

ELITE LIVING

AFRICA

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INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SHOW PREVIEW

AFRICAN ART SETTING NEW
RECORDS AT AUCTION



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Conceived by Heesen and designed by Omega Architects, Project Pollux is a brand new 55-metre steel FDHF superyacht. An evolution on a classic, her pioneering naval architecture complements the contemporary design. The result is a stunning 760GT motor yacht with a top speed of 15.5 knots available for delivery in October 2020.

heesenyachts.com

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SEPTEMBER

28

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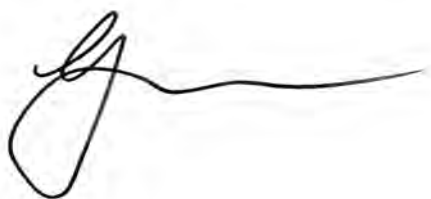


WELCOME

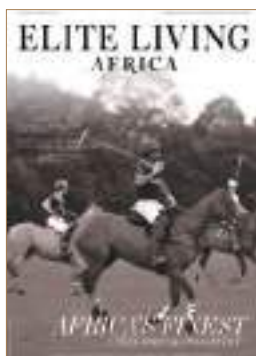
Polo is a growing sport in Africa and the best polo talent from the continent has made its way to Europe. *Elite Living Africa* is delighted to be a media partner for the Lux Afrique Polo event, which will be held in London on 3 August. Last year's event, held at the prestigious Ham Polo Club, was a stunning success on and off the field and we are looking forward to another great day of socialising and fantastic sporting action this year. Turn to page 36 for a preview of this year's "Africa versus The Rest Of The World" tournament.

As well as plenty of polo action, this issue has plenty to offer our art-loving readers. Starting on page 52, we have an extended art section. There is the spectacular story of contemporary African art selling for record amounts at Sotheby's, followed by an update on the sale of two very different masterpieces from Caravaggio and Monet, and we conclude with an introduction to Young-Deok Seo, an up-and-coming Korean artist who created powerful sculptures from industrial chains.

On page 30, our yachting section features an exclusive superyachts buyers' guide from Lürssen, an early look at some stunning new craft from Heesen, and a preview from Monaco Yacht Club of an exciting, eco-friendly sailing event scheduled for the principality's waters in July. Once again, we will be partnering with the Monaco Yacht Show later this year and we have already seen the very impressive list of exhibitors – it should be another great event at Port Hercules.



Georgia Lewis
Managing Editor



Enjoy our current issue online at www.elitelivingafrica.com

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CORRECTION: In Elite Living Africa Volume 5, Issue 2, the correct price for the Kerbedanz Maximus Royal watch is \$800,000 + taxes.

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1-14 July

Wimbledon

The world's oldest tournament and one of tennis' four 'Grand Slams', Wimbledon is a highlight in any sports fans' calendar. Sit among celebrities, snack on strawberries and cream, and watch the greatest names in tennis go racket-to-racket to cement their spot in the history books, come sunshine or English summer rain.

www.wimbledon.com



William Kentridge Exhibition
The cultural capital of Cape Town is set to host the largest William Kentridge exhibition in more than a decade. Kentridge's sculptures and paintings has gained momentum as one of Africa's most prolific contemporary artists, with his work taking centre stage across the globe, including New York's Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), the Chicago Art Institute and the Tate Modern in London. Taking place in two parts, this exhibition is certainly not one to be missed



24 August

30 August - 1 September



Concorso South Africa

Set in the bustling hub of Johannesburg, Concorso South Africa brings the world's finest car collectors together for an unparalleled celebration of all things automotive. Marvel at your favourite four-wheeled wonders first-hand at a glamorous garden party, with all models approved by an elite judging committee. A perfect spot to scout out the next model in your collection.

www.concorsothasouthafrica.com



19-22 September

Masterly The Hague

Taking place around the annual King's Speech, Masterly The Hague celebrates the best of Dutch design with a series of contemporary garments inspired by paintings from the Golden Age. Taking place in four historic buildings along the Lange Vijverberg, the event is set to host the first public showing of The Hague painter Jan ten Compe's 250 year old depiction of the royal Huis ten Bosch Palace.





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3 August 2019

HAM POLO CLUB | LONDON

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A PINCH OF *SALT*

Zimbabwean actress and campaigner Chipu Chung discusses privilege, equality and national pride as she toys with the prospect of a new life behind the camera.

BY EMMET MCGONAGLE



Actress, activist and nomad, Chipo Chung has starred in a collection of celebrated TV shows, including *Into the Badlands*, *Camelot* and most recently, *Chimerica*. Her name is one of the few to appear in the credits of both *Sherlock* and *Doctor Who*, and acting is just one of the strings in her bow.

Born the daughter of two politicians, Chipo was raised in a different Zimbabwe to the one standing today. “When I was a kid,” she began, “Zimbabwe was the model African nation. “We were really the troubadours ahead of South Africa being liberated.”

Testament to her mother Fay’s influence as minister of education, Chipo excelled through school to land a spot at Yale University in America, where she studied theatre and fine art before eventually moving to London to attend the renowned Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA), with alumni including Alan Rickman and Kenneth Branagh, to name a few.

Raised on a bookshelf of Shakespeare and Keats, the self-professed Anglophile claims she didn’t experience a culture shock as she began to cut her teeth in England’s esteemed acting hub.

“I am 100 per cent a Londoner, but I always think of it as a pool table because you’re just balls knocking into each other and anything could happen at any moment, and then places like Zimbabwe are quite neglected and dry of human resources, but there’s so much that one can do in those places. It’s the Wild West in some ways, but that’s what was so exciting about the Wild West – there was the land of dreams where there’s still stuff to be built, and that’s the opportunity we have as Africans.”

Keeping hold of this ‘Wild West’ attitude, Chipo quickly made a name for herself among London’s bustling drama scene, winning roles in classical and political theatre, and sharing a stage with Dame Helen Mirren along the way. However, the actress is also a fervent campaigner, raising awareness of HIV treatment and the dangers of genital mutilation via Kenyan charity SAFE.

It’s this focus on a level playing field which has driven Chipo’s career to date, from her politically-

motivated roles to her contributions to the diverse cast of *A.D. The Bible Continues*. On the topic, she explained, “I think in my 20s I had a kind of crisis of conscience. I guess I lashed against the idea of acting just being about entertainment or simply the privilege of fulfilling my talent, which I do have the privilege to do. As a young person who came from a developing country, I think I felt a level of guilt about that.

“The world is divided into the ‘haves’ and the ‘have nots’. As the ‘haves’, how do you live with yourself knowing that the ‘have nots’, who are equally human, are living with such challenges?”

On the other hand, Chipo has been quick to point out the entertainment industry is moving in the right direction, hailing the impact of social campaigning on Facebook, as well as Benedict Cumberbatch’s refusal to work on films with a gender pay gap in moving in the entertainment industry in the right direction. “I don’t think there is an actor from a minority background who does not stand on the shoulders of people who fought for them to be where they are. Even in the last 10 years there’s been a lot of talk about diversity. I literally feel it in the casting breakdowns. It’s gratifying that campaigning actually has a visceral effect on working standards in our business,” she said.

Two decades since she first moved to England, and Chipo is proud to call herself a Zimbabwean. Although currently taking a step away from acting, the creative has been toying with the idea of cutting her teeth as a producer and director – a prospect which she claims was propelled by watching ‘Pose’ on Netflix.

However, whether its captivating viewers in front of the screen or pulling the strings behind it, Chipo still returns to Zimbabwe every year to visit her family.

“I’ve never been ashamed of where I come from, even through the darkest times of our country. Looking at the places I’ve been – America now and the structures of democracy, Britain and the rise of the right – we all have our issues as nations. I take Zimbabwe, and we can all take ourselves, with a pinch of salt.”❖

◆
“I don’t think there is an actor from a minority background who does not stand on the shoulders of people who fought for them to be where they are.”
◆

ABOVE: Chipo as ‘The Master’ in *Into the Badlands* (Credit: AMC)

AFRIQUE ACCESSORIES

In celebration of the flavour and flair of Africa's luxury market, we have selected a series of continental essentials to add some flavour to your home.



Volta Chandelier Shade

\$264, www.copperdustlondon.com

Drawing influence from the cultural hub of Ghana, this chandelier shade brings a completely different atmosphere to its traditional, diamond-embellished counterpart. Using authentic fabric from Vlisco, each fringe is individually added and hand-stitched by designer and international model Vanessa Agyemang, boasting hues of electric blue and mocha for a sophisticated yet-daring finish.

Ga Mosaic Wall Tile

\$88

www.copperdustlondon.com

What better way to add a burst of colour to your home than with a vibrant wall tile? Inspired by the Ga-Adangbe tribe from the Greater Accra Region of Ghana, each tile is made to order using upcycled materials from Copper London's lampshade collection. Commanding attention in the confines of its 35x35 canvas, the tiles are a fitting tribute to their Ghanaian namesake.



Yaw Burgundy Lamp Shade

\$151, www.copperdustlondon.com

A fitting nod to the earthy colours of its Ghanaian namesake, this lampshade has been carefully crafted to tow the line between modern luxury and traditional African aesthetics. Created using bold, vivid prints, this earthy accessory is an understated way to add some African spirit to a neutral living space, celebrating the passion of Ghanaian fashion with a combination of jet black Angelina cotton and crimson red linen.

15
BUY IT NOW

Shadowy Outdoor Armchair

\$1870, www.cbaplins.co.uk

Although it may look like a set-piece from 'The Emperor's New Groove', this armchair has been built with comfort and creativity in mind. Launched in a range of different shades as part of Patrizia Moroso's M'Afrique Collection, this armchair utilises traditional weaving methods typically reserved for fishing nets, capturing the essence of African colour and design through its use of bohemian colours and psychedelic patterns.

