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— Royal Essence —



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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.

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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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Fuel consumption figures for the Continental GT V8 in mpg (l/100km): Urban 18.4 (15.4); Extra Urban 36.7 (7.7); Combined 26.7 (10.5). Emissions (g/km): 246. Fuel consumption figures are provisional and subject to Type Approval. The name 'Bentley' and the 'B' in wings device are registered trademarks. © 2012 Bentley Motors Limited. Model shown: Continental GT V8.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the latest issue of First Avenue Magazine.

Putting together the latest issue, of First Avenue Magazine, has been similar to planning a great party. We mused over some of the most coveted desserts from around the world, drooled over the most spectacular summer getaways on the globe and met with Hollywood's heart throb Charlize Theron.

In the current issue, we delve full-force into high summer fashion essentials with our style feature; 'Summer Style Guide', and also look into the '2013 Resort Wear Collections' by international designers and fashion houses, our fashion pages give insight into the finest of what's to come. Equally exciting is the fabulous actress Charlize Theron- we sat down with the Oscar winner to discuss the myriad characters she plays and how she feels working with the leading directors in Hollywood.

Perhaps the only thing hotter than our cover girl is the summer in Dubai. Now that we are in the full throes of summer, we celebrate the warm weather with the exciting Health and Fitness feature 'Detoxify Your Body', check out simple tips to help you feel and become healthier than ever! Also don't forget to read our exclusive feature on 'Organic Home Décor', and learn how to bring nature into the house.

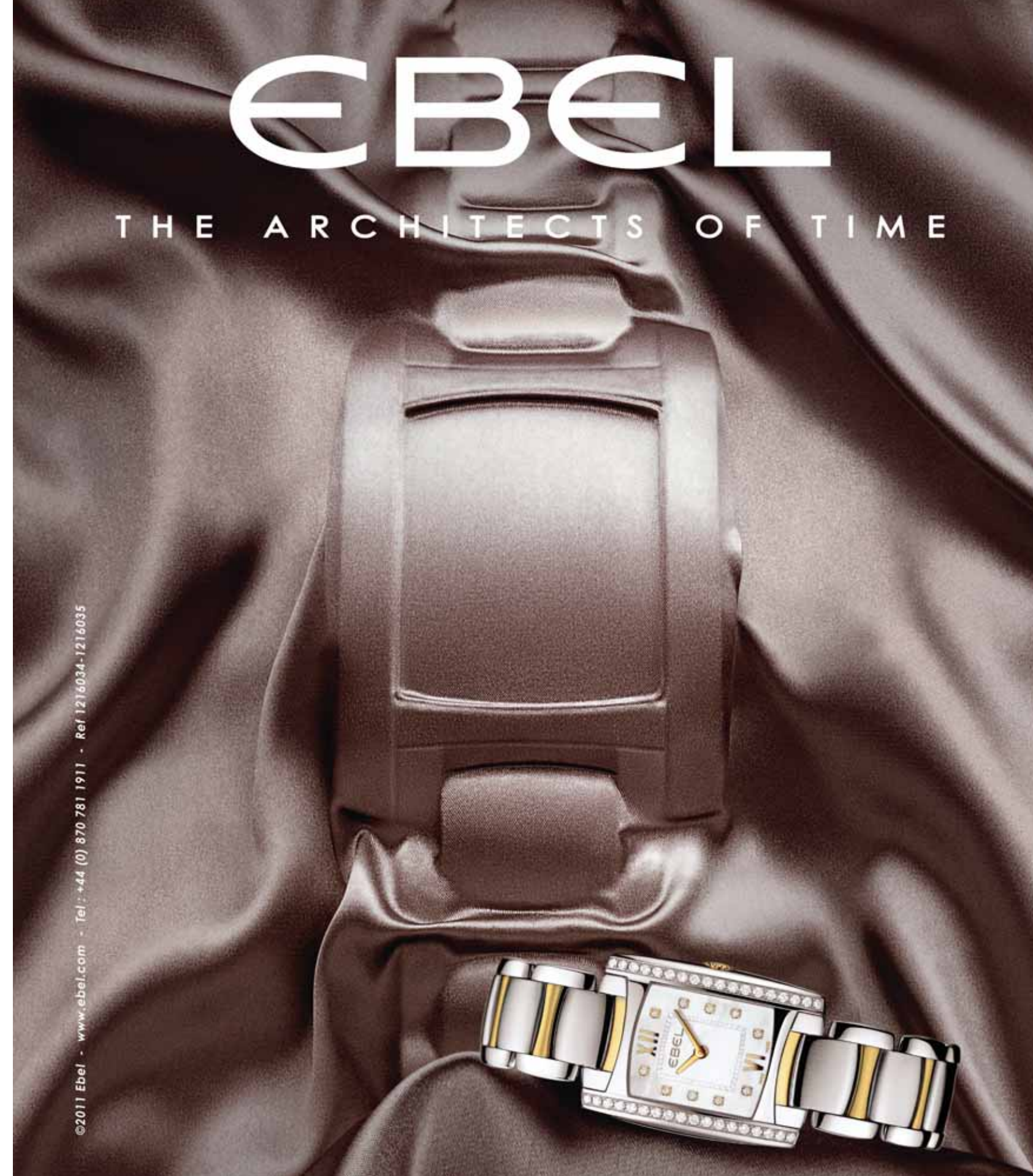
Since this issue is also high on style, we get a look at the crème de la crème of Hollywood, in our 'In the spotlight' section, with celebrity fashion news, and dig-in to 'Celebrity Beauty Secrets' for flawless looks. Once you've checked our celebrity features, then pack your bags for great 'Summer Getaways' in our Travel & Stay section. Plus we have got the scoop on the Lebanese artist Mireille Yacoub, who has established herself in Abu-Dhabi, and talks to us about art from the heart.

And when you find yourself getting hungry for the best in shopping, society and lifestyle just flip through the pages, and you know where to come back!!! :)

I hope this issue helps you add to summer's natural indulgence.

Cheers!

Lamiya Sami



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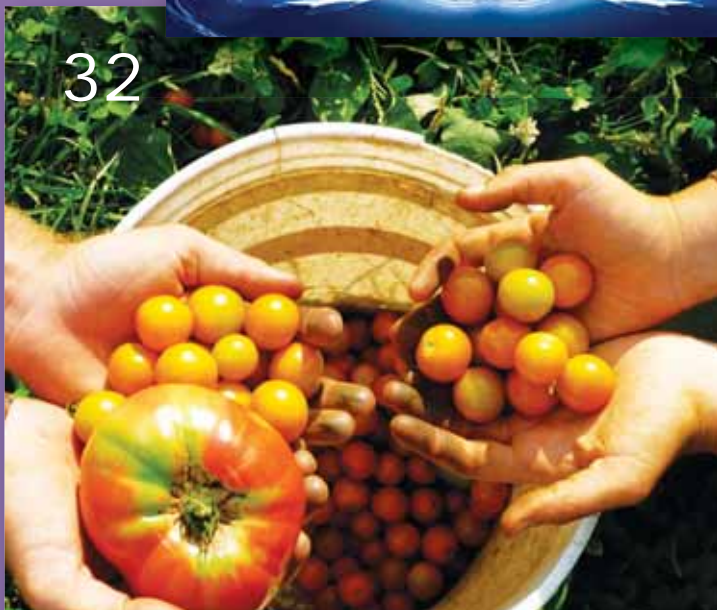
CONTENTS

18-27
In the spotlight
Celebrity
Fashion

28



32



32-37
Health
& Fitness

38



38-40
Beauty

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CONTENTS

42-43
Fashion Article

44-46
Style
Roundup

48-53
Face to Face
Charlize Theron

54-57
Travel
and Stay

58-63
Home décor

64-67
Art &
Entertainment

68-73
Fine Dining

74-87
Jewelry & Watches
Collection

88-105
Fashion Report

106-114
Lifestyle

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Celebrity Fashion

Actress Emma Stone wears LANVIN

Emma Stone looked stunning at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City in a bright cherry red satin dress custom designed by Albert Elbaz of LANVIN Creations. The dress is embellished with hand-embroidered crystal flowers. To complete the look, Miss Stone added crystal hair pins and gloss leather black pumps.



Dakota Fanning

Actress Dakota Fanning wore a lavender organza gown by Louis Vuitton at the Spring 2012 Costume Institute Gala Benefit. The jupon was made of tulle and covered with organza, embroidered with flowers made of hand stitched organza ribbons.



Natalia Vodianova

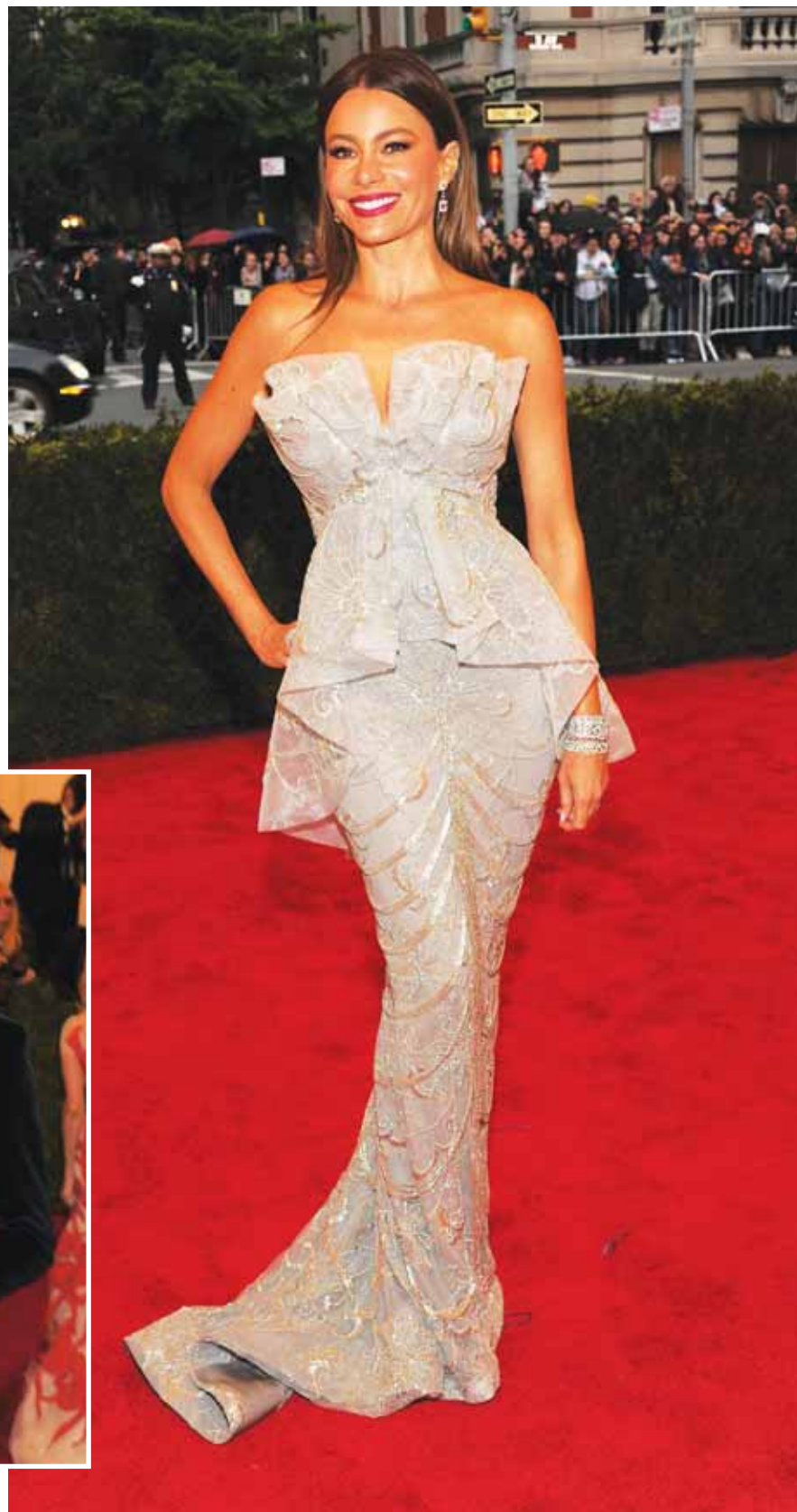
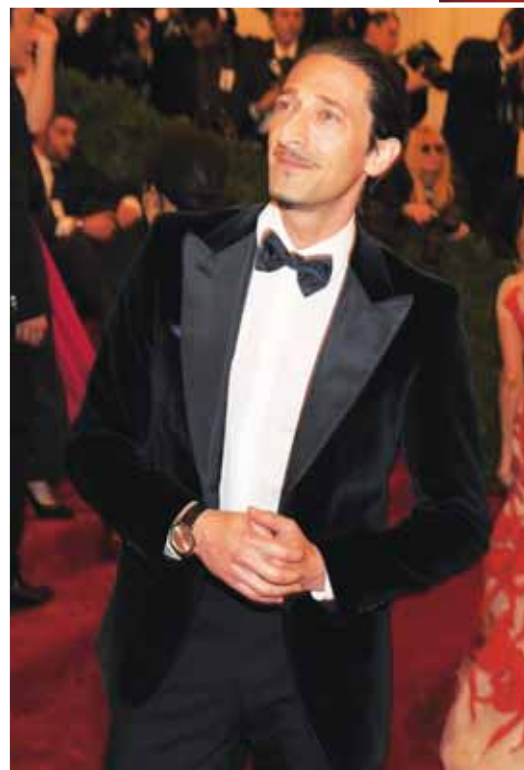
Natalia Vodianova wore a halter open back gown made of mini broderie anglaise covered with a layer of black silk voile by Louis Vuitton, at the Spring 2012 Costume Institute Gala Benefit in New York City. The gown is hand embroidered with beaded flowers and took more than 300 hours of work at the atelier.

