

A black and white photograph of actress Kate Winslet. She is wearing a dark, sleeveless top and a Longines watch on her left wrist. Her hand is resting near her face. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a waterfall.

Elegance is an attitude

Kate Winslet
Kate Winslet

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A close-up of a Longines DolceVita watch. It has a rectangular white dial with a diamond-set bezel and a metal link bracelet.

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March 2012

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FIRST AVENUE LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

www.firstavenuemagazine.com

A color photograph of actress Julia Roberts. She is wearing a red, floral-patterned dress and several gold and gemstone bracelets. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

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— Royal Essence —



PARFUMS DE MARLY PEGASUS

Christened after the iconic 18th century horse race winner and renowned predecessor of many future celebrated champions, Parfums De Marly has returned with another fragrance that depicts the winning spirit of its namesake. Pegasus is a heady fougere scent that adds a touch of Equestrian royalty to the distinct masculine flavor that is exclusive to Parfums De Marly fragrances.

True to its roots and fit for a gentleman, this new scent is made up of a stimulating blend of bergamot and almond which dries down into a Vanilla, Sandalwood and Amber base. Boasting of a classy inspiration and a powerful union of Oriental culture, tradition and elegance, the sensational Pegasus is yet another must-have from Parfums De Marly.



We are proud and happy to let you discover the new Parfums de Marly 40 Sqm Shop in Shop, opened 15th of September in the Paris Gallery of Marina Mall Abu Dhabi.

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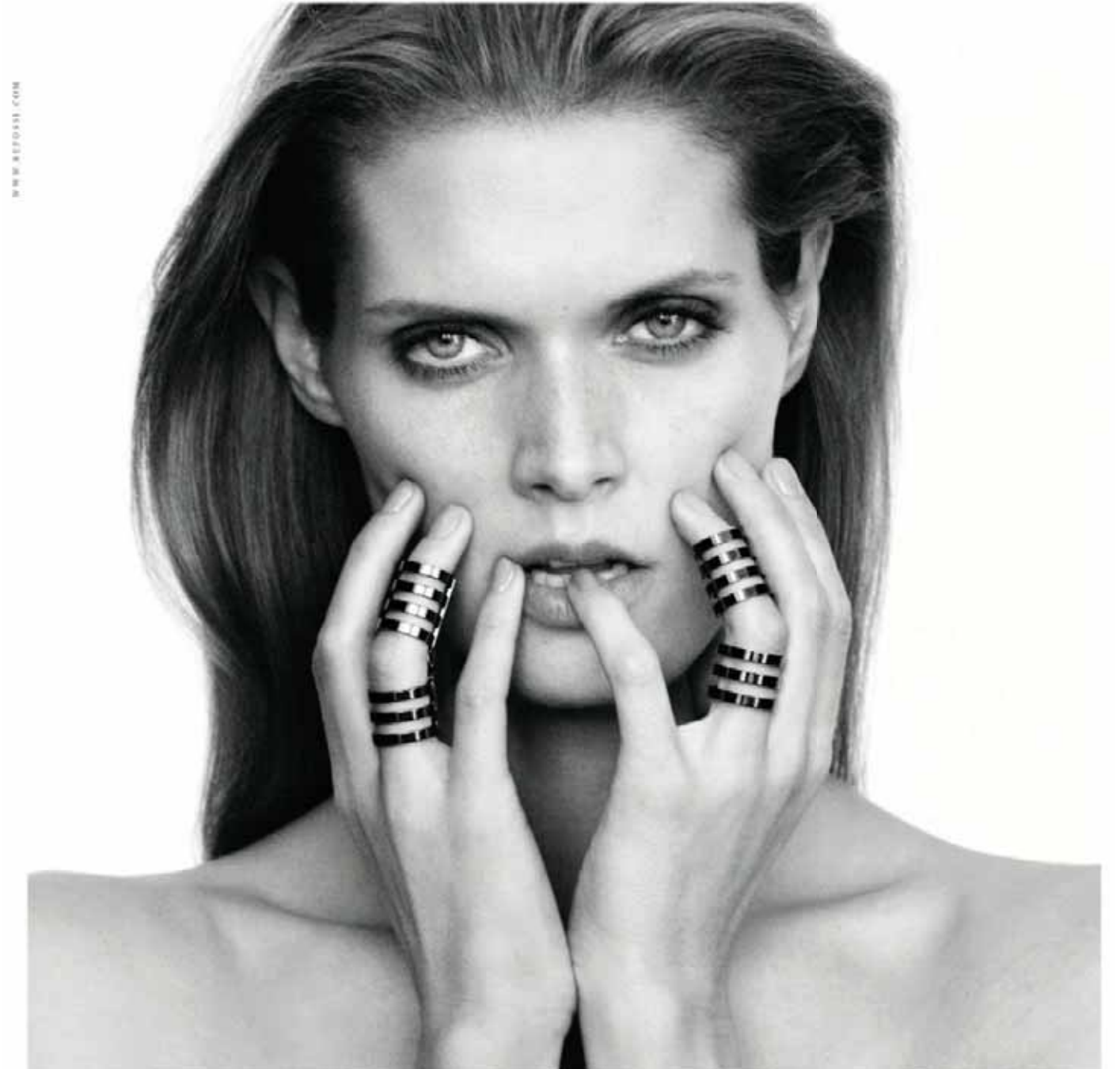
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EDITOR'S NOTES

The arrival of the new year brings opportunities for us to take stock and begin new, whether that means beginning a project, fostering a new relationship or even hitting the gym, whatever your calling is for the new year, the new issue of the First Avenue Magazine proffers plenty to keep you engaged and occupied.

This month's issue especially focuses on the haute horlogerie i.e. elite timepieces and fine jewelry. So don't forget to check out the latest high-end designer jewelry collection in our Jewelry section. For those wishing to take their beauty regime up a notch in the New Year should check out our beauty section with the simple Anti-Aging tips to start the year with a young and fresh look. Our health and fitness section meanwhile will also add up to your benefit with a detailed features on yoga and weight loss to revitalize your health and fitness routine.

Cutting one of the most beautiful figures around is this issue's cover girl, Julia Roberts. The Oscar winning actress talks about her career and her much anticipated movie "Mirror, Mirror". We wrap up the section with our Q&A with Princess Bee, whose latest single 'Angels' has earned the patronage of UNESCO.

For those of you planning to tie the knot this year are in luck. For your consideration is our interesting feature on Destination Weddings including the dos and don'ts of exotic and adventurous weddings.

We also pave our way to the Emirates of Abu Dhabi to discover the most interesting places to visit in the capital city; while closer to home we dig into the best of what's happening in our favorite Emirates with the exclusive feature on the festivals in Dubai.

So whether you are enjoying your days and nights in town or traveling for business or pleasure, this issue of the First Avenue Magazine will deliver a treasure trove of delights to make each day better and brighter.

Cheers!
Lamiya Sami



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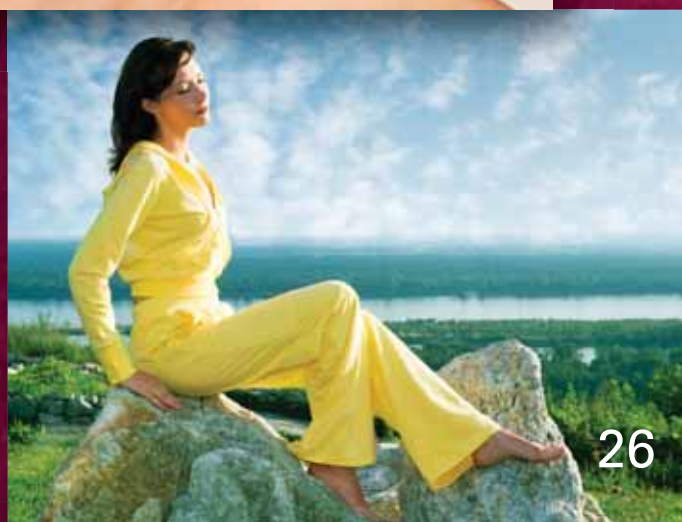
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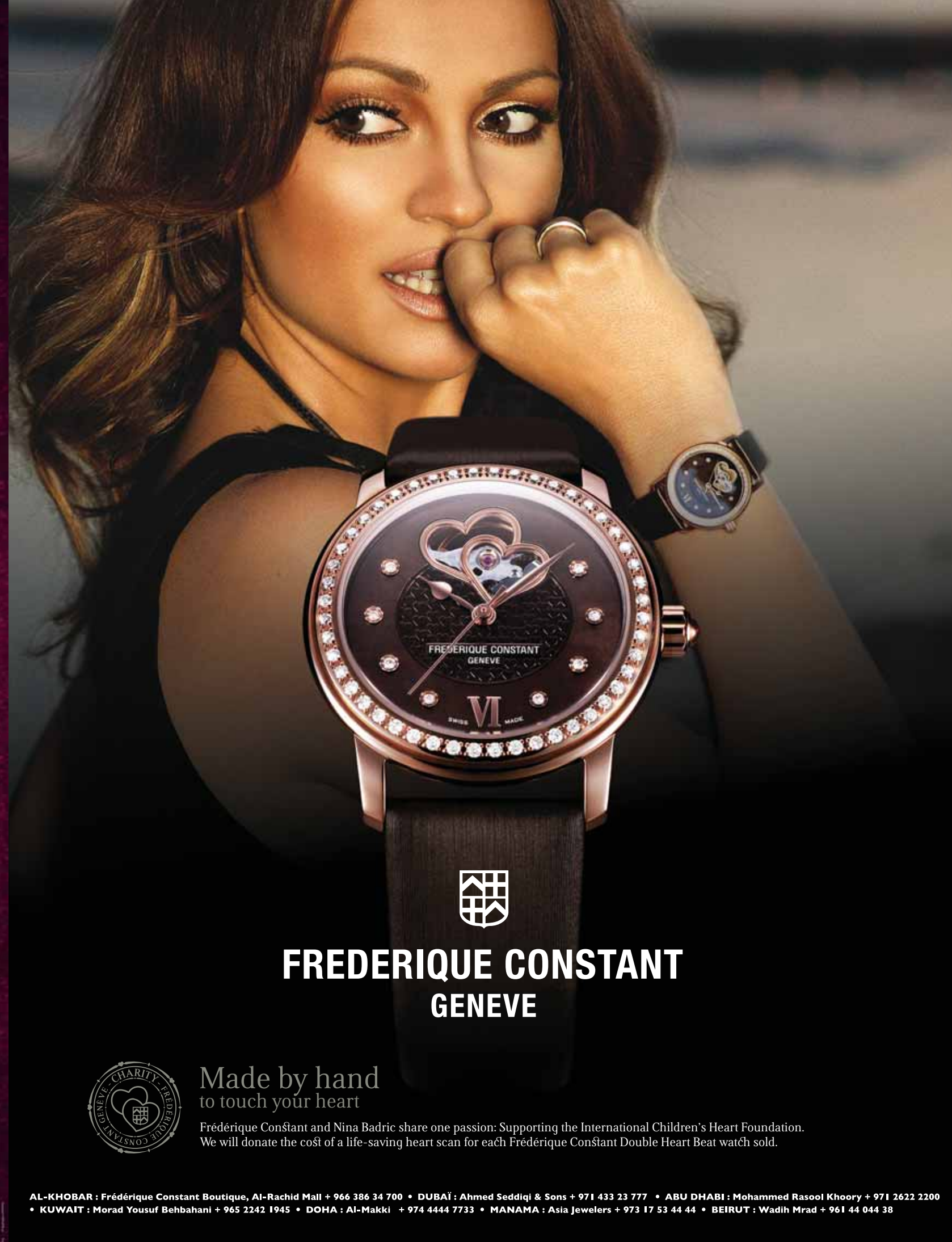
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Celebrity Fashion News



Natalie Portman

Natalie Portman, Hollywood's leading lady looks stunning at the 2012 Golden Globes ceremony in over Fifty-Five Carats and \$400,000 of Harry Winston diamonds.



*Anthony Mackie
& Kate Beckinsale*

Anthony Mackie, star of "The Hurt Locker" and Kate Beckinsale, "The Adjustment Bureau" wore Piaget at the 2012 Film Independent Spirit Awards nominee's announcements. Beckinsale looked effortlessly chic and accessorized her outfit with two stacked Piaget Possession Classique chain motif rings, both in 18-carat yellow gold and one set with brilliant-cut diamonds. Mr. Mackie opted for a classic Piaget Emperador timepiece in 18-carat rose gold, worn on a brown alligator strap.



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Madonna & Piaget

Madonna was all smiles at the special VIP screening of her directorial debut, 'W.E.' at The Museum of Modern Art New York. The star studded evening was hosted by the luxury jewelry brand Piaget.



Berenice Bejo wears Chopard

Golden Globe nominated actress Berenice Bejo looked fabulous on the red carpet wearing aquamarine sapphire drop earrings by Chopard's Temptations Collection, at the 17th Annual Critic's Choice Movie Awards.



Robert Pattinson in Ermenegildo Zegna

Robert Pattinson gets his hands and footprints immortalized in cement outside Grauman's Chinese Theatre wearing black leather lace up dress shoes by Ermenegildo Zegna, along with his Twilight co-stars Kristen Stewart and Taylor Lautner.

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*Charlize Theron
dazzles in
Diamond earrings*

Charlize Theron dazzled with Harry Winston's Diamond Traffic Earrings, Diamond Carpet Bracelet, at the premiere of her new film, Young Adult.



*Kristen Dunst wears
Harry Winston*

Kirsten Dunst looked stunning on the Red-Carpet in Harry Winston's triple Loop earrings & Sunflower bracelet at the 17th Annual Critics' Choice Movie Awards.

