

# ELITE LIVING AFRICA

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WATCHES AND JEWELLERY:  
DIVINE DESIGNS FROM GENEVA  
AND ROMANTIC GOLD GIFTS

ADVENTURES ON SIR BANI YAS ISLAND AND  
BY AIR IN AFRICA

GLOBAL ADVENTURES WITH  
ASTON MARTIN



## SAIL AWAY

*Dubai International Boat Show*

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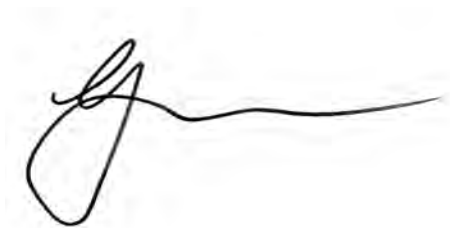




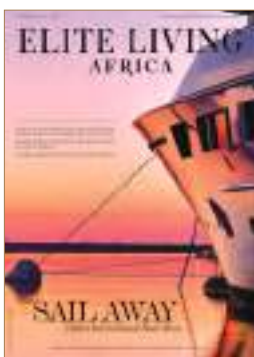
# WELCOME

**I**t is that time of the year when the weather is absolutely blissful in the Middle East, so it's perfect conditions for the Dubai Boat Show. Turn to page 32 for a preview of this glamorous event which has become a must-attend for those passionate about high-end yachting. Staying with the Middle East, our main travel feature in this issue is about Sir Bani Yas Island, a natural wonder off the coast of Abu Dhabi where visitors can relax and enjoy the fascinating wildlife, as well as fine al fresco dining and luxury accommodation. For those who want to see more of Africa, turn to page 38 to find out how you can experience vast swathes of this spectacular content in luxury and style with a private jet tour of multiple countries combined with the very best accommodation in the wild and in the cities.

We attended Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie (SIHH) in Geneva and on page 18, we bring you some of the showstoppers from the event. This year, we see a return to watches that perform the rather obvious function of telling the time, but they do it with a strong design focus. Creativity abounded in Geneva this year and we celebrate this with watches that feature sharp geometric lines, the prettiest of peacock feathers, bold colours and dazzling gemstones. Meanwhile, on page 24, we showcase some gorgeous gold jewellery just in time for Valentine's Day. Or you could simply drive into the sunset with your beloved in an Aston Martin – turn to page 46 to find out about the world of adventures on offer to Aston aficionados throughout 2019.



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HOME PHILOSOPHY  
**visionnaire**

THE ORIGINAL. CONCEIVED AND CRAFTED IN ITALY

Design: Giancarlo Piretti, 1969. Modelli: L15, L12, L11, L10, L9, L8, L7, L6, L5, L4, L3, L2, L1, L0.





## 26 February-March 2

### Dubai International Boat Show

Every year, the Dubai International Boat Show attracts superyachts from around the world, as well as plenty of toys and accessories for those who would like to increase the fun factor on their boats. It is now held at Dubai Canal, the city's latest waterfront venue. To find out more about the show, please turn to our exclusive preview on page 32 – it's a big event on the *Elite Living Africa* calendar.

[www.boatshowdubai.com](http://www.boatshowdubai.com)



### Veuve Clicquot Master Polo

The prestigious Veuve Clicquot Masters Polo Cape Town will return to the picturesque Val de Vie Estate on 2 March 2019. Set against the spectacular backdrop of the Paarl-Franschhoek mountains, this stylish sporting and social event marks the peak of the South African polo season – the weather promises to be divine, the guests will be glamorous and, as always, there will be plenty of equine action to enjoy on the pitch.

[www.vcmasterspolo.co.za](http://www.vcmasterspolo.co.za)



2 March

### Aida, Metropolitan Opera

New York opera lovers have been enjoying the Egyptian spectacle that is *Aida* since September. The run must come to an end soon and tickets always sell fast, with the final curtain falling on 7 March. Fans of the female voice will be in for a treat with Anna Netrebko singing her first Met *Aida*, going toe-to-toe with mezzo-soprano Anita Rachvelishvili as Amneris.

[www.metopera.org](http://www.metopera.org)

Until 7 March



### Pierre Bonnard – The Colour of Memory

This is the first major exhibition of Pierre Bonnard's work in the UK in 20 years. Showing at the Tate Modern until 6 May – the last Bonnard exhibition in London was at the Tate Gallery – it is a celebration of unique colouration and innovative composition. The exhibition focuses on Bonnard's work from 1912 until his death in 1947, which featured landscapes and domestic scenes.

[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)



Until 6 May





The difference is to always build the right yacht –  
no matter which size.

A large whale is swimming underwater, its body curved and its head pointing towards the right. The whale's skin is dark and textured, with some lighter patches visible. The water is dark blue, and the lighting is soft, creating a serene underwater scene. The whale's tail is visible, and its fins are spread out.

**LÜRSSEN**

The difference.

## A STITCH ABOVE THE REST

From sewing in a garage to embellishing the runways of Europe, fashion designer Lilly Alfonso discusses her ambitious One Hundred Year Plan to turn Malawi into a fashion stronghold.

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WORDS BY EMMET MCGONAGLE

Lilly's celebrated eye for fashion is brought to life, with help from locally sourced textiles from her native Malawi.  
(Photo credit: Lilly Alfonso)





ABOVE AND LEFT: Lilly Alfonso's cutting-edge designs have gained the Malawian fashionista a global platform (Photo credit:Lilly Alfonso)



As with all great success stories, fashionista Lilly Alfonso built her empire from the ground up. The Malawian designer has been dabbling with the fashion world since she was a child, cutting and stitching her own dresses (much to the frustration of her mother) before eventually setting up shop as a tailor in the bustling heart of Blantyre, Malawi's second city and home to the country's commerce and finance industries.

Although her unique designs quickly gained momentum among locals, Lilly had her reservations about entering the chaotic world of fashion on a larger scale. Speaking exclusively to *Elite Living Africa*, Lilly recalled that she did not feel able to call herself a designer, but all that was to change over the last decade.

Lilly continued: "Most people are afraid of the unknown. To change that mindset is not within thinking about your capabilities or culture, but thinking outside your own experience so that other people can hear the message for themselves."

In 2010, Lilly reached career-defining heights as the winner of a Fame Edition Malawi (FAME) – a fashion competition which would propel her part-time passion into a full-blown career. "That moment has been the highlight of my career – not because I won, but because it was eye-opening for me as a creative," explained Lilly. "Before that point, I was lacking the confidence to actually call myself a designer."

Propelled on the adrenaline of her first major success, Lilly's bold designs graced runways across the world, including South Africa, Malaysia and Europe under her self-made brands – LAmomann, LAmann and LAsport. As her success grew, Lilly was careful to preserve her brand's unique Malawian identity, adorning her pieces with the bright colours of her African upbringing. Discussing her identity as a designer, she said.

"I don't just look at myself as a Malawian, I look at myself as an African. Africa has so many regions so if I have to design according to my culture I am limiting myself to the people around me."

"Clothing is so personal – some days we feel we need to shield ourselves, and others we are more confident, but I try to design clothes which can bring people peace."

In fact, Malawi is stitched into the very fabric of Lilly Alfonso's classy and comfortable designs. Through working with locally sourced materials from Malawian textile companies, Lilly has been able to nurture and develop the independent market-based economy at the heart of her hometown. Likewise, Lilly has endeavoured to give back to her local community through the development of her One Hundred Year Plan – an initiative dedicated to educating and supporting young people in pursuit of their dream career.

"I started to develop the One Hundred Year Plan after I realised I could make something of myself as a designer," she said. "There are so many people like me who didn't have the confidence to pursue their dreams - they don't have the exposure, they don't have the education and they don't have the support."

"I realise that there's need of me to prove that it's possible by achieving my goals. The more I achieve the more I'm convincing people to believe it is possible. That is my goal - I am opening the door to people's dreams."

With the name Lilly Alfonso gaining momentum on the world's runways, it's safe to say Malawi's next generation of fashion designers will have the way at least partly paved for them thanks to one very creative woman and her ambitious plan for her country's fashion industry to outlive us all. ♦

## BUY IT NOW

We have chosen some of Covet House's most eye-catching pieces from the Maison & Objet in hopes of adding flair to your 2019.

### Sika Armchair

\$3,820

What house would be complete without a luxurious high-back armchair? Embellished with an animal-print button pattern and topped off with a brass detail on the arms, it's safe to say this is a chair fit for a king.