Sofia Vergara

Sofia Vergara looked stunning in 2 million dollars' worth of jewels by Harry Winston at the Costume Institute Gala, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Adrien Brody

Academy Award winning actor Adrien Brody shines in Harry Winston Midnight Timepiece, at the Costume Institute Gala held at Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.



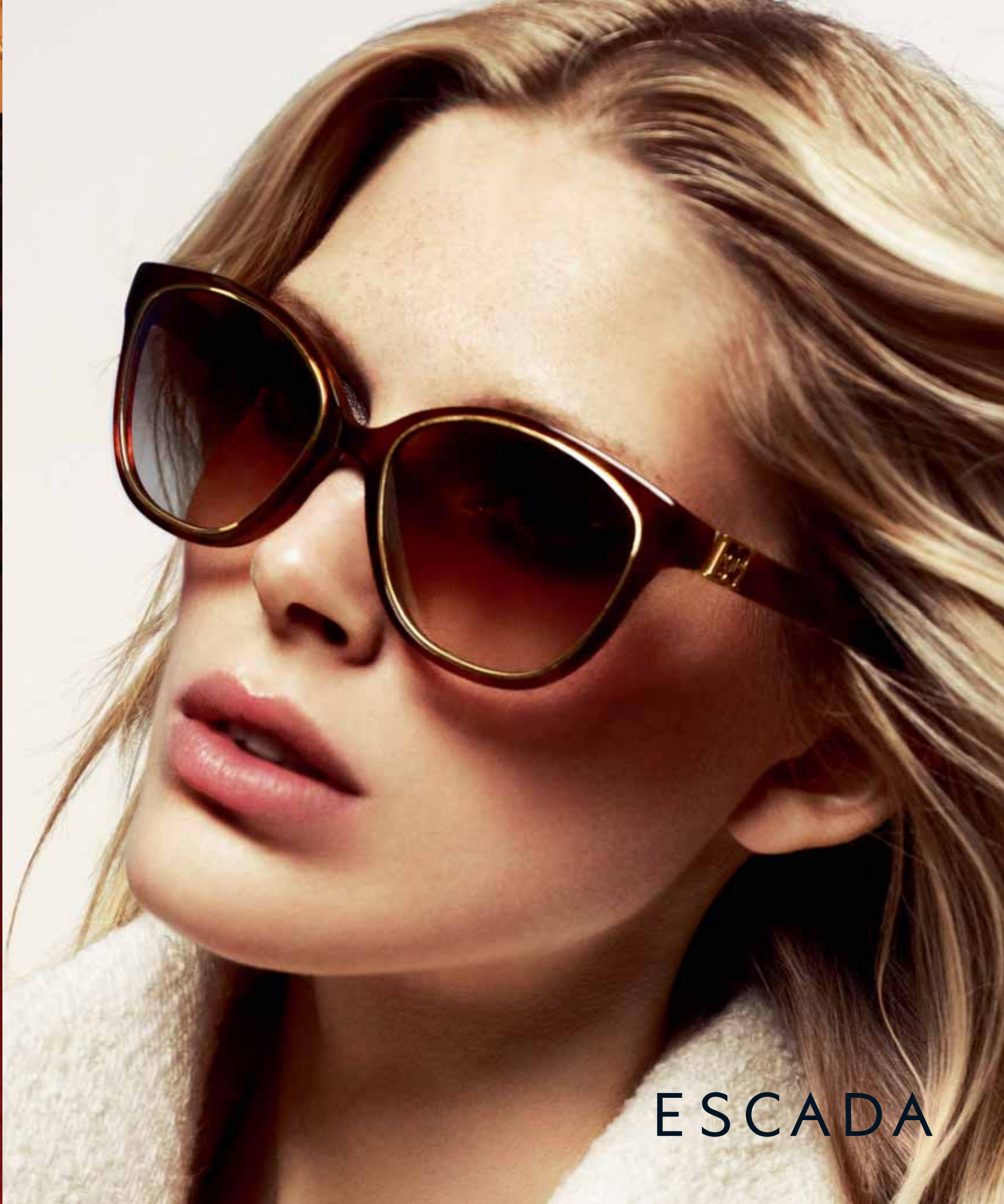
GOSSIP GIRL - Leighton Meester

Actress Leighton Meester looked stunning at the grand opening of Harry Winston's Shanghai Pavilion- the largest Harry Winston salon in the world.



Jessica Chastain

Actress Jessica Chastain wore a corseted blue metal satin dress by Louis Vuitton at the Spring 2012 Costume Institute Gala Benefit. The dress was made of a tulle crinoline and entirely hand embroidered with crystals and pearls.



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Since 1998, Chopard has been enjoying an ongoing love story with the Cannes Film Festival. The love story began when the President of the Festival asked Caroline Scheufele, Co-President and Artistic Director of Chopard, to redesign the Palme d'Or. Ever since, through adorning the stars for the famous mounting of the red-carpeted staircase, rewarding young film industry talents, and holding some of the most popular events of the festival fortnight, Chopard has become an emblematic actor in the world's most glittering and glamorous movie celebration.



Eva Herzigova



Erin Wasson



Nadine Labaki



Paz Vega



Jessica Chastain



Lily Donaldson



Kylie Minogue

Chopard

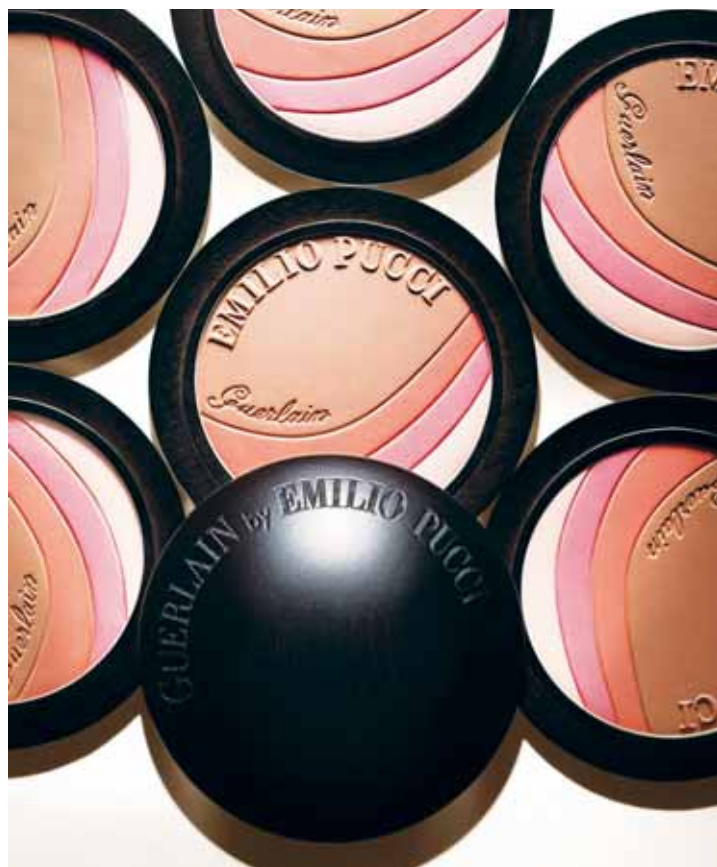
SUPER AQUA-SERUM

Guerlain's Super Aqua-Serum reinforces anti-wrinkle hydration ability of the skin. It helps to reactivate the skin's natural water purification process to re-launch the natural hydration flow and restore youthfulness.



Terra Azzurra Bronzing Powder & Blush

This summer's couture powder combines Guerlain's legendary Terracotta powder and Emilio Pucci's iconic prints. The world of beauty and fashion unite in a single case to enhance the beauty of every glamorous woman.



Shine
Automatique

Rouge
Automatique Shine

Guerlain's second-skin lipstick adds a dazzling touch to the figure, dressing up lips in subtly sparkling color and generously moisturizing them. The light-reflecting cocktail, made of various shimmering pearly particles, gives a fine texture to lips.



Feesk Sandals

In the "Ghungroo Collection", Feesk Sandals Creative Director Fiona Khan stays true to the brand *Queen of Spades*, East meets West roots and provides the perfect accessory to Emirati designer-Lamya Abedin's Maharani Collection for the season.



MAUBOUSSIN Rose Pour Elle

Mauboussin is a new fragrance for women of all ages who prefer sparkling freshness to intensity. The top notes highlight the bursting freshness of Blackcurrant buds brightened by a cocktail of Natural citrus fruits. The delicate floral heart is composed around Asian Magnolia, and watery Jasmine, while the Amber-Musky base, with light Vanilla and Woody notes brings depth and sensuality to the fragrance.

Ted Baker's SS12 collection

Ted Baker celebrates the female form with well-defined waists, full skirts and detailed bold prints, paired with accessories that come in complementary colors.



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Detoxify your Body

No fancy retreats or extravagant spas. These simple tips to recuperate will help you feel healthier than ever!



Each day we put potential toxins into our mouths, breathe them in through our lungs, and bring them into our homes without ever really knowing how much damage they'll do to our health and our lives. In fact, if you could peek inside your body, you will find chemicals, heavy metals, pesticides, plastic particles, and dozens of other residues of modern life. When you detoxify your body, you're doing it a big favor. Detoxification is about resting, cleaning and

nourishing the body from the inside out, by removing and eliminating toxins, then feeding your body with healthy nutrients. So, to fight back! Check out our simple tips that will help you detoxify everything from your body to your surroundings. Purifying your life won't happen overnight, but if you begin today you'll definitely be a little healthier by the time you get into bed.



Here is how to get started:

Water, water everywhere

Water is the number-one remedy for an instant body detox. Drink a tall glass of water with juice of half a lemon in the morning. The lemon helps re-hydrate the system and promotes digestion, which will help the flow of waste out of your body.