LIFE HACKS

Why not make life a little bit easier with these handy problem-solving gadgets? Go on, you deserve it.



Raintunes

www.bansgrobe.com

Bringing your phone into the bathroom while you shower is a sure-fire way to damage one of your most prized possessions – that's one of the many reasons why Raintunes is set to revolutionise your bathing experience. Adjusted using either the RainButton or RainPad, this innovative piece of tech combines water, light, sound and fragrance for a multi-sensory shower set to leave you rejuvenated, revitalised and ready to start the day, or unwind before bed.



Wake-up light

\$175, www.philips.com

With five natural sounds and an FM radio, Philips' wake-up light is the smart way to get out of bed in the morning without wanting to throw your phone against a wall. Inspired by nature's sunrise, the simulator gradually increases in brightness, blooming from a soft red glow to a glorious yellow light in the space of 30 minutes. While lighting can be adjusted to suit your morning preferences; this piece of bedroom tech can double-up as a handy reading lamp to help you head off to the land of nod. Best of all, according to independent research, 92 per cent of users actually find it easier to get out of bed with a wake-up light.

Voice Activated Smart Wallet

\$69

www.ekster.com

Behold, the wallet of the future! The experts at Esker have launched the world's first voice-activated smart wallet. Created to work through Chipolo (a device tracking app), you'll be able to locate your wallet at the touch of a button via Google Assistant or Amazon Alexa, so you'll never have to worry about losing your wallet again. This also marks the launch of the first solar-charged smart wallet on the market, meaning no charging is necessary to keep your financial tech at peak performance.



TV Mirror

www.overmantels.co.uk

Flat screens are set to be a thing of the past, thanks to the invention of these sleek TV mirrors. Made using state-of-the-art glass to ensure the highest pixel quality imaginable, the smart screen can change its purpose between entertainment and vanity, switching between the beauty of 4K viewing and an elegant piece of homeware. As well as being practical, each TV is fully equipped to link with Sky, DVD players and games consoles for the ultimate on-screen experience. There are more than 80 mirror styles to choose from, all with varying heights and widths to suit your viewing needs.

THE *REGAL* AND *REBELLIOUS*

As horologists continue to push the boundaries of watchmaking to its limits, here are some of the timepieces causing a stir in the fashion world.

BY EMMET MCGONAGLE



'The HL2.3 Punk'. Credit: Hautlène



Left: 'The Encrypto' by Franck Muller
Bottom: 'The Chinese Collection' from
Bovet 1822 and Amadéo Fleurier

A far cry from its predecessors, Hautlence has cemented its standing as the 'bad boy' of watchmaking with its latest model – the HL2.3 Punk. Featuring a total of 84 studs in varying sizes, the edgy timepiece screams rebellion with its alligator strap, metallic finish and, most of all, its unapologetic brandishing of the iconic 'anarchy' symbol. Created as a unique model, this 92-jewel watch is sure to stand out from the crowd.

In similar jest, Swiss watchmaker Franck Muller has jumped on the cryptocurrency bandwagon with the launch of the world's first functional Bitcoin watch. The Encrypto's base has been designed to incorporate the QR code of Satoshi's Genesis Block address, which a two piece 'Deep Cold Storage' set contains a sealed USB to allow users to add Bitcoin to their wallet, as well as check their balance directly through the dial.

Bovet 1822 and Amadéo Fleurier have strived to embody pride and power with its 'Chinese Dragon' collection. Maison Bovet's love of Chinese culture first came into fruition when the Bovet Brother's excellence in the field of horology caught the attention of Emperor Jiaqing in 1818, with his successor Emperor Daoguang later following suit. As a fitting tribute to the company's foothold in Chinese culture, each watch takes approximately 100 hours to make, with nine different valiant dragons taking centre-stage in the collection including both traditional watches and high-end pocket watches. Each 43mm dial embodies a different interpretation of the fabled Chinese creatures, and is embellished with a clever convertible case to allow the wearer to admire their horology as a work of art, without the glare of a case. ♦



SIGN *of* THE TIMES

Today Swiss watches are synonymous with luxury and prestige, will innovation be the key to the watchmaking industry's survival?

BY MATTHEW CULE, FOUNDER OF CULEM WATCHES

The release of the Apple watch, and the many other designs that have followed suit, has revolutionised watchmaking for the first time in centuries. With ever-increasing demands on our schedules, millions of consumers are investing in the convenience of having a mini-computer strapped to their wrist. Why would you wear a watch that can only tell the time when a smart watch can answer your calls, text your friends and track your fitness goals?

Yet, for traditional and new watch collecting aficionados, a smart watch is the equivalent of a factory van to an exotic car collector – it misses the point entirely. Even watches that integrate traditional craftsmanship with the functionality of digital technology will fail to capture the attention of true collectors. The love affair with Swiss-made mechanical watches is one that can be passed on from generation to generation, with quality that will last a lifetime.

Thus, classical watchmakers have an opportunity to capitalise on and appeal to an emerging market of watch collectors: a generation that grew up with technology and rejects its omnipresence. A growing swathe of people reject wearables that 'ping' us away from the present moment. Time is a treasure, and while a watch can keep time, it shouldn't control it.

Although collectors may stick to Swiss-made classical models, consumers have come to expect a curated, technology-driven discovery and buying experience. For example, a magazine advert can now include augmented reality (AR) links, which mean if you put your phone over a photo, an immersive video about the watch can begin to play. CuleM has developed an app called Try On CuleM, so that users can try on all the watches in our first World GMT Collection from their desk or dining room table.

By utilising new technologies watchmakers can reach new, wider audiences, and can help consumers 'try on' a watch – even if they are nowhere near a retail outlet. This can lead to increased sales and help a traditional brand reach a tech-savvy audience. >





Driving future demand

Season after season, classical watchmakers release a new edition of a vintage watch – “best-selling vintage watches reimagined.” However, mature brands can no longer afford to play it safe as independent watchmakers like Akriya and Singer Reimagined challenge the likes of Rolex and Omega.

While the Swiss watchmaking industry is full of staggeringly creative and talented people, they often work for organisations driven by the bottom line and relying on their reputation and heritage – not their innovation. I believe that an overreliance on profits translates into lost creativity and a tired routine of re-releasing best-selling models.

Unlike the technology industry, where Google for example encourages its employees to focus 20 per cent of their time on side projects, traditional Swiss watch brands lack novel curiosity and innovation. For watchmaking talent, even a few hours a week focused on creativity and lateral thinking can lead to the uncovering of new and innovative designs that can transform a brand, and its earnings.

Watch brands that focus on a niche segment, establish or reestablish a clear vision and seize the opportunity to make the ideas of the past relevant in the 21st century are more likely to cement their place in the industry and its future. By looking forward, rather than to the past, the watch industry has an opportunity both to remain relevant and to reach new consumers. On the other hand, by constantly looking backwards at design, it will fail to achieve either.

Equally attracting new and retaining customers will involve embracing personalisation and customisation of watches alongside limited edition and permanent collections. Luxury watches in their broadest definition need to focus on all of these factors and give the customer what they really want – understanding the customer is more relevant now than ever before.

We live in a world where we constantly see images of luxury products and have a deep desire to have something different to everyone else. There is something very special about having something personalised or limited in number. In our inaugural first production, we made 300 watches in 10 variations. So, it's very personal – like the watch was made just for you.

Time is money

Luxury watches combine high-end craftsmanship and timeless design into a desirable object that will stay with collectors for decades to come.

These timepieces have an implied cost, however. Although price points for Swiss-made automatic watches can exceed \$100,000, watch collecting is no longer an investment beyond reach. Advancements in manufacturing and factory-direct retail business models have opened up luxury watch collecting to new markets.

These business model innovations are not about cutting costs or quality – it's about finding new, innovative ways to sell to the customer.

There will always be a place for the very high end watches like Vacheron Constantin or Laurent Ferrier, but micro-brands in the \$2,000-5,000 retail price point will be fierce competitors as consumers seek value, relevance, and an alternative to the status quo. ♦

BLOOD, SWEAT AND GEARS

Blending Italian craftsmanship with Swiss ingenuity, Meccaniche Veloci has built a timepiece empire inspired by fast cars and the smell of petrol.

BY EMMET MCGONAGLE



With the new SuperQuadro model in the works, *Elite Living Africa* spoke to Meccaniche Veloci CEO Cesare Cerrito about the blend of fortune and fate which led him to become CEO of his favourite watch brand.

According to Cesare, his meet-cute with Meccaniche Veloci happened a decade ago at the Superbike World Championship. However, their paths didn't truly intersect until 2015, when Cesare (the founder of his own private equity company), decided to sink his teeth into the elegant world of luxury watches. "I have always been passionate about engines and watches, so the acquisition of Meccaniche Veloci happened as a natural stellar alignment," began Cesare.

"The brand was born in Milan in 2006, and it broke the conventional rules of design by creating an unmistakable piston-shape watch case. Aesthetically, it embodied the Italian style, but

from a watchmaking point of view it was less appealing as it was encasing Swiss ETA movements.

"When I took over the brand in 2015 and I moved the headquarters to Geneva I decided it was time to bring the brand to the next level; we started developing our in-house calibre and we completely redesigned the case and dials.

Today, our timepieces are 100 per cent crafted in Switzerland and only equipped with in-house calibre. Finally, it is something I am very proud of."

Cesare spends months wearing the Meccaniche Veloci prototypes, fine-tuning the details for an structurally stellar watch built on the foundations of Italian style and Swiss mechanics.