### Guggenheim Patch Cabinet

\$9,295

Art with a purpose, this cabinet was inspired by the spellbinding murals found inside the walls of Manhattan's Guggenheim Museum. Handcrafted in Portugal and finished with black lacquered legs, Covet House's postmodern cabinet is a highbrow addition to any room.





### Scala Details Chandelier

\$22,638

Dripping with gold and laced with Swarovski crystals, Covet House's sleek lighting fixture is enough to make Gatsby himself blush. Whoever said less is more has clearly never seen this chandelier.

### Boulevard desk

\$8,570

Brimming with a bohemian charm reminiscent of the cobbled streets of Paris, Covet House's Boulevard desk is ideal for those looking to channel their inner artiste. Decorated with a black leather top and brass handles, this wooden marvel can turn any office into a fully fledged sanctuary for poets and pencil-pushers alike.



# PARANOID ANDROID

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“Alexa, how can I get the most out of my  
mobile phone?”

## Caruso Gramophone Music Station

**\$5,950.00**, *Smithers of Stamford*

The perfect combination of cutting-edge and kitsch, Smithers of Stamford has cultivated a new-age gold-plated gramophone as a gentle nod to the golden era of music. Subtle and classic, this sound system is the perfect way to take your dinner party to dizzying new heights of elegance.





## Smartphone inspired bathroom mirror

**\$130, MY Furniture**

Like something straight out of a sci-fi film, it seems interactive bathroom mirrors are the latest item to be ticked off the technological wish list. Equipped with front-facing LED illumination for shaving and/or applying makeup, you'll never know how you managed without this futuristic mirror.



## E-Ribbon Bioethanol Fire

**\$8,360, Decoflame Denver**

Decoflame Denver has unveiled a crackling, cosy fire you can light from your iPhone, iPad or iPod. Custom made to nestle into your fireplace, the tech-savvy bio ethanol burner is fitted with a toughened glass screen, as well as sensors to keep your living room the perfect temperature without all the hassle.



## Jacqueline Smart Kettle

**\$385, Casa Bugatti**

How well do you function without a hot cup of coffee in the morning? Say goodbye to miserable mornings with this retro-tastic electronic kettle from Casa Bugatti. With the help of a handy app, you can schedule your kettle to boil by itself, giving you a few extra minutes of sleep in the morning. You can even personalise the temperature of your brew – what a time to be alive.





# REGAL WAVES

The Monaco Yacht Club comes with a proud history, influenced by royalty.

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WORDS BY JESS COUTTS

**A**lbert I of Monaco, nicknamed "the Navigator Prince", was Sovereign Prince of the Principality of Monaco from 1889 to 1922. In 1885 with L'Hirondelle, a 200-ton sailing yacht purchased in 1873, he was the first to innovate in a range of different fields. The Prince (pictured top right) worked with new scientific equipment to explore the ocean to bring back evidence of its infinite beauty, its immense usefulness to humanity and consequently the need to protect its biodiversity for the benefit of future generations. ➤





Over many years, his great-great grandson and incumbent His Serene Highness (HSH) Prince Albert II of Monaco, has ensured this spirit of exploration and preservation continues to evolve. Therefore, together with Bernard d'Alessandri, General Secretary of the Yacht Club de Monaco, he has created La Belle Classe Explorer by the Yacht Club de Monaco, which vocation is to perpetuate the spirit of navigations undertaken by Prince Albert I. Today, the YCM can legitimately adopt as its motto a statement made by Jacques-Yves Cousteau: "All those who continue the work of Albert I, Prince of Monaco, are striving to maintain the impetus He gave us".

Be they owners, captains or professional explorers, La Belle Classe Explorer by the Yacht Club de Monaco brings together "Adventurers" in the noblest sense of the word. Men and women who promote technological innovation, then virtuous navigation with respect for the environment. They have a burning desire to discover the oceans and explore little-known remote areas, to appreciate their beauty and assess their fragility.

These men and women, yachting explorers of tomorrow, are therefore prolonging and transmitting the values of yachting, that is at the heart of Yacht Club de Monaco core values. As a tribute to their commitment and efforts to sail sustainably, this year in March, HSH the Sovereign Prince Albert II will present for the very first time an Award to Explorer Owners who have distinguished themselves in La Belle Classe Explorer by the Yacht Club de Monaco. ♦



# *GLAMOUR* FROM GENEVA

Elegance was the name of the game at  
SIHH in Geneva this year.

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WORDS BY JESS COUTTS



Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie Genève (SIHH) once again provided a fabulous showcase for the best of the world's horologists. This year, the highlights were watches that, quite simply, look like watches. While we all love the space age designs which have dominated luxury watch shows in recent years, there is something wonderfully traditional about watches where it is easy to tell the time, but creativity has not been sacrificed in their design. There were still plenty of very pretty and pleasing things to see at SIHH for 2019.

Produced with visual artist Richard Orlinski, the new Classic Fusion Tourbillon by Hublot carves out a creation that is as sculptural as it is free, with a wide bevelled case that unveils structured mechanics. In sapphire, King Gold or ceramic, this three-dimensional watch displays modernity in all of its facets. This renewed collaboration is a fusion of two arts – watchmaking and sculpture – via two techniques held dear by Orlinski: his animal icons, which are faceted (T-Rex, Wild Kong, or Panther) or open-work (Kong, tiger or “lace” bear), from the Born Wild concept.

Through his art, the violence of nature is transformed into a positive expression of hypnotic beauty. The 45mm diameter case of the new Classic Fusion Tourbillon five-day power reserve Orlinski presents facets cut out of sapphire, King Gold or black ceramic and unveils ultra-modern open-work architecture.

With its wide mechanism apertures highlighting its gears and tourbillon cage, sleek matte bars with inward-pointing angles, and a power reserve displayed on a ring over which a hand hovers, this skeleton calibre breaks with tradition. In addition to its stylised skeletonising, the manufacture manual-winding movement is distinguishable thanks to its long five-day power reserve, indicated on the dial side, and its sculptural tourbillon making one revolution per minute. On a transparent or black rubber strap, fitted with a deployant buckle clasp matching the case, this trio creates a composition of contemporary art.

Jaeger-LeCoultre, meanwhile, showed off the Master Grande Tradition Gyrotourbillon Westminster Perpétuel. It's star feature is a Westminster carillon minute repeater that replicates the chime of the famed Big Ben clock tower bell in London, with a silence-reduction mechanism to optimise melody cadence. Its four-phrase melody is composed of four notes played in different sequences and different quantities at each quarter of the hour. The Master Grande Tradition Gyrotourbillon Westminster Perpétuel uses four sets of gongs and hammers to create the Westminster chime to indicate the quarters when the minute repeater is activated, incorporating a complex mechanism that places it at the most prestigious tier of chiming watches. ♦

FACING PAGE: Intricacies from Jaeger-LeCoultre.

THIS PAGE: Gorgeous geometry from Hublot.







## PRISTINE PEACOCK

Bulgari uses feathers and diamonds to excellent effect.



## MOODY BLUES

Dark blue glamour and plenty of diamonds from Bulgari.





## A TRUE *CURIOSITY*

This design from Bulgari creates a curious puzzle effect, set with precious stones.





## CLEVER COLOUR

Hublot combines class with casual style for this highly imaginative watch.

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Hublot's designers clearly had fun with this one. While the brand is known for serious, sober designs, intricate complications and premium materials, this design reveals a more playful side for the watchmaker. There is definitely a Bohemian vibe going on here, harking back to the carefree, freewheeling days of the 1960s and 70s, a more innocent time and certainly a time when the focus was on fun. This playful pink watch features all the timekeeping precision one expects from Hublot, combined with a strap that comes completely from left field in the best possible way. The coloured stitching is fun, frolicsome and flirtatious, an unexpected but welcome twist on a high-end watch. The face is inlaid with diamonds and wonderfully clashing emeralds, just so we're clear this is a luxury timepiece. But the fun factor kicks in with the embroidered strap – and it's interchangeable to suit any mood. ❖



# THE ART OF LIVING

Visionnaire offers unique designs for every room in the house.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS



**R**oberto Lazzeroni was born in Pisa, is a very sensitive architect and participates in the phenomena of conceptual art and those of Radical Design. He defines his style as “sentimental design” and indeed in his works the coexistence between the ancient, and the modern is wise, there is no excess of sobriety in the geometric lines and no aesthetic redundancy. In his works, one perceives the continuous study of history and the reinterpretation of his works in the eyes of the contemporary world. The Tanya chair (above) is clearly inspired by design in northern Europe and the automotive world, softened by the organic design of Lazzeroni. The legs in aluminium, in satin-finish metallised anthracite, seem to support a “flying” pagoda seat.