Move your Body

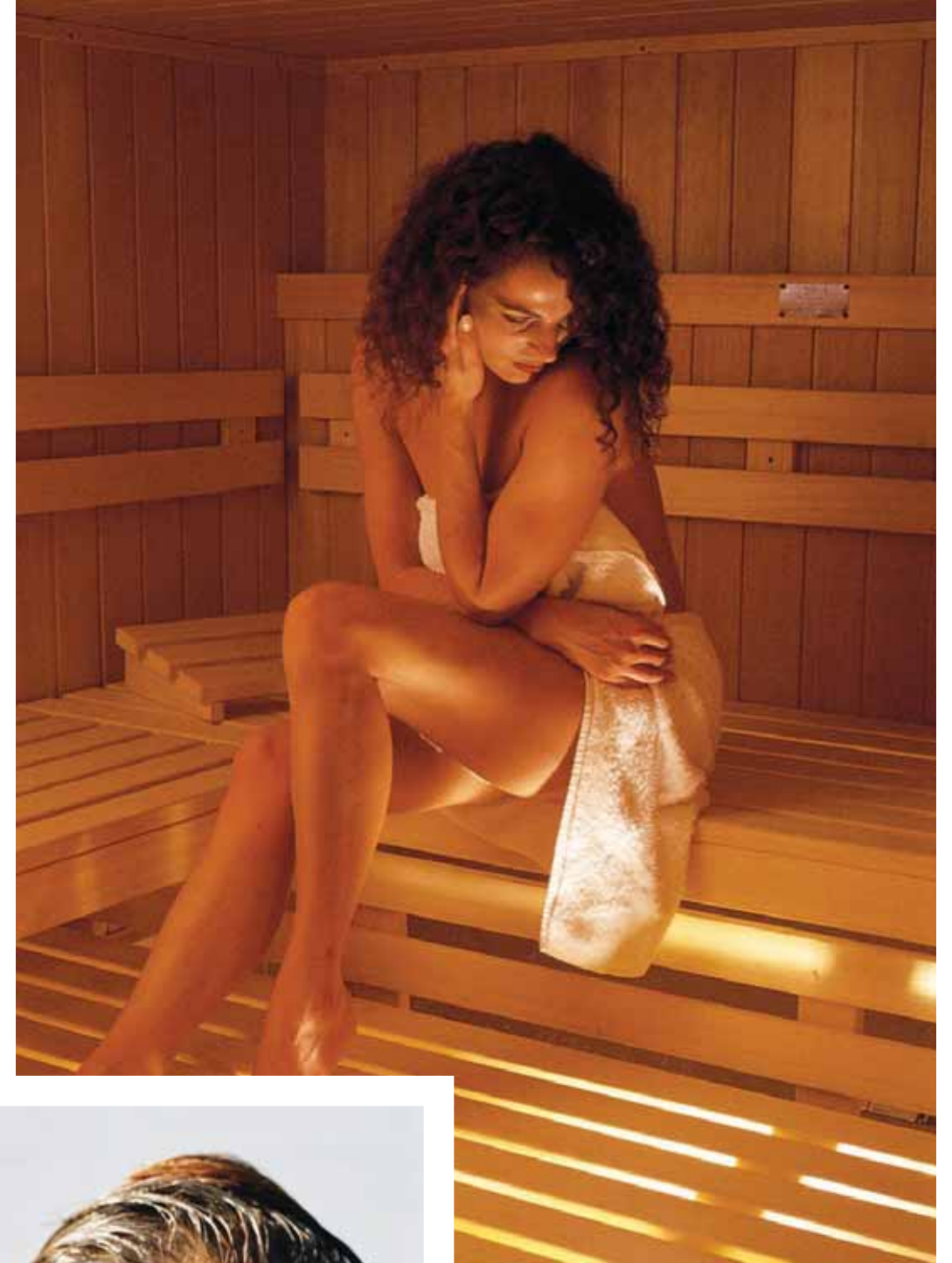
Regular exercise encourages circulation in the blood and lymph system. Doing so will also enhance digestion, reduce tension, lubricate joints, and strengthen your body. It's a

proven fact that people who exercise regularly have far fewer toxins in their systems. Try exercise, yoga or jump-roping one hour every day. Furthermore, try Qigong, a martial-arts based exercise system, that includes exercises specifically for detoxifying or cleansing, as well as many other exercises with specific health benefits.

T is for Tea

Not only is tea full of antioxidants, it hydrates you (especially if it's herbal) fills you up, and is gentler on your system. This means you will be less likely to overeat or eat the wrong things. Cleanse and protect the liver by taking herbs such as dandelion root, burdock and milk thistle, and drinking green tea.





Eat Right & Organic

A colorful variety of fruits and vegetables should be the main focus of your diet, along with whole grains, beans and legumes, and small amounts of nuts and seeds. Eat plenty of fiber, including brown rice and organically-grown fresh fruits and vegetables. Beets, radishes, artichokes, cabbage, broccoli, spirulina, chlorella, and seaweed are excellent detoxifying foods. Take vitamin C, which also helps the body produce *glutathione*, a liver compound that drives away toxins.

Combat Environmental Pollutants

Pollution and allergens are all around you. They're in the air and can trigger allergy symptoms. Flush your nasal passages regularly to eliminate the side effects of air pollutants.

Sweat it out in a Sauna

Use a sauna regularly, there's nothing more detoxing than sweating it out. Sweat in a sauna so your body can eliminate waste through perspiration.

Exfoliate

Skin brushing and oil massages will help exfoliate the toxins from your skin and refresh circulation. Dry-brush your skin or try detox foot spas/foot baths to remove toxins through your pores. Special brushes are available at natural product's stores.



Plastic not so fantastic

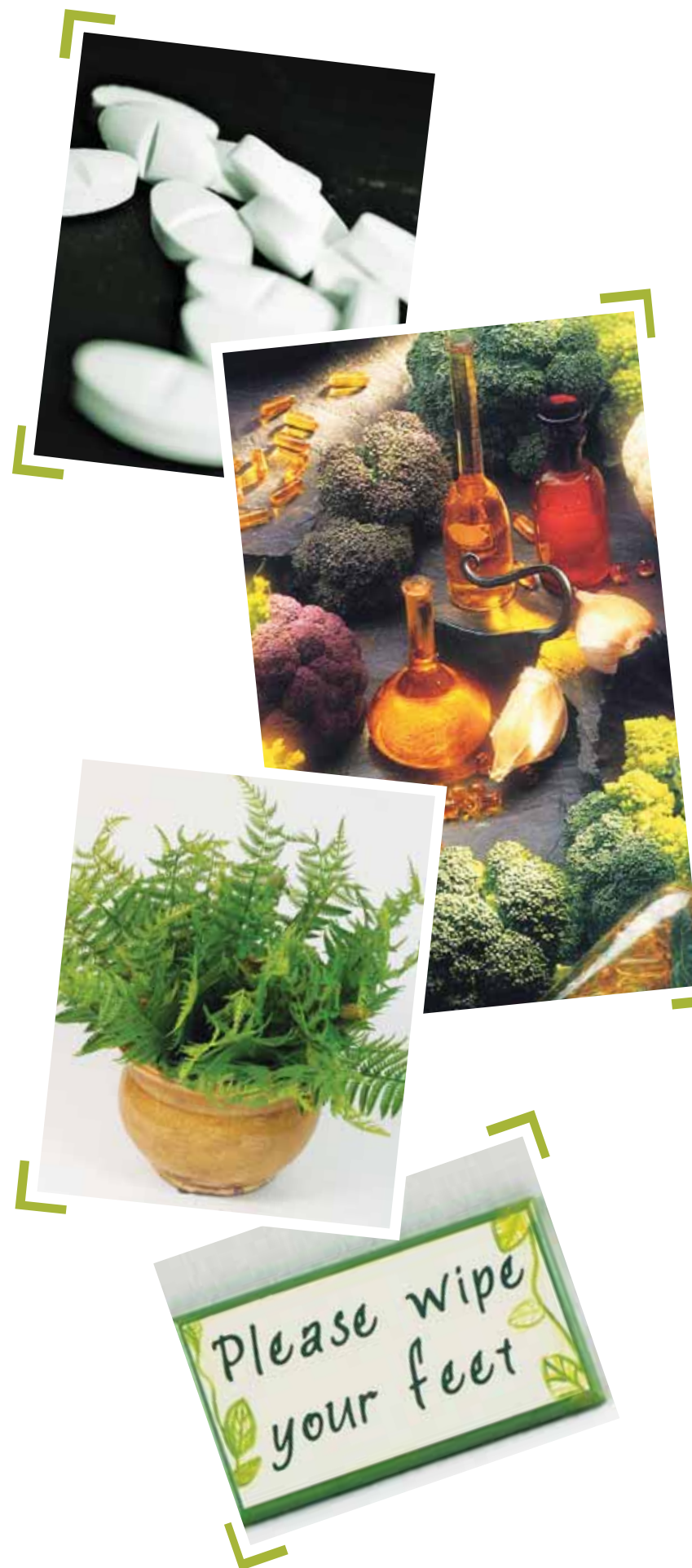
From food-storage containers to disposable ware; plastic products are such a part of our lives that it's easy to forget they contain chemicals that could harm us. As you gulp down that glass of water or bite into your plastic-wrapped sandwich, you could be consuming plastic without even knowing it. And while some plastics are less toxic than others, there are a few harmful plastics, which could be threatening to rob you of your health. The best thing to do is to avoid plastic whenever possible by using glass, ceramic dishes or stainless steel bottles.

Look out for lead

The use of leaded gasoline in past decades, has led to a high amount of lead among women 40 and above. As the bones greedily soak up calcium, they can easily be fooled by lead, a dangerous metallic look-alike. Lead-laden bones may be weak and prone to breaks. As bones start to thin after menopause, the toxic metal could be released into the bloodstream, where it can increase blood pressure and possibly lead to neurological and kidney trouble. To fight back, a combined regime of taking calcium, vitamin D, and regular exercise can slow bone loss and reduce the amount of lead being released from the bones into the blood. On the other hand, to keep more lead from being absorbed, reduce dust in your home with either frequent wet-mopping or good vacuuming with a HEPA-filtered cleaner.

Soap it up

The one skin product every toxin-conscious person should have is soap. Use soap to clear away toxin-producing germs that can cause nasty skin infections. If you're worried about soap's drying effects, try a natural moisturizer.



Painkillers

Your liver is a toxin-clearing machine, but at the same time, it is not perfect. Many medications, including common drugs such as the pain-reliever *acetaminophen*, can have damaging effects on your liver. According to the American Liver Foundation, you shouldn't take more than 3 grams of acetaminophen a day, for no longer than a few days in a row. Try natural remedies if possible or take as small a dose as you need to feel better.

Stay smoke-free

Researchers have found that just one cigarette impairs blood flow in the heart. The threat of secondhand smoke is no less scary: and now there are even new worries that thirdhand smoke (what's left in your hair or your clothes after being in a smoke-filled room) is harmful, especially to babies. Sadly, you can't stop other people from smoking. Nevertheless you can help your body rebound by eating a lot of broccoli and cauliflower. These cruciferous vegetables (which also include Brussels sprouts, cabbage, and watercress) contain *sulfuraphane* and other compounds linked to lower disease risks. Always remember to never overcook them as that may destroy the toxin-fighting compounds.