"The sum of many little details make a quite tangible overall upscale quality in the final product. It is a form of respect that I feel I owe to my customers," he said. ♦

ABOVE: Cesare Cerrito maintains quality can be found in the small details of 'Meccaniche'.



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DIAMONDS IN *DUBAI*

Jewellery enthusiasts are expected to flock in their thousands to the City of Gold for this year's VOD Dubai International Jewellery Show.

BY EMMET MCGONAGLE

Taking place in Dubai's World Trade Centre, the four-day event is set to house some of the biggest names in luxury as they exhibit their best and boldest items in an avalanche of glam capable of giving Mr T a run for his money.

Created as a joint venture between Italian Exhibition Group (IEG) and Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC), the event has gained momentum over the years to become the definitive B2B and B2C jewellery event in the MENA region, with last year's festivities featuring more than 25,000 jewellery pieces from exhibitors across 21 countries, including NK Chains, Leonori, Renee Jewellers, Dhamani Jewels, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, and Oreficeria Di Rienzo. Jewellery fanatics from across 80 different countries flocked to the region for the event, with attendees hailing from India, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Russia, Kuwait and China, alongside a stark increase in visitors from central Africa.

Over the space of four days, attendees were treated to a total of 19 glamorous fashion shows – with featured brands including Kiswah Jewellery, Ferrari Firenze, Dani by Daniel K, and Azar Gems – each highlighting some of the most unique and opulent jewellery pieces on the market.

Talking trends

A range of showstopping seminars are set to take place in Dubai's picturesque World Trade Centre. Last year's event saw the International Gemological Institute (IGI) led a seminar on 'Emeralds: A Royal Gem'. The session enlightened attendees on the mystery and history attached to the green legend, with specific reference to royalty across the globe, spanning from Cleopatra to Kate Middleton.

While today's high-end fashion trends held at the epicentre of VOD DIJS, the future of the luxury market still hangs at the tip of exhibitors' tongues. Speaking at last year's events, Paola de Luca, TRENDVISION Jewellery + Forecasting, gave an overview of TrendBook 2020.

Marketed as a 'unique jewellery intelligence trend book', Trendbook monitors historical and social changes in an attempt to predict the future of the industry, pouncing on hotly-tipped trends to get ahead of competitors. As explained by Ann Lam, product development manager for fine jewellery China at Swarovski, "Trendbook explains forecast in a unique



and useful way, it gives a nice interpretation with visual product picture. It covers a wide range of product type. It not only tells us the trend, but also the directions and concepts, which is very useful for setting our own clear direction for each season."

Among these predicted trends was 'soft power', which includes apps and accessories to veer consumers away from the stress of everyday life; 'Sibylle', which searches for spirituality and wisdom as a means of overcoming personal challenges; and 'Another Man', which predicts a more vulnerable interpretation of traditional tropes of masculinity.

With a focus on developing the market as a whole, last year's event also hosted the Middle East Jewellery Designer's Forum 2018, exploring the so-called 'Era of Design' and how the luxury world will continue to shape over the next few years. The Gemological



Institute of America (GIA) also made an appearance to discuss identifying synthetic diamonds as they gain popularity on the market.

Creating links

Among the quirkiest aspects of VPD DIJS is the event's buyers program, which sees international retailers and wholesalers paired with exhibitors in an attempt to build new relationships in the luxury market. Although first launched in 2017, the program has been hailed as a success from attendees and contributors alike.

"The consolidation of this format confirms it is the most strategic, optimum and suitable considering the market dynamics. The impact of such a beneficial B2B and B2C showcase will provide a boost for Dubai's jewellery industry, and that of the entire MENA

◆
VOD Dubai International Jewellery Show has gained momentum over the years to become the definitive B2B and B2C jewellery event in the MENA region.
◆

region, going forward," remarked show director Luca Veronesi.

While The Independent Designer's Space showcases the works of six designers, opening them up to retail opportunities along the way; The Children's Competition offers children between the ages of ten and 16 the chance to channel their creative skills by designing pendants under light-hearted concepts, with last year's event pivoting around the theme of 'happiness'. While this year's theme is yet to be released, VOD Dubai International Jewellery Show is expected to make a triumphant return to the Dubai World Trade Centre, giving attendees a glimpse into the luxury mark via a plethora of showcases, exhibitions, jewels and gems.

VOD Dubai International Jewellery Show takes place on 13-16 November. ❖

GL-AMOUR AT CANNES

Taking pride of place at Cannes 2019, Avakian seized the spotlight with the launch of not one, but three jewellery collections.

BY EMMET MCGONAGLE

With more than 50 years of experience under its belt, Avakian has endeavoured to change the shape of high-end jewellery design using only the finest metals and gemstones to create stunning accessories destined to leave onlookers awestruck – needless to say, they haven't disappointed with their trio of collections.

Drawing inspiration from intricately patterned laces, the Ruby Red collection embodies Parisian passion with its near-exclusive use of Mozambican rubies, paired with classic diamonds for a stark, elegant finish.

"The idea was to create something playful with a strong colour contrast that also took inspiration from the lace patterns and the classic Toi and Moi style," remarked Haig Avakian, vice president of the company.

Bringing to light the brand's love for bold colours, the collection's Toi et Moi earrings stand alone as individual statement pieces – while one earring dons small pavé rubies, marquise-cut diamonds, trapeze-shaped tapered baguettes, a stunning marquise-cut white diamond and a ruby; its counterpart holds its own with pavé diamonds, a white mother-of-pearl, a marquise-cut diamond and an eye-catching ruby. The collection also features a dramatic ring, boasting the Toi and Moi earrings' red-and-white aesthetic alongside a showstopping white diamond, Mozambican rubies and a stream of elegant gemstones for a completely unique aesthetic. >



RIGHT: Avakian's Toi et Moi earrings
FAR RIGHT: Jade earrings
ABOVE AND RIGHT: Earrings from Avakian's Tosca collection

Brimming with 20th century flair, Avakian's Tosca collection carefully incorporates fluid lines and pearls for a classic and ultimately sophisticated aesthetic. Taking influence from the Belle Époque era in France between the end of the Franco-Prussian war in 1891 and the beginning of WWI in 1914, the collection sets out to evoke the opulence of pre-flapper fashion. Another fitting nod to Avakian's inspiration is the collection's namesake – a play by Italian composer Giacomo Puccini – evoking black-and-white notions of a grand night at the opera.

Brandishing mother-of-pearl white diamonds and pink gold, Tosca's ruby earrings are set to stun any admirers on the red carpet. Likewise, the collection's sapphire earrings are embellished with blue sapphires and white diamonds, as well as mother-of-pearl and shiny white gold. A pair of white diamond earrings also stands out from the selection, featuring mother-of-pearl and white gold, as well as detachable gem-studded strands which can be flipped for a slightly different interpretation of the enduring appeal of Tosca.

Speaking of the collection, Haig explained, "A transformable piece can be worn in a variety of stylistic variations and that's what we aim for while we design.

"Our Tosca earrings and rings are thus rendered in three variations, each comprising a changeable element. The collection of strands is reversible, with a gem stones adorning the strands on one side and a shiny metal finish on the other. We love for our jewellery to be worn in more than one way and strive to incorporate playful elements in our designs, whenever possible."

If you aren't already sold, all earrings are available with matching rings, one of which was worn by actress Praya Lundberg on the Cannes red carpet. A fitting tribute to the French flair of Belle Époque.



But it doesn't end there – Avakian has refused to shy away from lavender with its pair of jade earrings. A one-off piece, the earrings have been crafted using white gold, and offset with amethyst and white diamond.

"Pastel jewels are tricky to wear in between seasons, but you can make a glamorous statement with these jade earrings. We have added a playful aspect to our design, wherein the jade in the middle swings gently inside the earrings," said Haig.

"This makes it interesting to wear, like all our pieces," he added.

Sourced from Asia, each pear-shaped lavender jade a lighter shade of purple than their amethyst counterparts, brings forth a classic appeal commonly associated with royalty. However, in its fullest form, Avakian's jade earrings are a daring revamp on a classic aesthetic, bringing together for a finish fit for a film star. ♦

FEEL THE HEAT

Have a look at some of the high fashion brands dedicated to turning looks in all climates.

BY EMMET MCGONAGLE



Created with cool luxury in mind, Angelo Galasso is revolutionising fashion so stylish gents can stand the heat with this summer-friendly collection. Following in the footsteps of its Italian predecessors, the brand has incorporated lightweight fabrics to classic tailoring to create perfect fitting garments which are comfortable in the warmest climates.

Ideal for staying stellar in the sunshine, this pure cotton shirt will keep any wearer looking neat and sweat-patch free. Boasting a classic blue shade and

funky jacquard flower pattern, this casual-fit shirt is finished with a square Mason collar and Angelo Galasso's standard hexagonal buttons, and boasts a price tag of \$978.

Likewise, for any shoppers planning to enjoy the sunshine in the upcoming months, this pair of denim slip-on shoes is guaranteed to exude class during any smart-casual gatherings. Made with a true jeans finishing and priced at \$1,229, the shoes are embellished with Angelo Grasso's classic Araldica Crest for a luxurious finish. ❖

ABOVE: Linen luxe from Angelo Galasso.



Spanish clothing line Yolancris has been making waves in the fashion industry since its inception in 2006. A host of celebrities have proudly repped Yolancris' designs throughout the brand's 13-year lifespan, including Shakira and Christina Aguilera, with the brand taking centre stage at Monaco Grand Prix's Amber Lounge Charity Fashion Show earlier this year.

Stepping away from traditional silhouettes, Yolancris' Beyoncé-reminiscent, dress is made using metres of pleated tulle, with its volume taking inspiration from the dresses of the 1950s. The bold, Lemonade-esque yellow hue is set to turn heads, while the drama of its silhouette marks a contemporary twist on an otherwise classic look.