Harry Winston & IWF

Harry Winston paid tribute to the four honorees at the IWF (International Women's Forum) Hall of Fame. The brand's iconic Avenue timepiece, was presented to Germany's fashion and entertainment mogul Heidi Klum; India's seminal filmmaker Nandita Das; Anna Fendi, designer and driver behind the global brands of the House of FENDI; and China's Vice Chair woman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, President of the All China Women's Federation and first female Minister of Education of the PRC, Madam Chen Zhili.



Justin Timber wears Z Zegna

Justin Timberlake continues his European press tour for "In Time" wearing a navy wool v-neck sweater, white button down shirt, and maroon cotton pants all by Z Zegna.



Art Basel Miami

In celebration of Art Basel Miami Beach, Lanvin CEO Thierry Andretta hosted an intimate cocktail reception & dinner at the W South Beach Hotel & Residences. The evening continued with a dinner, on the terrace of the recently opened restaurant, The Dutch, to celebrate Art Basel Miami, and more specifically the close of Lanvin's 2-year sponsorship of the Rubell Family Collection's (RFC) annual exhibition.

Eat Right

Eat smart, Enjoy Your Food, and Lose Weight the Healthy Way

Eating right is an important factor in a successful weight loss equation. If you want to be successful in terms of your weight loss, it is important to eat right. Excessive weight gain is directly due to what we eat on a daily basis. If you want to lose weight, you need to be eating right to lose weight. The best way to make sure your energy equation is balanced is to make better choices before you or your family eat anything.

Here are some helpful tips for losing weight by eating right.

Breakfast

It is imperative that you eat breakfast. Start your day with a nourishing breakfast. Choose healthier options of common breakfast foods. For example, If you want eggs, remove the yolks to cut out the extra saturated fat. Even though you are sleeping, your body is still working so it needs fuel when you get up in the morning in order for it to function at optimum levels. Breakfast also helps to lose weight because if you eat breakfast you'll be less likely to overeat throughout the day.



Shop Smart

Choose foods that are lower in fat and have fewer calories. Shop smart at the grocery store by learning to read the Nutrition Facts Label on packaged foods, and try to identify other more nutritious foods.

Cook Smart

Read about some easy substitutions that can help you make great recipes healthier by using lower fat or lower calorie ingredients. This will lower your calories intake without compromising the taste.

Eat Smaller Portions

Limit the size of your food portions. Portion snacks like crackers or crisps in small bags or bowls rather than eating them directly from the package. At dinner, make a plate for yourself and then put any extra food away rather than going back for a second serving.

Make Better Choices

Be careful when eating out. Just eat smaller portions and try to identify items on the menu that are lower in fat and calories. And don't forget you can



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always ask for a healthier substitution. Eat out less often is another effective way to make sure that you are eating right. Almost all take out foods are very fattening with loads of calories. Pack yourself a sandwich or some leftovers from the night before instead of going out.

Know Your Calories

Remember that whether they come from a soda, potato, or a steak, they're still calories. And calories count. Do a

little bit of research and always consider the right choices before you cook your food or eat outside. Avoid ice cream, chips, salty nuts and candy, shift to healthier options like fruits, unsalted nuts whole-grain pretzels and low-fat yogurts.

Small Meals

Eat meals every three to four hours. It should be small meals because you will be eating five to six small meals per day. You shouldn't eat right before

bed. If you feel hungry between meals, snack on healthier selections.

Dinner

End the day with a healthy dinner. Start a meal with high volume, low-calorie dishes like salads or soups, which can fill you up considerably before the main course. Your last meal of the day should be eaten three hours before bed.



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YOGA

The Union of Mind, Spirit & Body!



Over the past several years, yoga has experienced an increase in popularity in the western world among medical professionals and celebrities alike. Perhaps one of the most attractive features of yoga is that it not just tones the body but calms the spirit to obtain inner strength.

Yoga is one of the most popular forms of exercise in our time and more and more studies find good things about this ancient practice. Yoga has become popular with the celebrities all over the world and has helped them achieve better health as well as inner peace.

The word yoga means union in Sanskrit language, and can be explained as the union occurring between the mind, body and spirit. Yoga can be more accurately described by the Sanskrit word **Asana**, which refers to the practice of physical postures or poses. Many people think



that yoga is just stretching. But while stretching is certainly an essential part of yoga, it is really about creating balance in the body through developing both strength and flexibility.

What yoga does is harmonize the mind with the body and this results in real significant benefits. It is now an open secret that the will of the mind has enabled people to achieve extraordinary physical feats, which proves the mind and body connection. At the physical level, yoga and its



cleansing practices have proven to be extremely effective for various disorders. Regular practice of yoga can **help with ailments** such as diabetes, blood pressure, digestive disorders, arthritis, arteriosclerosis, chronic fatigue, asthma, varicose veins and heart conditions. According to medical scientists, yoga therapy is successful because of the balance created in the nervous and endocrine systems which directly influence all

The **aging process** is caused mainly by autointoxication or self-poisoning. Yoga helps to keep the body clean, flexible and well lubricated, resulting in anti-aging benefits.

Regular yoga practice can help in **weight management**. Some of the Asanas stimulate sluggish glands to increase their hormonal secretions. Fat metabolism is also increased, so fat is converted to muscle and energy.



the other systems and organs of the body. Yoga acts both as a curative and preventive therapy.

The **meditative practice** through yoga helps in achieving an emotional balance through detachment. What it means is that meditation creates conditions, where you are not affected by the happenings around you. This in turn creates a remarkable calmness and a positive outlook, which also has tremendous benefits on the physical health of the body.

Yogic practices that reduce anxiety tend to reduce anxious eating.

Yoga strives to increase **self-awareness** on both physical and psychological level. Patients who study yoga learn to induce relaxation and then to use the technique whenever pain appears. Practicing yoga can provide chronic pain sufferers with useful tools to actively cope with their pain and help counter feelings of helplessness and depression.



Anti-Aging Beauty Tips

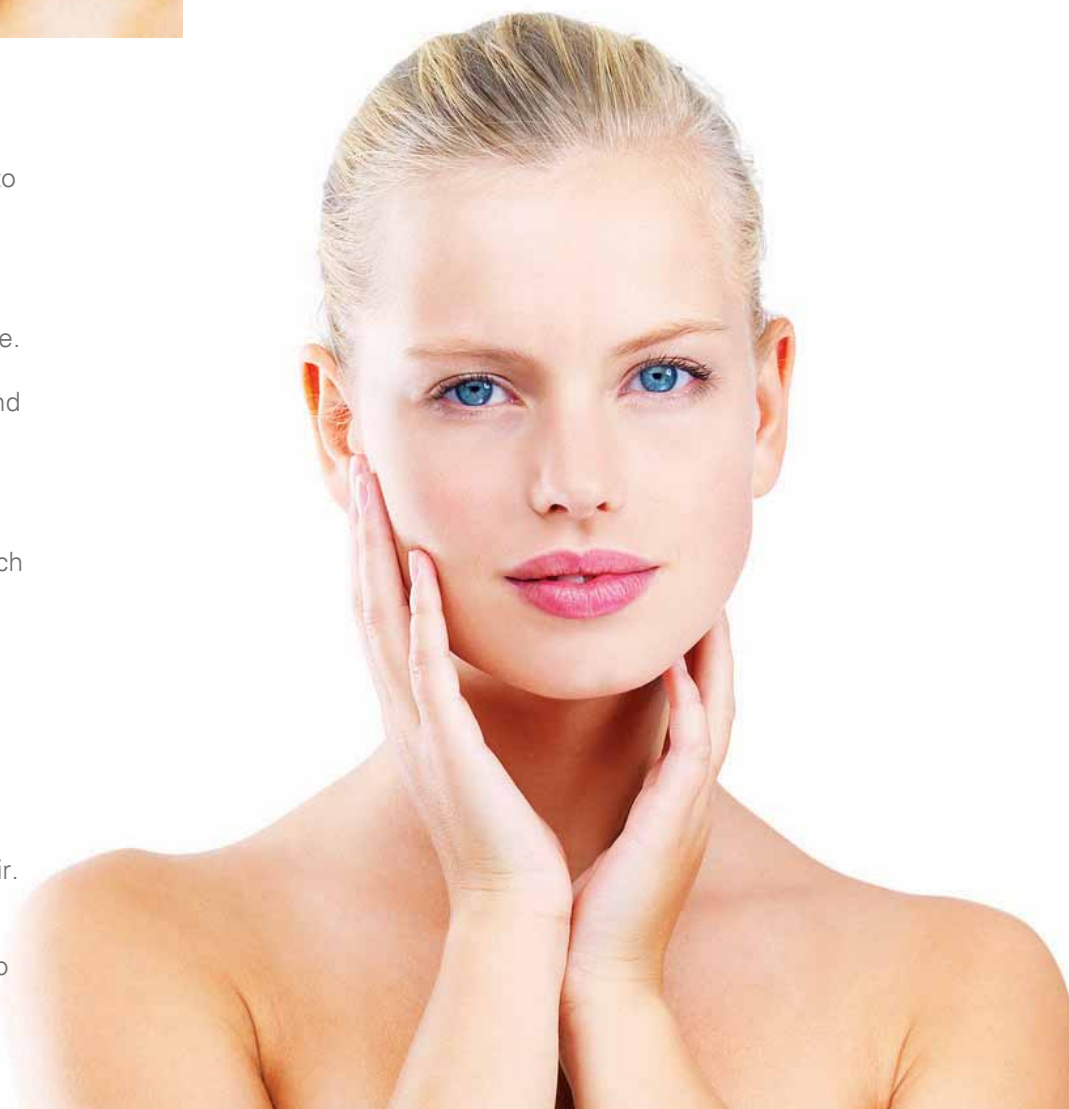
Age is just a number!

Who doesn't want to look young and fresh, and it seems that we're all trying to find the magic potion that can delay the natural aging process. But if you're trying to look your best without going under the knife, a secret ingredient might be right under your nose. Aging has been a fact of life since the beginning of time, effecting both men and women all over the world. Yet there are simple and natural remedies that can make you look young and fresh. Some experts also believe that the answer to aging gracefully is in our food which is rich in antioxidants and other potentially age-deterring compounds.

Here are some anti-aging beauty tips;

HEALTHY HAIR

Get thicker, fuller and healthy looking hair. Full, healthy hair is the ultimate sign of youth and 87 percent of women ages 18-55 feel a strong enough connection to their hair to consider it a part of their personality. Thinning hair can be a result of poor scalp health. It's important to clean and refresh the scalp regularly.



WRINKLES

Wrinkles are a major concern among women. The beauty industry is saturated with anti-aging products, but most consumers do not use it properly. To do so, it's essential to exfoliate daily. Dead skin cells build up and form a barrier, making it difficult for the products to penetrate the various layers of skin. Protect skin from the sun's rays and free radicals by applying sunscreen daily.

LIPS

Dry or peeling lips look thinner and more wrinkled than they are. Restoring moisture is the key to keeping lips looking smooth, even, and full. Try a rich balm, a lip treatment, or a healing gloss with color.



HEALTHY DIET

People need more variety in their diet, to ensure that they get everything their body needs, for effective anti-aging. The right diet nourishes the entire body from the scalp down. A diet rich in protein and iron is essential for a healthy scalp, and foods full of antioxidants promote glowing skin. For this purpose, enjoy salmon and beans for healthy, lustrous hair, and blackberries, strawberries and plums for radiant skin.

FOOD FACTS

Foods which usually cause degeneration and aging are:

- High levels of carbohydrate
- Sugar
- Milk (especially homogenized milk) and cheese
- Caffeine - Including Tea, Coffee, chocolate, cola
- Chocolate
- Cigarettes
- White flour
- Microwaved food
- Chemicals such as fluoride
- Artificial sweeteners
- Alcohol
- Processed foods
- Artificial Colorings
- Additives
- Monosodium glutamate (MSG)
- Preserved meat
- Moderate to high levels of meat
- Meat from animals on unnatural diets

- Margarine
- Vegetable oil
- Canola oil
- Cotton seed oil
- Hydrogenated oils
- Oil that is not cold pressed / expeller pressed (use olive oil, butter or ghee)
- Deep fried foods
- Chips / French fries
- Puffed grains
- Soy products other than soy sauce
- Meat and eggs raised by 'normal' methods which have many toxins and hormones
- Foods with high levels of mercury. This includes most fish, such as tuna
- Aluminum Especially from aluminum cookware
- Genetically Modified Food (GMOs)

Foods which can help regeneration and anti-aging include

- RAW seeds soaked and sprouted grains.
- RAW Fruit and vegetables
- Green leafy vegetables
- Lentils
- Beans that have been soaked for 8 hours
- Brown rice
- Organic Cottage cheese and yogurt
- Berries
- Seeds
- Celtic sea salt
- Seaweed
- Wheatgrass juice
- Barley greens
- Aloe vera
- Antioxidants
- Olive oil
- Evening primrose oil
- Foods with omega 3 fatty acids (eg flaxseed oil)
- Gentle sunlight (vitamin D)
- Gentle exercise



WATER
Drink water for a youthful skin. The best water is the one that has been filtered by reverse osmosis. Next best would be spring water.



GOOD SLEEP

Get plenty of sleep. Skin repairs itself at night, so if you're routinely sleep-deprived, your complexion will show it. Fight inflammation with calming ingredients such as white and green tea extracts, which provide immediate improvement for aging- and rosacea-related redness.

PERFECT SMILE

Stained and discolored teeth can make you appear older and unhealthier. Be sure to get teeth cleanings with a dental professional at least twice a year and floss at least once a day. Whitening toothpastes with peroxide are great for removing stains. A smile says a lot about a person, so keep it healthy and youthful.



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MCM-Mongram Bag Collection



The Spring Summer 2012 collection has a simple and sporty aesthetic: organic, beautiful and soft. The monogram bag collection is crafted in a wide variety of materials this season, spanning MCM's signature Visetos material, canvas, nylon, jacquard and print on linen. The leather bag collection runs breezy colours alongside exotic skins.