Freshen in natural ways

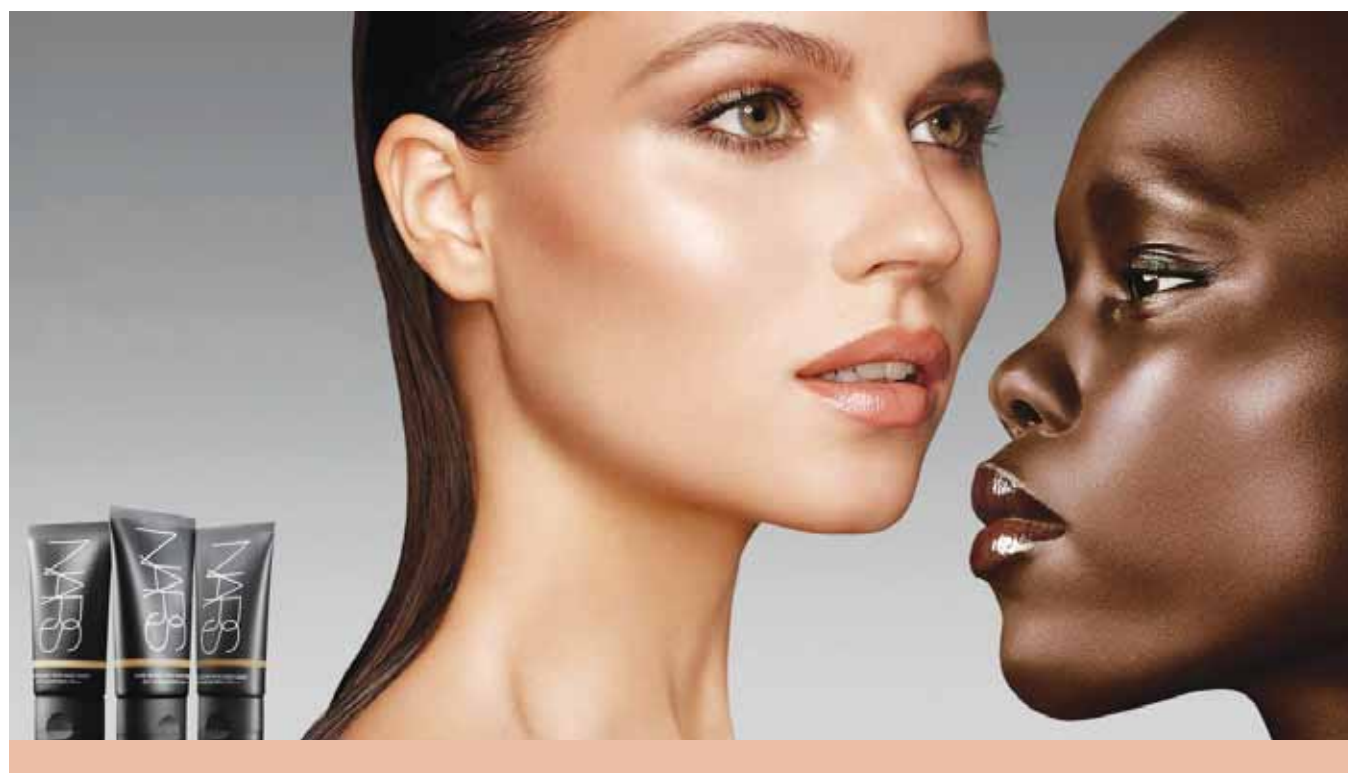
Your sweet-smelling air freshener may be polluting your home with chemicals that can irritate your eyes and lead to headaches and nausea. Spray can cleaners are equally bad, so instead of covering up unpleasant smells, open the windows when weather permits. Green up your surroundings with *Areca palms*, *Boston ferns* and *English ivy*; they help purify the air.

Wipe your feet

Your shoes can play a vital role in detoxifying your home. Pesticides and lead-contaminated dust, as well as pollen during allergy season tend to settle on the ground and can stick to footwear. Wiping your feet on an abrasive, high-quality door mat before walking inside can keep toxins from invading your space. Better still take off your shoes at the door.

Summer Beauty Essentials

Fabulous beauty products to make you look beautiful and naturally charming through the sunny season!



Summer is finally here! With each season comes a different set of beauty needs, so what should you stock up on for this hot season? To get you started here's the list of top beauty essentials you should own this summer.

Tinted moisturizer

Liquid foundation is heavy. Try to avoid it if you can, but if you really must use base makeup, apply a tinted moisturizer which provides lightweight yet significant coverage. It also hydrates your skin and gives you that coveted dewy look.



Bronzer

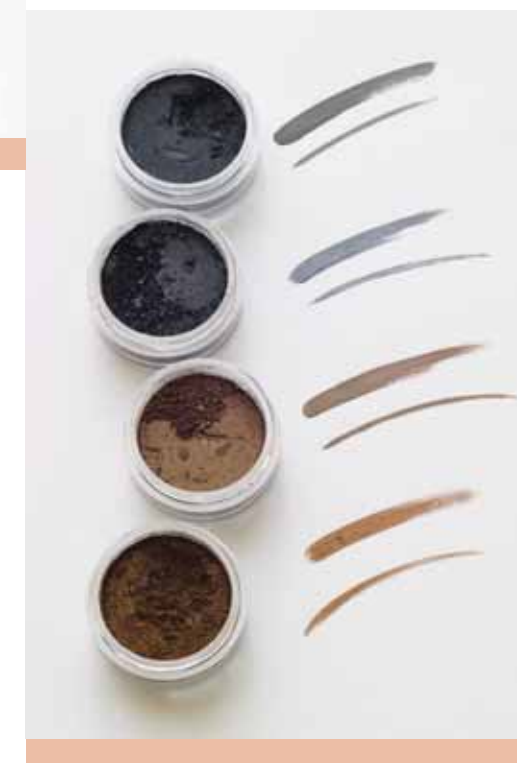
Use a little bronzer to achieve a healthy sun-kissed glow. Apply lightly where the sun naturally hits your face - your forehead, nose, cheeks and chin. Use a very thin, fan-shaped brush to get light, subtle coverage. If you use a bronzer, skip the blush, but if you don't then use a light apricot or peach blush.

Powder eyeliner

Eyeliners often smudge very easily in the hot and humid climate. If you must line your eyes, use a powder eye shadow rather than pencil or liquid liner.

Tinted lip balm

Skip the lipstick and choose a light lip gloss or tinted lip balm instead. Lip conditioners are a fantastic choice for summer, providing sun protection as well as a sexy hint of color and gloss.





Sunscreen

It's no big secret that sunscreen is an absolute summer beauty essential. Save your skin from the sun's harmful rays and preserve it for the future with a sunscreen of at least SPF 10.

Gentle cleanser

Get a gentle but effective facial cleanser that will zap oil without over drying. Try products that are all natural as they are effective at reducing redness.

Frizz fighting hair serum

The biggest cause for frizzy hair during summer season is humidity. The best solution to fight the frizz is to use some serious moisturizing hair products or frizz fighting hair serum to help smooth out hair.



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Celebrity Beauty Secrets

Get the ultimate scoop on celebrity beauty secrets!

Celebrities always look flawless and beautiful on the red carpet. They have radiant skin, they glow when they smile and they look as though they are healthy and full of energy. This image does not come naturally, it is something they have to work at, just like the rest of us. Every celebrity has a routine that they follow on a daily basis. This routine keeps them looking fresh and beautiful every day. Check out the ultimate celebrity beauty secrets and how they get that perfectly flawless look.



Kim Kardashian

Kim Kardashian is one of the most beautiful and glamorous celebrities. Her makeup is always impeccable and her hair long, luxurious and dark. Kim says that her three biggest anti-aging secrets are that she uses sunscreen to protect her face from ultraviolet rays, she uses facial cleansing wipes to completely remove all makeup before going to bed at night, and she uses an eye cream to help fight wrinkles and puffiness.

Rihanna

Rihanna regularly tours the world but in spite of her tiring concert schedule, she still manages to look luminous and fresh. She says that she simply takes every chance she has, to rest and drinks loads of water. Another secret to her glowing skin is that she highlights her features by dusting gold on her cheeks & brow and sweeping a little over her nose and chin. She also can't live without her bronzer.



Julia Roberts

America's sweetheart, Julia Roberts is famous for her perfect smile, but her celebrity beauty secret concerns her nails. Her favourite regimen is to soak them in olive oil for a few minutes every week. Olive oil moisturizes nails without weakening them, and softens cuticles too. It also prevents 'hang nails' that are caused by dry skin.



Catherine Zeta

Much as caviar is good for the skin, the omega-3 oils have a similar nourishing effect on the hair, which is why Catherine Zeta-Jones has been going to Hari's hair salon in London for the Beluga conditioning treatment for years. Catherine also uses a variety of home remedies on a daily basis. To keep that perfect smile, she brushes her teeth with mashed-up strawberries. Strawberries contain Malic Acid, which acts as a mild astringent when mixed with baking soda. To keep her hair healthy looking and shiny, Catherine brushes castor oil through it which actually prevents hair loss.

Eva Longoria

To keep her skin looking baby like, Desperate Housewives star Eva Longoria opts for EMK placental cream, which is derived from botanicals that mimic the nutrients found in human placenta. The vitamins, amino acids and other proteins are known to have restorative properties and make them ideal for the skin.



Mila Kunis

Mila Kunis' eyes look amazing, but she uses some tricks to make them look a little bigger and sultrier: her eye shadow is winged out and up past her eyes. This is an old-school trick that opens the eyes and makes them look like they extend a bit farther. And because it's done with dark shadow, it also adds a touch of smokiness that's pretty hot. She also indulges in \$7,000 facial, known as the HD Diamond & Ruby and Diamond Peel, to get that extra glow.



Gwyneth Paltrow

Over the years, Gwyneth Paltrow has tried many diets, all in the name of beauty and wellness. But perhaps no regimen has seemed quite as odd as the snake venom cream she uses on her skin. The Oscar-winner's skin looks youthful, and to maintain her glowing complexion she swears by fresh organic food. She also drinks lots of water and regularly wears sunscreen outside to protect her skin.

So this summer, pamper your skin with a little bit of extra care using these tips and tricks!

Summer Style Guide

Beat the heat with these ultimate summer styles!

Wherever your travels may take you this summer, we've got the gear you need to beat the heat while still looking cool. Our style guide is full of sunny-style essentials you won't want to leave home without. From summer apparels to summer fragrances check out the summertime essentials for the fashionistas.



Sandals

Summer sandals come in all shapes and heights. Flat gladiator sandals are popular once again. Select thong sandals adorned with stones and crystals rather than rubber flip flops. Just because you are dressed casually this summer doesn't mean you shouldn't look chic. Embellished sandals can be worn even with shorts and a T-shirt.

Swimwear

Swimwear is the ultimate summer essential, as it is time to head to the beach or a pool and catch some sun. From itsy bitsy string bikinis to more conservative one-piece suits, floral prints, geometric patterns and bright colors dominate swimwear trends this summer season. After you get out of the water, don't forget to top your swimsuit with a sexy sarong. A sarong is perfect for the beach or backyard BBQ; you will look chic and comfortable without having to worry about your suit riding up.



Sunglasses

Everyone needs a great pair of shades especially during the summer months. Sunglasses add a touch of glamour to your look with very little effort. Nothing says Hollywood like a big pair of sunglasses, so add oversized sunglasses for high style glamour. This season, classic aviators, round oversized sunglasses and modern shield sunglasses are extremely trendy. Oversized sunglasses are not only stylish, but they also protect your eyes from the sun's harmful rays.

Summer Apparel

As the weather heats up, we search for ways to look sexy and still feel cool in the dreadful warm weather. The key to summer style is to find the balance between casual-comfy and chic-fashionable. Every girl deserves some new wardrobe pieces for the hot season of the year. So slip into a sundress, some comfortable linen fabrics in bright, summery colors. From ultra mini-dresses, shorts, capri pants to the ever-popular maxi dress, you are sure to find one that fits your own personal style to keep you looking beautiful all summer long.



Waterproof Makeup

To keep yourself looking gorgeous during the hot months, use a sweat proof, waterproof makeup base. Wear bronzer to get a golden, sun-kissed glow. Apply a light dusting of powder bronzer on your forehead, cheeks, nose and chin. These are the areas where the sun naturally hits your face first. Use a bronzer only a shade or two darker than your natural skin tone.