*Visionnaire offers designs for the entire home.*

Meanwhile, the Marty console (above), designed by Marco Piva, is based on a sophisticated composition of solids and surfaces that makes this piece “mini architecture”. The console is distinguished by its sophisticated, yet bold, functional shape. Glass, with its transparency and lightness, brings out a second statuesque skin defined by the sheen of the metal: the two bases with a mirrored tube. The Marty Console is the Winner of Wall Paper Design Award.

For the bathroom, the Alessandro La Spada-designed KOBOL (top right) boasts a blend of materials that all coalesce to create this striking and polished piece. The hand-hewn fluted wood cabinet conceals two generous drawers, while supporting the invisible grey marble surface. [www.visionnaire-home.com](http://www.visionnaire-home.com) ♦

# GOLDEN LIGHT

Delicate, ultra-feminine gold jewellery  
is perfect for Valentine's Day.

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WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

**G**old jewellery can be heavy, over-the-top and even gaudy. But it can be delicate, light and romantic.

For Valentine's Day, it doesn't have to be all about massive diamond engagement rings, particularly if you and your beloved have already taken a trip up the aisle or it is an exciting new romance but it's not quite the right time to pop the question.

Or perhaps you would like to surprise your partner with a ring and you're looking for something fun and flirtatious rather than the traditional diamond solitaire. ➤







ABOVE: Earrings by Victoria Walker.  
LEFT: Earrings by Avakian.  
BELOW: Earrings by Gemondo.

Necklaces, earrings and bracelets, again in dainty-but-dazzling gold with hints of colour or petite diamond accents, are heartfelt alternatives to rings.

Gemondo, Avakian and Victoria Walker offer gorgeous golden gifts to surprise a loved one.

Gemondo and Victoria Walker combine gold with pretty coloured stones to delightful effect. The result is a choice of gifts that are precious and personal, the kind of pieces that will make the wearer smile.

Choosing stones such as peridots, rubies, opals and aquamarines shows imagination and creativity, a desire to give a gift that is well-thought-out and >







unique. Diamonds may well be forever, but there is nothing wrong with showing affection with coloured gems, particularly if the object of your desire has a favourite colour or you are certain that a certain hue will look amazing on her. If you pick out a stone that reflects her eyes or her skin tones or works perfectly with her favourite outfits, you are guaranteed to please.

For a touch of drama, the gold-and-diamond baubles from Avakian are conversation pieces for women who like to make a statement. Avakian's earrings in particular are perfect with a simple, chic outfit. The diamonds provide the required bling without being ostentatious – the pieces are fresh, modern and always in the best possible taste.

At the end of the day, when you are seeking out gifts for the people most precious to you, imagination, elegance and seeking out something perfectly personal are the main priorities. ♦



*Rings by Gemondo.*



# ETHICAL *ELEGANCE*



Camille Louise Merre combines style with ethical gem- and precious metal-sourcing in her designs.  
@camillelouisefinejewellery

Camille Louise Merré and her passion for gemstones blazed a trail for the creation of Camille Louise, a sapphire focused fine jewellery brand. The signature setting design of the brand is inspired by the search of unconventional color and rainbow combinations with the finest top-quality gemstones from Sri Lanka.

Each design captures the elegant nature of the empowerment of women adorned with the jewellery. The pieces are minimalistic and represented as timeless ornaments. The inspirations behind her collections reflect her passion of modern architecture and contemporary art.

All pieces are made from 18-karat fair-mined gold or platinum with ethically and responsibly sourced blue, pink and yellow sapphires. They are characterised by their excellent quality, outstanding cuts and striking colour nuances with a sustainable and traceable approach.

Camille spent her formative years between her native France, Denmark, Switzerland and Sri Lanka.

Influenced by the arts and craftsmanship tradition of her family, she grew up with an artistic background surrounded by her parents passion for art history, painting and classical music. She developed a taste and sensibility for drawing, sculpture and visual arts. She put her dream to practice by specialising in fine jewellery at Central St Martins School College of Arts & Design in London.

During her university years in Geneva, she began to work in the Swiss watch and high-end jewellery industries in sales with Cartier and Sotheby's.

As a public relations professional she participated in the renowned international high-end watches and jewellery fairs of SIHH and Baselworld. Her love of gems, jewellery and Danish design lead into the creation of her fine jewellery brand. ♦





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# THE ZENITH OF *STYLE*

The Lagos fashion scene came alive  
with music, colour and design.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS







**Z**ENITH 2018, a fashion and lifestyle fair in conjunction with FashionOne Africa, brought together fashion, entertainment and lifestyle for a vibrant weekend in Lagos.

Championed by leading influencers Alex “Unusual” Asogwa, Denola Grey, Uti Nwachukwu and Steve Chuks, the fair was an explosive two-day convergence of connoisseurs in lifestyle, fashion, entertainment, beauty, automotive and food industries. The event was held at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, Oniru, on Victoria Island.

Hosted by Mercy Ajisafe, Eku Edewor and Ill Rymz, the fair featured masterclasses in modelling anchored by TV personality Bonang Matheb and; international supermodels Oraine Barrett and Tarmar Awobotu.

There were runway shows and performances by Waje, Adekunle Gold, Simi, Mayorkun, Timaya, Kiss Daniel, Wande Coal, 2Baba and Bobby Valentino. On the closing night of the event, the concerts continued on until dawn.

The runway shows starred models strutting their stuff in pieces from premium fashion houses; guest appearances from Tobi Bakre, Akin Faminu, Laura Ikeji, Emmanuel Ikubese, Anita Adetoye and an impromptu on-stage dance performance by former *Big Brother Naija* housemate Alex “Unusual” Asogwa.

As well as the masterclasses for new and aspiring models, the event was used to launch the Zenith model search, another Zenith Bank-FashionOne Africa collaboration which will run throughout 2019. FashionOne operates a global lifestyle and entertainment TV network offering fashion and lifestyle programming. ♦







# ALL HANDS ON DECK

Gracing the golden city for its 27th year, it's anchors away for the Middle East's leading maritime event, the Dubai International Boat Show.

WORDS BY EMMET MCGONAGLE

Under the tagline "let's all live a little," the Dubai International Boat Show will be taking place from 26 February to 2 March, featuring more than 400 exhibitors and 800 brands from across the globe.

Showcasing everything from the high-tech world of private submarines and high-end superyachts, to the latest and greatest in local and international gadgets, the event will see the biggest names in maritime equipment come together to encourage sea lovers and enthusiasts alike to dive head first into world of sea life.

Speaking of the event, Dubai International Boat show director Riju George said, "Our 2019 show will illustrate how much joy and wonder can come from embracing this life by the sea, and we can't wait to welcome those families keen to discover the yachting, sailing, fishing and all other sea-sport and hobby options that will bring that pleasure to their lives."

## Superyachts galore

A staple of the Dubai International Boat Show, Superyacht Avenue will return to take pride of place at the forefront of the five-day event. Home to more than fifty of the world's most luxurious seafaring chalets, Superyacht Avenue has gained a reputation as the Hollywood Boulevard of the maritime world, with a wave of luxury mega-yachts turning heads as they take in the sunshine outside Dubai's World Trade Centre.

Presented by celebrated Superyacht Builders Association (SYBAss), Superyacht Avenue will feature the latest and greatest models to hit the market from Amels, Feadship, Heesen, Bennetti, Lürsen, Oceano, CRN and Baglietto. ➤



More than 400 small- to mid-sized yachts and boats will also make an appearance at the event's Marina Display, with prices starting at a more than reasonable \$27,000 per craft.

On the off chance you're not interested in luxury aquatics, the Boat Show is home to a luxury retail village in which customers can browse the latest trends in swimwear, jewellery, footwear and accessories. Another wildcard in the Boat Show's rawster is Super Car Promenade – Superyacht Avenue's on-land counterpart in which car maestros, such as Bentley and McLaren, show off their finest models for attendees who prefer to spend their money on dry land.

#### In search for adventure

The growth of popularity in water sports and exploratory equipment has shifted the maritime world on its head, welcoming a new wave of divers scavenging the sea in search of adventure.