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*SHE PORTRAYS THE CRUEL FAIRY IN
TARSEM SINGH'S NEW FILM "MIRROR, MIRROR"*

"I AM EXCEPTIONALLY LUCKY" JULIA ROBERTS

Julia Roberts is perhaps the one female star whom audience want to see simply for herself- for her rangy style, interesting features and her big smile. One of Hollywood's most popular and best -paid actresses, Julia Roberts' career has featured a steady procession of critically acclaimed and box-office hits. America's darling for over two decades, Julia Roberts will be charming her audience once again in the new movie "Mirror, Mirror", directed by Tarsem Singh, where she plays the part of the evil Queen.

Visiting Paris for the media launch of "Mirror, Mirror", the radiant actress answered the questions of First Avenue Magazine in a meeting that took place at Hotel Bristol.

FIRST AVENUE: *How was it to play the villain in a film, knowing that this is not the kind of roles you are generally used to?*

JULIA ROBERTS: I consider this experience as one of the most exciting I have ever lived in my line of work. What I mean is that actors in a general way, seek for variety in the roles they portray. And playing the cruel fairy in the Snow White tale, not

only brought me diversity as an actress, but it also plunged me into the world of my early years when I believed in fairy tales and played with my friends portraying different characters from those tales. It was like revisiting my childhood. A dream come true in a sort of way.

Tom is indeed one of my best friends, but I also know the huge artist that he is and therefore I never expected him to achieve a bad script.



F. A: You were the lead opposite Tom Hanks in the film he personally directed last year “LARRY CROWNE”. It is common knowledge that you two are good friends in life, so did you say yes to him out of friendship, or did you really like his script?

J. R: Both actually. Tom is indeed one of my best friends, but I also know the huge artist that he is and therefore I never expected him to achieve a bad script.

F. A: What if he had?

J. R: I would have been totally honest with him and asked him to rewrite the script before shooting it.

F. A: Do you often turn down offers?

J. R: I spend my time turning down offers.

F. A: For what reason?

J. R: Because I get offered parts that are very similar to those I have already performed. I am not interested in doing the same things again and again.

F. A: Your films have made more than two billion dollars at the box office up until now. What does that fact mean to you?

J. R: A huge responsibility over my shoulders, and a great satisfaction also. But first of all a responsibility as I have to keep fit on a set, either physically or mentally speaking. I do not have the right to be down in whatever way, as people rely on me like on a locomotive to pull the whole team ahead. So

F. A: In the film “EAT, PRAY, LOVE” released in 2010, you portrayed a young woman who finds inner peace through oriental spirituality and good Italian food. Do you practice those same methods in order to feel good?

J. R: I am not so keen on spirituality. But I confess that whenever I am in a bad mood, nothing helps me getting things back straight more than a pasta dish topped with parmesan cheese. And during the shooting of the scenes taking place in Italy, I used to spend my spare time in restaurants eating pasta and mozzarella and ricotta.

F. A: Did you not face a weight problem then?

J. R: We always have to face a problem anyway, isn't it so? And well, luckily, I do not tend to gain weight easily and that is a true blessing.

F. A: In that film, as well as in “ERIN BROCKOVICH” a few years ago, you portrayed women who really exist. How different is it from portraying purely fictional characters?

J. R: Not that different in fact. As I do not try to find out how those women really are or how did they react to certain situations in life. I stick to the description the script gives of the character and to what the director wants me to do. I did meet with Erin Brockovitch and then with Liz Gilbert who wrote “EAT, PRAY, LOVE” inspired by her personal experience in life, but that was pure formality and nothing else.

F. A: You won an Oscar for your performance in “ERIN BROCKOVICH”. What did you do with the statue?

J. R: In fact it has a life of its own, and I run into it when opening a closet or a drawer or looking under the bed sometimes.

whenever I suffer from a lack on energy, just like anybody else, I pretend not to and I act as if I am the happiest woman in the whole world.





F. A: What is the slender thread that bounds together all of the different parts you play in the movies?

J. R: Me of course and nothing else.

F. A: You often portray exceptional women on the screen. Do you consider yourself as being an exceptional person?

J. R: Not at all. At least not more than any other woman on earth. But I do admit to be exceptionally lucky.

F. A: Does it make you happy that audiences still remember you for your performance in “PRETTY WOMAN”?

J. R: Of course it does. It is always very flattering to be remembered on the long run for a performance that one has achieved. Although I am not so sure that if that same film was shot and released nowadays, it would be as huge a success as it has been then in the early nineties. Reality has changed in politics and in our social lives. We are not as innocent and naïve as we were back then, and therefore maybe less keen on accepting such a story a “PRETTY WOMAN”.

by Nabil Massad





Coco Chanel was one of the world's best fashion designers of all time. Chanel was born in a poor house in France. Her mother died when she was just 12. Her father left to work and she went to a Catholic orphanage where she was taught to be a seamstress. This was the beginning of Coco Chanel's career as a fashion designer. Her big break came when she opened a small shop in Paris in 1910 where she sold her hats. And by 1913, after asserting contempt for resort wear, she launched sportswear. Her take on design was simple- flannel blazers, jersey sweaters, and women in trousers, all of which were definitely against twentieth-century culture memes. She introduced modernism in fashion through beaded dresses in the twenties, the little black dress, as well as a two- or three-piece suit, which is still a signature Chanel look.

In May, 1916, Chanel introduced jersey suits. The suits eradicated the waistline, and had a simplified elegance. For the first time in women's fashion, women showed their bare ankles in the streets.



Coco Chanel

The Chanel Couture Fashion House has been an icon in the world of luxury fashion since 1909. Founded by Coco Gabrielle Chanel it is one of today's best known and most highly sought-after fashion brands.

By 1921 she introduced Chanel No. 5, and was once quoted as saying *'A woman who doesn't wear perfume has no future.'* No. 5 went on to become one of the best-selling fragrances of all time.

Chanel was a woman of ambition and determination. She introduced simple, elegant, relaxed, and functional clothes that express the ambitions of women in the Twentieth Century. She borrowed ideas from men's clothes and created clothes for contemporary women. The concept of her fashion was the antithesis of the concept of high fashion in the past. Her unique sense of fashion also guided her jewelry designs where she combined real and imitation gems.

After she got old, she said, *'I must tell you something of significance. Fashion is always of the time in which you live. It is not something standing alone. The problem of fashion in 1925 was different. Women were just beginning to go to work in offices. I inspired the cutting of the hair short because it goes with the modern woman. To the woman going to work, I said to*



'I make fashion women can live in, breath in, feel comfortable in and look younger in.'



take off the bone corset, because women cannot work while they are imprisoned in a corset.'

Time Magazine named her one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th century. She was the only member of her profession to receive this honor. Although she had relations with the English industrialist Arthur Boy Capel - who lent her the money to buy Rue Cambon - Igor Stravinsky and the second Duke of Westminster Hugh Bendor Grosvenor, the richest man in Europe, she never married.

Coco passed away in 1971, but the brand continued, even launching their first ready-to-wear collection in 1978.



In 1983 Karl Lagerfeld joined in to revive the brand to its elite status. Today, Chanel stands out in just about every category couture, ready-to-wear, accessories, jewelry, shoes, and fragrances. What began as a no-nonsense approach to fashion, designed to let women be comfortable while looking dignified, has been translated into classic, tailored style. The traditional tweed Chanel suit remains one of the most popular and most copied fashion staples.

'A girl should be two things: classy and fabulous.' Coco Chanel .



How to wear Color

The colors we choose to wear can send a message about the type of personality we have. Learn to wear colors to show your style and creativity.

While wearing color can do amazing things for your overall appearance, in reality, color is often lacking in many wardrobes. A basic black is an essential wardrobe staple, but by adding in a few more shades can jazz up your wardrobe and add interest to your look. Colorful clothes are also a big season trend. Once you understand color, it's rather easy to create a wardrobe where every item makes you look your best and ties in well with each other. *Here are some easy ways to add color to your look;*



Start small

If you don't normally wear lots of color, start small. This means that you buy one colorful piece and build a whole look from there. Remember to start small and incorporate one or two of those colors into your wardrobe, get used to them, and build from there.

Colors selection

Choose colors that work with your skin and hair. You don't have to entirely ban any color in your wardrobe, even if it clashes with your complexion. What's most important tends to be what's near your face. So, if you love bright red, but it simply doesn't match your

complexion, you can still wear a red skirt or enjoy red handbags and shoes.

Neon

Do not be afraid to try bright shades. The great thing about them is that they jazz up even the most boring outfit, and they always stand out in a crowd. But always remember that less is more, and you do not want to end up looking like a neon sign, so try using bright accessories or even shoes with a little black dress or with jeans and a top.



Bright handbag

Bright bags can also make your ensemble more colorful. Bright bags are just as versatile as the usual black ones. The trick to picking the right colorful bag is to make sure the shade engages well with the rest of your wardrobe. A cobalt blue purse would be perfect if you wear lots of cool colors like gray and lavender, while a marigold bag would be a perfect choice if you wear shades like brown and other warm tones.

Colorful jewelry

A bright piece of jewelry can really stand out and be seen. Paired with a neutral outfit, a bright piece of jewelry can really add glam to your look. Try a chunky turquoise bracelet or bright cocktail ring, and wearing it with a simple top/jeans combo or a little black dress. A bright red belt over a black dress would also look adorable.

Bright top

Perhaps the easiest way to experiment with color is to try a bright top. Paired with denim, a colorful top can instantly spice up your look. This season, try a hot pink tunic worn with skinny jeans and heels, or a yellow top with denim shorts.

Have fun!

Use color to express your personality and add some fun to your look. While it's nice to try and dress well, when you wear color, experiment and enjoy yourself. Be creative and cherish the attention.



2012 Swimwear Trends



*Get the exclusive
look at the hottest
new swim trends
and styles to keep
you informed and
in the know.
Take a look at
what's trending
for the 2012
swimwear season...*





2012
Swimwear
Trends

Destination Weddings

Destination weddings can be interesting, unique, exotic, and most of all, a romantic way to begin a couple's journey into their future lives together.



Destination Weddings have become an increasingly popular wedding trend. Wedding destinations are romantic and these weddings appeal to those who want to do things differently and want to share a remarkable celebration with close family and friends. Regardless of the location selected, a Destination Wedding can be a romantic and an unforgettable alternative to a traditional wedding. Planning a wedding near your home is different than planning it in an exotic land.

To get the most out of your Destination Wedding, try these simple tips:

- Make sure to learn about the rules and regulations, the local culture and the weather of your preferred destination before you travel.
- Book a site that also will also make a romantic honeymoon spot. Having your wedding and honeymoon all in one place is called a "weddingmoon", and many resorts offer special packages if you choose to do this.
- Arrive at your destination a few days before the ceremony. This will give you time to check up on the details of your wedding. Having a few extra days will also keep you stress free.
- Send out save the date cards well in advance of a destination wedding. It will allow everyone, plenty of time to schedule the days off from work, book the flights, and make hotel arrangements.
- Dress appropriately for your wedding destination. If your wedding will be held on the beach at sunset, this could mean a romantic and flowing gown. A simple dress always looks better on the beach than a big formal one.



- Let go of elements that are not suitable for the site that you have chosen. It could mean that you take the planner's advice and schedule your ceremony for the late afternoon instead of sunset because the area gets too buggy at dusk.
- Buy travel and event insurance to save you from any mishap that could ruin your budget.
- Serve seasonal and local food, as recommended by your venue's wedding coordinator. Part of the fun of going on a trip is exploring the culture.
- Many destination weddings have resorts and hotels that have resorts on-site coordinators who do all the work for you; if your plans don't involve a hotel; it's still possible to hire an independent wedding planner at your intended destination.
- Be prepared to let go of some of the control of the wedding planning. Any time that you are planning a wedding by long distance, it is necessary to trust someone at your site to handle many of the details for you.

There are so many fabulous destinations that could host the perfect ceremony. Here are some of the top wedding locations;



The Caribbean

If spectacular Caribbean beaches, transparent turquoise waters, sun and swaying palms are your idea of the perfect wedding, you might consider the multitude of options for Caribbean wedding. Getting married in the Caribbean is one of the most popular choices for brides and grooms today. Whether you choose Jamaica, Bahamas, Aruba, St. Lucia or any of the many islands in the Caribbean, planning an island wedding awards you the chance to infuse brilliant colors and coastal details to support your theme. From the tropical flowers

to the exotic birds and fish, an island wedding can be both traditional and innovative. Expect to experience sandy beaches and mild weather when you plan to host your nuptials on a Caribbean island.

Hawaii

Hawaii definitely embodies the word "Paradise". There are sandy white beaches, cascading waterfalls, and lush tropical area back dropped with beautiful mountains. Some great islands to get married in Hawaii include Maui, Kauai, Oahu, Lanai, and Kona. Each of the six main Hawaiian Islands has its own character and charm. From a bustling city, to secluded beaches, Hawaii has it all.

Europe

There's something captivating and romantic about the idea of a European wedding. There's definitely a sense of history and romance about being married in a medieval castle on the wind-swept moors, or tying the knot

in centuries old abbey where Roman soldiers once drank ale, or declaring saying 'I do' at the top of one of the highest peaks in all the world. A European wedding can make your romantic dreams real by providing you with the photos and memories that will be yours forever. Whether your dream is to be married in an Alpine chateau in Germany, on the moors of Scotland, or on the slopes of the Alps in Switzerland, there is nothing in this world that beats a European wedding for romance, adventure, and mystery.

Asia

Weddings are memorable when set among the world's largest continent's mysterious delights: high-altitude orchids, exotic butterflies, beautiful sceneries, interesting cultures and an abundance of possibilities for the subsequent honeymoon. A wedding in one of the countries of Asia offers more than a new travel experience it offers an array of backdrops that spread as far and as wide as is the rising and the setting of the sun on this magnificent continent. The most popular places to marry in Asia are Bali, Thailand and Mauritius which is not surprising, considering that both are hugely popular tourist destinations, known for their magnificent scenery and welcoming local culture.



