# ELITELING AFRICA

COLOUR AND CREATIVITY: TANTALISING
TIMEPIECES FROM SIHH

STUNNING BRIDAL TRENDS FROM AFRICAN DESIGNERS

GENEVA INTERNATIONAL MOTOR SHOW PREVIEW

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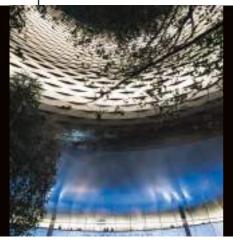




### Luxury events

From Cape Town to Dubai, via Abu Dhabi and Australia, here is a round-up of some of the most prestigious events for lovers of art, culture and sport. Whether you enjoy fast cars under sunny skies or an eclectic art exhibition, here are some prime diary dates.

# 22-27 March



#### Shine on

#### Baselworld. 22-27 March, Basel

Baselworld, a leading show for watches, jewellery and gemstones, will return for 2018. Last year marked 100 years since the show's inaugural edition and saw 1,300 exhibitors from 40 countries descend upon MCH Swiss Exhibition Centre in Basel. The 2018 edition will be held over six days instead of eight and will discuss global trends in the watch and jewellery sector. The event offers a networking platform for luxury watch and jewellery brands and the opportunity to showcase their latest creations to industry professionals. www.baselworld.com

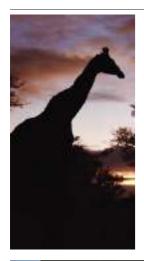
#### East meets west

#### Co-Lab: Contemporary Art and Savoir-faire. Louvre Abu Dhabi

This exhibition combines four UAE artists and four historical French manufacturers. It is part of the Emirati-French Cultural Programme: Dialogue with Louvre Abu Dhabi, established by the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi and France's Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Culture and the Institut Français. The programme is based on Emirati and French cultural traditions. www.louvreabudbabi.ae



# On Track Australian Grand Prix. Melbourne The Formula One season opens with the Australian Grand Prix in the southern city of Melbourne. While the grid girls may be a thing of the past at this year's F1 races, the weekend promises to be as glamorous as always. Will Lewis Hamilton prevail once again this season or will one of his many on-track rivals break his domination in 2018? \*\*www.grandprix.com.au\*\* 25 Weareh



#### Safari style

International Luxury Travel Market Africa, Cape Town

Now in its fourth year, this year's edition will take place at the Cape Town International Convention Centre and will offer buyers and exhibitors a bespoke appointment programme, giving them both the opportunity to choose up to 57 appointments from a community of elite buyers and suppliers. www.iltm.com



#### Sail away

Dubai International Boat Show. Dubai Canal, Jumeirah The Dubai International Boat Show moves from its former Dubai Marina location to the

equally picturesque Dubai Canal. The show promises everything from the world's most luxurious superyachts through to all the toys you will ever need to have fun in the water.

www.boatsbowdubai.com



# March 20 and 27



## Sacred song

Grace Notes, St John's Church, Wynberg
Following a premiere in France in 2016 and sell-out
performances in Cape Town last year, this concert of a
cappella sacred music juxtaposes ancient and modern
music from Africa and Europe. The concerts will be
curated by Thuthuka Sibisi, conducted by Marvin Kernelle
and features the Cape Town Opera Chorus.

www.capetownopera.co.za



### Fizzy fun

#### Veuve Clicquot Masters Polo, Cape Town

The Veuve Clicquot Masters Polo returns to the prestigious Val de Vie Estate for 2018. The event pairs one of the oldest equestrian sports in the world, with one of the world's most unrivalled champagnes. Now in its eighth incarnation, the theme for this year's polo is 'Cape Town Summer'. www.vcmasterspolo.co.za



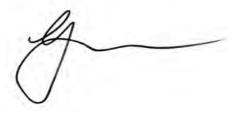
# WELCOME

n this issue of *Elite Living Africa*, we have a strong focus on the picturesque Swiss city of Geneva. Hiriyti Bairu, our deputy editor, visited Geneva for Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie, the annual convention for the world's most exclusive watches. Her report is on page 18. Meanwhile, on page 44 we preview the 88th Geneva International Motor Show, which is always a much-anticipated event for lovers of fine automobiles. This year's event again promises to be spectacular. And on page 64, Jennyfer Ideh, our art specialist, writes about her experiences at the PAD art and design fair, which made its Geneva debut at the start of February.