Therefore, the show has expanded its horizons to create the 'Rad Zone' – a lagoon made to tempt thrillseekers with the very latest in flying yachts, underwater scooters and personal submarines. An on-site pool will allow attendees to test-drive the world's top sea-toys in an immersive, hands-on experience of aquatic leisure.

From relaxing on the dock to swimming in the depths, the Boat Show will also be home to the MENA Expo – the Middle East and North Africa's only dedicated diving industry event. Working in partnership with the Emirates Diving Association (EDA), the expo is a unique opportunity for divers to network, share ideas and gawk at the latest diving technology to brave the depths of the ocean. Thousands of divers are expected to be in attendance, with an on-site dive pool ready to indulge any attendees ready to dip their toes into the so-called "athleisure" industry.

Speaking of the event, Trixie LohMirmand, senior VP of exhibitions and events for Dubai World Trade Centre, explained, "Dubai is changing the face of the leisure marine industry with innovative waterfront projects that have elevated our city and shaped our coast into a must-visit destination for the world.

"The taste for the marine lifestyle is only growing, and potential buyers are realising that boat ownership is both affordable and accessible. From the most glamorous yachts in the world, to beautiful leisure and fishing vessels, thrilling live stunts, water sports and the latest in diving technology, 2019's Dubai International Boat Show promises to be the year's leading lifestyle event – and we can't wait to get underway."

Tickets for the Dubai International Boat Show are available from the event website at [www.boatshowdubai.com](http://www.boatshowdubai.com).



◆  
*The growing popularity of water sports has shifted the maritime world into adventurous new territory.*  
◆

ABOVE: Dubai Canal is home to the boat show

#### On your marks

Aside from the bustle of high-end maritime equipment, the Dubai International Boat Show is also home to a series of fast-paced maritime competitions to satisfy your need for speed on the deep blue sea.

However, the headline event is the highly anticipated annual Dubai to Muscat Sailing Race. First taking place back in 1992, the 360 mile offshore race features some of the most accomplished sailing teams from across the globe. Last year was the first time competitors could join the Muscat Sailing Race from the comfort of their phones via Virtual Regatta, with 23,806 boats sailing across the web.

For attendees looking for something more relaxed, Dubai Offshore Sailing Club are also setting up a low-stakes contest for keelboats. The Boat show will also feature a jet-ski competition and a fishing competition, as endorsed by the Dubai International Marine Club. ♦



# DUBAI INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW

26 FEB - 2 MAR 2019  
DUBAI CANAL, JUMEIRAH

LET'S ALL  
*live a little*

#DUBAIBOATSHOW  
BOATSHOWDUBAI.COM





*Home has set the standard for hybrid yachts since 2017.*



# SILENCE IS GOLDEN

A hybrid superyacht has been leading the way with innovations since its debut.

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WORDS BY JESS COUTTS





Name: Home (Previously Project Nova)  
Length: 50m (49.80m)  
Shipyard: Heesen  
Guests: 12  
Medium: Aluminium  
Features: Silent cruise, Hybrid  
Propulsion, Gym  
Exterior Design: Frank Laupman, Omega Architects  
Hull Type: Fast Displacement Hull Form, Van Oossanen Naval Architects  
Interior Design: Cristiano Gatto, Cristiano Gatto Design  
Top Speed: 16.3 knots

Iconic Dutch shipyard Heesen debuted the 50m Home, the world's first fast displacement superyacht equipped with hybrid propulsion, at Monaco Yacht Show in 2017 and since then, it has gone on to become a leader in its field.

Her ground-breaking technology enables her to offer the ultimate luxury: a silent cruising mode. Heesen worked closely with sensory expert Professor Barry Smith, Founder of the Centre for the Study of the Senses and Director of the Institute of Philosophy, who found that many of the activities during an outing at sea involve enjoying good food and wine.

In a study examining the effect a silent cruising mode would have on guests' on-board, Smith concluded: 'Our research has shown that the brain's processing of taste is affected by noise, which reduces the tongue's ability to detect salt, sweet and sour. The beauty of Home is the ability to run at a sound of around 46 decibels – the sound level of softly falling rain – enabling those on board to enjoy food and drink to the full with no diminution of taste'. Heesen continually strives to complement technology and design and believe that in a world full of noise, 'silence is the ultimate luxury'.

The first of a new breed, Home is quieter, cleaner and more fuel efficient. The Fast Displacement Hull Form offers fuel efficiency due to the use of lightweight aluminium and the silent cruising mode can reach up to nine knots. Propelled by a hybrid of diesel-mechanical and diesel-electrical, her power sources can be used simultaneously or independently, reducing noise, vibration and again increasing efficiency. In silent cruise mode, her fuel consumption reduces to a staggering 45 litres per hour – an astonishing feat for a yacht displacing 295 tons and a gross tonnage of 499.

Beautiful as well as technical; Home's striking exteriors, featuring a vertical bow, swim platform and floor to ceiling glass windows, are designed by Frank Laupman of Omega Architects. Inside, her two-tone palette, with jewel-like burgundy details, is the vision of Interior Designer Cristiano Gatto, appointed by the owner himself to create a linear design enriched by geometrical patterns and using precious materials, including rare Belgian marble. ♦





*Africa from the air is a truly spectacular experience.*





# SAFARI BY SKY

An exclusive tour of Africa makes the most of the continent's spectacular scenery.

WORDS BY CLAIRE FURNELL-WILLIAMS

**T**his is an experience for those who have always wanted to get to the heart of the bush for the legendary migration season, but the thought of spending hours in a vehicle on dusty roads really isn't your thing? Travel company &Beyond might just have the answer to this very specific holiday dilemma.

During set dates in September, you can enjoy a 12-day, 11-night luxury experience spanning five countries with transport aboard a private jet. Early booking is essential, as each of these two tours cater for just four to 12 guests at a time and at present there will be just two tours in September 2019. This luxury holiday promises guests hassle-free and time-saving travel, private specialist guides and luxury hand picked accommodation. This tour dispenses with long queues at airports and customs, as well as no long waits at baggage carousels.

You will spend your first night in Kenya's capital Nairobi, followed by two nights on the Masai Mara National Reserve. The tour then moves onto Tanzania with two nights in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and then Zimbabwe for the breathtaking Victoria Falls.

The next leg of the journey sees guests spend three nights in South Africa's Kruger National Park before the final stop of the trip with two nights in the stunning city of Cape Town.

The Bombardier Challenger 350 private jet, which has been especially configured to accommodate small groups and families will be used for all international routes, with the exception of the routing between the Masai Mara and Ngorongoro Crater, as well as between Ngorongoro Crater and Kilimanjaro International Airport, where a Private PC12 Charter Flight will be used. Turbo-prop fixed wing aircrafts and private vehicle transfers will be used internally, to connect with bush landing strips. The Challenger 350 features a sumptuous leather interior, plenty of room to move around, a roomy galley and a state-of-the-art entertainment system. The seats can swivel to 180° and can be configured to suit the needs of different-sized groups of passengers.

This extraordinary experience is priced at \$70,000.

[www.andbeyond.com](http://www.andbeyond.com) ♦





# CALL OF THE WILD

Sir Bani Yas Island allows visitors to  
experience Arabian natural wonders.

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WORDS BY JAN D'SA



Whether you arrive at Sir Bani Yas Island by ferry from Jebel Dhana or by seaplane from Abu Dhabi's Yas Marina, be prepared to leave your world behind as Africa greets you right here in the United Arab Emirates. There are no more boundaries between you and nature as you step onto one of the largest natural islands of Abu Dhabi.

Through the Greening of the Desert programme – a vision of the country's founder, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan – Sir Bani Yas island has been transformed into a wildlife reserve. It won the World's Leading Sustainable Tourism Destination title at the 2015 World Travel Awards. The 87 square kilometre island is dotted with several archaeological sites such as the Nestorian Christian monastery and tombstones of the Baniyas tribe that are well worth a visit if time allows. ➤



*Anantara offers guests opportunities to experience Arabian wildlife.*

For the African experience, check into Al Sahel Villa Resort, one of the three luxury properties by Anantara on the island. Situated in the wildlife reserve itself, this is where the unrelenting city buzz melts away as your ears tune into the deep beats of the savannah. Drivers transporting guests maintain a speed of 50km/hour to ensure that wildlife can wander safely.