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Mushrif Mall
AbuDhabi
02-6500660

Al Wahda Mall
AbuDhabi
Opening Soon

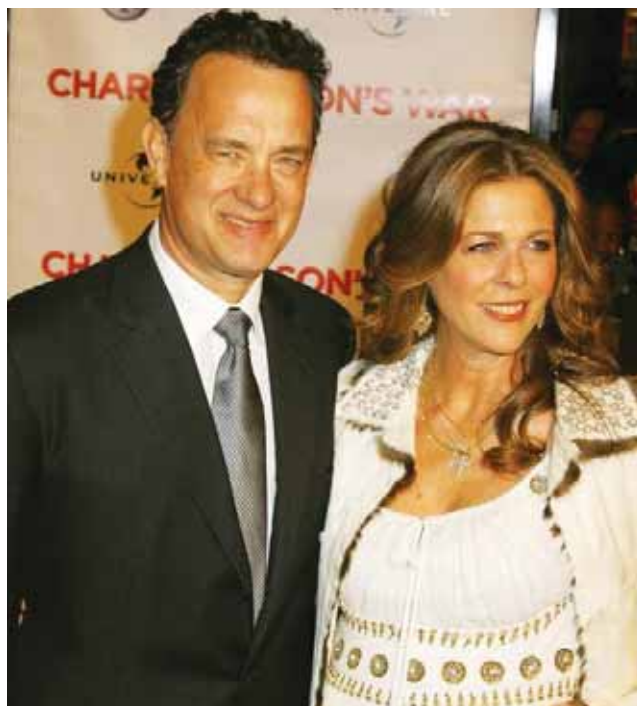


Famous Celebrity Couples

The constant spotlight, the paparazzi, the endless pressure of the business; but, not all celebrity couples are destined to break up. Here are some famous celebrity couples who have managed to pull it through the years...

Relationships are not easy. All relationships have hurdles to jump or handle and hoops to jump through. A healthy marriage takes a lot of work and effort. A good celebrity marriage is that in which both the parties are capable of changing and growing together, balancing work and home as well as multiple celebrity travel schedules, and it all involves effective communication, interpersonal skills, as well as compromise. Besides being absolutely perfect and delightful, there are several examples of celebrity marriages that work out well. In fact, quite a number of A-list stars revel in having a happy marriage to their longtime partner.

Here's a list of some of the most famous celebrity couples from the world of glamour.



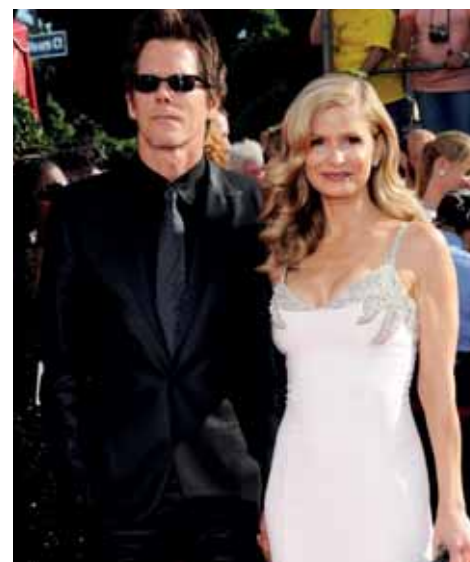
Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson

Two-time Academy Award-winner Tom Hanks, 54, and his second wife, actress Rita Wilson, 53, have quietly raised their two children, Chester and Truman. They were married on April 30, 1988. Their kids stay out of the spotlight, though Chet had a tiny part as a student in "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull."



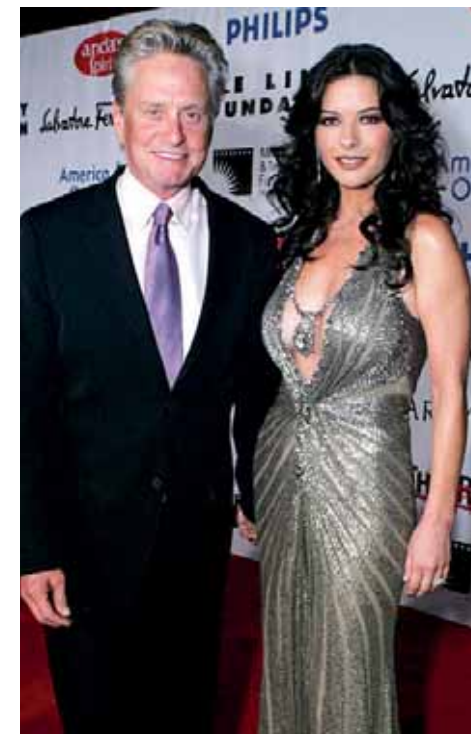
Katie Holmes and Tom Cruise

After dating only two months, Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes were engaged. They had an elaborate staged wedding on November 18, 2006 in Italy. Cruise proposed to Holmes on top of the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The couple's first child, Suri Cruise, was born precisely one year after the couple's first date. On November 18, 2006, Holmes and Cruise were married at the 15th-century in Bracciano, Italy, in a Scientology ceremony attended by many Hollywood stars.



Catherine Zeta-Jones and Michael Douglas

The twenty-five year difference in their ages has never been an issue for Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Catherine and Michael were married on November 18, 2000 at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. Michael Douglas met Catherine Zeta-Jones at the Deauville Film Festival in France in 1998. They dated for less than a year in 1999 before getting engaged. One of the odd facts for this couple is that they share the exact same September 25 birthdate. The couple lives primarily in Bermuda along with their two children.



Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick

Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick met when they were introduced by Sarah's brother. There are few couples in Hollywood that seem to be as stable as these two. Matthew Broderick married Sarah Jessica Parker in a secret wedding ceremony on May 19, 1997. Guests were invited to New York for what they thought was a party only to discover the truth after they had arrived. Parker and Broderick's first child is James Wilkie Broderick, and was born on October 28, 2002. The couple spends a considerable amount of time at their holiday home in County Donegal, Ireland where Broderick spent his summers as a child.

Kyra Sedgwick and Kevin Bacon

Versatile actor Kevin Bacon was married on September 4 of 1988. The couple has a promise to each other that neither will work on a project while the other is. Kevin had his entire family present during the filming of the movie The River Wild. The couple has appeared in film together in the movies Murder in the First and The Woodsman. Kevin and Kyra have two children together. The family all lives together in the Upper West Side of Manhattan in New York City. Says Kevin in an issue of Cosmopolitan... "To me, marriage is about committing yourself to one person. In my opinion, I got the hottest babe there is; I would never do anything to jeopardize that."



Victoria Beckham and David Beckham

They met in 1996, began dating in 1997 and were married by 1999. David claims that Posh “picked me out of a soccer sticker book. And I chose her off the telly...it felt straight away like we’d always meant to be together.” This couple is extremely popular on an international basis. Recently, the couple moved across the ocean from Europe to live in the Los Angeles area as David accepted a deal to play soccer in the United States. The couple has four children together, three boys and one girl.



John Travolta and Kelly Preston

Considered one of Hollywood’s more successful marriages, John Travolta and Kelly Preston openly talk about their good times and their down times. Through their years of marriage, Kelly Preston and John Travolta have talked openly about their marriage. They met during the filming of The Experts. John and Kelly have been married twice. Their first marriage, performed by a Scientologist minister, was declared illegal. This made the couple have to followup with another ceremony that took place on September 12, 1992. John and Kelly have a son, Jett Travolta (1992), and a daughter, Ella Blue Travolta (2000) together. Both of them are members of the Church of Scientology. On January 2, 2009, the couple’s only son Jett Travolta passed away due a seizure that occurred while the family was vacationing in the Bahamas.

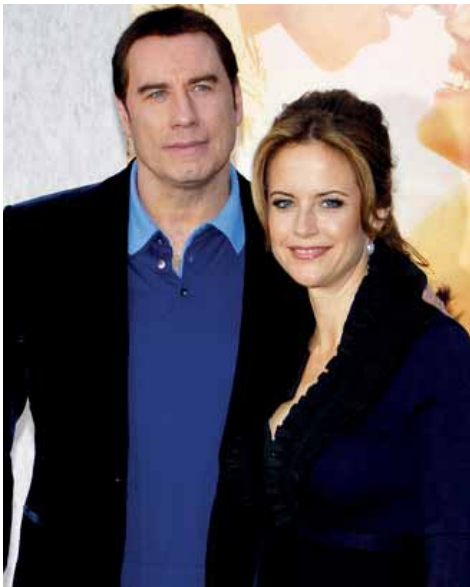
Melanie Griffith and Antonio Banderas

The couple met on the set of the movie Two Much, and were married a year later in May of 1996. They have one child together, a daughter named Stella del Carmen Banderas Griffith, who was born in 1996. The couple has revealed a refreshingly honest side to their relationship saying they regularly row and scream at each other, but they always fall in love again after fights. Melanie’s tips of a successful marriage are: “Let him know you’re happy: I smile whenever I see him. He always knows how thrilled I am that he’s there with me.”



Beyonce and Jay-Z

American hip-hop power couple Jay-Z and Beyonce Knowles met in 2002 while working on an album together. They started dating shortly after that work. They got married on Friday April 4, 2008 in a private ceremony, at Jay-Z’s New York apartment.



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Princess with a heart

Benedetta Paravia popularly known as Princess Bee, is a singer/songwriter who generously gives her time and talents to raise awareness and money for many worthy causes. She's the only songwriter who has received the Patronage of UNESCO for her song 'Angels,' which deals with the fundamental importance of peace and solidarity between populations.

First Avenue caught up with Princess Bee to find out more about her music and the issues that are near to her heart.



Q: Tell us about yourself?

A: I consider myself to be a very headstrong individual, brave yet also very sensitive. I admire talented individuals and the inspirations that push them to be creative.

Q: How would you describe your music?

A: Being an artist, I am constantly experimenting on different styles. So far, my songs have been classified as pop, R & B and dance, which is why my current album is more pop and dance oriented with a surprising soul song as a bonus track.



Q: Your song 'Angels' received the Patronage from UNESCO. What are the causes that are most important to you and how have you used your music to support those causes?

A: Just like every one else, I hate the idea of war. My vision is to achieve world peace—where those who are highly privileged will help alleviate those who are in the low and where people follow key examples of justice and mutual respect. I have particularly focused on the initiative of helping out needy children who are victims of war and in need of medical attention. To help support my causes, I usually hold fund raising activities and assign half of the profit I make as an artist to Angels Onlus, a non-profit foundation that I founded.

Q: What motivates you to work for these causes?

A: I am moved whenever I see or hear about children who need help and support because they come from war-afflicted areas. My desire to provide help and assistance has been prompted by the good examples I have seen from my parents and grandparents while growing up.

Q: What are some of the themes in your other songs?

A: A lot of my songs talk of love and passion, however, some songs showcase the strengths of friendship and the need for peace and solidarity.

Q: You have travelled a lot and have mastered many fields of performing arts, where do you see yourself in the future?

A: I would love to return to the US and find inspiration to create work by visiting cities like Miami, New York and Los Angeles. However, if I were to put up an artistic lab, I would choose to set it up here in the UAE as some of my closest friends live here and I love the local cuisine.

Q: With all the different roles that you play in your life, what is your favorite and why?

A: Imagining myself years from now, I find myself doing more paintings. As for the present time, my concentration is focused on creating more music. I just love the atmosphere of a recording studio—taking into heart the advice and lessons learned from my album's

artistic director, Nick Whitefox. I also love shooting the videos for my songs.

Q: At what age did you first know you wanted to be a musician? How did you know you were on the right path?

A: I was raised Catholic and that meant going to a Catholic school. Back then, I was chosen as the first voice for the 'Holy Chorus,' which sparked my interest for music. I later studied opera as a soprano but in 2005, I made the shift to pop music. I feel a certain kind of happiness and contentment when I sing, which is the most important thing for me.

Q: Thank you for using your music and talent to help improve the world. What message would you give to our readers?

A: Let me thank you for the opportunity you have given me in sharing my thoughts and views as an artist. Every individual is a person who is special and at the same time unique. We should all work together towards achieving peace, solidarity and enjoying life's adventures.

To find out more about Princess Bee, you can visit her website at www.princessbeemusic.com



Sharjah Biennial 11

Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) announces the selection of Yuko Hasegawa as the Curator of Sharjah Biennial 11 opening March 2013



the complexity and diversity of cultures, societies, and politics. Sharjah Art Foundation President Sheikha Hoor Al-Qasimi and Hasegawa met in late November, 2011, to confirm the appointment and explore the proposed concept and curatorial theme.

Yuko Hasegawa is Chief Curator of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo (MOT), and is a seasoned director, curator, and advisor for international biennials.

For Sharjah Biennial 11, Hasegawa has proposed a selection of artworks that reassess the Eurocentrism of knowledge in modern times. Hasegawa offers the metaphor of the courtyard in Islamic architecture: The fountain is so generous that everyone can bathe in its waters. She sees Sharjah as a place of hospitality and discipline, and proposes a biennial that embraces these qualities, while also exploring



RANKIN: SPIRIT OF ECSTASY COLLECTION PHOTOGRAPHS UNVEILED

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars has unveiled the final three images from the company's year-long collaboration with renowned photographer Rankin. The images complete the commission of 100 photographs inspired by the Spirit of Ecstasy – one of the world's most famous symbols, a true icon embodying beauty, luxury, style and elegance and which has gracefully adorned the prow of Rolls-Royce cars past and present.