Likewise, this blue number is essentially the mullet of the fashion world, sporting an inverse 'business at the back, party at the front' effect which will no doubt stun onlookers, no matter how many times they've seen it. This unconventional style allows room for a pair of statement shoes – while stunning with boots, a simple pair of heels would go a long way in highlighting this dress' stature as an elegant statement piece.

Pretty in pastel pink, Yolancris' floral dress features a ruffled tail and neckline, as well as multi-layered ruffles of pleated tulle decorated with ostrich feathers for a dramatic, vibrant silhouette. The strapless dress dabbles with other neutral colours through organic motifs in green – a sure way to make an impression on a night out. ♦

ABOVE: Dresses from Yolancris' SS19 evening collection.

BUYING INTO THE LÜRSSSEN LIFESTYLE

Buying a superyacht can be a daunting task but Lürssen's advice will help make it all smooth sailing.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS

“To those who have never owned a yacht, but who have the means, you don't know what you are missing,” says John Risley. It's a decisive statement from someone who certainly speaks from experience: Risley is the ex-owner of the 63-metre Polar Star and the 75-metre Northern Star, now called Bella Vita, both highly capable superyachts built by the family-owned German yard Lürssen. But what does owning a Lürssen entail, and what is it about the superyacht lifestyle that attracts such a wide variety of individuals?

Ask a selection of owners what they love best about their yacht and they will invariably give you a range of answers, but a common theme is always the peace and privacy that a yacht affords. Privacy is a crucial factor in making a yacht feel like a home away from home – rather than a hotel – a place where you can relax and let your guard down with friends and family.

“A luxury hotel is a commercial establishment. A yacht is a home and a place to welcome and entertain family and friends. The two don't compare,” says Risley. By its very nature, a yacht affords an isolation from the outside world, something increasingly rare in this digital age. “I love the feeling of being removed from the stress of traffic and the urban pressures. The whole pace of life slows down on a boat,” adds Risley.

Shahid Khan is a well-known businessman and sports club owner, but in the superyacht industry he is known for being a repeat Lürssen owner, owning one of the most talked-about yachts since the 2015 launch of Kismet. “I wanted to own my own yacht because it's an expression of freedom and adventure that cannot be equalled, and the experience you get is one you can share with family, friends and business associates,” he says. “One of my favourite parts of being on board is knowing that anything is possible, whether it's a beautiful journey with loved ones or a celebration with hundreds of friends, old and new.”

Lürssen is a well-known name in the superyacht industry, having built some of the most famous yachts over the years, and, recently, many of the largest. The pedigree of a shipyard is certainly a top consideration for many would-be buyers.





Kismet's 95.2 metres make her one of the largest superyachts in the global fleet today, but the German yard can also lay claim to some even more impressive figures, such as building Azzam, at 180-metres the largest superyacht by length in the world, and Dilbar, 156-metres, the largest by total interior volume, at 15,917 gross tonnes. However, size isn't everything, and the yard builds yachts from 50-metres in length.

"We chose Lürssen because we wanted safety, stability, quality and lasting value," says the owner of Lady Kathryn V, a 61-metre yacht launched by the yard in 2011. "Our family always had smaller boats, and after a yachting trip as a guest, we decided we wanted our own yacht. Our times aboard Lady Kathryn V are the best times of our lives, especially when family and friends join us." Positive feedback about building a custom yacht is not hard to come by, but it can still be a long and daunting process, which is where choosing the right shipyard to build the right yacht comes in to play.

"Owning a yacht, any yacht, is a very personal experience," says Risley. "Custom yachts more so, as that experience extends to the design, the construction and the use. A yacht becomes a part of the family because it brings family together, and produces wonderful memories and happy times. I want to build my yachts with a family, and a yard owner whose handshake means something. I want to do business with people who take pride in what they do, who have a long attachment to the business, so it's not just a business, it's a passion and a source of great satisfaction."

In terms of advice for building a superyacht, Khan's is succinct: "I am biased, but I have been yachting for almost two decades, so I feel I have an educated viewpoint on this. The first thing you do is start with the best. That's Lürssen."

Like a number of owners before him, Khan has once again put his trust in the family-owned business and built more than one yacht with the German yard, the current Kismet replacing a smaller yacht launched a few years ago.

Although she was only delivered three years ago, Kismet has already travelled extensively, including to London on a number of occasions. This has to be one of the main draws of yachting: the ability to see so many new places. "I have many 'favourite places', so I cannot choose which I prefer," says Khan. "The way I look at it, cruising to any destination on Kismet is special. Wherever we end up, it's my favourite place in the world at that time."

And when it comes to onboard spaces, the choice is equally difficult: "The great thing about Kismet is that Lürssen made it possible to have multiple favourite places on board, depending on the environment, guests or event. If I were alone, I'd say it's the eagle's nest on the very top deck. When we have a party or 300-plus guests, then it's the main saloon with the two-story lounge videos. However with family, it's the bridge deck aft with the open air, beach deck and outdoor cinema."

For the owner of Lady Kathryn V, the bridge deck is also a preferred spot to relax in. "We love the bridge deck salon and bar with its 180 degree floor to ceiling views. This is one of the best parts of owning a yacht: the ever-changing view. And of course the relaxation and privacy."

Owning a superyacht is certainly luxurious, but that isn't just down to the first class service or the privacy; there is also the luxury of choice in how to spend your time. Whether relaxing in the world's hotspots or travelling to the remotest points, spontaneity is your friend, as is deciding to wake up in a new place every day.

"Being on a yacht is adventurous and truly dazzles all of your senses," says Khan. Owning a superyacht truly is an infinitely rewarding experience for those who value time with friends and family away from the eyes of the world. ♦





PRESTIGIOUS PROGRESS

Masa and Pollux, two of Heesen's most impressive projects are setting new standards in superyacht construction.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

Two of Heesen's major projects are making excellent progress, with Masa and Pollux both setting new standards in technology, build, design and interior style.

Formerly known as Project Aster, the owner has named this new yacht Masa – which means “my diamond” – during a private ceremony. Arcon Yachts from Monaco introduced the client and represented his interests throughout the construction of the 5000 Aluminium Class vessel.

Masa and Pollux are two exciting new Heesen projects.

Her exterior lines, by Frank Laupman of Omega Architects, embody Heesen's DNA: the pelican beak bow with reverse sheer and sporty mast will make Masa stand out at the marina.

But Masa's beauty does not lie exclusively in her aesthetics. This is also a major technical achievement – her 50m all-aluminium semi-displacement hull has been designed, engineered and welded by Heesen's in-house team to the smallest tolerances. With considered naval >



Chiselled lines, floor to ceiling windows, and open bulwarks characterise the exterior design of this successful class. With tenders and toys conveniently stored on the fore deck, the lazarette is entirely dedicated to the guests. The luxurious beach club and wellness area epitomises the best of yacht life.

British design studio Bannenberg & Rowell has optimised the 760GT voluminous interior of Project Pollux. It features a blend of natural, noble tones and a tailored spatial arrangement. Smoked oak chevron parquet flooring, white Thassos, grey Saint Laurent and ivory Travertine marble throughout are paired with bronze accents, fine workmanship and furnishings.

Social areas, both on the main and bridge deck, benefit from floor to ceiling windows and large aft doors offering unparalleled vistas and a seamless connection to the outdoors. The exterior decks offer guests plenty of entertainment space to enjoy life surrounded by the natural elements. The large sundeck is a haven for sun lounging, sipping drinks at the generous bar and dining al fresco.

Twelve guests are accommodated in five staterooms. The owner's apartment is located forward on the main deck. A bathroom built for two sports both a large bathtub with a view and a separate shower. Two twins and two double guest suites are located on the lower deck, while the fifth cabin, the VIP, is located on the bridge deck.

Powered by two MTU 8V 4000 M63 (IMO Tier III) diesel engines, and thanks to her slippery FDHF, Project Pollux will reach a top speed of 15.5 knots and will have a remarkable range of 4,500 nautical miles at 13 knots. ♦

architecture and precision, lightweight aluminium construction, Masa will reach a rapid top speed of 23 knots thanks to two MTU 16V 4000 diesel engines. At 50 metres and coming in below 500GT, Masa perfectly combines performance, comfort, space and refined luxury.

The interior design by Cristiano Gatto celebrates the lineage of her forebears. The décor is fresh and elegant, and combines a light palette of colours with silver to create an atmosphere throughout the yacht that exudes tranquillity. The versatile layout comprises five lower deck suites and a master stateroom on the main deck forward, giving capacity for twelve guests serviced by nine crew.

Project Pollux, meanwhile, is on track for delivery in autumn next year.

The 55m Steel Class sports a masculine profile which, just like Masa, was penned by Frank Laupman. Again, it promises to be a triumph of technology and good taste.





Since 2014, the Yacht Club de Monaco, in collaboration with the International Powerboating Federation (UIM) and Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, has played host to the Solar & Energy Boat Challenge. More than a century after the first international powerboat meetings in 1904, the YCM is reviving the tradition of innovation by leaving the field wide open to imaginative young engineers, working hand-in-hand with experienced manufacturers.

The goal is to develop alternative propulsion systems, using only clean energy sources to power the craft. It's all about giving the world a glimpse of the yachting of tomorrow – and the vision is clean and green. From 2-6 July, 33 teams, including 22 from universities, will descend on Monaco from all over the world to compete in this unique competition. As well as the contests in the bay, the club will showcase innovations and bring industry and young engineers together at conferences and

CLEAN WATERS

Innovative, eco-friendly craft will take to the waters in Monaco for the sixth year in a row.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS

tech talks. A village in the middle of the boat paddocks will be open to the public.