As well as our Geneva International Motor Show preview, we take a look at this year's Sasol GTC Championship, which has become a popular event on the African motorsport calendar for spectators and aspiring team owners alike.

For those seeking a more relaxed pace, turn to page 52 for our Zanzibar travel feature. It offers an enticing blend of pure relaxation and fascinating sightseeing and Ipshita Sharma, our holiday insider, tells you everything you need to know to experience this tantalising Tanzanian archipelago in style and luxury. Elsewhere in this issue, we feature romantic wedding dress trends (page 28) and a profile of Thandie Newton (page 10), an enduring star with a cross-cultural career.

Elite Living Africa will be at the Dubai International Boat Show – Heesen, our cover star, will be there so check out their stunning superyachts if you're in town.



Georgia Lewis Managing Editor



Enjoy our current issue online at www.elitelivingafrica.com

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#### RETREAT INTO A WORLD OF LUXURY

Isn't it beautiful when life reveals is true magnificence? Sometimes it can be found in a heavenly sunset or when you take a bold step, towards a new endeavor. These short, exquisite moments, that take you to a place of fulfillment can often be found in a perfect home. Masterfully designed and in the heart of Camps Bay this spectacular property will endlessly deliver these unrivaled moments.

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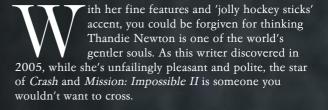
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Take John Duigan, the director of *Flirting*, the charming Australian drama that introduced the world to Thandie. You could be forgiven for thinking she'd be grateful to the veteran filmmaker for giving her such a break. Not a bit of it. "If I never hear his name again, it won't be a day too soon. I love *Flirting* and I feel that I gave a really good performance, but I don't have any time for him as a person. And why I was good in that movie has nothing to do with him."

And Duigan's not the only person to have got Ms Newton's dander up. When she dropped out of *Charlie's Angels*, she was quick to point out that Lucy Liu might have been a reason for her backing out. Reading between the lines, it's also apparent she hasn't much time for Mark Wahlberg who played her love interest in *The Truth About Charlie*.

Good as it is to see someone stand up for themselves, it's more pleasing still that Thandie Newton's willingness to speak her mind hasn't stifled her acting career. Her list of co-stars reads like a who's who of Hollywood power players. Tom Cruise (M:I II), Will Smith (The Pursuit Of Happyness), Vin Diesel (The Chronicles Of Riddick), Oprah Winfrey (Beloved) - all this and she's collaborated with such celebrated directors as Oliver Stone (W.) and Bernardo Bertolucci (Besieged).

It's not a bad haul for someone who's keen to point out that they've "never had a career plan. I'm not tactical in the slightest when it comes to choosing projects. I pick scripts because I like them and because they allow me and my family to pursue a normal life."

Family life for Melanic Tandiwe Newton means her writer/director husband Ol Parker (*The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* and the forthcoming *Mamma Mia!* prequel) and their three children, Ripley, Nico and Booker.

Her middle name, it means 'beloved' and was given to her by her mother Nyasha, who swapped her life as a princess of the Shona tribe in Zimbabwe for a nursing career in the UK. With her father Nick employed as a lab technician, a career in health or science appeared to be on the cards. But though she would later graduate from Cambridge with a 2:1 in social anthropology, the teenage Thandie was >

LEFT: Thandie Newton's career has straddled film and TV. Here she is in the TV sensation, Westworld, in which she plays Maeve Millay.

more interested in dance that academia. Then when a back injury brought the curtain down on her dancing days, she quickly embraced the acting life, bagging the *Flirting* gig when only 16.