Dubai is a real happening place. The colorful festivals and events in Dubai have always attracted visitors from all over the world and all around the year. Dubai bubbles with excitement throughout the year as one or the other event is always underway. Besides a multitude of its own attractions, the year round celebratory frenzy that engulfs Dubai due to its countless events draws flocks of tourists and residents from all over the world and the UAE.

Here are some of the biggest events in Dubai.

Dubai Shopping Festivals (DSF & DSS)

Dubai is the only city in the world that hosts two entire festivals dedicated to retail shopping. The month-long Dubai Shopping Festival begins in January and features promotions, bargains galore, and plenty of entertainment. A similar festival, Dubai Summer Surprises, starts in June. Since summer has been the favorite season for family and kids, the main targets of the annual summer extravaganza features a plethora of unbelievable shopping offers along with bundles of edutainment activities.

Dubai World Cup

Dubai hosts the world's richest horse race offering huge cash prizes and drawing the world's top sporting personalities. The Dubai World Cup at the Meydan Racecourse offers total prize money of \$10 million.

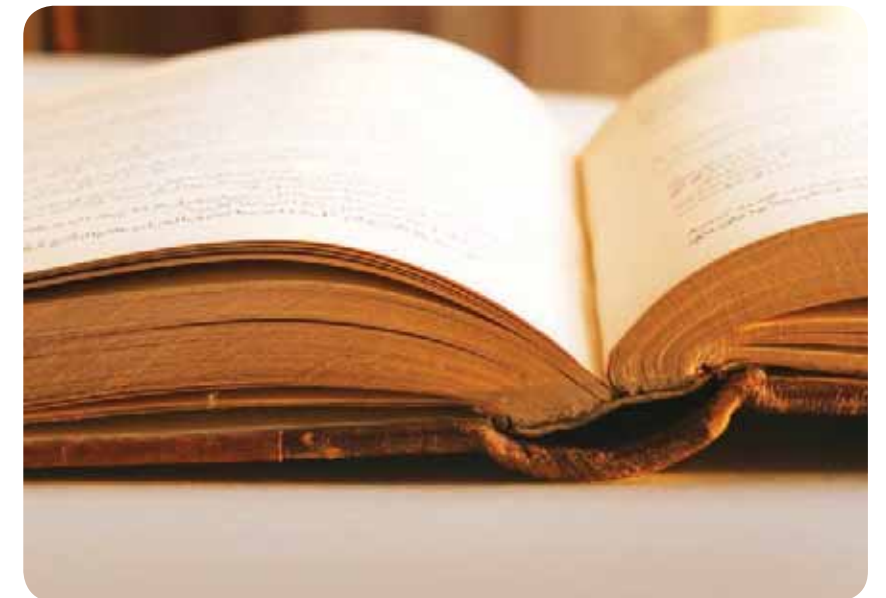


Dubai International Film Festival (DIFF)

The Dubai International Film Festival (DIFF) is the leading film festival in the Middle East, Asia and Africa. Since its inception in 2004, the festival has served as an influential platform for Arab filmmakers and talent at an international level, by spearheading the cinema movement in the region.

Emirates Airline Festival of Literature

The Emirates Airline Festival of Literature is the Middle East's largest celebration of the written and spoken word, bringing people of all ages and backgrounds together with authors from across the world to promote education, debate and above all else, love of reading and writing.



Art Dubai

Art Dubai, the leading international art fair in the MENASA (Middle East/North Africa/South Asia), has become a cornerstone of the region's booming contemporary art community. The event features impressive works from the world's leading galleries.



Jazz Festival

The Dubai International Jazz Festival is an annual event with jazz musicians from around the world performing in Dubai, featuring renowned artists such as Jools Holland, Macy Gray and Mica Paris and more.

'Eid in Dubai'

In 2008, the Dubai Events and Promotions Establishments launched 'Eid in Dubai' a new social initiative aimed at reviving the true Islamic values and Emarati traditions of Eid al Fitr and Eid-Al-Adha celebrations. The celebrations are meant to spread the true spirit of giving and sharing between all residents of Dubai, regardless of their nationality and age, and to enhance the environment of peace and harmony that Dubai provides for all its visitors and residents.



Dubai Sevens

The Dubai Sevens is an annual rugby union sevens tournament held in Dubai, UAE. The action packed event not only attracts fans from around the globe but offers some of the best action – both on and off the pitch.



Abu- Dhabi The City of Wonders!

From a simple fishing village to a bustling capital city; Abu Dhabi has been refashioning itself at a subtle pace, a little more high-end and a bit more stimulating...

The name Abu Dhabi literally means 'father of the gazelle' in Arabic language. It was first settled in 1761 by tribesmen who found fresh water there. Today Abu Dhabi is the lively capital of the UAE, which has changed a lot in the last decades.

A cosmopolitan city, with its daring urban architecture and lush gardens, It is also the seat of government for the Emirates, the headquarter for the president of the state, the cabinet, and most of the ministries, the Federal institutions,



foreign embassies, Broadcast TV, Zayed Port, Abu Dhabi Airport and most of the oil companies, establishments and commercial markets. Beyond ritzy hotels and futuristic shopping malls the city retains seductive charms and a treasure trove of archaic souks, traditional dhows, date palm gardens and the mysterious camels. The emirate is vast by comparison to the other emirates, comprising almost 87% of the country's total area. With miles of desert stretching into the Empty Quarter, and up to the borders of Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Oman.

Places to visit in Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi is home to some of the world's most exciting and interesting places. Here are some of the city's most interesting sites to visit;

Ferrari World Abu Dhabi

The massive indoor theme park Ferrari World Abu Dhabi, sits under a roof designed in the style of a classic Ferrari GT double-curve body shell. It features more than 20 rides and attractions including the world's fastest roller coaster- an extreme ride for adrenalin junkies.

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi personifies religious architecture. Its architectural features include the world's largest carpet, 24-carat gold plated chandeliers from Germany made of Swarovski crystals, calligraphy styles on the Qiba wall and unique lighting along the pools arcades. The mosque is open to all religions with complimentary 'walk-in' guided tours available from Saturday to Thursday. The mosque and its courtyard are large enough to accommodate more than 40,000 worshippers.



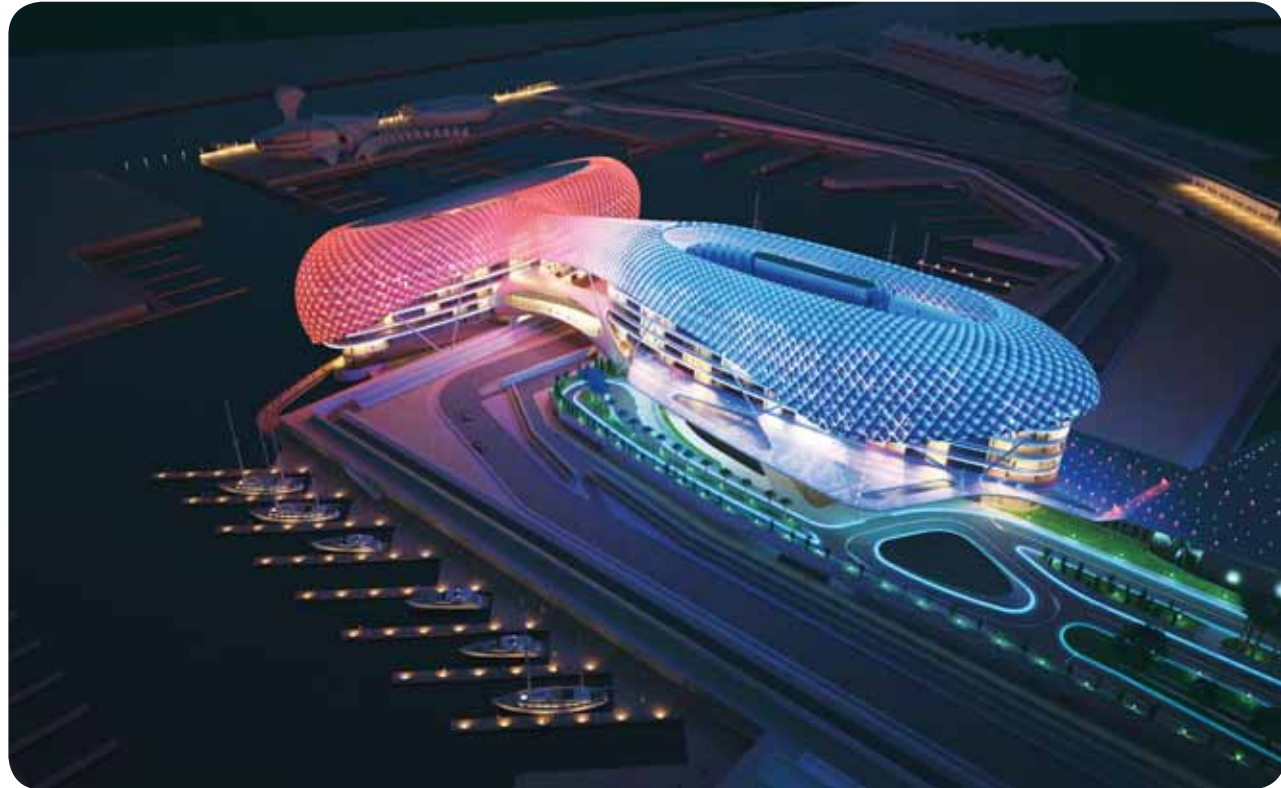
Emirates Palace

A cross between a fairy tale and Aladdin's Cave of Wonders, the seven-star Emirates Palace is one of the world's most expensive hotels ever built. The outstanding luxury hotel is owned by the Abu Dhabi government but managed by the Kempinski Group. The hotel features gold plated Swarovski crystal chandeliers, intricate glimmering domes. Truly grandiose, it epitomizes the regal opulence that the world has come to expect from the Gulf.



Heritage Village

Operated by the Emirates Heritage Club, Heritage Village provides introspection of a bygone traditional Middle Eastern village settled along an oasis. Traditional way of living including desert life, coffee pots, and tents made of goat's hair, and falaj irrigation system can be observed at this open-air museum.



Yas Island

Being itself an island Abu Dhabi is neighbored by nearly 200 minor islands. A few of them have been developed for tourism of which one is Yas Island home to the Yas Marina Circuit the world-class F1 motor cross race track. It also features attractions like Yas Marina and Abu Dhabi golf course, Warner Bros. Movie World, Ferrari World, Yas Marina Hotel and a water park. The tourist destination is completed with inclusion of hotels, marinas, polo clubs, apartments, villas and food and beverage outlets.

Qasr al-Husn Palace

Built in 1761 by the ruling Al-Nahyan family Qasr al-Husn is the oldest standing stone building in Abu Dhabi. Also known as 'white fort' due its white walls formed during the early 19th century renovations, it remained the official government seat and royal palace until 1966.



THE MEYDAN HOTEL



Positioned at the epicenter of one of the world's most exciting destinations; The Meydan hotel provides a prime location to catch the exhilarating action of the racing season, and creates a coveted travel destination all-year round. A true destination hotel, The Meydan offers unrivalled views over the grounds that are host to the richest horserace in the world, the Dubai World Cup.

The Design

Construction of The Meydan hotel took 3 years, following the designs of Teo A. Khing Design Consultants, with the hotel receiving its first guest on 4 March 2010. The flowing canopy at the trackside ground floor of the hotel imitates an Arab Islamic tapestry and the arching pillars of the hotel lobby were designed to represent palm fronds of the regal palm tree – a distinctive feature of local Bedouin culture. Arabic geometry, which is a regular design feature in the region, is represented by the regular use of horseshoe patterns in the interiors. The rooftop infinity pool offers a unique view over the racetrack.



Location

The Meydan hotel is ideally situated just 10 minutes from the heart of Dubai's business districts and the world's largest mall, 14 minutes from Dubai International Airport, 10 minutes from the biggest shopping mall of Dubai, 15 minutes from the beach and 40 minutes from its sister property Bab Al Shams Desert Resort & Spa.



Rooms & Suites

The Meydan has eight floors, offering a stunning choice of 284 luxurious rooms and suites, each furnished in contemporary style and with floor to ceiling windows. The unique design of the rooms, with corridor inclusion, ensures privacy between the interior of the room and the hotel hallway. Bathrooms have been designed so that the racetrack can always be viewed from the bathtub with full privacy and televisions are located in every bathroom; showers in the Meydan Suites include colour therapy lighting.

Level 2 is the Ladies Floor, designed exclusively for women. This floor is serviced by female colleagues only and caters specifically to the privacy and comfort of female travelers.

Dining & Lounges

The hotel offers an array of restaurants, including Prime- the signature restaurant, Shiba offering Asian cuisine & Farriers- all-day dining restaurant.

Stable Tours

You can experience this unique opportunity to go behind the scenes to discover where world class horses are prepared, and witness trainers putting future champions through their morning paces - all while enjoying breathtaking views of the Meydan Grandstand and Racecourse.

Racing Season

The Meydan Hotel is distinguished as the destination in which to experience the best of the Racing Season. The hotel's luxury restaurants and bars provide guests with a selection of some of the finest cuisines from around the world.





My Home My Style

Incorporate Your Personal Style into Your Living Space!

When furnishing your home, there is nothing more important than incorporating your personal style. Without implanting yourself into your living space, your house will never truly be your home. Decorating your home so that all the various features combine to create the look you've always wanted can be a lot of fun.

Creating a cohesive personalized interior design for your home isn't that hard if you know some of the basics. Following are some tips to help you turn your house into a designer home:

Know Your Style

While this may sound silly, many people do not fully understand what

their personal style really is. Put concisely, whatever it is that you like to do, be, wear, or have is your personal style. If you like the color yellow and own a number of things in this color then that is part of your personal style. While your home reflects your style, remember that it is where you live and therefore should be truly comfortable and fit your needs. Identifying your



style into your space is getting over the fact that others may not like it. Do not make the mistake of making your living space a place to impress others, go with the things that inspire you and make you feel comfortable and cozy.