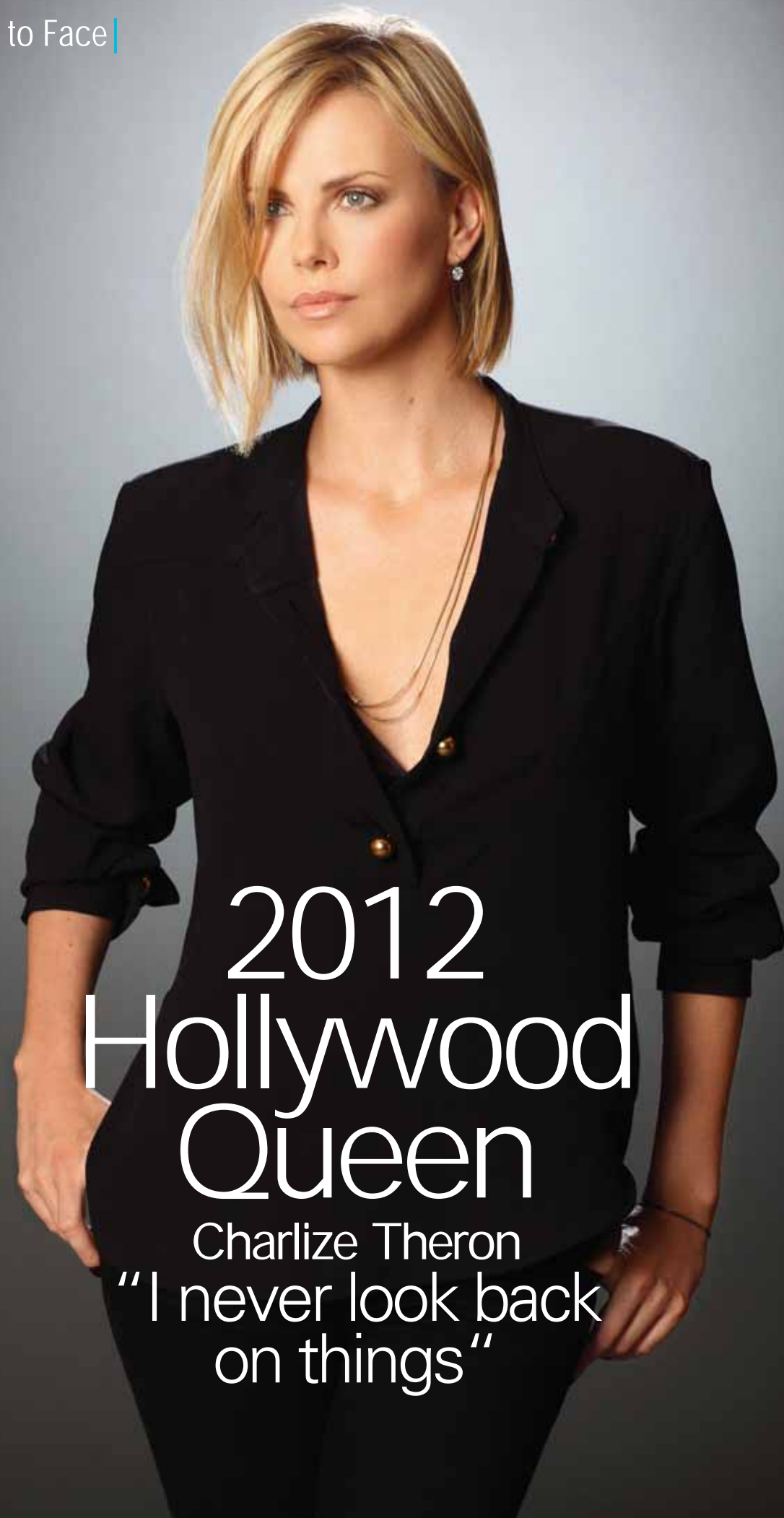
Sweet, floral Scent

During the summer season, instead of a strong perfume, try light scented lotions and body scrubs in floral scents. In warm weather, fragrances smell stronger, so you don't need anything overpowering.



كنوز
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JEWELLERS

Dubai: Wafi Tel: 3243530, The Ritz-Carlton Tel: 3995741, Sheraton Dubai Creek Tel: 2284739, Westin Hotel: 3997441
Abu Dhabi: Emirates Palace Hotel Tel: 6812286, InterContinental Hotel Tel: 6651763, Marina Mall Tel: 6814122
E-mail: kunooz@almulla.com



2012 Hollywood Queen

Charlize Theron
"I never look back
on things"

"....I enjoy playing evil characters as I find them more interesting than heroes."



One of Hollywood's most luminous actresses, Charlize Theron is celebrated for her ability to transform herself into the character she plays. The glamorous South African actress was typecast as the beautiful love interest for years before transforming herself into an unattractive sociopath in *Monster*. The role earned Theron a Best Actress Oscar.

After being away from the big screen for almost two years, she's back with a bang as 2012 seems to be her year. Appearing in no less than three different movies, Rupert Sanders' *Snow White and the Huntsman*, where she portrays the evil queen, *Prometheus* directed by Ridley Scott, who turned her into a space ship captain, and Jason Reitman's sweet sour comedy, *Young Adult*, about a woman who has a hard time growing up emotionally.

Recently visiting Paris to promote her new film *Prometheus*, we caught up with Charlize Theron, in an exclusive interview for the readers of FIRST AVENUE.

FIRST AVENUE: *How was it working under Ridley Scott's direction for Prometheus?*

CHARLIZE THERON: Ridley Scott is the greatest director alive and working with him is sort of a dream come true. I was very lucky to get hired on *Prometheus* without truly auditioning for the part. Ridley simply asked to meet me and we had a long talk where he explained to me the character he wanted me to play. Then he just waited for me to say yes or no. He needed a quick answer, and mine was yes of course, not only because the part seemed great and the film as well, but because it was him directing. On the set he knows very well what he wants from every actor and he expresses himself in few but very clear words, and then he expects the actor to make the role his and to come out with suggestions that help the work move forward. I felt very comfortable working like this.

F. A: Are you an Alien fan since that film is very much related to it?

C. T.: In fact yes. I know Alien almost by heart and I don't know how many times I have seen it over the years, even though I was only three years old when it was first released. But I caught up with it later. And it felt very strange about Prometheus, being in a film that deals with the same idea as Alien and that is set in a similar environment.

F. A: You are appearing in three different films these days. So how do you go from the space ship captain of Prometheus to the immature woman in Young Adult to the evil queen of Snow White and the Huntsman?

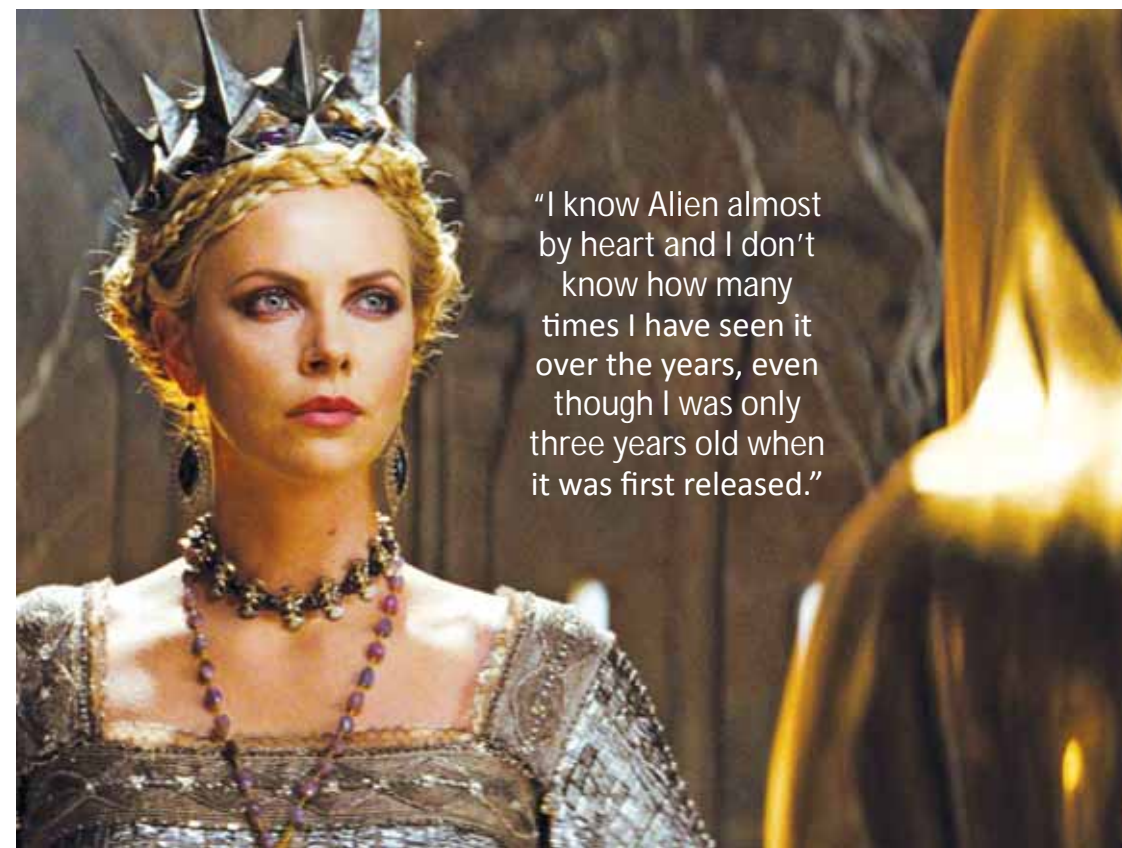
C. T.: I am an actress and it is my job to go from one part to another and from one film to another or to a play or whatever, and what I do is to never look back on things while I am working on a specific project. What I mean is that if I am portraying the queen in



Snow White and the Huntsman, I never think about what the film before that one was, even if I had finished working in it three weeks ago, nor do I think about what the next project will be. Each film has its own identity and its own needs and requires a full investment, from every one working in it. So, that is why, my belief is to move forward and to keep the looking back for when I shall retire.

F. A: In Young Adult you portray a woman who has never grown up emotionally speaking. Yet what excuses did you find for that woman in order to make the audience like her?

C. T.: I am not sure I made the audience like her. Or maybe at the end of the film when she starts realizing her mistakes and what she has done with her life. But what



"I know Alien almost by heart and I don't know how many times I have seen it over the years, even though I was only three years old when it was first released."





"...the Oscar made me happy of course as would any reward for a hard job done."



I certainly did was to find her the right excuses so that I could like her, even love her, so that I would be able to become her on the screen in the best way possible. And the excuses I found are her fear of growing up and facing real adult life, as well as the wrong example she's had from grown up people starting with her parents. She wants to stay a kid and therefore behaves like one.

F. A: *In 2003, you played in a film called Monster directed by Patty Jenkins and that you produced yourself. Tell us more about it as it seems to be one of the major events in your career?*

C. T: : Monster takes indeed a very special place in my filmography. The film is based on true events and tells the story of a prostitute who became a serial killer. I produced it and played the part of that woman, which is something that required major transformations in my face and body so that I could look a little bit like she did. I had to go through long hours of make up every day before shooting as

well as wearing prosthesis on my face and body. It was heavy stuff, but the most difficult thing yet was to mentally become that person. You were talking to me about excuses to make the audience like my character in Young Adult, but that was nothing compared to the excuses I had to find to a serial killer. And yet I did, maybe because she really existed and that I had to go searching deep into her life before even starting the project.

F. A: *What about the Oscar you won for that part?*

C. T: Well, the Oscar made me happy of course as would any reward for a hard job done.

F. A: : *Do you enjoy playing evil characters, such as the queen in*

Snow White and the Huntsman and Monster even if the two are not related?

C. T: Yes it is good to point out that they are not related what so ever. The queen in Snow White is a fairy tale character while the serial killer in Monster is a real woman who has gone through hell and ended up killing people, especially men. And to answer your question, yes I enjoy playing evil characters as I find them more interesting than heroes. They represent the dark side in each of us and it is exciting to make them lovable in order to portray them. The excuses question once again, isn't it?

F. A: *You are the official Ambassador of a very famous perfume. How do you like that?*

C. T: I love it as long as it is for a high quality product. I would never associate my image with kitchen stuff, like a famous super model did a few years ago.

F. A: *Do you always wear that particular perfume yourself?*

C. T: I shall not answer that question. It is too personal.

F. A: *Do you go back to South Africa where you were born and raised?*

C. T: Not very often, but when my schedule allows me a long period of rest, yes I do go back there.

Summer Getaways

Our list of top summer destinations highlights the best spots to be at the height of the sweltering summer season.

What makes a perfect escape? Whether it's a beautiful valley with lush green surroundings, a white-sandy beach with the sultry sun, an amusement park excursion with the kids or a romantic getaway for two, for many of us, it is almost a primal urge to travel when summer rolls around. Of course, the ideal trip depends on the type of traveller and the type of experience they are seeking. Here, we've compiled a list of some of the best summer getaways, with a little something for everyone.