And she's been working ever since. Ask her what her career highlights have been and you're in for a surprise. For while she has lots of good things to say about the likes of Paul Haggis's *Crash* (for which she received a Best Supporting Actress BAFTA), Thandie Newton is every bit as enthusiastic about having worked with the late Tupac Shakur on the pitch black comedy-drama *Gridlock'd*.

"Oh, Tupac," she sighs. "You had a real Jekyll and Hyde situation there. He was

adaptation of the Toni Morrison novel. Produced by and starring the indefatigable Oprah Winfrey, it's a picture she thinks has yet to get its due.

"Because it didn't do great things at the boxoffice and it didn't sweep the Oscars, people
think Beloved wasn't any good. That film got
some of the best reviews I've ever read. It
really hit me in the guts when it failed to find
an audience. And I was devastated that it went
unsung at the Academy Awards. It really make
me rethink my attitude towards the
establishment."

Thandie Newton's determination to plough her own furrow recently saw her turn her back on film in favour of episodic television.



sensitive, very, very funny and a beautiful actor; really intuitive. There was only one occasion when I saw him angry and when he got enraged, I didn't recognise him. But he was such a sweet guy. There was one day, I'll never forget. I was hanging out in his trailer between set-ups and he and his secretary were going over the allowances he was giving to his family and it was impossible not to be touched by the way he was determined to take care of everybody. He was like the godfather; he wanted to know how his cousins were going at college, and whether friends had been able to pay off their debts. I was in awe of someone that young taking on so much responsibility."

The other film Newton's exceptionally proud of is *Beloved*, Jonathan Demme's

One of these projects, HBO's acclaimed reimagining of *Westworld*, secured the actress her first Golden Globe nomination. The other – ace BBC crime drama *Line Of Duty* – gave her the opportunity to play a character so rich and compelling, it'll be a crime if she doesn't bag another BAFTA for it.

Now Thandie is keen to explore life behind the camera. "I feel the time has come for me to be more at the helm of projects," says the woman for whom last year's Liyana marked her debut as a producer. "I want to start writing and putting together films of my own; there is part of me that's quite frustrated being an actor, so I have to do something that's going to compensate for all the frustration."

13 HIGH FLYER



## **BUY IT NOW**

Feast your eyes on our pick of weird and wonderful pieces created for lovers of art and design.



#### R-evolution Meteor Stealth turntable

\$188,302, Audio Consulting www.audio-consulting.ch

This turntable features high quality parts with A silver wire transformer being used in the feedback loop. The Meteor Chassis is made out of an entire tree that was dried for at least 20 years. The pieces are then assembled and milled. It takes a further two weeks of hand labour to get the surface right and, following that, several layers of organic wax are applied. It can be delivered in black or aded bronze or any colour you desire.



#### Ella Dining Chair by Edra

POA Audio Consulting www.chaplins.co.uk

This beautiful petal-design armchair will bring a touch of artistry to any dining room. It features armrests in polycarbonate, entirely handmade, and each piece is unique coming in a different size, shape and colour. The petals are transparent and feature soft colours, mixing green and blue. The chair is supported by a pedestal, which enables it to rotate.

#### Life-size Giraffe Sculpture

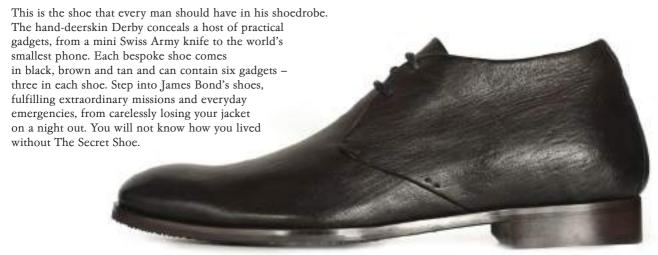
**\$4,895**, Pangea Sculptures *www.pangeasculptures.com* 

Measuring 14ft tall, this life-size giraffe sculpture is truly a work of art. The intricate metal design forms a respresentation of this magnificiant animal in a beautifully creative way. This will be the perfect addition to a garden – the giraffe can be placed munching the leaves of nearby trees or in a large atrium –if you are hosting an event, the natural light will show off the giraffe's perfectly designed features.