Proportion

Scale is one of the most important things to consider when creating the look of a room. A room that is proportioned correctly will feel welcoming while an incorrectly portioned room will just feel crowded and busy. The trick is to match pieces in terms of their scale. A large overstuffed sofa needs an equally large end table or coffee table; otherwise, these accents simply disappear as the sofa dwarfs them proportionally. When decorating, look for furniture that may be a better fit with the focal pieces you have in your room.

personal style is important because it is your surroundings that will determine your comfort level. Entertaining for friends and family will be more enjoyable if your home furnishings are in harmony with your personal style.

Focal Point

Find a Focal Point in your living space before you start to decorate. The focal point is usually the first area that you see as you enter the room. This should display your best picture, your most lovely figurine, etc. The focal point is what sets the mood for the room and if it's the first thing that you see, it will obviously be the first impression of the room.

Implement Your Style

Once you know what you like, just go for it. The most difficult part of infusing your personal



Rhythm

To keep the room connected, you need rhythm. This means reusing specific colors, patterns, textures or themes throughout the room. Pick a couple main colors and repeat them in different ways in your paint scheme, fabrics and accents.

Be Bold

Being a little reserved in your style in certain situations is fine but doing so in your home is unnecessary and superfluous as it is your home and you need to feel connected with it. If you have an absolutely gothic personal style, go all out with your decorations using black colors and figurine.



Luxury Delicacy Food

Expensive but sinfully delicious, luxury foods remain as popular as ever. Enjoy the World's Most Expensive Dishes!!!

The simplest characterizations of gastronomic luxury are those that focus on the quantity of food and on the pleasures that surround them. There are numerous delicacies found throughout the world, with most cultures having at least one food they consider particularly special. These may range from relatively common delicacies, such as Maine lobster in the United States, to fairly rare foods, such as bird's nest soup, made from the saliva-based nests of the cave swift.

Here is a list of the most expensive, interesting and rare things you can eat;

Beluga Caviar

Beluga Caviar is the most expensive food item in the world, costing up to \$5,000 per kilogram. The caviar is actually the fish roe (eggs) of the Beluga Sturgeon which are normally found in the Caspian Sea. It can take up to 20 years for a Beluga Sturgeon to reach its maximum size and they can weigh up to 2 tonnes. The eggs are the largest of the fish eggs used for caviar and usually range from purple to black, with the palest being the most expensive. Beluga caviar is generally served on its own on small pieces of toast.



Saffron

Saffron is the most expensive spice in the world, reaching prices beyond \$2,000 per pound (depending on season). It comes from the three styles and stigmas of the flower crocus. Each styles and stigmas are individually handpicked and is an arduous task to collect thousands in order to make a single ounce of it. Bright yellow in color, saffron is used for coloring and subtle flavoring of food.



White Truffles

Truffles come from underground tubers and are known for their high prices. It has an extremely distinct odor which is in a way similar to deep fried walnuts. They are generally served sliced extremely thinly on top of other food.

Bird's Nest

It is produced by a variety of Swifts, specifically Cave Swifts; who create their nests by spitting a chemical compound that hardens in the air. The nests are considered a delicacy in China and are one of the most expensive animal products consumed by humans. Generally served as a soup it can also be used as a sweet. When combined with water, the hard nests take on a gelatinous texture.



Kobe beef

Kobe beef comes from the Wagyu cattle that are reared and raised in Japan's Hyogo Prefecture. The breeding is done following a secret and traditional Japanese practice and the cattles are fed with a combination of grain and beer leading to a more tender type of beef that can rival foiegras in texture. The beef can cost up to \$300 per pound.

Fugu

Fugu refers to the popular Japanese dish made of pufferfish. Fugu flesh is edible, but the skin, liver and ovaries contain lethal amounts of the poison tetrodotoxin and if prepared incorrectly it can lead to death that is why restaurants can only serve fugu if it is prepared by a fully qualified fugu chef. Fugu has become one of the most celebrated Japanese dishes. It is normally prepared in such a way that a tiny amount of poison is left in the fish as the poison gives it a slightly numbing and tingling effect.





Fine Dining |

Foie Gras

Acclaimed as one of the finest western cuisine available, Foie Gras comes from the liver of geese or ducks and is prepared using the method known as gravage. The texture of foie gras is very similar to that of butter with a very earthy flavour. Foie gras is generally eaten as a raw pate, but it can be lightly cooked to give it a greater depth of flavour. Grade A frozen Foie Gras is about \$45.00/lb wholesale.



Lobsters

The lobster belongs to the family of crustaceans and provides a \$1.8 billion business a year. Lobsters live on rocky, sandy, or muddy bottoms from the shoreline to beyond the edge of the continental shelf. They generally live singly in crevices or in burrows under rocks.

Matsutake

Matsutake literally means 'pine mushroom', and is used as a Japanese term for a group of mushrooms. Revered throughout Asia, this traditional delicacy is a particular favorite of Japanese chefs, whose preparations have been refined over centuries to make the most of its strong, spicy-clean fragrance and taste and firm, meaty texture. A kilogram of the highest grade of matsutake can fetch a price of \$2,000.



Oysters

Oysters are synonymous with indulgence and impulsiveness, at home in a world of champagne and fine dining. The term "oysters" refers to several kinds of mollusks that thrive on brackish and marine water. These are generally served raw and for a long time in past were believed to have aphrodisiac effect.



EXPERIENCE THE ESSENCE OF ARABIAN HOSPITALITY

Book your stay in Dubai at the Habtoor Grand Resort & Spa, a 5-star luxurious resort that offers perfect vistas, where lush landscapes meet the warm Arabian Gulf. Situated on the world renowned Jumeirah beach, the resort features 446 rooms and suites and offers a wealth of facilities and activities. Indulge your senses at any of the 12 themed F & B outlets, relax by the pool, enjoy the beach and water sports, then pamper yourself at Elixir Spa. Stay at the Habtoor Grand Resort & Spa for business, pleasure or leisure for an exquisite experience.



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JUMEIRAH BEACH

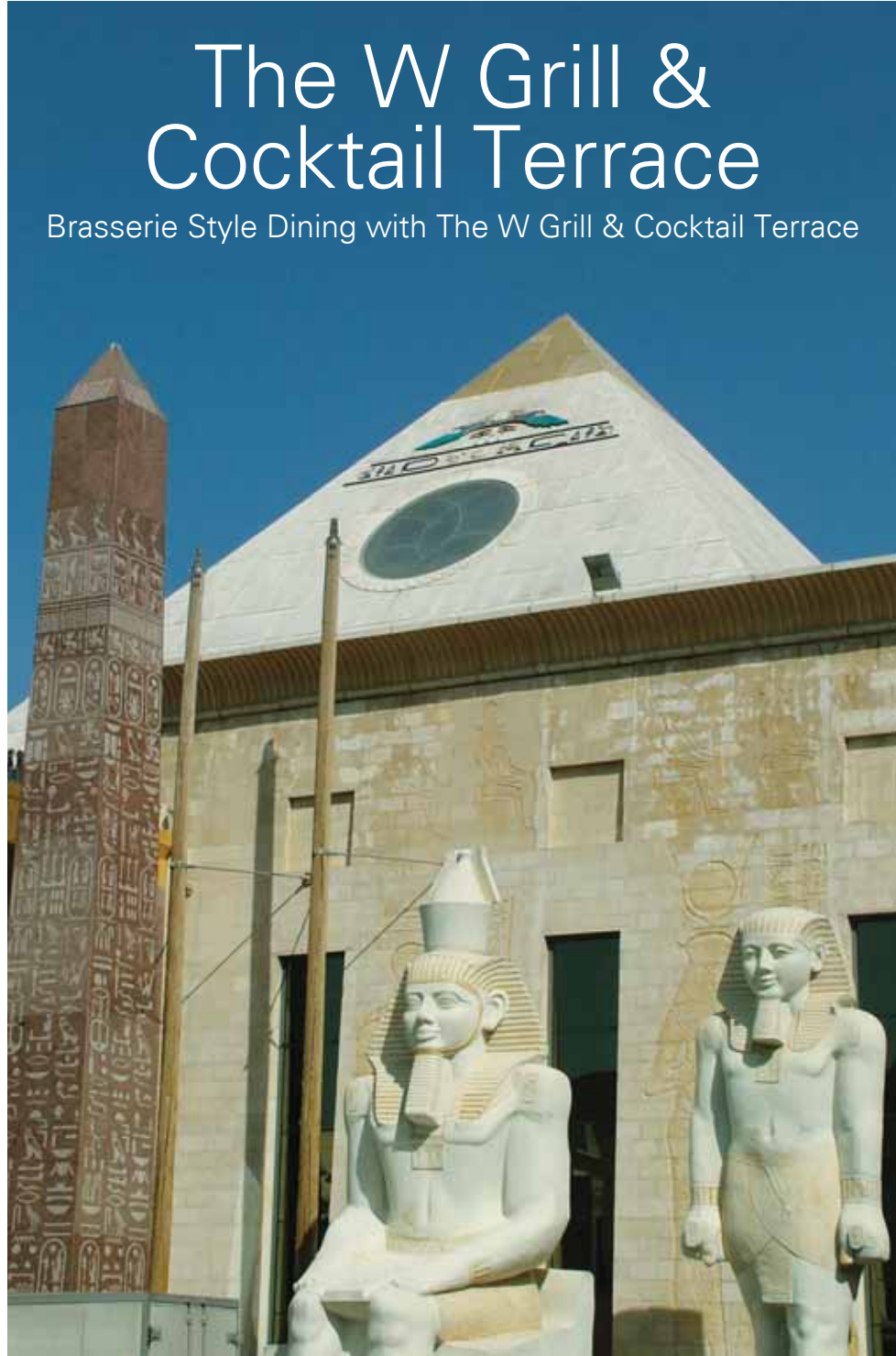


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The W Grill & Cocktail Terrace

Brasserie Style Dining with The W Grill & Cocktail Terrace

WAFI Pyramids, has launched a new European-style grill restaurant The W Grill & Cocktail Terrace, giving the city's foodies and fashionistas, a stylish dining experience and chilled cocktail terrace.

Located in the Pyramids complex on the main thoroughfare to WAFI mall, the new restaurant features a terraced expansive dining area, with an overall seating capacity of 290. Executive Chef Angelo Albera has whipped-up a menu

that runs the gamut from the finest grilled seafood and meat, including the succulent 42 oz Tomahawk Steak, to Classic dishes such as Lancashire Hot Pot and Corn-fed Chicken with morel cream sauce.

The versatile menu also offers an array of veggie-friendly dishes, such as the tasty Seven Vegetables Couscous, mouth-watering Leek Tart with Carphilly cheese and slows roasted tomatoes, as well as the creamy Asparagus Risotto.

Casual but vibrant in ambience, layout and style, the new restaurant offers a unique salad station and dessert counter, allowing diners to enjoy the flexibility of an à la carte menu along with the popular buffet element. For those looking for a healthier option, the Gourmet salad counter serves up a fine array of Chef's salads of the day, meat and fish terrines, crudites, preserved vegetables and cured fish.

Diners can also pay a flat rate and indulge their sweet-tooth with an assortment of unlimited treats from the patisserie display, or drop by the crepe station, which is set to wow guests with live flambéing.

An impressive array of shisha will also be on offer, as guests enjoy the chilled-out vibe of the new outside space. The layout of the restaurant is open and welcoming, with defined dining areas that lend themselves to parties and get-togethers. A warm and vibrant colour scheme and modern fixtures come together to enliven the decor, dominated by a gorgeous coloured chandelier in the glasshouse.



GAUCHO Renowned London Restaurant

London's award-winning Argentine restaurant, Gaucho, has opened its second Middle Eastern outpost at the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). Gaucho, famous for its sumptuous steak and mouth-watering ceviches, adds a touch of Argentine culinary and cultural passion to one of Dubai's premier landmarks.

The new venue features Gaucho's iconic décor of cow hide walls, blended

flawlessly with opulent black and white leather furniture, mirror panels and crystal chandeliers. Designed by renowned Executive Chef Fernando Trocca, the menu offers award-winning Argentine Ceviches – 'the new sushi' - traditional Empanadas and renowned steak cuts from the finest free-range Argentine Angus Beef. Considered the best beef in the world, the Argentine steak cuts are 100% grass fed and cooked in the traditional Argentine

way - cut to order, grilled and turned only once to seal the juices and enhance the flavor.