Bermuda



Capri



London



Montreal



Scandinavia



Munich



Bermuda- Caribbean

Among the wealthiest isles on earth, Bermuda is a land of coral walls, pastel cottages, and pleasant locals in casual attire. The island hasn't changed much since Queen Elizabeth II first visited it in 1953. Bermuda offers an array of exquisite beaches of pink sand and turquoise water. The sand contains pink flecks that are the remains of a tiny organism known as red foam. This combined with tiny particles of broken shells and bits of coral create the pink hue of Bermuda's beautiful beaches. The island's mild climate, gorgeous coral-pink beaches and world-class golfing and tennis facilities make it a popular destination for those seeking an island getaway.

Capri- Italy

The island of Capri- Italy is one of the most picturesque islands around. With white-washed villas shrouded in bougainvillea, cliffs reaching up from the sea, and medieval alleys winding through romantic villages, Capri's charm is unwavering, even in the crowded summer months. The island is also famous for its mysterious natural wonders, like the massive rock formations of Faraglioni and Blue Grotto, an underground sea cave that continues to awe visitors with its brilliant, almost iridescent waters.



London- England

Due to pleasant fair weather, London is never more animated than at the height of summer. Eating, drinking, and all around merry-making abound, with a slew of events ranging from outdoor theater and music shows to special exhibitions and oddball festivals. The royal city parks, including Hyde or Regent's, flood with people, who come to enjoy the lush greenery and English garden splendor. Stick around after sunset for Shakespeare's performances, as they unfold in Regent's Park (May-Sept) throughout the summer months. For those looking for active and fun packed holidays; London is the best option.



Scandinavia

While literally freezing in winter, Scandinavia can be very pleasant and inviting in the summer. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and Finland make up Scandinavia and each of these countries has some very unique attractions to offer. Head out on a midnight whim to go hiking, biking, or white-water rafting in Norway's exquisite wilderness, composed of stunning fjords, majestic mountains, glistening glaciers, and serene valleys. Visit the Danish cultural capital of Copenhagen and stroll through the lovely Tivoli Gardens, or head to magnificent Stockholm, to check out traditional Swedish folk music and traditions at Skansen. There are tons of other special summer events scheduled, as well, ranging from midnight marathons to a variety of cultural events.



Montreal- Canada

Montreal is a great choice for travelers looking for a taste of European culture. Fascinating historic sites, hundreds of shopping venues, world-class eateries, and a pulsating nightlife scene will keep you busy throughout your stay. Montreal's joie de vivre is most visible in summer, when festivals and celebrations light up the town and hordes of locals and visitors take to the streets to join the fun. Eleven days of non-stop musical entertainment, otherwise known as the Festival International de Jazz de Montréal, invigorates the city in early July every year; streets get closed down and over 350 free outdoor concerts delight the ears of music enthusiasts. Downtown Montreal also hosts the world's largest comedy festival, Just for Laughs, featuring some 1000 performances from top-notch comics in the month of July. Even if you happen to visit in between festivals, summer is simply a fine time to hang out at an outdoor café and watch people pass by under the warm sun.

Munich- Germany

For a less clichéd summer getaway, head to Munich! Instead of getting sun burns at a sandy beach, spend your time in the hub of Bavarian culture touring medieval palaces, wandering through art galleries, biking down historic streets, and lounging in great gardens. Munich is also a great jumping-off point for trips to Zurich, Prague and Vienna.

So, head out this summer to explore the wonders of the world.





Home décor

Organic Home Decor

Natural Interior Design that Brings Nature into the House

Organic decor is becoming an increasingly popular trend as more and more people are looking to create eco-friendly, green homes that are healthier not only for the environment, but also for themselves. The concept of Green living is based on the principle of using products made from renewable and reusable materials. Going green or choosing organic products means that the products

are grown or prepared from natural ingredients, which are biodegradable and manufactured without pesticides or any sort of toxic chemicals. Green decorating takes into account the impact your furnishings have on the environment and on your health. It is hard to go too far wrong with decorating a natural; whether that means simply bringing the fundamentals, colors and wonders of

nature into home décor or trying to create an interior design plan that is totally green with sustainable materials and recycled interior decoration. Always remember to make what works best for your family and lifestyle. Organic decor no longer has to mean simple, check out the following great ideas for going green, and get on the organic bandwagon!





Organic bedding & Fabric

One of the best areas to start going organic is with your bed. Everyone knows that sleep is important, and research has shown that mattresses made of organic materials are much more breathable; they regulate your temperature and help you sleep better. Organic bedding, linens, and pillows also help reduce allergies. Today, more and more designers are creating stylish organic bedding, so you can be assured that you won't be sacrificing style when trying to create an organic bedroom.

Similarly don't forget organic rugs and carpets. These can be made from organic wool, bamboo fiber, jute, cotton, hemp, and materials that are dye free, which makes them so healthy that you should consider making a change now, starting from your child's room or baby's room. Look for fabrics produced from organic materials that have been treated with water-based dyes, which are non-toxic. Organic cotton is an excellent choice for linens and bedding.

Organic Furniture

Organic Furniture is also becoming very popular. Nowadays, one can easily find stylish furniture made from sustainable wood that is upholstered with organic fabrics. Antique furniture is a big part of green decorating movement. By using these sturdy and durable pieces, you're saving the landfill, saving the environment and saving money. Furniture that was built about 50 to 100 years ago was typically constructed to last for years and weather long haul journeys very well.

Organic living room

Today, the organic decor trend fits in well with zen decor, feng shui, as well as other trends which have become synonymous with a holistic approach to overall wellness. Nearly every store for home products or furniture has a 'green' section and carries organic products. Organic design and natural decorating incorporates fields, forests, sky and ocean in the form of textures, materials, textiles and accessories. To truly accomplish organic design is to engage all the senses, work with nature's seasons, and pay respect to nature.





Lighting for Organic Interior Design

One of the central features of natural or organic decorating is natural light. If your windows are covered with heavy curtain panels and darkening blinds, the beauty and warmth of the sun is blocked – this is not part of a nature inspired space. Cheap plastic mini blinds and synthetic material vertical blinds are also forbidden in natural decorating. Look for light filtering fabrics such as summer weight linen, Egyptian cotton and silk. If a room receives heavy morning or afternoon sun, choose bamboo or wicker matchstick roman blinds. For indoor lighting, choose lamps that

complement the natural décor such as those with glass beads, wooden bases and pretty linen shades. If the room needs color, an accent lamp is a great way to bring in a new color that complements the room without sacrificing the tranquil environment.

Flooring

Green living means choosing flooring components that have been produced from renewable resources. Consider using reclaimed wood, antique wood, or vintage wood to create a new floor, furniture pieces, kitchen cabinets, or simply to add beautiful accents to your home. Cork, bamboo, stone, recycled metal, linoleum, or even glass tiles are also excellent materials for a new floor in your home.



Paints and Stains

Nowadays, there are paints and stains in the market that are either VOC-free or contain very few volatile organic compounds. These green products are excellent for the environment and will not release gasses and chemicals into the air as you use them. This means you and your family will not be breathing dangerous chemicals into your lungs. These organic paints are a good example of how to go green while decorating.



Think Repurposing

Green living also means that you're willing to use what you already have on hand for a different purpose. Learn to reuse, recycle, and repurpose items in your home. When you're ready to throw out a large rug, consider making it into several smaller throw rugs instead. If your cabinets look worn and dilapidated, paint them with VOC-free paint and add new knobs and you have new cabinets. These are only some of the ways in which you can have an organic home which nurtures one's body as well as one's soul.



Art from the Heart, an interview with Mireille Yaacoub

Dubai based Lebanese artist, Mireille Yaacoub has been creating art for several years. As a child she would spend long hours drawing and knew at that moment that she was going to be an artist.

"Art has always taken a big part of my heart; this passion is transferred to my paintings as every piece of art is created with care and warmth."

Mireille Yaacoub's art is a constant unfolding of ideas, textures and compositions. Searching for abstract elements within real-life scenes, Mireille shares with her viewers the organic, romantic essence of everyday settings by transforming them into dynamic works of art.

1: Could you tell us more about yourself and your work?

My name is Mireille Yaacoub and I was born in Beirut, Lebanon.

During my school years, I discovered my passion for art; all my teachers noticed my talent. I was always ranked first at different inter-school drawing competitions.

I entered the university to complete my passion and develop my talent.

I chose Interior and Graphic design as my majors. So now I hold a Diploma in Interior Design from The Industrial Technical Institution in Lebanon and a BS in Graphic Design from The Art, Science and Technology University in Lebanon.



of the angst and seriousness, of the Abstract Expressionists. His nontraditional materials and objects were employed in innovative combinations. Now, I really admire Mark Yearwood for his structural acrylic paintings and for the unique abstract pieces that combine linear design with earthy influences.

5: what are you working on at the moment?

I'm working on a new collection of paintings and glass arts and I'm working on a new idea that I will reveal after this summer, I'm really excited!

6: As an artist, what has been your greatest resource?

My passion and love for every piece of art.

7: Why did you choose acrylic as your medium? Is this the only medium you use?

I started with acrylics since the start up is a bit easier, but now I use oils

I worked in different advertising agencies in Lebanon and my art was visible in all my graphic design projects. One year ago, I moved to Abu Dhabi and started painting and developed many glass art collections and participated in different exhibitions around the UAE.

2: When did you first realize you are an artist?

When I started my 1st year in university as an interior designer.

3: What is it that inspires you to paint a particular subject?

Every idea, color, shape in the nature or in life could give me inspirations, to be developed in a painting or any other handicraft.

4: Can you tell us your biggest influences in art and how they have affected your work? Are there any famous artists who you really admire?

Robert Rauschenberg; for his rejection





and acrylics. It depends on the painting really, if I want to do something where the paint will stay wet and help the next day, then it's oils. If I want to do something quick, then it's Acrylics. The Acrylic colors are versatile - you can paint with them, thick like oil or thin them out with water or medium and make watercolor type effects. The drying time is a big help.

8: How has your style changed over the years?

Over the years I learned different techniques that challenged me to improve my work, I started only with painting colors and you can see some of my painting where I use a mix of artificial flowers or other materials like stones, wood....

9: How would you describe the art scene in Dubai as well as in Lebanon?

Dubai has a large community interested in arts; they give considerable importance to the artist. This shows through in the number of galleries and exhibitions held. Regarding Lebanon, art plays a big part in all universities and in the market, the difference between the artist in Dubai and Lebanon is the environment and culture that influence the artist's style...

10: What do you do for fun (besides painting)?

My primary career is graphic design, so besides painting, I have some graphic projects that I work on.

11: What advice would you give to an artist just starting out?

To feel free while creating a piece of art, to be inspired by the nature around you and not to put limits on his/her imagination...

You can view Mireille's work at

www.mireilleyaacoub.com

Delectable Desserts

Check out the most delicious desserts from around the world!

Cakes, muffins, pies, puddings, ice cream, the world is full of endless varieties of desserts to savor at every occasion. Whether it is a festive treat on a special occasion or just simple indulgence

to sweeten up your day – it seems like every country enjoys something sweet after a meal or at any other time of the day, for that matter. If you have a sweet tooth or just enjoy the lingering flavor of the sugary delights then what better way to take a

culinary trip around the world than to learn about the most delectable international sweets. Here is our list of some of the most delicious desserts from around the world.



Crème Brûlée
France

Crème brûlée also known as burnt cream, is a dessert consisting of a creamy vanilla custard base topped with a contrasting layer of hard caramel. The sugar is then caramelized by a kitchen blow torch or some other heat source. Crème Brulee is normally served cold.

Petit Gâteau
France

Petits Gâteaux is a dessert composed of a small chocolate cake with a crunchy rind and mellow filling that is served hot with vanilla ice cream on a plate. The dessert has also been popularized in the US and around the world with slight variations. This dessert has also been known to be made using crepes.



Sopapillas
USA

The name ‘sopapilla’ means ‘sweet fried dough’. This doughy dessert is probably originated from a vast variety of fried and oil dipped breads which have spread all over Latin America. Invented in New Mexico around 200 years ago, Sopapillas can be eaten alone or with honey and cinnamon drizzled on top.



Churros Spain

Churros are sticks of soft dough, made from wheat flour and other specific ingredients. Today, these crispy sticks are enjoyed the world over. They are extruded through an object that looks like a star, but it actually is a molded curve which comes in assorted sizes. The exterior is crisp but the interior is softer and this dessert just electrifies the taste buds in one's mouth.