The Solar Class has been part of this event since 2014. These boats will be involved in match racing, slalom and endurance races. In the bay of Monaco, offshore boats will compete between the Principality and Ventimiglia, Italy, in two events: a 16nm endurance race and a second 36nm event.

“This year we decided to include a second, more demanding endurance race, as these boats are becoming increasingly competitive and we wanted to encourage them to improve their performance! With this event, we want to demonstrate that it is already possible to go by sea between these two harbours without fossil fuel on boats built to be sold as a series,” explains Marco Casiraghi, the man behind this project.

It will be a real test for power boats with eco-responsible means of propulsion, some of which are already on the market, and some of which are still in development.

Introduced last year, the Energy Class is a challenge for students. The club supplies each team with the same hull design and students work with industry partners to design the most powerful and durable propulsion system using a clean energy source of their choice.

For the 2019 edition, the onboard innovations include fuel cells, recovering heat to improve efficiency, and artificial intelligence.

“It’s very encouraging to note that the future of our planet is mobilising all generations, in all countries and all sectors. It proves attitudes are changing and that they share a common interest in environmental issues,” says club general secretary Bernard d’Alessandri.

As well as the on-water events, the club has invited the industry to reflect on the challenges posed to achieve sustainable development in the yachting sector. Keen as ever to encourage knowledge sharing, all participants have a chance to pitch their project during daily Tech Talks that are open to the public. A jury of experts will award prizes, including the Zero Emission Award and the Innovation Prize from Credit Suisse, which will help the winning team put together a business plan.

“It seems to us important to support these students in developing their project. For it to become reality, Credit Suisse wants to use their expertise to help them devise a business plan before they can take it on to the next crucial phase which is to get funding,” explains Rosa Sangiorgio, head of sustainability and impact investing – investment management at Credit Suisse. ♦

◆
Team from all over the world will descend on Monaco to compete in a unique competition, with imaginative young engineers and students working hand-in-hand with experienced manufacturers.
◆

AFRICA'S *finest*

The best of African polo will be showcased at an exclusive event in London.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS



After the blazing success of last summer, Lux Afrique is set to host the second edition of its annual polo tournament in London, the only African polo event of its kind in Europe.

This year, the pioneering event is set to be an ever grander affair, with an audience of eminent Africans and polo aficionados, who will gather for a day of glamour and festivities, and of course to witness the grand spectacle of polo, the so-called “sport of kings” played at the highest level.

The tournament will see the finest polo players that Africa has to offer, all convening in the prestigious Ham Polo Club in London, for what is set to be a thrilling match.

Last year's polo event was a colourful social spectacle.

Each year, the event showcases the up-and-coming teams from the region, championing the rapidly growing sport in Africa and providing a platform for young and emerging African talent to compete on prestigious, British ground.

This year the African teams will be battling international players for the trophy as Africa takes The Rest of the World team, a chance for African polo to shine in full brilliance.

Being so much more than a sporting event, but a celebration of African refinement and sense of occasion, the Lux Afrique Polo Day will offer a myriad of additional attractions, all adding to the glamour and fun of the day. >

From the fine dining of exquisite African cuisine courtesy of Waakye Leaf, a stunning fashion show, to live performances from first class African musicians. The dress code, expected to be embraced with full flair by attendees, will be “African boldness, polo chic”.

For those who appreciate fine motors there will be a supercar parade and show, where iconic cars will be openly presented on the lawns, for guests’ enjoyment. There will also be a luxury shopping lounge in which deluxe brands, Backes & Strauss, Montegrappa and Yoko London, will showcase their finest products, to be purchased. Other exceptional partners for the event include Remy Martin, Corinthia London, Artisan du Chocolat, FIJI Water and Val de Vie Events.

Ticket prices range from £295 per person for Platinum tickets to £59 for Standard tickets, each offering different levels of access to this exciting event. Private hospitality suites may be purchased – these cater to ultra VIP corporate and celebrity guests. An after-party will take place with DJs and dancing, so that the merriment may continue long after the day is over.

Lux Afrique will be selecting an African charity to support, and all proceeds will go directly to this worthy cause.

The event will be held on 3 August at Ham Polo Club, Richmond, London. Tickets will be available from www.luxafriquepolo.com ♦



Sex appeal in an off-road-able machine is a rarity.



THE ROADLESS TRAVELLED

Lamborghini is breaking new ground with a concept high-end off-road-capable machine that genuinely looks slick.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS



In the past decade or so, there has been a serious push towards luxury automakers stepping out of their comfort zone and producing SUVs. Some of these have genuine off-road prowess, some are more for posing than taking on rough terrain, and most will probably never see a road more challenging than a polo club car park.

Automobili Lamborghini has a longer history than some of its rivals when it comes to developing off-roaders. The Lamborghini Jarama and Urraco of the 1970s explored the potential for combining Lamborghini's high performance and off-road capabilities. Lamborghini's test driver Bob Wallace modified the two models to create desert-going high performance sports cars, the Jarama Rally from 1973 and the Urraco Rally from 1974. Then in 1977, Lamborghini produced a military-style prototype, code-named Cheetah, but this never went into production.

This set the wheels in motion for the company to develop the LM002, which launched at the 1986 Brussels Auto Show. It was never the prettiest of vehicles, but this boxy beast was made from 1986 until 1993 with 328 examples produced. Fast-forward to December 2017 and Lamborghini releases the Urus for the 2018 model year. This was the culmination of five years' work after it was first unveiled as a concept car at the 2012 Beijing Auto Show. It was clearly thrown out to the marketplace as a competitor to the Porsche Cayenne, Bentley Bentayga and Maserati Levante and, like that particular trio, the design and indeed its very reason for existence divided opinion.

The latest foray into off-road vehicles for Lamborghini takes a different turn with an unconventional concept, the Lamborghini Huracán Sterrato. It is based on the sporty skills of the V10 Huracán, as well as the technology of the Urus. The aim is to create a truly sexy sports car with off-road bona fides.

The Sterrato concept is based on the Huracán EVO, with which it shares a 5.2-litre naturally aspirated engine producing 640 hp. Inside, it's a tech-lovers dream. The Huracán EVO's LDVI (Lamborghini Dinamica Veicolo Integrata) with predictive logic, controls the Sterrato's systems including four-wheel drive, four-wheel steering, modified suspension and torque vectoring, anticipating the next moves of the driver to improve driving dynamics. Calibrated for off-road driving including low-adherence surfaces, and tuned to maximise traction and acceleration, the LDVI system in the Sterrato provides enhanced rear-wheel drive behaviour, producing more torque together with additional stabilisation in oversteering moves.

The design aims to send a message that this is an off-roader that looks sporty rather than boxy and suburban. Ground clearance is heightened by 47mm, the wheel arches are wide and it takes specially developed large tyres. Underneath, the Sterrato is reinforced and features body protection, including a rear skid plate that acts as a diffuser. Other safety features include a lightweight titanium roll cage and four-point seat belts attached to carbon bi-shell sports seats. Inside, the Sterrato has a unique interior trim reflecting its sporty off-road character, including aluminum floor panels.

"The Huracán Sterrato illustrates Lamborghini's commitment to being a future shaper: a super sports car with off-road capabilities, the Sterrato demonstrates the Huracán's versatility and opens the door to yet another benchmark of driving emotion and performance," said Maurizio Reggiani, chief technical officer of Automobili Lamborghini. "Lamborghini's R&D and design teams are constantly exploring new opportunities and delivering the unexpected as a core characteristic of our DNA, challenging possibilities while inspired by Lamborghini brand heritage." ♦





BIGGER THAN EVER

The Dubai International Motor Show continues to go from strength to strength.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

In the United Arab Emirates, the annual motor show alternates between Dubai and Abu Dhabi. This year, it's Dubai's turn to once again showcase a world of fine automobiles, whether they are the latest luxury models, wonderful classics or the more practical vehicles. Whether you're a casual car fancier or a committed petrolhead, the Dubai International Motor Show (DIMS) provides plenty to catch the eye and tempt wandering hands to credit cards and chequebooks.

For 2019, DIMS is divided into eight sectors – Exotic Supercars; Luxury & Lifestyle; Outdoor & Leisure Sports Vehicles; Car Manufacturers; Test Drive Fiesta; Tuning, Components & Services; Future Mobility; and Light Commercial Vehicles.

The Exotic Supercars sector is a great place to spot not only the established supercar brands but also the up-and-coming entrants to this market. This is a great place to be among the first to see the newcomers before they become household names and possibly to make an early investment in something that could become truly valuable – and will certainly turn heads on the road, regardless of the value.

For those who are seeking the very best in adventurous motoring, the Outdoor & Leisure Sports Vehicles sector provides all the toys, as well as the serious kit one needs to go off-roading, particularly on bikes, in safety, comfort and style. This sector of the show allows adrenalin junkies to check out the ultimate products in the bike, trike and quad markets, complete with thrilling open air activities to showcase the capabilities of these rough terrain stars.

The car manufacturers sector is always popular with DIMS visitors – here, you can see the whole gamut of the international motoring market, where luxury cars rub fenders with the mass-produced models. Already, many top manufacturers from Europe, North America and Asia have confirmed their participation in this year's event. And in an exciting first for DIMS, there will be test-drive opportunities for visitors so anyone who is in the market for a new set of wheels can experience the power and performance of the vehicle before making that important decision.