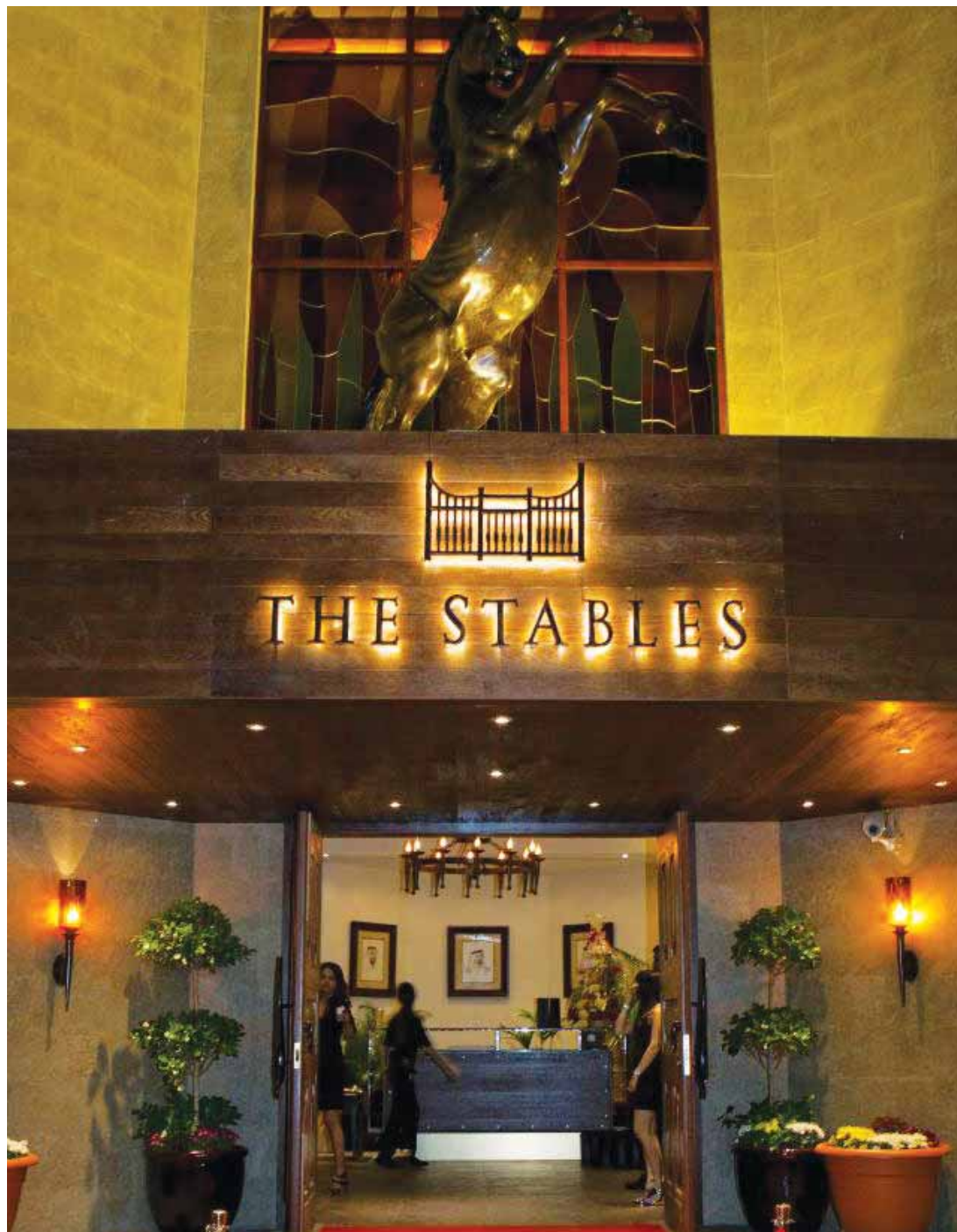
The restaurant is spread across a dramatic double-volume space, with room for 100 guests on its private terrace alone. A glass staircase links a floating bridge between the multi-level dining areas, with eight meter high floor to ceiling walls of multi-faceted glass.

Stables Restaurant

The opulent equine experience...

Located on the Sheikh Zayed Road, The Stables Bar & Restaurant draws on a horseracing theme throughout to provide a unique setting. The Venue comprises of an intimate ground floor farm shop, a dramatic first floor Stables Bar, a wine shop on the 2nd floor and a stunning Racecourse Restaurant with a live open kitchen headed by Chef Romain Camos. Serving wholesome race course meals to suit every taste, Stables offers farm-fresh food, using the finest locally and internationally sourced produce prepared to order, much more of new and contemporary cuisine that's delectable to suit any palette not just in UAE but further.

Now, from 8 am onwards, gear up on the saddle for Stables Restaurant where Alex Bracken and Team welcomes you with a promise at striving to create modern, exciting and seasonal dishes that heighten and explore every tingle in your taste buds!



So, come, enter the light and airy atmosphere, feel the thrill of grazing through the appetising menus and work up your racy appetite amidst the earthy green-burgundy-wood-toned equine setup at Stables Restaurant where you can trot over for dinner to the Meydan Tables.

Whether you have with business plans over lunch, or an informal get-togethers and celebrations with the family, you'll find that you can choose your own racecourse at Stables Restaurant.



The Racecourse Restaurant is open every day from 7pm until 1am
Reservations@stablesdubai.net
www.stablesdubai.com



The fine art of Jewelry

2012



JEWELRY COLLECTIONS

Inspired pieces to unique and exceptional diamond collection, contemporary gem stones to innovative & revolutionary designer collection; our jewelry pages are your complete resource on high-end jewelry from around the world.

La Posy Collection



The exceptionally designed jewelry features a range of glorious rings, earrings, bracelets and necklaces in form of flowers cut in different shapes and shades combining precious gemstones and jewels. La Posy Collection comes in the original and the "Fleurettes" lines. The La Posy collection of exceptionally designed jewelry is available at Aaron Shum Middle East Gold Land Building for wholesale.

What goes aroundcomes around



LIALI Jewellery, in an interesting play of words, proves what goes around...comes around through its spectacular range of bangle beauties! Available in this exclusive range are fine, contemporary and attractive diamond bangles designed as a tribute to the identity and spirit of a modern woman and her achievements in life. Its numerous collections

crafted in 18k & 22K yellow gold unveil contemporary, delicate and feminine jewels. And each piece evokes strength and grace with the curvilinear form of the jewelry symbolizing the inner fire of women.

Muse by Paspaley



Paspaley, the Australian pearling pioneer jewelry house, has introduced its latest collection, Muse by Paspaley. Inspired by the essence of the modern woman, the Muse collection includes powerful onyx, romantic rose quartz and hypnotic moonstones to harmonize with the pearl to create decadent jewels.



Liberty by Pasquale Bruni

The latest collection by the famous Italian jeweller Pasquale Bruni called Liberty, features necklaces with butterfly pendants, earrings with diamond and topaz drops, and a ring which comes in two variations: the classic butterfly shape or the Belle Epoque model. Pasquale Bruni is known to offer unique pieces of jewelry with magical designs for all tastes to charm women of all ages.



Aaron Shum Jewelry

The Hong Kong jewelry manufacturer, Aaron Shum Jewelry, presents a collection of authentic and exceptional jewellery pieces. Boasting with brands that epitomize authenticity, rarity and luxury, the Aaron Shum collection features exquisite, stylish and unique pieces. One exceptional product at Aaron Shum Jewellery is the Coronet Solitaire, the only diamond jewellery brand that has a worldwide patented design.





Limelight Garden Party

Piaget invents an extraordinary and radiantly beautiful garden. Rings and watches coil and entwine, necklaces nestle gently, and flowers bloom into earrings. The enchanting Limelight Garden Party is an invitation to savour the daring creative freedom of Piaget the jewellery-watchmaker.



The Longines Sport Collection

Ladies Diamond Conquest – A touch of sporty elegance



As part of The Longines Sport Collection, the Conquest line has been given extra sparkle thanks to the scattering of diamonds. A first glittering model is set with 120 diamonds around the bezel while a second model combines the brilliance of these precious stones with the strength of ceramic. The dynamic beauty of the Ladies Diamond Conquest models, achieved through a marriage of sporty design and glittering diamonds, echoes the fine balance between performance and elegance.



Vacheron Constantin and Haute Joaillerie Luminous artistry



Within the Manufacture Vacheron Constantin, the experienced exponents of the Métiers d'Art (artistic crafts) orchestrate their skills to sublimate watch mechanisms and transform them into works of art. An authentic work of art in its own right, the new Haute Joaillerie Haute Couture à Pampilles brilliantly illustrates the magical, indissoluble ties that the Manufacture continues to weave with both Art and Craftsmanship.



Colors of Emotion

by Gilan



Celebrating the vibrant passion of the legendary city of Istanbul its magic and its secrets, its fables and its inspirations Gilan introduces its newest collection, Colors of Emotion. From the banks of the Bosphorus to the tulip gardens of the city, Gilan's latest collection is a journey through the many colorful landscapes that define the centuries-old city.



Imperiale, A watch of royal elegance

With the new Imperiale line, Chopard achieves the feat of pretation of the brand's famous 1990s model, the House designers have drawn inspiration from refined, dynamic and natural women with strong personalities.



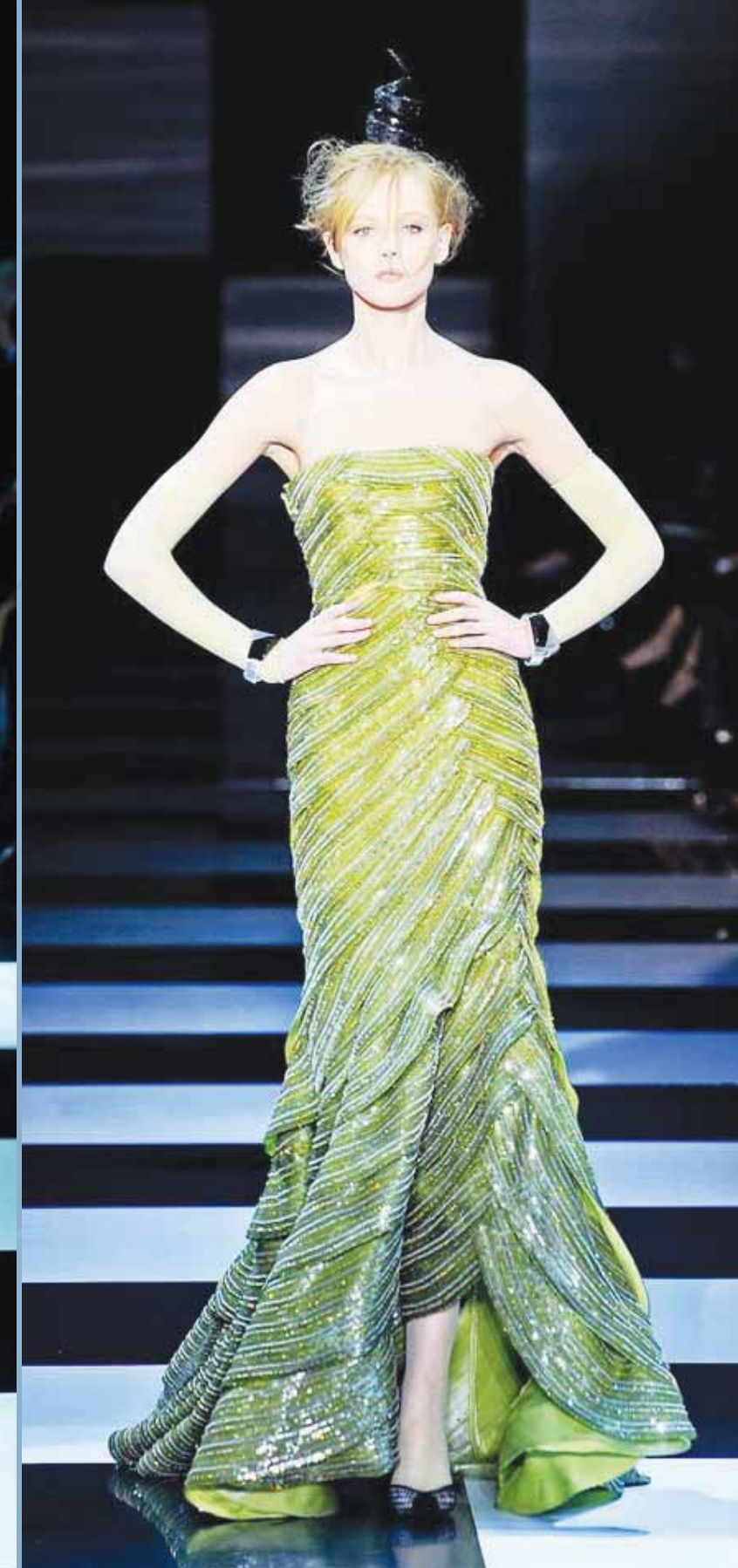


Fashion Report



Spring 2012 Haute Couture

Check out exclusive runway photos of the Spring 2012 Haute Couture, and enjoy the latest collections from top fashion designers of the world. Our exclusive coverage is your front-row seat to the latest fashion shows around the world.



Metamorphosis was the theme behind Giorgio Armani's Spring 2012 couture collection. Armani also tapped inspiration from reptiles in particular, their shimmering, textural skins, which he rendered in various shades of green.