#### The Secret Shoe

\$2,800, Oliver Sweeney www.oliversweeney.com





# Of classics and costume jewellery

To coincide with watch and jewellery shows in Geneva and Vincenza, our style columnist shares her favourite brands.

WORDS BY TEMI OTEDOLA

raditionally, diamonds have been a girl's best friend, but in 2018, so are watches. Having inherited a certain bijoux gene from my perpetually accessorised grandmother, I grew up with a deep appreciation for the legendary jewellery houses such as Chopard, Graff, Buccellati. But this appreciation has merged with a growing interest in the glittery new models. With this hybrid perspective, these jewellery and watch brands are at the top of my list.

#### **BULGARI**

Bulgari has been a jewellery giant for decades. So, what keeps us wanting more? I love Bulgari's timeless serpent motif and they way they create pieces that do not lose their potency as they are passed down generations. (Bulgari jewellery pictured)

#### **BACKES & STRAUSS**

Backes & Strauss is the quintessentially English watch brand. While they are best known for their traditional watch faces, they also produce some of the most exquisite diamond-encrusted watches you'll see on the market. I guess you wouldn't expect any less from the oldest diamond company in the world, founded in 1789.

#### PRADA

If, like me, costume jewellery is your go-to for daytime, Prada is top of the list. Prada's bijou is known for being vibrant, intricate, and 1960s inspired. Choose any of their embellished drop earrings to pair with a crisp white shirt and dark denim for a classic look with an ornamental finish.

#### CARTIER

Although Cartier's Love bracelets have been hugely popular, nothing surpasses their perennial women's watches. From the Panthčre de Cartier, to the Baignoire, you won't be able to keep your eyes away from your wrist.

# DESIGN PORTRAIT.



Ray, seat system designed by Antonio Citterio. www.bebitalia.com



# EXQUISITE TIMEPIECES FROM SIHH 2018

The 28th edition of the Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie Geneve(SIHH) saw 35 exhibiting Maisons present an impressive selection of luxury timepieces.





rench luxury house Cartier showcased its novelties for 2018 at the show, including Révélation D'Une Panthere, a 37mm watch crafted in 18K pink gold. The innovative timepiece is set with 45 brilliant-cut diamonds totaling 1.64 carats. At the flick of a wrist, tiny gold beads slowly drop to form the striking head of a panther. A golden outline illuminates the dial, offering a spectacle of light, luminous hours. The timepiece is available in three versions – black, green or a red dial.

Swiss watchmaker Jaeger-LeCoultre showcased a sporty watch, the 42mm Polaris Chronograph. Equipped with a tachymeter bezel, the wearer is able to determine their speed over a fixed distance, its perfect for when going running or if you drive, to check your own speed on the highway. A chronograph is perhaps the most practical complication in watchmaking and the precision instrument has been re-created with improved grip, while the thin bezel helps to open the dial for maximum readability.



Ulysse Nardin returned to Geneva this year to present the Classico Jade 37mm timepiece. Available in five irresistible queens of steel demurely sized in blue, grey or red, with swirling waves of diamonds on their stunning mother-ofpearl dials. Jade was launched back in 2013 as a tribute to a revered gemstone that the royal court in China considered "crystallised magic" — the link between heaven and Earth. Now five years down the line, it pays homage to diamonds, an even more precious stone. A delicate leaf-like wave motif adorned with 10 diamonds is featured on the deial on a mother-of-pearl backdrop; 76 more sparkle on the stunning bezel in stainless steel. These exquisite Jades have a new round case shape and and captivates femininity in its design. Color options include blue leather strap and oversized blue Arabic indexes, white leather strap with grey numerals, or garnet red leather strap with red numerals. Blue and grey editions are also available. >









Rank Juhel, president of Montblanc Middle East, Africa and India, talked to Elite Living Africa at the Johannesburg launch of The Great Characters writing instruments which honour The Beatles.