DIMS is not just about luxury on wheels. The Luxury & Lifestyle sector promotes the tantalising accessories that go hand in hand with the high-end motoring scene. Visitors can expect to see watches, jewellery and even furniture to go with whatever automotive treats are in the garage. ❖



LONDON... WITH A *TWIST*

There's a new breed of hotel in London
and it combines luxury with character.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS





Sea Containers London is located on the Southbank. This prime position means uninterrupted views of the River Thames and landmarks, such as the Houses of Parliament, as well as easy access to some of the city's cultural highlights, such as the Tate Modern, the National Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe and the Royal Festival hall. It is a 359-room hotel with a maritime-inspired design. The copper-clad exterior is inspired by the hull of a 1920s cruise liner and guest rooms are kitted out with furniture that mixes the modern with the retro. Lyanes is the bar, a stylish place for a drink, plus there is a stunning spa for a spot of well-deserved relaxation, and an intimate 56-seat cinema.

On the other side of the river, in equally convenient Marylebone, is the AKA Marylebone, one of 12 AKA hotels spread across New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Los Angeles and now London. The Marylebone property is in striking distance of the theatres of the West End and the retail therapy opportunities of Mayfair, New Bond and Old Bond. It offers an alternative to anonymous hotel rooms as this is a development of serviced residences set within a historic 1920s building which has been sympathetically restored to blend contemporary design with original charm.

Guests can choose from studio apartments, one- or two-bedroom suites, as well as the Mews House with a private enclosed garage. The extended stay suites are individually designed, guests can sleep in luxurious linens, and they are equipped with gourmet kitchens and modern bathrooms. This property is an excellent option for guests on extended stays in London, seeking a home-away-from-home vibe.

For an intimate, elegant London sojourn, The Hari in beautiful Belgravia offers five-star luxury and plenty of privacy. It is close to Harrods, Buckingham Palace, Hyde Park, the Royal Albert Hall and many of London's most famous and beloved museums. The rooms are subtle but luxurious from the bedding to the bathrooms and discreet, well-informed staff are happy to share their local knowledge with guests so they can make the most of the British capital's entertainment and dining experiences. The next step for The Hari Group, which operates The Hari, will be the opening of a sister hotel in Hong Kong.

Hotels from the Small Luxury Hotel Group are also setting new standards in London luxury, offering plenty of charm and quirkiness without the stuffiness. There is certainly an intellectual bent to the group's London properties with themes of science, nature and academia abounding. >

Samuel Johnson once said that if a man is tired of London, he is tired of life. He may indeed have a point as many a London aficionado will gleefully tell you. But for some, the time is ripe to mix up one's London experience. Sure, the British capital is known for its classic hotels, the established old favourites that have been around for more than 100 years in some cases, but there are some new players in the London hotel scene. They offer all the comforts and coddling you expect from the traditional properties – but with added character, quirkiness and a new attitude to high-end accommodation.

There are three Preferred Hotels & Resorts properties in London that are proving worthy rivals to the stalwart hotels that have dominated the luxury accommodation scene for longer than most of us have been alive. For the traveller who seeks something a bit left of centre, without sacrificing creature comforts, these hotels are worth a look. And for those who are in town on business, they provide the facilities you need to get some work done, charismatic places to hold meetings and great locations to experience the best of London life.

◆
The time is ripe to mix up your London experience with hotels that offer all the comforts and coddling of a traditional property but with added character and quirkiness
◆

LEFT: Sea Containers on the Southbank. ABOVE: Vintry & Mercer's terrace.



The Ampersand Hotel in South Kensington, the part of town best known for its magnificent museums, is becoming well known for its afternoon teas. The fine English tradition of high tea is a reason for out-of-towners and Londoners alike to descend upon The Ampersand. Inspired by the nearby Science Museum, this is an interactive, award-winning afternoon tea where diners enjoy the tastes, sights and even sounds of food with innovative dishes. Favourites include the chocolate spacemen and dinosaur biscuits.

In the lush rooms, the academic themes continue with single rooms inspired by astronomy, music-inspired Superior rooms, bird-inspired Deluxe rooms and geometry-inspired suites. The Academy, meanwhile, is a hidden delight, a boutique hotel in Bloomsbury with just 50 rooms. Located in a row of typically London terrace houses, it offers an authentic experience, blissful privacy and plenty of sumptuous style.

It pays homage to the Bloomsbury Set, an influential - and sometimes notorious - group of writers, intellectuals, philosophers and artists including Virginia Woolf, E.M Forster and John Maynard Keynes. They made that part of London their home in the early 20th century, their lifestyles and their works all a reaction to the less liberal Victorian era which had come before. ➤

◆
There is a strong intellectual theme with these hotels, with inspiration from science, astronomy, birdlife, music and even geometry.
 ◆

ABOVE: Sea Containers.
 RIGHT: The Hari.
 FAR RIGHT: The Academy.



There is a strong focus on creativity with The Genius Lab and the Alchemy Bar providing spaces for people to meet, network and share ideas, while the rooms are timeless in design. It's easy to imagine a writer or artist gazing out the window into the terraced street for inspiration.

While Sea Containers offers a slice of Southbank life, across the Thames on the northside of the river is Vintry & Mercer hotel in the Mansion House neighbourhood. Tucked among the buildings which were guildhalls in days gone by, the area is famed for its narrow alleyways where you know that if the old brick walls could talk, they would have plenty of gossip to impart. Harking back to the days of lively international trade on the Thames, the streets surrounding the hotel have such evocative names as Saffron, Cinnamon, Wine and Honey.

The 92 rooms feature plush velvet bedheads, wallpaper that you will want to have in your own home and, if you check into a studio or suite, you will enjoy big, beautiful views from large windows. But if you really want to see the best of London from this hotel, the Mercer rooftop terrace is the place to be. From here, you can enjoy views from the iconic dome of St Paul's Cathedral, across to the Shard at London Bridge, the tallest building in western Europe. And on those nights where the weather is more typically London, DND, the basement bar is a splendid spot for a drink, 1920s speakeasy-style.

www.seacontainerslondon.com
www.stayaka.com/aka-marylebone
www.thehari.com ❖



THE LATITUDE LIFESTYLE

Lovers of luxury travel in London received a sneak preview of a new hotel for Kampala.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS



The Latitude brand already has a fascinating history, starting with an idea that came about by the shores of a lake. This culminated in the 2012 launch of Latitude 13° in Lilongwe, Malawi, a boutique hotel that soon proved popular with guests from embassies, NGOs and business people. The next project was Latitude 15°, which opened in Lusaka in 2014. And now there are plans afoot for Latitude 0° in Kampala.

At a special function in London, guests were treated to an early preview of the Kampala property, with stunning photographs around the room. It soon became clear that the Latitude brand is ambitious and Africa-focused with a strong commitment to sustainability.

African art plays an essential role in the decor of the Latitude hotels, including curated original works forming lobby centrepieces, hand-beaded

textiles in the rooms and suites, and recycled furniture, turning unwanted items into genuine treasures. Guests at the London event were able to learn more about the unique adornments at the hotels, along with the important work the company has been doing with creating jobs and working with charities to make a real difference.

As the music played and the refreshing cocktails flowed freely, it was clear that there was plenty of enthusiasm for Latitude's unique take on African hospitality. With plans to open more hotels across the continent in the coming years, it is clear that there is certainly a strong market for hotels on the continent that are a blissful departure from anonymous, soulless chain hotels that could be anywhere in the world. The Latitude brand is ably demonstrating that Africa is synonymous with great hospitality in luxurious and stunning settings.

The Latitude launch party for the new Kampala hotel was a lively event in London.

ELITE LIVING AFRICA

The magazine for Africa's international elite



ELITE LIVING AFRICA ONLINE

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

Mexico Set

For its Latin American debut, Nobu Hotel has decided to make its mark on the sugary sands the west coast of Mexico. Nobu Hotel Los Cabos has a unique Japanese beach chic theme – a stylish aesthetic of contemporary Japanese minimalism using locally sourced materials. Surrounded by the world-famous Diamante golf course, designed by Tiger Woods, guests will have access to four pools, private cabanas and an enormous spa.

www.loscabos.nobuhotels.com



This July, the beaches and gardens of Pimalai Resort & Spa in Koh Lanta will welcome fitness fanatics for Zenergy, the world's first luxury yoga festival. The five-day experience gives guests the chance to stay fit, active and spiritual in paradise.

As well as a variety of yoga classes, guests can try Thai boxing to circuit training, HIIT classes and weight training.

www.pimalai.com



Sun salutes

If you're in Edinburgh, a gin-tasting tour is a fine way to wile away an afternoon. Real Mary King's Close, located underneath the Scottish capital's famous Royal Mile, has teamed up with local herb and gin experts to give visitors an opportunity to learn about fine gins and experience a few along the way. The tours will take place every Wednesday in August and every Saturday in September. We'll drink to that...

www.theoldcuriosity.co.uk



Cheers!

