vacheron Constantin owners, THE HOUR CLUB gives its members access to personalized services, special events, and unites owners of Vacheron Constantin timepieces around their shared passion for technical and aesthetic haute horlogerie. The Hour Club is reserved only for owners of a Vacheron Constantin timepiece, who can sign up by visiting the dedicated website: www.thehourclub.com



Global Auto Parts Launched by Al Habtoor Group



Dubai Duty Free Top \$772 Million



Dubai Duty Free Half Year Sales Top US\$772 Million

Dubai Duty Free announced an 11% increase in sales for the first half of the year with turnover reaching Dhs 2.818 billion (US\$ 772 million) and placing the operation well on track for annual sales of Dhs 6 billion (US\$ 1.64 billion). Colm McLoughlin, Executive Vice Chairman of Dubai Duty Free said: "We are pleased with our first half performance and are looking forward to an equally busy second half of the year. Plans are very much in place for the opening of Concourse 3 in early 2013 and we are busy working towards the final fit-out of the new retail area and ensuring our recruitment plans are in line with our expanded retail area which will reach 26,000 square meters with the opening of Concourse 3".

Dubai Duty Free Shergar Cup 2012



Colm and Breeda McLoughlin

Dubai Duty Free Shergar Cup 2012



Colm McLoughlin accompanied by George Horan and Sinead El Sibai presents the DDF Shergar Cup trophy to the Rest of the World Team



George and Carmel Horan with son Brian



Colm McLoughlin, Executive Vice Chairman of DDF and George Horan, President of DDF together with former Derby-winning jockey John Reid MBE

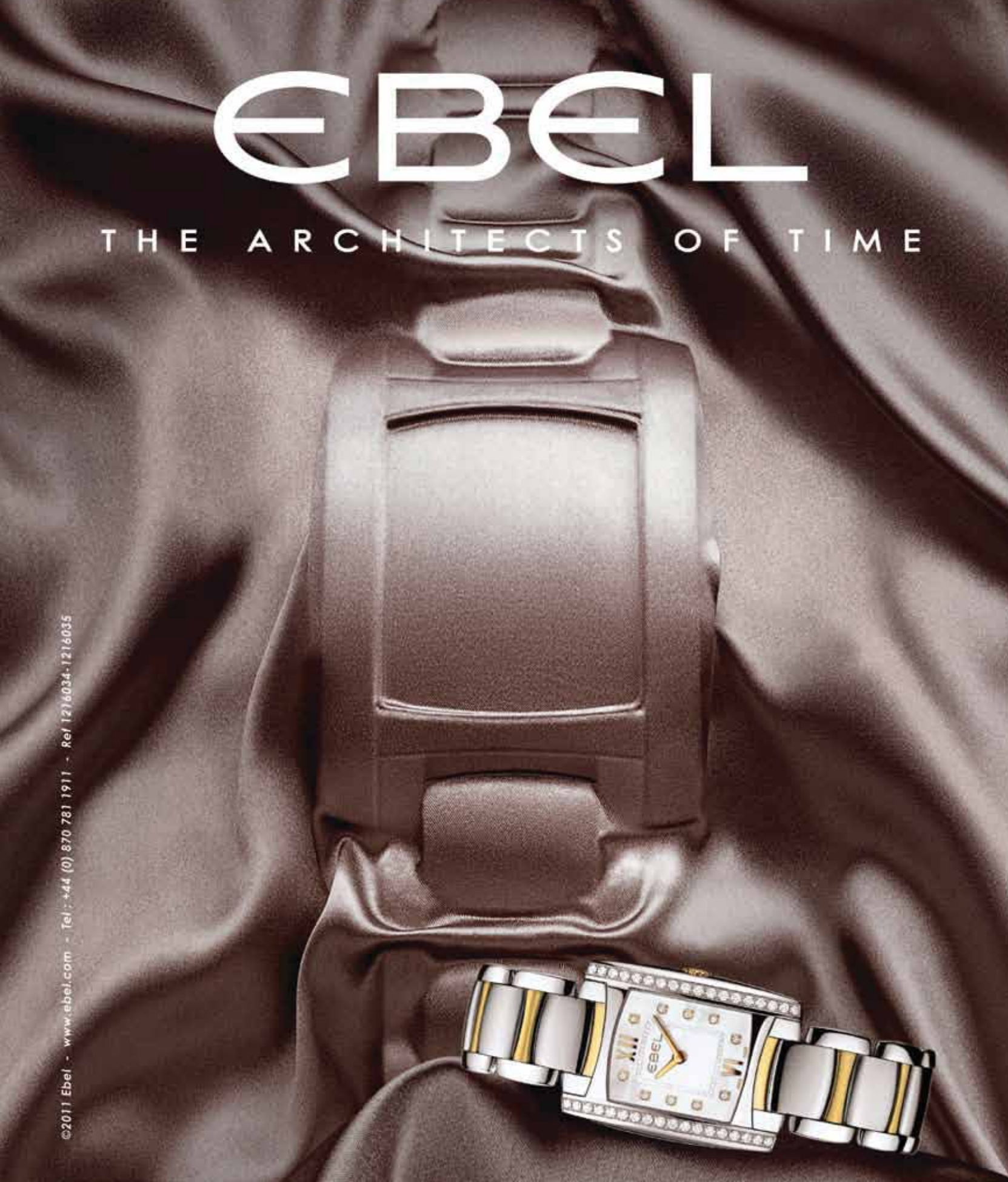
Dubai Duty Free Shergar Cup 2012



Jill Maguire, Eleanor Magee, Colm and Breeda McLoughlin, Connor Magee and Bruce Maguire.



Jihad and Sinead El Sibai and son Liam.





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