ARMANI



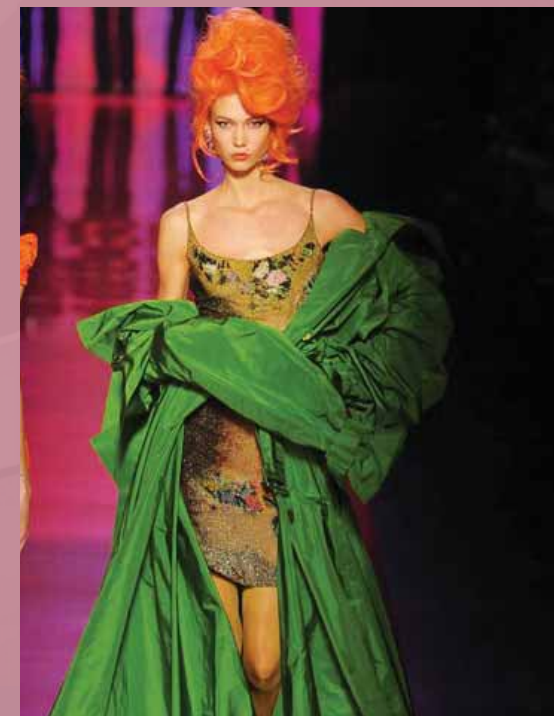
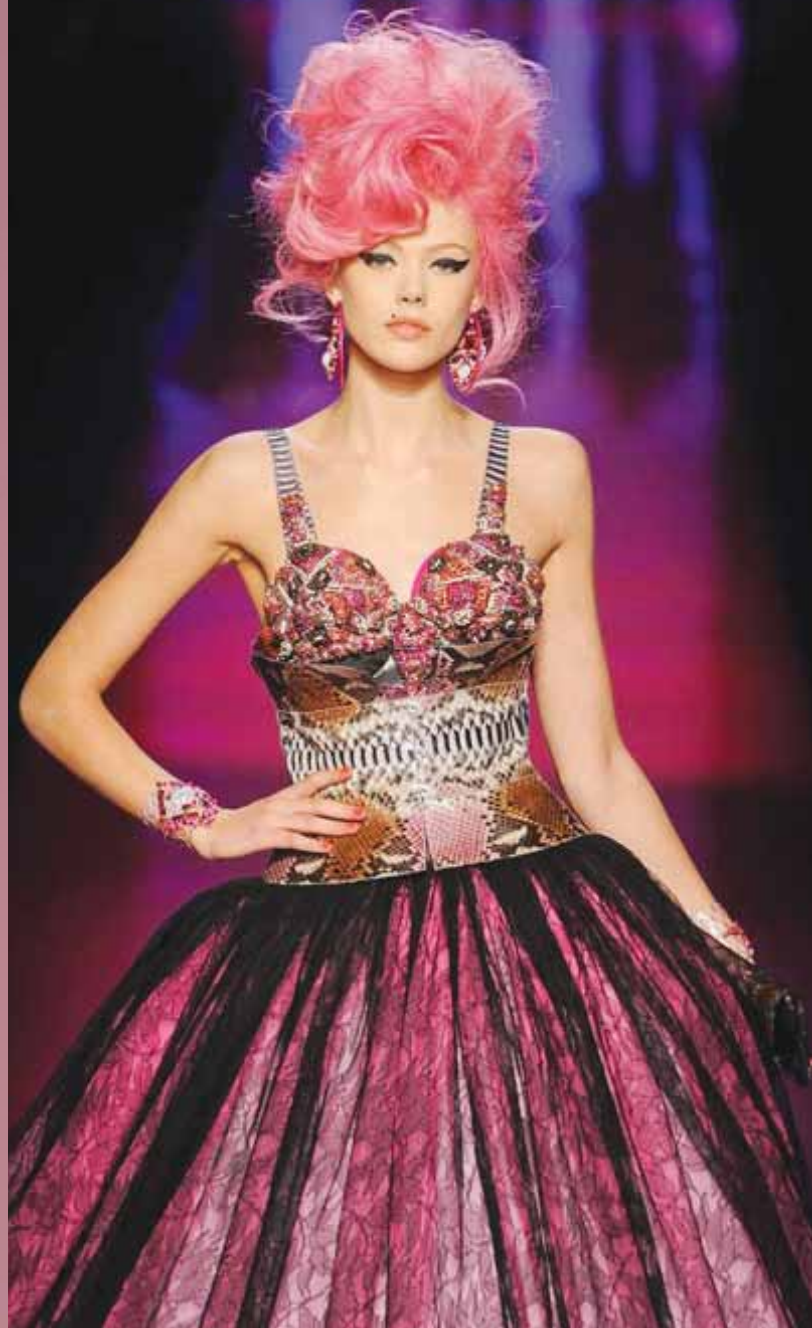
Revealing Chanel haute couture decoration and embellishment, the Spring 2012 couture collection was cohesive and rigorous. From the pretty ingénue dress to the grown-up evening suit for the sophisticated the collection included something for every age and multiple tastes.

CHANEL



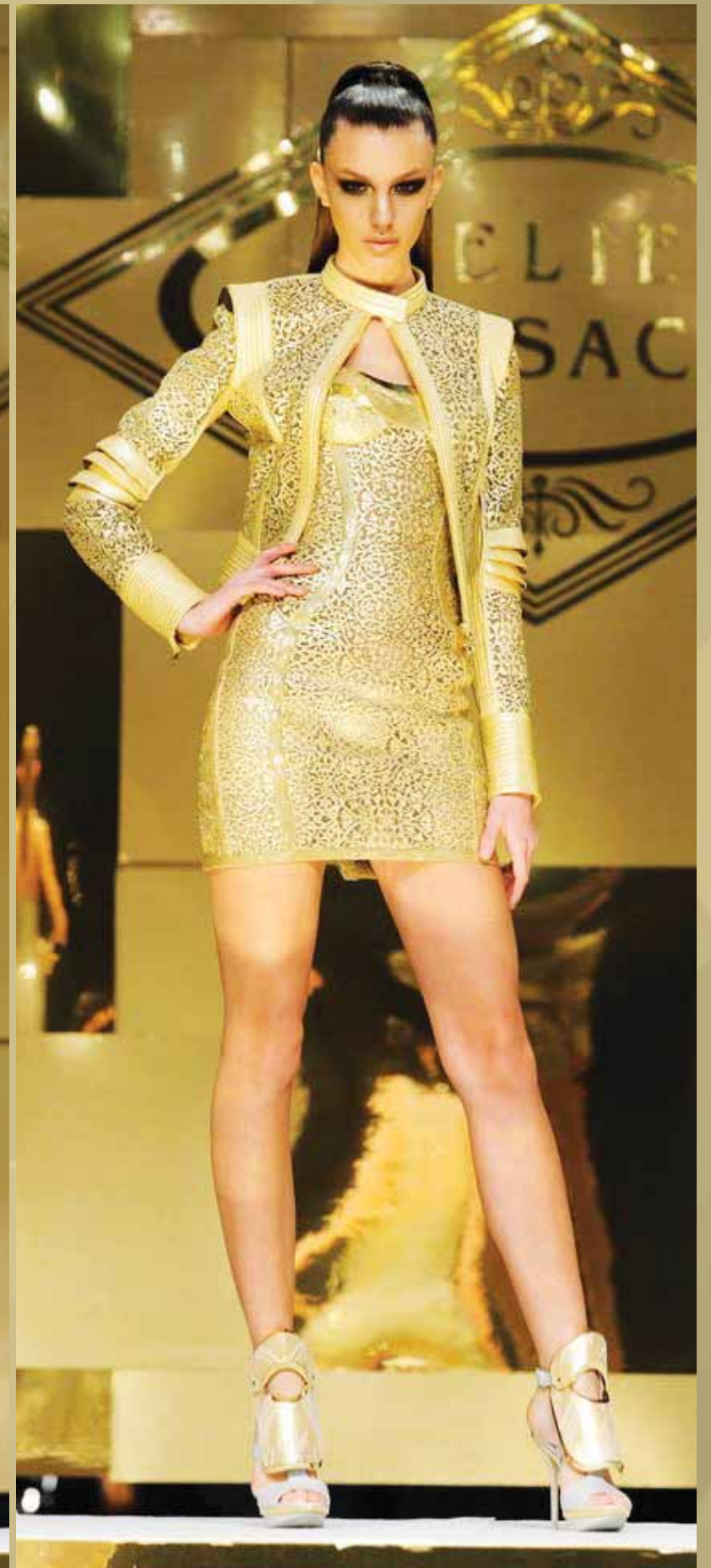
Saab's new Couture offering showed full-skirted party frocks and slim evening gowns in a rainbow of pastel shades, and sparkle. Despite all the handwork, the dresses appeared weightless and uncomplicated.

Elie Saab



Inspired by and dedicated to Amy Winehouse; Jean Paul Gaultier's Spring 2012 Haute Couture collection was wonderful, feminine and colorful. Models with beehives, beauty spots on their faces and dramatic eye makeup walked down the runway in dresses of the fifties era; tiny corsets and bodysuits, glitzy pencil skirts and simple shirts.

Jean Paul Gaultier



Atelier Versace kicked off couture week with corseted metallic gowns, hot orange and lime mini-dresses, and futuristic detailing, as well as a star-studded front row including Cameron Diaz, Diane Kruger, Abbie Cornish, and Anna Dello Russo.

Versace



SENSE OF TWO:
FASHION EVENT FOR DUBAI
Swarovski Middle East hosted a spectacular fashion show and exhibition highlighting the region's most talented designers in haute couture, traditional, jewelry & accessories, menswear and interiors. The Sense of Two theme evoked designers' dual creative sides to present dazzling avant-garde pieces, made with SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS, for the catwalk fashion show.

SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS





MADEYYA AL MAZROUEI

Combining simplicity with elegance and sophistication with boldness, ably addressing the unique fashion sense of modern and high-profile Arab women

Amid an eager audience of fashion lovers and enthusiasts, Emirati fashion designer Madeyya Al Mazrouei launched her Collection 2012 at the Kempinski Hotel in Palm Jumeirah. Her new and exquisite line of fashion dazzled the crowd with its simple yet sophisticated pieces.

White was the predominant color on the catwalk, commingling the warmth of Arab culture with Western classicalism to suit the practical side of women. Mazrouei's collection combined simplicity with elegance and sophistication with boldness, ably addressing the unique fashion sense of modern and high-profile Arab women.

Earlier this year Madeyya Al Mazrouei obtained a degree in fashion design from Esmod University. She was recently selected along with other lucky designers to participate in the Berlin-Dubai Festival. She also travelled to Berlin to get better acquainted with and benefit from the exchange of expertise with German fashion designers.



Autumn/Winter Collection



Faberge- CELEBRATING "LA JEUNESSE DOREE"

Faberge has collaborated with Mario Testino on a new black and white advertising campaign that aims to reinterpret Faberge for a new generation. The dream team behind the campaigns includes Fabergé Creative and Managing Director, Katharina Flohr, world renowned photographer Mario Testino, fashion stylist Carine Roitfeld and make-up artist Charlotte Tilbury. The idea behind the campaign was to capture the spirit and personality of youth by shooting real young people interacting with their friends.

JOHN GALLIANO SUNGLASSES

John Galliano Sunglasses mix a perfect combination of easy front shapes with richly characterized temples – iconic symbols of the luxury lifestyle they inspire.



Masculine metal trims are military inspired in strong square and rectangular frames, while ladies frames are wide-eyed with fantasy trim temples, acetate inserts, romantic rock chick twists for a Galliano tinted view of the world. The key new look develops the idea of fabric face veiling, as explored on the Spring-Summer runway. Available at all major eyewear outlets in the region, John Galliano price range is from Dhs. 1,220 – Dhs. 2,080.



ATAMANT DIAMONDS

Atamant Diamonds communicates the spirit of transparency embeded with luxury. It is a brand collection of Diamond Jewellery and a name that has become synonymous with Diamonds. The new collection comprises of Nature Collection, Arabesque Collection, The Message Collection and the Kids Collection. The collection can be found at Boom and Mellow Dubai, Adnan jewellery Dubai, Studio 8 - Dubai, Bebo E Mio Dubai, Favorite Things (Kids collection) Dubai, La Marquise shop in Mirdiff city center, Dubai Festival City, Souk Qaryat Al Beri Abu Dhabi and Al Jaber Jewellery in Al Khalidia Street Abu Dhabi.

PERRELET'S AWARD WINNING DIAMOND FLOWER PRESTIGE EDITION

Voted as 'the Watch of the Year' by the Swiss public, Perrelet's Diamond Flowe Prestige Edition combines finesse and harmony. Based on its Double Rotor, the heirs of Perrelet dared to create an audacious setting. Diamonds, rubies, sapphires or emeralds go beyond the simple transformation of a watch with feminine jewels. The visible rotor on the dial, sculpted for the occasion with lotus flowers, is linked and perfectly synchronised with the oscillating weight and supplies additional energy to the winding mechanism. Every woman thus animates her watch by her own movements.



Roberto Cavalli Eye Wear Spring/ Summer 2012 Collection



Female inspiration and iconic details: the new eyewear collection by Roberto Cavalli presents models with refined and contemporary style. The innovative creativity of the new models is expressed by references to the aesthetic codes of the brand, such as the animal motif, the snake theme and goldsmith's art. The sophisticated appeal of the collection is highlighted by the elegant lines of the new models, including retro-inspired shapes and details of modern taste.

LONGINES PARTNERS WITH QATAR RACING AND EQUESTRIAN CLUB

Attaining a further milestone and bestowing the Middle East with its prominent attitude of elegance, Longines has entered into a strategic business partnership with the acclaimed Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club.

This exclusive partnership was announced at a glittering press conference that was graced by His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Faleh Al Thani, the Chairman of the Club, Mr. Sami Al Boenain, General Manager of the Club, Mr. Walter Von Känel, the President of Longines and Mr. Juan-Carlos Capelli, Vice-President and Head of International Marketing of Longines.



The Portrait Experience

Memorable for your loved ones

Asil Lillo Dell'Utri

Is an internationally renowned Italian painter and photographer specialized in classical realism portraiture. He will be taking a series of studio photo shots exclusively at the clients premise (home or hotel suite) either in Dubai or any part of the world. Painting and framing will be done with the picture selected by the client. to make an appointment call directly the artist.



Asil lillo Dell'utri self portrait with his horse antar



[www.facebook.com lillo dellutri](http://www.facebook.com/lillodellutri)



A life time interior piece for your home.

MODEL CHRISTY TURLINGTON WEARS ROBERTO COIN JEWELRY

Italian jewelry designer, Roberto Coin, has once again signed on with model, Christy Turlington Burns, to be the face for advertising campaign. The latest campaign features jewelry from the Primavera, the new Bollicine, Cento Diamonds, Fantasia, Animalier and Ipanema collections.



THE H-OUR WATCH BY HERMÈS

Created in 1996 by Philippe Mouquet, H-Our ticks to winter-time. A precious version of the watch appears dressed for the season: the white mother-of-pearl face seems like a soft mantle of snow. A light grey varnished motif in the center evokes a pale wintry sun, while 11 diamond hour-markers light up the dial and the 12 o'clock twin Arabic numerals highlight the mystery of midnight. The 26 mm steel case is set with 72 diamonds accentuating the original shape of the watch: the famous H for Hermès.



GRAFF BUTTERFLY DIAMOND COLLECTION

The high-end diamond jewelry brand Graff, unveiled its Butterfly Collection. The collection is one of Graff's signature collections and is now available at the Graff Dubai Mall store. The butterflies are represented as a simple arrangement of four pear shape stones, a classic motif that can be seen in a variety of stunning gemstone forms.



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