Two stunning properties have opened on Mykonos, Kenshō Ornos and Kenshō Psarou. The Ornos hotel has just 25 blissed out rooms and 10 stellar suites for a truly intimate experience. As a bonus, the mixologist is on hand to make your favourite cocktails to order. Meanwhile, the Psarou hotel is a boho-chic paradise. Each suite comes with a private outdoor hot tub or plunge pool and the restaurant serves a fabulous fusion of Greek, Japanese and Peruvian flavours.

www.kenshomykonos.com

Marvellous Mykonos



All-in luxury

All-inclusive luxury is looking more glorious than ever with the new Casa Marron, launched by GrecoTel in the pristine Peloponnese, overlooking the golden sands of Lakopetra and surrounded by olive trees. Casa Marron borrows its name from the colour of the fertile Peloponnesian land contrasted against the blue waters of the Ionian Sea. There is a choice of 13 bars and restaurants and the theme is unpretentious luxury. www.casamarron.grecotel.com



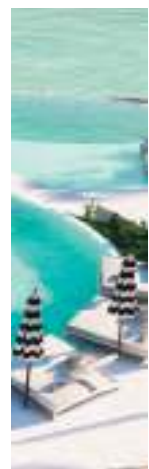
Le Blanc Spa Resort Cancun has unveiled a \$30 million renovation. The grand reopening features extensive enhancements to its interiors and exteriors, including a redesigned lobby, space, well-appointed new designer guest suites, redefined restaurants with gourmet menu and upgraded bars and lounges. The ultimate adults-only escape. www.leblancsparesorts.com

Blanc
beauty



Blessed bliss

BLESS Hotel Ibiza has opened its doors. It is the second opening from Palladium Hotel Group's new contemporary luxury brand – BLESS Collection Hotels, which is built around the concept of hedonistic luxury. The first hotel opened in Madrid in January and further hotels will be rolled out in cities and international beachfront destinations. The Ibiza hotel is a 151-room extravaganza with interiors inspired by Coco Chanel. www.blesscollectionhotels.com



InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort celebrated seven years of true hospitality. Designed by legendary architect Bill Bensley, the luxury resort became an architectural icon when it opened, showcasing the best of Vietnamese culture in a mythical 39-hectare paradise. This year, the resort introduced A Taste of Luxury, a series of premium gastronomic experiences at award-winning restaurant La Maison 1888, with the next ones on 10 July and 31 August. www.danang.intercontinental.com

Lucky seven



CONTINENTAL COLLECTIONS

Some of the finest wines and spirits from Europe and the UK went under the hammer in London.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

Consumers and collectors are drawn to wine and spirits auctions with equal enthusiasm. Whether someone is seeking something special to toast a special occasion or delight a dinner party, or they view their purchase as a serious investment, the speculation and polite hubris of a wine auction is a wonderful experience. London-based Chiswick Auctions held an auction where they carefully sourced bottles based on their collectability and their drinkability. The team, made up of Sam Hellyer, Chris Burr and Christopher Cooper, curated a collection of limited edition, never-to-be-seen-again, money-can't-buy experiences that went under the hammer in June this year. The team went to great lengths to ensure the lots were lovingly described so buyers knew what sort of experience they were purchasing, especially if they fell on the side of the consumer rather than the collector.

A lucky 13 bottles of 1989 Chateau Angelus Saint-Emilion, Bordeaux, Premier Grand Cru Classé 'A' was sold for £2,800. This was the first vintage after Chateau l'Angelus dropped the "1" and is considered among their finest vintages. When it was awarded 97 Parker points in 2012, it was described as "very intense, powerful bouquet with blackberry, cedar, cooked meat and a little Christmas cake."

A truly historic lot, a single bottle of Chateau Mouton Rothschild 1945, sold for £4,300. It was labelled R.C. – Réserve du Chateau – indicating it was either not exported and remained in the Mouton Rothschild cellars, or when the bottle was presented for re-corking by the owner the label was replaced by the Chateau along with the cork. >



FACING PAGE: A set of 13 bottles of 1989 Chateau Angelus fetched £2,800. THIS PAGE: Keen collectors will have to decide whether to store or consume this rare Glenlivet, a 1945 Chateau Mouton Rothschild and a 2000 Bollinger, the baby of the group.

For lovers of bubbly, a 2000 Bollinger R.D vintage, released in 2002 as the “Bollinger Experience”, was sold for £2,000. It was meant to appear in the 2002 James Bond film “Die Another Day” but the scene was cut.

This lot consists of one Bollinger display table, ice bucket, eight Bollinger Riedel glasses stored in compartments on the side of the table and a numbered Jeroboam of Bollinger R.D. 2000. It is one of only 350 Jeroboams released, numbered 7 of 350. The 2000 Vintage was not released in any other bottle format, the 350 Jeroboams represent the entire production of the 2000 vintage.

Whisky connoisseurs were treated to some special lots as well. A quirky collection of six bottles of single malt whisky bottled and labelled for the Signatory Vintage Scotch Whisky sold for £3,200. Each bottle is named for the original recipient, one Anne Linder. The six whiskies comprised an Edradour 1989 (bottled 2002); Tamdhu 1970 (bottled 1996); Macallan 1971 (bottled 2000); Balmenach 1973 (bottled 1995); Royal Brackla 1975 (bottled 1998); and Clynelish 1984 (bottled 2001).

Another fine historic lot, a bottle of Glenlivet from 1946 sold for £800. In Britain, the Second World War had ended the previous year and barley was still desperately short on supply and needed as a food stock. As a result of this, very little whisky was made and limited production was made for mostly export to help bolster the British economy, rather than being purchased by whisky buffs to keep for long term ageing.

To find out when the next Chiswick Auctions sale will be held, go to www.chiswickauctions.co.uk ❖





AFRICA RISING

A Sotheby's Auction has shown there is serious money in the contemporary African art market.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS

The contemporary African art market is on the ascent and there are no signs of slowing down. At Sotheby's fourth dedicated sale of modern African art, held this year in London, sales totalled £2.3 million. And it's African buyers who are coming out in force, showing strong support for art from across the continent. At this particular auction, buyers from Africa accounted for 70 per cent of the total sold-by value.

One of the stand-out lots was El Anatsui's shimmering tapestry made of aluminium bottle caps. Entitled "Zebra Crossing 2", it doubled the estimate to make £1.1 million.

New records were set for 11 other artists – Omar Ba, Alexander Skuner Boghossian, Abdoulaye Aboudia Diarrassouba, Salah Elmur, Hassan El Glaoui, Ablade Glover (left), Eddy Kamuanga Ilunga, Malangatana Ngwenya, JD Okhai Ojeikere, Hussein Shariffe and Ernesto Shikhani.

"Exceeding all pre-sale expectations, today's auction reflects the continued strength of, and appreciation for, the Modern and Contemporary African Art market. Standing at the forefront of the field, Sotheby's sale saw a multitude of new records for artists from across the African diaspora, including the father of Congolese 'Popular' painting Chéri Samba, Moroccan master Hassan El Glaoui, and rising star Eddy Kamuanga Ilunga. We also saw a fantastic result for Ghanaian artist El Anatsui, who will be representing the country for the first time at the Venice Biennale later this year. Today's auction signals a continued international interest in the category, spanning the African continent and extending across the globe." >



The sale was led by contemporary Ghanaian artist El Anatsui, whose metallic aluminium bottle cap tapestry, titled *Zebra Crossing 2*, achieved £1.1 million (est. £550,000-750,000), after competitive bidding pushed the final total well above the pre-sale estimate, and establishing the third highest price for a work by the artist at auction.

Other highlights include works by Frederic Trigo Piula (above); Peter Clarke (above right); Malangatana Ngwenya (right); and Uzo Egonu (far right).

A powerful celebration of his homeland, Hassan El Glaoui's *La Sortie du Roi* sold for £137,500 (est. £80,000-120,000), achieving an auction record for the artist. New heights were reached for rising star Eddy Kamuanga Ilunga, aged just 28, when *Palm* sold for £81,250, storming past the previous record of £65,000 set at Sotheby's London in March last year. Congolese artist and co-founder of the 'Popular Painting' movement, Chéri Samba's glittering *J'aime la couleur* from 2005 realised £93,750 (est. £40,000-60,000).

The stellar results for African artists, with enormous support from African buyers, shows the contemporary African art market is in robust good health. ♦







TOP: Caravaggio's dark, brilliant masterpieces end the first half of the art auction year in Europe on a high note. ABOVE: Monet's water lilies series of paintings is a tried-and-tested way for an auctioneer to break records.



THE MASTERPIECE MARKET

The first half of 2019 may close with a truly spectacular art auction.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

The European art market has seen major sales in Paris, the 50th edition of Art Basel and London in the first half of 2019. But before this semester of sales comes to a close, there may be one last big money hurrah from the south of France. A dramatic, if somewhat bloodthirsty, masterpiece by Michelangelo Merisi, better known as Caravaggio, will be on sale on 27 June.

Judith and Holofernes, painted around 1607, will go under the hammer in Toulouse, to the delight of Thierry Ehrmann, Artprice's founder and CEO: "The first semester of 2019 could end with a kind of revolution on the French Art market. And for once... it's a French initiative. An extraordinary masterpiece is being auctioned far from the major capitals... far from the major auction houses... and with no reserve price! The Caravaggio painting is so powerful and has such an extraordinary history, it doesn't need any guarantees."

The painting could fetch up to \$170 million. Toulouse is where the painting was found, by chance, in an attic five years ago. Since receiving its export visa, the *Judith and Holofernes* painting has been exhibited at the Colnaghi gallery in London, at kamel mennour in Paris and at Adam Williams in New York.

The last Caravaggio sale dates back to 1971 when his painting *Martha and Mary Magdalene* failed to sell at Christie's in London. There was a long shadow cast over this sale because of doubts around its attribution. After the Detroit Institute of Art acquired it in 1973, the authenticity of the work was universally recognised and the painting is today considered an undisputed Caravaggio masterpiece.

"It represents the only opportunity they [museums and galleries] will ever get to acquire a Caravaggio," warns art expert Eric Turquin. "It could be 40 or 50 years before another work is found."

In complete contrast to the dark work of Caravaggio, Claude Monet has been in the spotlight. So far this year, Monet is the world's best selling artist on the global auction market with 17 works having already generated more than \$200 million. The year started badly when his *Weeping Willow and Water-Lily Pond* (1916-19) failed to sell at Christie's in London on 28 February. The best offer of \$55 million (including fees) was below the seller's minimum price pretension. However, far from being harmful to his market, that failure contributed to a healthy balance between supply and demand. Of the twenty Monet works put on sale during the first six months of this year, more than 80 per cent were sold.