The reception area of the resort and the resident Savannah Grill & Lounge are decked with interiors that remind you of an era gone by; the mellow earthy tones tie in with the feeling of African grassland adventures. Woven baskets, expressive tribal masks and warrior shields hang on the walls. Tasteful tribal jewellery sit pretty on an ornate side table and ceiling lanterns hang in what look like weaver bird nests. A surprising flush of sea-green themed paintings make waves on the walls as a giraffe peeps from an art print and a sculpture of African women carrying their wares look on.

Once you have checked into one of the thirty luxury villas at the resort, Africa comes to your doorstep. Nature's surrounds you from all sides that you might as well slip into the private outdoor plunge pool of your villa and watch the peacocks parade by or the fawns skip away into hiding.

A lavish dinner experience awaits you on a Thursday evening at Boma. As the night skies take over, walk up the cobbled path from the reception to what looks like a fortified settlement. The charcoal grey tinted fort encloses a sumptuous dinner fare comprising an array of meats from ostrich to venison, antelope, lamb chops and boerewors. Whether you go for mieliepap (a lighthearted maize preparation) or Kenyan jollof rice, make sure to double up on a ginger infused zesty African mocktail, a much-needed elixir for digestion.

If you pick your seat close to the savannah edge, you can hear the call of the wild as the chef prepares the barbeque just the way you like it. Deep drum and music beats begin to conjure up a vision of tribesmen squatting around the fire pit, bearing ancient tales as the women cook and children listen in anticipation.

An early night is recommended in preparation for the morning wildlife safari or nature walk. The once endangered Arabian oryx and cheetahs have made the land their home. Non-indigenous animals from blackbuck antelope to giraffe and ostrich make their way to the feeding places while flamingos mill around the watering hole. You might be lucky to spot cheetahs chewing on the last bone of the slain gazelle as a herd of gazelles watch from a distance rather nervously.

Following on from the trip in the wild country, self-care becomes mandatory. Take a ➤



◆  
*There are no  
boundaries  
between you and  
nature as you step  
onto Sir Bani Yas,  
which is one of the  
largest natural  
islands of  
Abu Dhabi.*  
◆

*Luxury accommodation, natural  
beauty and Arabian traditions are  
all on offer.*







complimentary ride from Al Sahel Villa Resort to the Anantara Spa located at Desert Islands Resort & Spa. The spa echoes the neutral shades seen at Al Sahel Villa Resort, except for a splurge in exotic Arabian touches on the wooden corridor panels, and delicate Thai decor. Spa facilities include two couples' treatment rooms and two singles' treatment rooms, each fitted with an al fresco Jacuzzi, private changing rooms and showers.

The serene settings help you settle into yet another dimension of relaxation over a cool pot of ginger tea as a refreshing foot bath is given. A 10-minute steam room session opens the pores, clears blocked sinuses, and gets you ready for a Desert Sand scrub session. The scrub is freshly prepared from argan oil, which is packed with antioxidants, and the purifying desert sand and salt with origins from the Sahara, so you can bid goodbye to lacklustre skin.

More tranquil moments are waiting to be embraced with the Anantara Signature massage. The warm rose oil blend gives undernourished skin just the hydration it needs. The spa therapist knows where to apply pressure through a series of kneading and stretching moves. This treatment gets upper back knots undone, releases tightness lurking in those hunched shoulders and primes the body for letting go of muscle tension. Finish your time at the spa at the private al fresco Jacuzzi as you enjoy breezy sea views.

For those looking for a wild taste of adventure, for romance with your partner or a perfect conclusion to a holiday in either frenetic Dubai or more sedate Abu Dhabi, let Sir Bani Yas Island be your sanctuary in the wild. ♦







## Fiji's finest

Laucala is a stunning isle in the perfect waters of the South Pacific with rainforests ringed by white, sandy beaches. Peace and privacy is guaranteed with just 25 luxury Fijian-style villas set amid the coconut groves. In between relaxing and enjoying the fine dining options, guests can experience natural wonders such as unspoilt coral reefs, volcanic mountains and beautiful wild orchids. The island resort offers golf, a chilled out spa, water sports and horse-riding, as well as guided walks to the village. [www.laucala.com](http://www.laucala.com)



New Delhi is a lively hub of food, culture and chaos. Amid the glorious madness is The Lodhi, a stunning, ultra-modern hotel which blends traditional design elements and high-end materials with immaculate service, sumptuous guest rooms and suites, and plenty of opportunities to experience the very best of Indian cuisine. Or one can always repair to the bar to enjoy a fine range of top shelf spirits and good wine in a bar that demands a nightcap or aperitif at the very least. [www.thelodhi.com](http://www.thelodhi.com)



Modern classic

## A shore thing

Anguilla has long been a popular spot in the Caribbean and Cuisinart is one of those destinations that epitomises a luxury holiday. With golf and a spa, as well as restaurants that traverse the world of cuisine from the Caribbean to Tokyo and Morocco to the Mediterranean, it is easy to blend relaxation with activities and culinary delights. As well as offering romantic packages for Valentine's Day, guests can stay for four nights for the price of three throughout 2019. [www.cuisinartresort.com](http://www.cuisinartresort.com)





# Going global

Abercrombie & Kent's expanding its 'Wings Over the World' portfolio, a collection of intimate private jet journeys which allow guests to travel in luxury small group across a variety of dream destinations across the globe. Southern Africa, Israel-Jordan-Egypt, China, Northern Europe, Spain-Morocco and India are among the tailored itineraries on offer for intrepid travellers who enjoy the finer things in life. Trips can be themed around interests such as food and culture.

[www.abercrombiekent.co.uk](http://www.abercrombiekent.co.uk)

## Adventures await

Costa Rica is being billed as the hottest destination for families looking for a summer adventure, with luxury adventure travel experts, Off the Map Travel, developing a new experience designed to put young minds at the center of their own wildlife documentary as they will about the culture and nature of the region. For example, kids and parents can learn about the amazing sloth, including the incredible work the sloth sanctuary is undertaking. Of course, there is time on the itinerary to make like a sloth and take advantage of luxury accommodation, hot springs, pools and spas.

[www.offthemaptravel.com](http://www.offthemaptravel.com)



# Winning ways

China is making great strides with luxury accommodation designed to tempt visitors from around the world, whether they are there for business or pleasure. Falling squarely in the pleasure category is Alila Yangshuo, which was Alila Yangshuo was named the Best Resort Hotel and Global Ultimate Winner at the 2019 AHEAD Global Awards. It is a modern resort with retro design touches, featuring 117 rooms and villas. It is located on prime real estate overlooking the Li River, allowing guests to experience this stunning part of China.

[www.alilahotels.com](http://www.alilahotels.com)



# LIVE LIFE TO THE LUXE

Aston Martin is offering lovers of fine machinery opportunities to enjoy their cars all over the world this year.


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WORDS BY CLAIRE FURNELL-WILLIAMS





*2019 will be a year of automotive opportunities for Aston Martin lovers.*



Legendary British marque Aston Martin is offering fans of their brand the chance to “Live Life The Aston Martin Way” with a programme of events that will take you behind the scenes, and right to the heart of the action at some of the worlds most high profile events.

The 2019 season began in Japan in February with the ‘Hokkaido on Ice’ experience at the Tokachi International Circuit, where participants learnt how to push the capability of the Aston Martin range to the edge, on ice and snow. Specialist Aston Martin Instructors coached the drivers in the unique skill of high performance handling on slippery surfaces, this was followed by a chance to unwind in a natural hot spring.

Enthusiasts who would rather leave the driving to the experts, can enjoy a Formula One Grand Prix from the inside with Aston Martin Red Bull Racing. As a guest at the team’s unique ‘Energy Station’, guests can enjoy exclusive access to some of the world’s most glamorous motorsport events. Enjoy close -p action at the legendary Monaco F1 Grand Prix or see the worlds best drivers race into the night in Singapore.

If sports cars rev your engine, a trip to the world famous Le Mans 24 Hours could be the perfect treat, as drivers race around the clock, you will enjoy the luxuries of a French chateau and avoid the crowds with helicopter transfers. The sights and sounds, from the air, of the circuit, that includes both permanent sections and those adapted from local roads, is one everyone automotive fan should have on their bucket list. ➤

*Aston Martin is offering lovers of its cars a range of experiences all over the world for 2019.*







*Europe will be an important destination on the Aston Martin calendar this year.*

If historic cars at a weekend in the beautiful English countryside sound like something that shouldn't be missed, you are right. For one weekend in July, the front drive of the ancient Goodwood House becomes a hillclimb for the prestigious Festival of Speed. Cars from the very beginning of motorsport to present day F1 and GT monsters battle against the clock to prove who is fastest on the Sussex tarmac. Aston is offering guests a truly bespoke programme.