Castle Pudding England

The British really pull out all the stops when it comes to rich, sumptuous puddings. Castle pudding is warm, strawberry jelly sauced and scrumptious. This type of pudding is baked in a dariole mold. What separates this pudding from the rest is the topping; with the strawberry jam that cascades down the sides of the pudding.



Tiramisu Italy

Originating from Italy, Tiramisu is also known as the "Tuscan Trifle". Tiramisu is made from eggs, mascarpone cheese, ladyfingers, cream, marsala, a little sugar, shaved chocolate or cocoa. The dessert is light, and has a smooth lingering taste with rich cocoa flavor.

Pavlova Australia and New Zealand

A dessert preference in Australia and New Zealand, Pavlova is found in prestigious restaurants and some cake stores are known to carry this sweet delight. Made from egg whites and sugar, whipped cream envelopes the dessert while the inside has a marshmallow like texture. It is served with luscious fruits like strawberry, kiwi, raspberry or peach.





Baklava Turkey

First concocted during the Ottoman Empire in Turkey, Baklava is prepared using Phyllo dough. Honey, sugar, lemon juice, and orange water are used to make a

syrup, which is poured between the layers of phyllo dough and melted butter. Nuts are placed on top, usually pistachios, and the result is a thick but savory dessert.

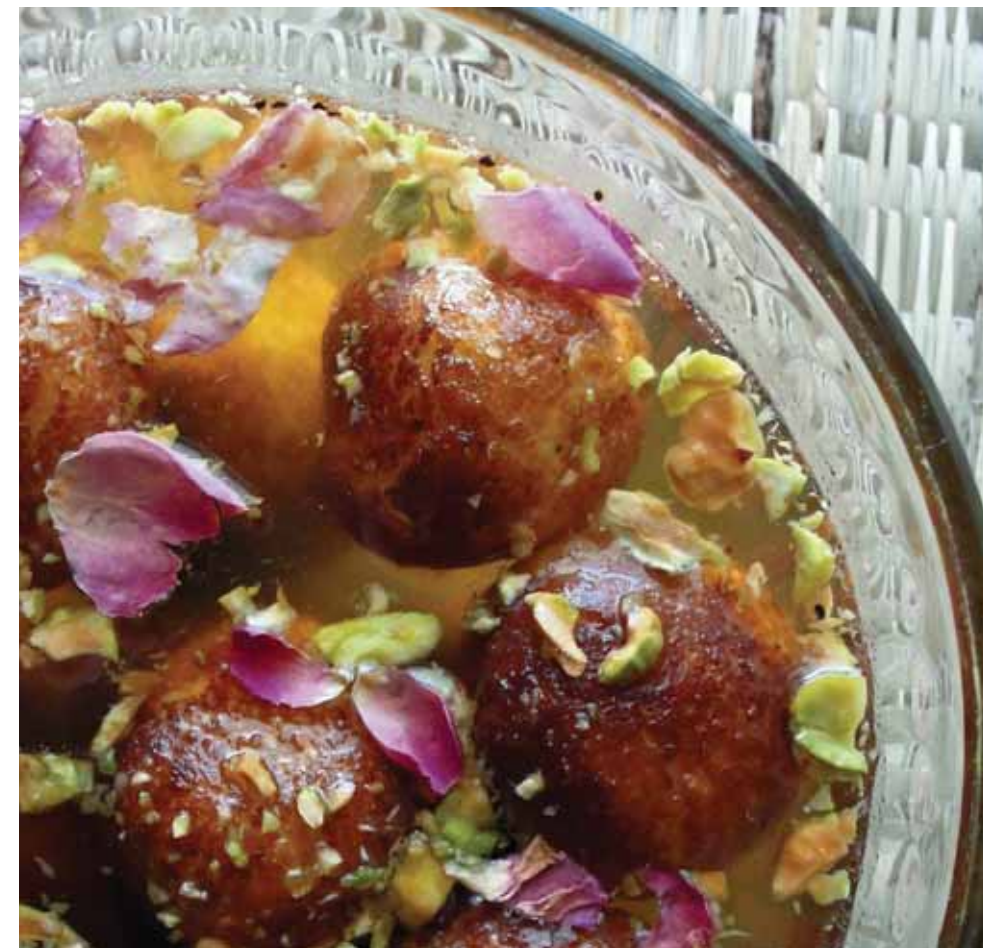


Chestnut Kintons or Cream Candy Japan

Chestnuts are the staple ingredient for this dessert candy along with some sweet potatoes, sugar, mirin sauce and vinegar. The chestnuts are specially taken from a chestnut tree only found in Japan and South Korea. It is quite a small tree, reaching a height of about 15 cm at the most!

Gulab Jamun Pakistan & India

Famous for its sweet and savory taste throughout the sub-continent, Gulab Jaman is made of powder milk or Khoya (similar to ricotta cheese), which is kneaded into a soft dough. The dough is then divided into small sections, rolled into balls, deep fried and then dunked in a sweet sugar syrup. Garnished with nuts and sometimes rose petals, the sweet savory delight can be stored overnight so it can absorb more of the cardamom flavored sugar syrup.





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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.

Chopard

Red Carpet Collection 2012



Diamonds, pink sapphires, rubies, padparadscha sapphires, tanzanite, and other gems swarm the Chopard Red Carpet Collection 2012, a special collection dedicated to the 65th Cannes

Film Festival. For this occasion, the Chopard's jewelers, designers and artisans imagined creations that remember classic old Hollywood or a colorful childhood.





Chopard
*Red Carpet
Collection
2012*



Sparkle This Summer With Farfasha

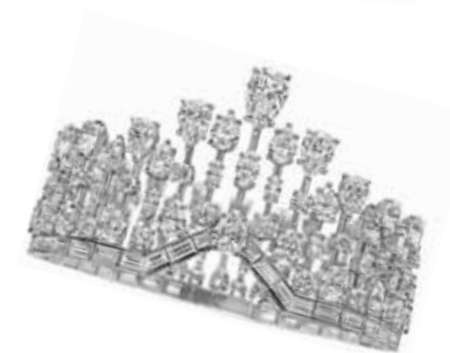
Damas, has unveiled the latest summer collection for Farfasha – its designer gold jewelry brand. The new pieces in the collection are all lightweight everyday pieces crafted in 18k gold designed for trendy, stylish and youthful women.





Bon Ton collection by Pasquale Bruni

The splendid Bon Ton collection by Pasquale Bruni, the renowned Italian jeweler, pays homage to the fifties, a period renowned for beautiful fashion and memorable style. The latest range within the collection is now available at select Damas outlets across Dubai.



Ultimate Adornments

Titled Ultimate Adornments by Harry Winston, this incredible array of spectacular designs envisions the international art of dressing a woman in a unique style. Hand crafted entirely with diamonds and platinum, the 40-piece collection is presented through seven distinctly different themes, each recalling unique adornments from around the world.

Patek Philippe - Skeleton Watch

The gifted watchmakers Patek Philippe took a fancy to showcase the wondrous inner choreography of their creations – much to the delight of their customers. The Patek Philippe Ref. 5180/1 salutes this fine art that transcends the notion of the skeleton watch. Patek Philippe offers connoisseurs of artisanal tradition a transparent orchestration of time with the Skeleton Watch, featuring the ultra-thin self-winding calibre 240 movement with a 22K gold mini-rotor integrated into the plate.



Concord - C1 Chronograph Aethyst

The new Concord C1 Chronograph Amethyst automatic watch comes adorned with 217 amethysts totaling stunning 13.8 carats. The crown, push pieces, buckle, case and bezel– the signature feature of the model are adorned in sparkling shades of mauve. With its soft yet clear-cut lines, rounded curves and baguette-cut gems, smooth coherence and singular design, this chronograph vividly evokes femininity in all its splendor and complexity.



Jaeger-LeCoultre

Jaeger-LeCoultre served as the Official Timekeeper of the Diamond Jubilee Pageant, to celebrate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Sixty Years on the Throne. The Diamond Jubilee Pageant was celebrated from 10th to the 13th May 2012, a major event that took place on the private grounds of Windsor Castle in the presence of Her Majesty. To mark this momentous occasion the renowned Swiss watchmaker created a special limited edition engraved design of its iconic Reverso watch. Personalized with the logo of the Diamond Jubilee Pageant and a commemorative message, the Grande Reverso Ultra-Thin will be a limited edition watch with 6 ladies and 6 men's pieces.

Beluga Grande, an anthem to femininity!

Ebel is first and foremost the story of a woman, Alice Lévy, who founded the brand with her husband Eugène Blum. Their combined initials gave rise to the brand name EBEL. Throughout its history, EBEL has distinguished itself by the originality and the beauty of its feminine watches. A glowing emblem of femininity, the Beluga line welcomes two new models this year graced with generous, soft and sensual lines.





Happy Fish- Chopard

Like a precious aquarium, the new Happy Fish watches are each home to three little clown fish in 18ct rose or white gold, set with yellow sapphires, tsavorites, rubies and onyxes. Swimming in a dial painted in tones of blue and depicting the bustle of a lively coral reef, the little residents of these new quirky time-keepers from Chopard invite you to explore the silent world.

Happy Sport - Chopard

The new Happy Sport Medium Black and White models remain faithful to the essence of the collection: a sophisticated sporty chic look, illuminated by the presence of the famous moving diamonds.



F.P. Journe Tourbillon Souveraine

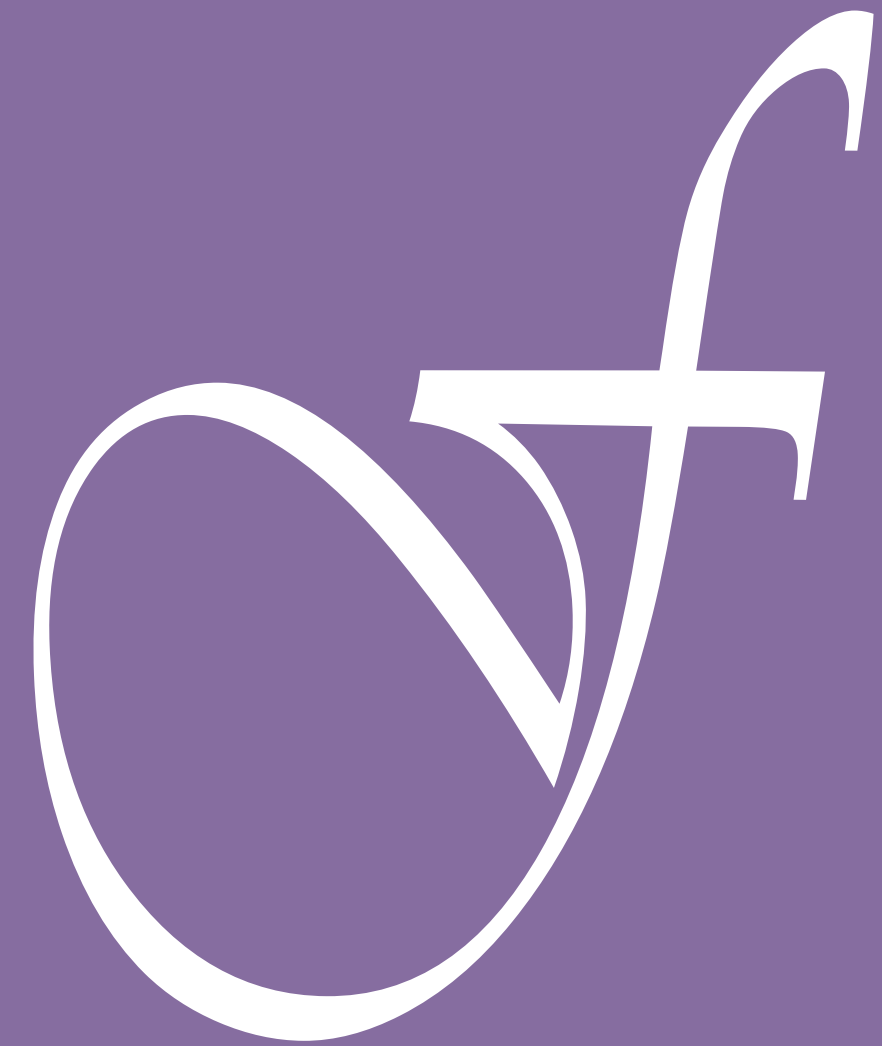


Presenting the new generation Tourbillon Souverain

In 1999, Francois-Paul Journe launched his F.P. Journe-Invenit et Fecit- brand with the launch of the Tourbillon Souverain, the first watch of the Souveraine collection. Driven by his thirst for timekeeping research and his creative needs, F. P Journe presents the new generation of the Tourbillon Souverain, endowed with the aesthetic

characteristic and technical demands inherent to creations by F.P. Journe - Invenit et Fecit. The dial features the distinctive identity of the F.P.Journe chronometers with the 18 kt red or white gold dial. The 42-hour power-reserve indication at 12 o'clock perfectly counter balances the independent seconds' displays at 6 o'clock.