There is clearly no lack of demand for Monet's work. On 14 May, one of his *Haystacks* paintings (1890) was offered at Sotheby's New York with a low estimate of \$55 million. The painting sold for \$110.5 million, setting a new world record for an Impressionist artwork. The value accretion, from \$2.5 million in 1986 (Christie's), speaks for itself. On 19 June in London, Sotheby's will be offering another *Water Lilies* (1908) painting that has never previously been sold publicly. It looks like the first half of 2019 in the art auction world will close with some truly spectacular sales of major works in dramatically contrasting styles. ❖





THE FOUND *LINK*

An up and coming Korean artist
is growing his profile on the
world stage thanks to MB&F.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

While MB&F is best known for creating some of the most dramatic and exciting watches on the luxury market today, the Geneva horologists are carving out a niche in the art world too. MB&F's M.A.D. Gallery – with the acronym meaning “Mechanical Art Devices” – showcases some incredible pieces at their locations in Geneva, Dubai, Hong Kong and Taipei.

At the Geneva gallery, MB&F is showing off the powerful work of Korean sculptor Young-Deok Seo, who uses intriguing sculptures to reveal the complexities of the human character. The exhibition is simply called LINK.

His creative process is certainly insense. Through a meticulous and laborious process of welding chain to shape human figures, Young-Deok has created an impressive ensemble of art. For him, the intertwined chain conveys the power and fragility of humankind during chaotic industrialisation.

“It is my intention to feel what the audience sees, to reveal emotions directly without avoiding them,” expresses Young-Deok about his three-dimensional works. “If they feel it’s beautiful, it will be beautiful, and if they think it’s ugly, it will be ugly; my direction is to be as honest as possible.”

Young-Deok’s collection of contemporary sculptures tells people’s stories and expresses human feelings evoking genuine emotions from its observers. He has immense talent and fervour, which is apparent through his brilliant and unconventional use of the simple link chain to create powerful works of art.

Apart from the obvious use of the word “link” to describe the physical construction of a chain, the exhibition’s title has a wider meaning. LINK is a relationship between two things. The entangled sculptures in the LINK collection connect the relatively harsh medium of metal chain with the softness of the human body, suggesting that the human spirit is repressed by today’s industrial and materialistic civilisation.

Among the works is a piece entitled “The thinker 300”. The thinker is a faceless male figure sitting with his chin resting on his hand and slumped on his knees perhaps contemplating the world’s problems. Made of iron bike chain, each link positioned ever so carefully shapes muscles and appears as skin of the human body. This pondering sculpture, weighing 60kg and measuring 122cm tall, is the largest sculpture in the collection.

Another work, Anguish 23, appears to be a classical bust sculpture; however, a closer look reveals that this is not the case. Stainless steel industrial chain links intertwining and twisting through the work transform into the head, the face left to the viewer’s imagination. The human figure in Meditation 285 is crafted with iron bike chain rusted to evoke an aged feeling, poised in a half-crouched, half-kneeling position with elegantly outstretched arms. The facelessness of the



◆
“I came across a pile of metal chain on the street and I felt like I was looking at a jerking human being. I thought I might make a human body with this chain, so I started learning welding to apply to my artistic work”
◆

Young - Deok Seo has joined forces with MB&F to raise his profile in the art world.

sculpture generates thought, emotion, and curiosity in the observer. Meditation 130 focuses on peacefulness, the face with eyes gently closed and the lips at rest. And Nirvana 37 portrays a state of perfect happiness, nirvana, the final goal of Buddhism. Even with the intricacies of the woven stainless steel chain, the face of this sculpture evokes stillness.

His pieces contain a number in the title for a reason – it is the length in metres of chain used to create the work.

“One day, I came across a pile of metal chain dumped on the street,” Young-Deok says when asked to describe the inspiration for his medium of choice, “It seemed a machine-like thing wriggling as if it had life. I felt like I was looking at a jerking human being lying on the street. At that moment, I thought I might make a human body with this chain, which might be the best material to describe entangled lives of contemporaries. So I started to learn welding techniques and tried to apply them to my artistic work.”◆

GREECE PLEASE!

With its famous viticulture and world-class food, Tinos is an engaging place, with a lively, passionate community spread throughout its 50 picturesque villages.

WORDS BY RHONITA PATNAIK



INVITING SUNSETS, TINOS, GREECE

\$18.7mn

Sotheby's International Realty

This is an exceptional property that stands in a 5,700 sq m plot within a 115,000 sq m private gated peninsula shared with just 10 unique residences. Walk to any side of the peninsula and you will discover endless sandy beaches, the closest of which is only 150m away from this wonderful home.

The interior of the house has custom-made furnishings throughout and bespoke art pieces, offering a chic lifestyle. The property is designed and constructed by one of the leading

architectural teams in Greece and stands on a hilltop enjoying panoramic sea views of the Aegean Sea and a number of the gorgeous Cycladic islands. The island of Tinos is known for its sacred Greek Orthodox pilgrimage as well as its natural beauty, marble ornamented villages, hidden bays, dovecotes, terraced hillsides and misty mountains. At the back of the peninsula lies the traditional village of Kardiani where you can discover authentic Greek life. ❖





THE LAKES VILLA, DUBAI

\$3.5m

LUXHABITAT

Set adjacent to the park in Hattan 2, and backing to the lake, this rare villa is adjacent to a lake. The size of the home is spacious with elegant touches oozing real class and good taste, adding character but without overpowering. The rooms of the living space are extended to the back, with large open glazing creating an entire wall of subtle light. The three living areas flow well together and the flooring is replaced with high-grade modern tile and elegant fixtures and cornicing. The kitchen is upgraded in a contemporary style with good lighting, elegant character and taste. The bathrooms through the home have all been upgraded in a neutral grey tile, in a modern hotel style which adds a unique elegance through the whole property. The walls throughout the property are papered in a classic stripe with relief detail to the walls and well-laid carpet underfoot on the stairways. There is a terrace overlooking the lake on the top floor. The pool is elegantly set around with oriental figurines and lush palms. The side of the property has a well-hidden but incredibly spacious additional building, which houses an enormous cinema room, with a pool table and plenty of space for entertaining.



- Private pool
- Cinema room
- Golf course
- Pet-friendly



UPPER PHILLIMORE GARDENS, KENSINGTON, LONDON

\$37.8m

Located on one of London's finest residential addresses, this 10-bedroom house has been extensively remodelled and re-designed to the most exacting standards and utilising some of the most luxurious finishes available.

Set behind its own landscaped front garden, the entrance to the house is approached via steps that lead up and into the gracious entrance hall which in turn leads onto all three of the principal rooms on the raised ground floor.

The drawing room is elegant with a stunning bay that features French windows. The kitchen/breakfast room offers a more relaxed informal style with huge south facing windows flooding the room with natural light. The master suite is on the first floor and comprises of generous his-and-her dressing rooms and bathrooms as well as access to a delightful roof terrace.

The additional bedrooms are bright and well proportioned, most having their own en suite bathrooms/shower rooms.

The sub-basement comprises the spectacular home cinema with seating for up to 12 people, the temperature controlled wine vault with storage for up to 1,251 bottles, the utility room and plant rooms. There is the facility to have an additional staff kitchen at this level if required.







ETOILE FRANÇOIS PREMIER, PARIS

\$6m

Vingt Paris

Situated in the heart of Paris' famous 'Golden Triangle', this magnificent property occupies the entire third floor of a historic building and boasts a long balcony overlooking the streets below.

Situated in a calm but central location, this exceptional apartment is just a few steps from the city's most famous avenue, the Champs-Élysées. The building dates from the 1800s and the property features parquet flooring, exquisite mouldings and an original working fireplace.

The imposing entrance hall opens onto two salons – one a reception lounge and the other a television lounge – both with access to the balcony and a stunning view on historic properties. The first of the two bedroom suites is very spacious, with a dressing room and private bathroom, while the second has a dressing room and private bathroom too. There is a guest toilet, cloakroom and a laundry room.

Installed throughout with the latest technology, including air-conditioning, a sound and lighting system and security features, there is an elevator, 24-hour caretaker services and a cellar.





THE WHITE HOUSE, HAR- BOUR ISLAND, BAHAMAS

POA

Sotheby's International Realty

Designed by Parisian architects and located in Harbour Island's most prestigious neighbourhood, 'The White House' is the epitome of beachfront luxury and elegance. The residence is reached by a long stretch of paved drive lined with swaying coconut palms and brilliant blooming bougainvillea which leads to the home's elevated entrance.

Upon entering the house under the shade of a covered terrace, guests are greeted by a bright and naturally lighted foyer that leads to an open-plan kitchen and Great Room with crisp white décor, vaulted tongue-and-groove ceilings and floors made of honed Turkish travertine. Floor-to-ceiling windows and doors offer stunning views of Harbour Island's famous Pink Sand Beach. The generously proportioned eat-in kitchen was designed and built in Rome and comes fully equipped with all Miele appliances.

The White House is a sophisticated island retreat, offering a multitude of indoor and outdoor entertaining spaces. There are expansive sun decks, a dining pavilion and an outdoor kitchen. The home's lower level features kids' bunk rooms, a games room and beach storage lockers.

With furniture custom-made in St Rémy de Provence by Bérangère Leroy, wood imported from Indonesia, and bathroom fixtures from Italy, this estate has been meticulously designed to be the perfect Bahamas beach house – comfortably elegant, stylishly chic and set in one of the most spectacular locations imaginable.



- 6 bedrooms
- Hardwood flooring
- Walk-in closets
- Island retreat



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