Guests who want to see wheel-to-wheel action, as well as the chance to dress in period dress, would do well to delay their Sussex adventure till September.

The former World War II airfield-cum-motor racing circuit will transport fans back to the heyday of motorsport. Guests are encouraged to dust off the tweed and polish their pearls as Goodwood Revival whisks guests back in time with breathtaking on track action, lifestyle events and jaw-dropping aerial displays from vintage aircraft.

This year, Aston Martin is not stopping at offering their guests access to the world's best automotive events, they are offering tours of some of the best drivers roads in the world. Perhaps driving the DB11 Volante through Utah, USA would be the dream, or exercising the DBS Superleggera through the mountain passes of Switzerland. The team have experiences for everyone, from touring the Champagne region of France after visiting the Palace of Versailles to living the high life in Beverly Hills.

Sebastien Delmaire, director of AM Partnerships, said: "Art of Living by Aston Martin offers guests something different, something they cannot get elsewhere. A mindfully curated collection of events provides guests with the opportunity to truly live the Aston Martin way and become fully immersed in the brand. On every adventure, they will meet like-minded people with whom they can share these wonderful experiences."

*To find out more about living the life of Aston Martin, visit [www.astonmartinartofliving.com](http://www.astonmartinartofliving.com) ♦*

Aston Martin is offering genuine track driving opportunities.



## TAKE TO THE TRACK

How to enjoy real track experiences in  
an Aston Martin.

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WORDS BY CLAIRE FURNELL-WILLIAMS

If visiting a Grand Prix has whetted your appetite, perhaps you might see yourself as the next Lewis Hamilton. Aston Martin has appealed to the desire for clients to test themselves to their limits with a three tier programme, designed to get their clients on the race track.

For the beginner, there is the AMR Experience, with one-to-one tuition from a dedicated instructor. Discovery lets drivers experience the brand's model range and Performance allows owners to safely push the limits of their vehicles. Drivers who are hungry for more can

progress to the AMR Academy where a programme of three levels pushes the drivers skills to the limit over several days. For the most advanced there is the chance to take part in the AMR GT Academy, where customers take to the track at the wheel of a race-prepped Aston Martin GT4. Customers will enjoy expert tuition which can lead to working towards a full race licence and a future adventures on track.

In 2019 the AMR Drivers Club will visit nine different circuits across the UK and mainland Europe, many of which

regularly play host to GT, Touring Car and F1 Races. You can soak up the sun in March at the Algarve International Circuit in Portugal or visit the former home of the Italian Grand Prix at Imola in July. September will see visits to the home of the British Grand Prix at Silverstone and the German Grand Prix at Hockenheim. Packages range from around \$980 to just under \$10,000 which can include car hire, hospitality and luxury hotels.

*For more information on getting behind the wheel, visit [www.astonmartintrackdays.com](http://www.astonmartintrackdays.com) ♦*



# ELITE LIVING AFRICA

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*The magazine for Africa's international elite*



## ELITE LIVING AFRICA ONLINE

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*The new-look Elite Living Africa website has been optimised for smart phones and tablets. You can keep up with the latest trends in fashion, jewellery, watches and cars, as well as receiving the latest news on prestigious art, auction and sporting events no matter where you are in the world.*

[www.elitelivingafrica.com](http://www.elitelivingafrica.com)

# SINGULAR *SENSATION*

The story behind the auction of a very special bottle of whisky by Bonhams.

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WORDS BY CHARLES MACLEAN







The saleroom in Bonhams Hong Kong was packed and expectation there was running high. On the block was a single bottle of whisky – the ‘Adami’, more properly known as a Valerio Adami–1926– 60 Year Old single malt. It was made by the famous Scottish distillery, Macallan. The bottle had stoked up a lot of attention in the months preceding the auction, but even Daniel Lam, Bonhams’ whisky specialist, was taken aback when bids started flying in from around the world.

This was last May. After a frenzied 15 minutes, the bottle was finally hammered down for a staggering \$1,100,197. If it were to be drunk, each glass would cost more than \$40,000. Against all odds, another bottle of Adami was been discovered – and it was auctioned in October last year, breaking another record, selling for for a new world record of \$1,104,750, after it was estimated at \$911,000–\$1,171,000. A month later, the record was broken again by Christies with another bottle of Macallan – a one-off bottle designed by Michael Dillon.

But what made the second Adami the most valuable bottle of whisky in the world last October? In the Adami, rarity meets quality: only 12 bottles were made, and there are probably fewer still in existence.

One bottle is thought to have been lost in the Japanese earthquake of 2011, and it is known that several Macallan 60-year-old bottles have already been opened and drunk. The Adami’s name comes from its

◆

*The Adami is special because rarity meets quality – only 12 bottles were made and there probably fewer still in existence.*

◆

The Adami set a record for a time.  
Image credit: Bonhams

label: each of the bottles bears a design by Italian pop-artist Valerio Adami (born 1935). A further dozen bottles were illustrated by another iconic Pop-artist, Sir Peter Blake – who is best known as the designer of the album cover for the Beatles’ era-defining album Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Heart Club Band.

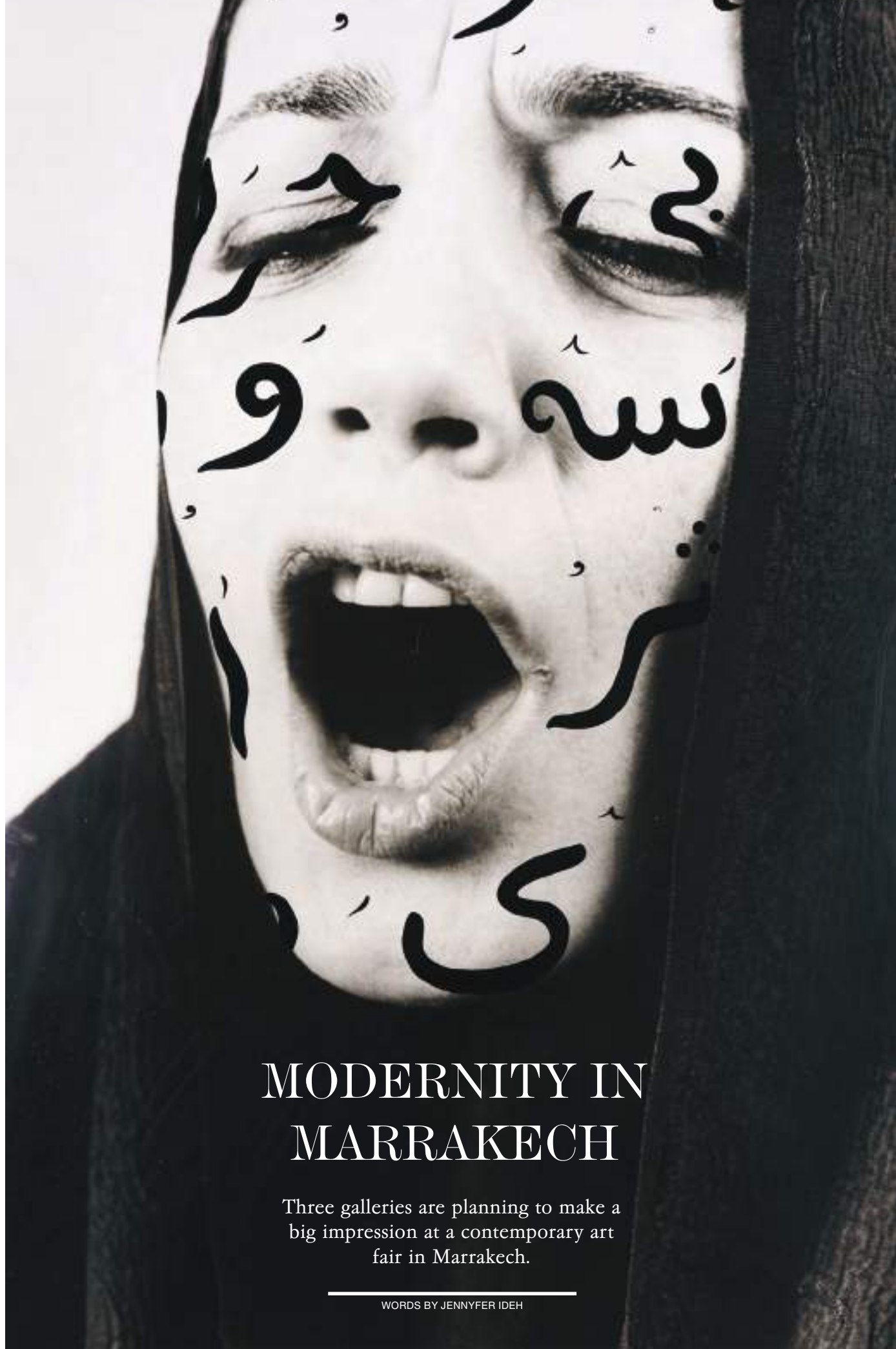
The Macallan distillery is blessed with some very old casks of mature whisky – indeed, I have been lucky enough to taste several of them – which has made possible the release of small amounts, including the Fine & Rare Collection of 40 malts that date from each year between 1926 and 1976, and The Macallan in Lalique Collection, a collaboration with Lalique crystal comprising six decanters filled with whisky aged from between 55 years and 72 years.