Fashion Report



Resort 2013 Collections

Check out the exclusive photos of the Resort 2013 collections, from top fashion designers of the world.



Burberry Prorsum Resort 2013 Collection



The Burberry Prorsum Resort 2013 Collection is full of impeccably tailored details and timeless stylish ensembles. With classic silhouettes and dashing layered elegance, the women's wear consists of chic details like paper bag waist chinos, cable knit sweaters, cropped leather jackets and offbeat tailored suits. The collection mixes and matches seasonal patterns with glitzy metallic finishes.

Chanel Resort 2013 Collection

With beauty marks shaped like the famous double-C logo affixed to the models' cheekbones, Karl Lagerfeld inaugurated the Chanel Cruise Collection among the verdant trees and splashing fountains framing Versailles. Lagerfeld's collection was a excited mash-up of hip-hop à la his favorite Azealia Banks or M.I.A. Formal eighteenth-century details, like panniers and fichus, were re-created in casual twenty-first-century fabrics—chambray, tech denims, even plastics—dressed up with frothy lace ruffles and cuffs, and dressed down with gold platform trainers and short shorts. The lightness, the girlishness, of the clothes had a balletic quality, reflective of Louis' own love of dance and frivolity.



Chloe Resort 2013 Collection



Chloe Resort 2013 Collection

Chloe's designer, Clare Waight Keller played with a few of the season's trends. Pants, admittedly a house hallmark, were drop-waisted, pleated, and tapered at the ankle, a decidedly more laid-back fit than the straight, slim, and/or flared line we're seeing elsewhere. There's been a whiff of the eighties especially in the exaggerated volumes of the silhouettes. Crisper materials made a counterpoint to the looser shapes. Overall, the designer emphasized ease & comfort.



Fendi Resort Collection

Karl Lagerfeld, put his nostalgia work for him in the label's new Resort collection. The seventies have been a popular decade this season so far. The Fendi woman is no seductress, or at least she's not an obvious one. There's something well-mannered about these clothes, however a couple of little numbers in a beaded Stolba motif came finished with long strands of fringe showed off some playfulness. And there was more fun to be had on the accessories front. Many of the bags came with accessories of their own in the form of multicolored fur-covered cubes, like luxury versions of rearview mirror fuzzy dice.



Gucci Resort

2013 Collection

Vintage aesthetics with a modern twist dominated the resort 2013 collection by Gucci. Designer Frida Giannini chose to play with vintage silhouettes that are revamped through the use of modern elements and colors, designs that maintain that resort allure, but seem perfect for urbanwear also. The collection features a highly visible transition from autumnal, classic hues to springy vibrant colors, making the entire spectrum of colors a delight to watch.



Oscar de la Renta Resort/ pre-Spring 2013 Collection



Oscar de la Renta launched his Resort 2013 Collection in New York. The designer uses colors that identify the warmest season in the year, and gives a refined touch to the Resort/Cruise Collections. Beautiful, stylish and sophisticated, summer suits, lace dresses and lovely knee-length floral-printed frocks ruled the runway. We can see cocktail dresses, party dresses and outwear where the style of 50s continues inspiring the fashion industry. Print flowers or Vichy squares fabrics also make part of this collection.



The Secret Garden: Uterque Spring/Summer 2012 collection



Uterque selects Elettra Wiedemann and models Mariquë Schimmel and Corinna Ingenleuf as the image for the Spring-Summer 2012 Campaign. Through the lens of David Dunan, the brand is playing with the dual meaning of its name – “both”, “one and the other”, presenting the Uterque woman at her two opposite poles: maximum femininity versus androgynous.



WTA ANNOUNCES DUBAI DUTY FREE AS PRESENTING SPONSOR OF PRE-WIMBLEDON CELEBRATION

Prior to the 126th Championships, the WTA (Women's Tennis Association) announced Dubai Duty Free as the presenting sponsor of its 9th annual Pre-Wimbledon party. The tennis party, of the year, which brings together cultural prominent figures from the world of entertainment, fashion and sport, will once again be held at The Roof Gardens in London, on June 21, 2012. Dubai Duty Free joins the star-studded kick-off event co-hosted by the WTA and Sir Richard Branson. The party is one of the most anticipated events of the fortnight, and attracts the world's best female tennis players and a host of celebrities. Previous attendees have included Kate Middleton, Cindy Crawford, Claudia Schiffer, Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams. For the second year, in partnership with the British Fashion Council, leading British fashion designers will dress many of the WTA's biggest stars, including Antonio Berardi (Maria Sharapova); Burberry (Serena Williams); Alexander McQueen (Petra Kvitova); Mulberry (Agnieszka Radwanska); Stella McCartney (Caroline Wozniacki); Matthew Williamson (Ana Ivanovic); and Giles Deacon (Li Na). Expected to attend are Dubai Duty Free Ambassadors and former World No.1s Caroline Wozniacki and Ana Ivanovic. "Dubai Duty Free continues to be a leader in their support of tennis," said Caroline Wozniacki, former winner of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships. "Now as an ambassador, I have witnessed, first-hand, how they are positively promoting and growing the game."



Ana Ivanovic with Salah Tahlak and Sinead El Sibai

Luxury Gift Show in Abu Dhabi: Growing demand for luxury goods in the region

Building up on the luxury theme, the International Jewelry and Watch Show (JWS) Abu Dhabi will get a new dimension next year with the launch of another exhibition, Luxury Gift Show, which will run alongside the JWS in March 2013, specialized in high end and innovative design products, objects and concepts for personal use, special occasions, weddings and homes.



Felicitations!!!

Majdi AL Sheikh's Engagement with Yvette.

From the day of your engagement till the end of the days may your life be full of true love! On your engagement, The First Avenue team wishes you a beautiful life together. May your dreams of love and happiness together be fulfilled.

LIALI supports Charity Golf Tournament for Breast Cancer Arabia

LIALI Jewelry, the leading jewelry retailer in UAE lends its unflinching support to the Charity Golf Tournament organized by Breast Cancer Arabia, held at the Emirates Golf Club in Dubai. It was aimed at building up community awareness in the region for prevention and early detection of the disease and also raised valuable funds for the growing, worldwide fight against breast cancer.



Edwina Tops-Alexander

Edwina Tops-Alexander, the world's top professional female show jumper and the winner of the 2011 Global Champions Tour, visited Manufacture Jaeger-LeCoultre in the Valley de Joux, Switzerland, where she visited the Manufacture's workshops as well as spent time with the watchmakers of La Grande Maison. Having won the 2009 and 2011 editions of the most prestigious championship in showjumping, the Global Champions Tour, with her legendary horse Itot du Chateau, Edwina still has many ambitions to fulfill in 2012. Culminating in an exciting final at the GCT Grand Prix of Abu Dhabi, Edwina and her horse clinched the 2011 GCT title in an impressive showdown against German Ludger Beerbaum. Held in Abu Dhabi for the first time, the event looks set to grow in magnitude, in the region and epitomizes what show jumping is all about – exhilarating competitions, precision, stellar venues and spectacular riders. Edwina-Tops Alexander was bestowed with a stunning and personalized memento from the event's official timekeeper and sponsor, Jaeger-LeCoultre.



Harry Winston opens in china

Harry Winston, Inc., the premier international jeweler and watchmaker, celebrated the opening of its first flagship Pavilion in Shanghai, China, with a stunning celebration highlighting the rich history of the 80 year old luxury brand, from its legacy as the "King of Diamonds" to the glamour of the Hollywood red carpet.

Harry Winston hosted a charity dinner in support of Make-A-Wish Foundation® United Arab Emirates

International jeweler and watchmaker Harry Winston displayed its most prestigious collections at a charity dinner in support of the Make-A-Wish Foundation® United Arab Emirates. Part of the proceeds from the sales of the evening was donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation® United Arab Emirates, to enrich the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions in the Middle East Region. The dinner took place at the Abu Dhabi Park Hyatt Hotel under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Khalifa Zayed Al Nahyan, Advisor to the President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, and Her Highness Sheikha Sheikha Bint Saif Al Nahyan, Chairperson of the Make-A-Wish Foundation® United Arab Emirates. Personalities and guests who attended the charity dinner had a rare opportunity were able to discover the fine jewelry and rare timepieces created by Harry Winston.



FABERGÉ - New York

To mark the US launch of Fabergé, with the opening of its first boutique in the country, the legendary master jeweler hosted an exclusive celebratory event in partnership with the New York Botanical Garden. Guests were treated to Russian inspired cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the 620 Loft & Garden atop Rockefeller Center with breathtaking views of the New York skyline and a showcase of Fabergé's one-of-a-kind jewelry creations.



Baume & Mercier opens redesigned shop-in-shop in Burjuman Mall, Dubai to align with Seaside Living universe

Baume & Mercier has joined hands with Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons to unveil its brand new redesigned retail space in Burjuman Mall, Dubai. This remarkable step portrays the dedication of the brand to reinforce its presence in the UAE. Through this opening, Baume & Mercier reiterates its commitment to offering high quality watches to horology enthusiasts across the region.



Samsung GALAXY S III

Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd, a global leader in digital media and digital convergence technologies, has launched the third generation GALAXY S, the GALAXY SIII in UAE. Designed for humans and inspired by nature, the GALAXY S III is a smart-phone that recognizes your voice, understands your intention, and lets you share a moment instantly and easily. The Samsung GALAXY S III is currently available in leading retail stores across the UAE.



Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons adds Victorinox and Louis Erard to a growing portfolio of Swiss timepiece brands in the UAE

Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons is pleased to announce that two new Swiss watch brands, Victorinox and Louis Erard have been added to their portfolio, and are available at select Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons retail outlets across the UAE. As international watch brands seek to enter the region, Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons is the partner of choice and with the addition of Victorinox and Louis Erard, the portfolio now offers timepieces that appeal to a diverse range of tastes and price points.

"Over the past year, we have seen an increase in watch collectors and enthusiasts across the UAE and nowadays the clients are more well-informed about the Swiss timepieces. By continuously updating our collections and partnering with established brands, we ensure that watch lovers and horology connoisseurs will always find a variety of watches to choose from. Victorinox and Louis Erard embody the best of Swiss precision time keeping and we look forward to bringing new and innovative brands to the region," commented Mohammed Abdulmagied Seddiqi, VP - Sales & Retail, Ahmed Seddiqi & Sons.



The Fifth Al Habtoor Royal Windsor



Cup final proves the best yet



Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Sponsorship 2012



Colm and Breeda McLoughlin



Carmel and George Horan

Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Sponsorship 2012



Keith Duffy and Breeda and Colm McLoughlin



James Amos with Paul Costelloe and Sinead El Sibai



Niall and Sherly McLoughlin



Sinead and Jihad ElSibai



Breeda McLoughlin most stylish lady and James Amos



Keith Duffy and Erin Jordan

Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Sponsorship 2012



IRISH DERBY 2012 - PRIZE PRESENTATION

Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Sponsorship 2012



Breeda McLoughlin and Colm McLoughlin with Lucinda Creighton and HE Mr. Khalid Nasser Rashid Lootah with Paul



Tyna McLoughlin, Ethan, Mandy, Mike & Erin Jordan



Salah Tahlak and Laurie Brannan

Nasimi Beach at Atlantis



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