The Adami and Blake bottles were another imaginative way to bring this extraordinary whisky to the public. It may come as a surprise that before 1981 Macallan single malt was unknown outside the trade. It had long been ranked ‘Top Class’ by blenders – one of only 10 malts to win such an accolade – but only a small amount was bottled as a single malt by the owners; the huge majority went instead for blending. Then, during the 1970s, the directors of the family controlled company noted with interest the success of single malt sales, particularly of Glenfiddich – owned by another family firm, William Grant & Sons, which had begun to promote Glenfiddich in 1963.

Macallan’s annual report stated in 1972 that “sales of cased Macallan had doubled during the year” and anticipated “a large increase in this type of business”. The distillery was enlarged and more stock set aside to bottle as single malt. In 1978, a marketing director was appointed, at which time – as he told me himself – the entire promotional budget for the brand was a munificent £50. (By way of contrast, earlier this year the company announced a £500 million proposal to expand its distillery and brand.) That £50 must have been well spent. In 1980, the firm was ready to bring The Macallan to market, and – backed by clever advertising – the brand quickly became a household name. The leading whisky writer Michael Jackson described it as “the Rolls-Royce of Scotch malts”.

By 1985, The Macallan was the fifth best-selling malt in the world. It is now number three. In this context, it is only to be expected that The Macallan should become the darling of collectors and investors in whisky. Which brings us to October’s Whisky Sale in Edinburgh. Given the feverish excitement that surrounds these bottles – at the auction in Bonhams Hong Kong, The Macallan Peter Blake also broke the million-dollar barrier, achieving \$1,014,422 – one can only wonder if the world record will be broken again.

Geoff Kirk, Macallan’s Director of Prestige, is understandably optimistic. “These are some of the most exclusive bottles ever produced,” he points out, “making this a sale that will be remembered for years to come. It is incredibly rare for The Macallan 1926 to be made available for purchase, and the sale offers connoisseurs the chance to secure historic bottles that are also emblematic of 20th-century pop culture.” ♦



# MODERNITY IN MARRAKECH

Three galleries are planning to make a big impression at a contemporary art fair in Marrakech.

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WORDS BY JENNYFER IDEH





**1**-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, the leading international art fair dedicated to contemporary art from Africa and the African diaspora, marks its second Marrakech edition with a VIP opening at La Mamounia on 21st and 22nd February. Following London and New York, the fair added its Marrakech edition in February last year. This time, the old city will host 18 international galleries from 11 countries, showing the work of more than 65 artists.

The exhibitors include London's Vigo Gallery, Galerie Cecile (with spaces in Abidjan and Dakar), Galerie Mikael Andersen in Copenhagen and Milan's Officine dell'Immagine. We spoke with three galleries exhibiting at 1-54 for the first time: Paris-based In Situ - fabienne leclerc, Galerie SINIYA28 (local to Marrakech) and Goodman Gallery (Johannesburg and Cape Town).

#### Goodman Gallery

**ELA:** Could you please give us a background to your gallery in your own words?

**A spokesperson for Goodman Gallery:** Goodman Gallery is a leading contemporary art gallery with spaces in Johannesburg and Cape Town. Since opening in 1966, the gallery has helped shape contemporary South African art, and in the decade since Liza Essers took over as owner and director that tradition has extended beyond local borders. Today, the gallery plays a vital role in supporting international collaborations in South Africa and this ethos is embodied in the gallery's 2018 programme, which features Yinka Shonibare MBE, Ghada Amer and Reza Farkhondeh, ruby onyinyechi amanze, Grada Kilomba, Kudzanai Chiurai, Alfredo Jaar and Ernesto Neto. We represent leading and emerging African and diasporic artists,

as well as artists from around the world who engage in a dialogue with postcolonial contexts.

**ELA:** Which artists will you be bringing to the fair and why?

**GG:** For 1-54 Art Fair Marrakech 2019, Goodman Gallery will be bringing work by Ghada Amer and Reza Farkhondeh, mounir fatmi, Shirin Neshat, and William Kentridge. This selection of artists variously negotiate questions of representation and in particular the limits and potentials of language. Amer & Farkhondeh, as well as Neshat's work explore the visibility of women and in particular the construction of images of women, while the selection of fatmi and Kentridge's works interrogate language and translation, often combining the political with the poetic to absurd and sobering ends.

**ELA:** What could you hope for among the audience in Marrakech?

**GG:** Our aim is to engage with audiences who have previously not been acquainted with Goodman Gallery. The fair will also provide us with a valuable opportunity to connect more with the art world based on the continent in an effort to strengthen ties and encourage the development of an African-based art market.

**ELA:** Could you give us some insight into the gallery's programme for the coming year?

**GG:** In 2019 we will continue to present artists whose work enriches dialogues around colonial legacies and contemporary geopolitics. This will include solo exhibitions by Samson Kambalu, Mikhael Subotzky, Nolan Dennis, Kapwani Kiwanga, and Misheck Masamvu among others. ➤

*Art lovers in Marrakech will be able to enjoy stunning photography.*



**Hadia Temli of Galerie SINIYA28**

**ELA:** Could you please give us a background to your gallery in your own words?

**Hadia Temli:** I established Galerie SINIYA28 in March 2016 with a vision of supporting young emerging and established Moroccan and international artists. My father founded Galerie Tindouf in 1980 in Tangier and we decided to branch out in Marrakech in 2008. Galerie Tindouf being already an art institution with a serious reputation and well-established mature artists, I felt something was missing for the new wave of artists and collectors. Galerie SINIYA28's mission was to democratise art and make it accessible to young collectors and art lovers. We believe that art in Morocco is an important means of communication and education for highlighting cultural difference, celebrating difference and freedom of expression.

**ELA:** Which artists will you be bringing to the fair and why?

**HT:** The gallery will be representing three Moroccan nadf artists from Essaouira, Abdelmalek Berhiss, Ali Maimoun and Regragui Bouslai. These artists represent the multifaceted cultural identity of Morocco and are rooted in the Arabic, Berber and African heritage. Morocco's unique cultural and ethnic richness is a perfect example of the fusion of raw talent we want to showcase.

We feel it's the time to look back at our roots and our heritage. There are so many uncertainties in the world art markets that we felt like people were returning to their roots in search of

something more authentic and original. Art Nadf was the perfect combination of Berber, Jewish and Arabic expressionism – a bringing-together of cultures – that formed part of a new African awakening in art and that was an extraordinary thing to be part of.

Because none of the artists have been through any formalised training their work feels fresh and unadulterated. Because it is done without expectation from within the system, the artists have a mental freedom to do as they please. For the viewer, the reward is a collection of paintings and sculptures that are clearly not a product of the West, even down to the techniques and materials they use – dots, for example, or coloured sawdust mixed into a paste – that crackle with life and vibrancy.

**ELA:** What could you hope for among the audience in Marrakech?

**HT:** We hope the audience will enjoy discovering the new artists we have to show. Morocco has a strong artistic fibre, very much alive and unique. We hope the visitors will feel the artistic energy and character of this movement from Essaouira and get a whole sense of the real Moroccan creative scene. We would like to bring Abdelmalek Berhiss, Ali Maimoun, and Bouslai Regragui on the international platform where they deserve to be.

**ELA:** Could you give us some insight into the gallery's programme for the coming year?

**HT:** We will continue to work in bringing attention to young emerging talent, whether it be Moroccan or international with





the aim of showcasing cultural diversity and pure raw talent. We need more galleries that promote opportunities and hope to upcoming artists and accompany them through their career. We aim at promoting these Moroccan artists abroad and plan to do so through international fairs like the 1- 54 African Art Fair.

**In Situ – fabienne leclerc**

**ELA:** Could you please give us a background to your gallery in your own words?

**Fabienne Leclerc:** In Situ – fabienne leclerc was founded in 2001. The roster of the gallery is historically international, featuring artists from the United States, Africa, the Middle East and Asia alongside emerging and established figures from the French artistic scene. Indeed, many artists of the Galerie des Archives, Fabienne Leclerc's first gallery, continue to collaborate with In Situ: Mark Dion (b. 1961, New Bedford), Gary Hill (b. 1951, Santa Monica) and Patrick van Caeckenberg (b. 1960, Aalst). Our ambition is to promote the work of our artists in exhibitions at the gallery and abroad in fairs, associated museums and institutions.

**ELA:** Which artists will you be bringing to the fair and why?

**FL:** We will show Otobong Nkanga (b. 1974, Kano), Meschac Gaba (b. 1961, Cotonou), Dominique Zinkpè (b. 1969, Cotonou) and Athi-Patra Ruga (b. 1984, Mthatha). While these artists were all born on the African continent and deal, explicitly or otherwise, with themes related to it, their work crosses that

frontier in a myriad of ways. The globalist vision of these artists is reflected too in their diverse audience of collectors and participation in exhibitions and biennales across the world. We are particularly excited to show a new tapestry work by Otobong Nkanga, following her solo exhibition at MCA Chicago and in advance of Sharjah Biennial 14, where she has been invited together with Meschac Gaba.

**ELA:** What could you hope for among the audience in Marrakech?

**FL:** While this is our first time at 1-54 Marrakech, the gallery has participated in several successful editions of the fair in New York and London. We hope then to meet a local audience but also to see these international collectors again in Marrakech. It seemed appropriate that the fair have an edition on the African continent and Marrakech's burgeoning contemporary art scene (the opening of MACAAL this year in particular) makes it an obvious choice.

**ELA:** Could you give us some insight into the gallery's programme for the coming year?

**FL:** This year we will be busy preparing for the opening of our new space in Romainville, planned for September 2019. We will be joined there by four other galleries, the FRAC collection, Jeune Création and the Fiminico Foundation. Our hope is that this site will become a hub for an ever expanding and diversifying audience for contemporary art.

*1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair Marrakech takes place at La Mamounia until Sunday 24th February. ♦*

# A MAN'S WORLD?

A challenging series of photographs by  
a Lagos-born artist poses hard  
questions about modern masculinity.

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WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

*Koshoni's work is powerful and confronting as it  
takes on themes of modern masculinity.*







Lagos-born, London-based photographer, Buki Koshoni presents 'Batman/ Blackman – Duality of Existence', a photograph series that explores culture and identity and the duality of existence of the black male, within modern society.

The photographs depict a semi-nude male wearing a Batman mask, in a variety of powerful poses. The model in the photographs represents the artist, whose work is biographical and draws on the self within the public sphere. The mask represents the metaphorical disguise worn by the artist, when attempting to confirm to the social norms of his surroundings.

Koshoni shoots narrative imagery, placing people in costumes and environments, that compliment, validate, or disassemble their public persona. This personal series of works reflects Koshoni's own background, having moved to the UK from Lagos when he was just six years old. The work is a nod to his two cultural sides and explores where they intersect.

Koshoni is particularly interested in using the human body as a tool of expression – the nakedness of the body is about truth and portraying the pure self without adornments. The sharp side lighting gives the body prominent light and dark patches, which he says reflect the duality of existence, light and dark, good and evil, positive and negative.

Through the very formats of his work, Koshoni is aiming to challenge what constitutes art and how art is brought into everyday life. For this reason, his works will be presented as 'mobile artworks', on T-shirts and jackets, in addition to framed prints and posters. Believing that not all audiences are comfortable in a gallery setting, Koshoni feels these mediums can make art accessible for all.

Koshoni says: 'To identify as a black male, within a diasporan construct, is to live a life of duality. It's impossible, as a person of colour, to completely avoid the daily shelling of preconceived perceptions, many of us still carry the shrapnel of these encounters lodged within us. A constant balancing act of cultures and assumptions, wrestling against your true and innate nature.'

*The work can be viewed and purchased online at [www.bukikoshoni.com/batman-blackman/](http://www.bukikoshoni.com/batman-blackman/) ♦*



# GET BOXED

Named due to its unique shape and large panel windows, the Open Box is designed to hold its own alongside Madrid's picturesque natural landscape

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WORDS BY EMMET MCGONAGLE



## OPEN BOX, MADRID

\$8.5m

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WORDS BY EMMET MCGONAGLE

Situated in the exclusive district of Valdemarin, the Open Box commands attention with its bold and beautiful concrete exterior. If the stone floors, contemporary kitchen, playroom and spacious lounge don't scream luxury, two stone staircases lead to a host of three en suite bedrooms, a jacuzzi and a 10-metre glass walkway. A marvel of modern architecture, the building features a jaw-dropping 28-metre glass wall, looking out onto a porch (equipped with TV), a sun-kissed garden and, of course, a swimming pool.

Equal parts function and flair, the basement doubles up as a fully-fledged party room, equipped with coloured lights, a living room, two bedroom and enough space to fit six cars. Nestled just north of Spain's capital city, the Open Box is unapologetically loud, cementing its title as the last word in luxury.









## NOVA SANTA PONSA, MALLORCA

\$2.7m

Engel and Völkers

Previously owned by world-renowned fashion designer the late Alexander McQueen, this stunning sun-trap overlooks the glorious bay of Santa Ponsa.

The villa holds its own against the outstanding landscape of Mallorca's Tramuntana mountains, boasting five bedrooms (equipped with underfloor heating and air conditioning), a modern kitchen and a spacious dining area.

Under the blissful mediterranean sun, McQueen's former abode is fitted with two upper terraces and a spacious pool ideal for relaxation, celebration or simply taking in the view.



- 5 bedrooms
- 3 bathrooms
- Marble flooring
- Garden









## 18 GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON

\$24.3m

### **Knight Frank**

Based in the aristocratic soul of Mayfair, Grosvenor Square is a stone's throw away from the bohemian hub of London's West End. Home to the biggest names in music, including rock-and-roll icon Jimi Hendrix and Baroque maestro Handel, the iconic Grosvenor buildings have been a staple of London's regal architecture for more than three centuries.

The luxurious building spans across three floors, accommodating four bespoke bedrooms, marble-paved en-suite bathrooms and a handcrafted kitchen. From its dark timber doors to the marble columns of the reception room, 18 Grosvenor Square is a London landmark in its own right.



#### Other facilities include:

- 25-metre pool
- Vitality pool
- Spa and gymnasium
- 18-seat private cinema
- Garden library
- Private garden and terrace
- Business centre and meeting room
- Games and function room





## MBR CITY, DUBAI

P.O.A

Sobha Realty

A minimalist mid-rise tower in the heart of Dubai, Creek Vistas is tipped to shift the narrative on luxury living in the golden city, letting its streamlined German design speak for itself through utilising the relaxing charm of open space.

The 28-floor twin towers will be home to a collection of one- and two-bedroom apartments, each equipped with its own balcony, kitchen and cutting-edge air conditioning system. The towers will be topped off with a spacious swimming pool, lending residents a unique view of the city's awe-inspiring surroundings, including the Dubai Creek, Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary, Downtown Dubai and the Dubai Water Canal. The buildings feature a fully equipped gym, combining the intensity of a workout with the luxury of first-class facilities.

Creek Vistas is expected to be completed by May 2021.







## MARYLEBONE SQUARE, LONDON

\$3.2m

Concord London

A tranquil haven in the frenetic heart of London, Marylebone Square is the latest feat to grace the British capital's busy cityscape. The building is host to 54 luxury homes, blending modern design with traditional Georgian craft in a fitting tribute to the area's colourful heritage. Secluded from the public with a private bridge, each two- or three-bedroom open-plan house is fitted with floor-to-ceiling windows, spacious verandas and an innovative climate control system. As well as a 24-hour concierge team, Marylebone Square features a range of shops, restaurants and a holistic health club, topped off with an all-encompassing central water feature which places England's natural beauty within the culture hub of central London.







# NOBISKRUG

GERMAN SUPERYACHTS FOR THE 22<sup>nd</sup> CENTURY





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