Elite Living Africa (ELA): You were president for Montblanc Latin America, Caribbean and Travel Retail Americas for three years before taking up your new position. Now you are responsible for 33 markets, do you have to change your mindset?

FranckJuhel (FJ): No, I don't think so. Montblanc clients and collectors may be in Dubai, Buenos Aires or Mexico City, but they are brand lovers and appreciate our craftsmanship. This is universal. As a brand we don't adapt our product to a certain market; it speaks to all the markets.

#### ELA: How important is the African market?

FJ: For Montblanc, Africa is very important because we have the biggest network distribution there. I can draw a parallel with Brazil – we were the first luxury brand to enter Brazil many years

ago, and today we are their reference in luxury because we were the pioneers to enter the market. I see the same thing happening in Africa, and obviously there is potential for growth.

#### ELA: Would you consider opening more boutiques?

FJ: In Africa? Definitely. Nigeria is a promising market, and we already have a boutique in Morocco. The luck we have with Montblanc is because we have four different categories of products, and within them different lines with a very broad price range, it is the perfect luxury brand to enter a market. We'll be opening shop-in-shops in airports as well.

# ELA: The Maison reports consistent growth year on year. Has this been the case for 2017?

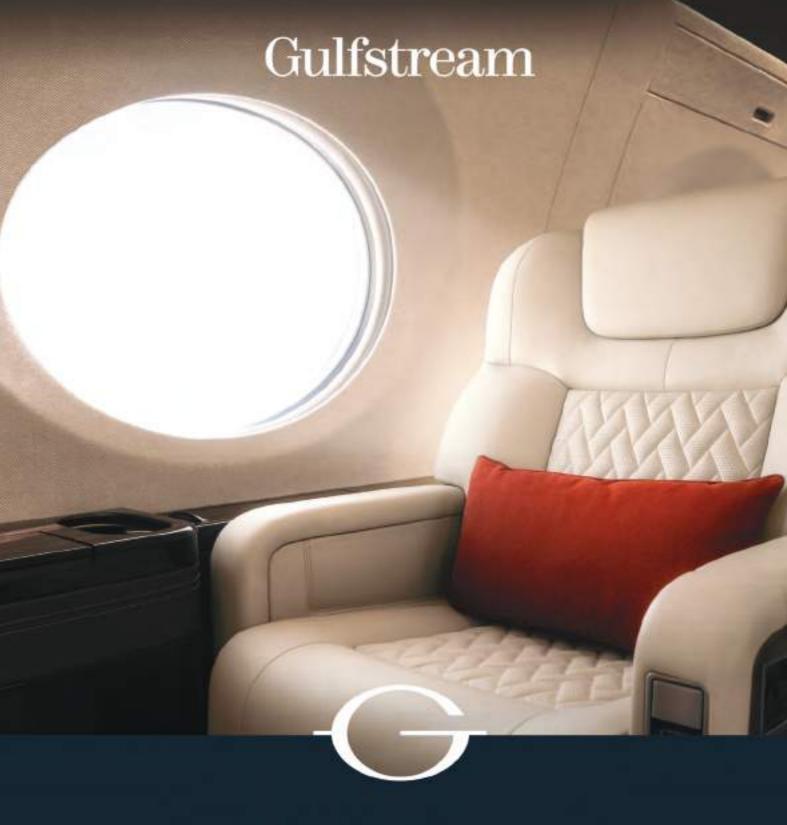
FJ: Yes, Montblanc is growing across all segments, with the leather category growing fastest. Why? I think it is one of the categories that speaks most to the millennials. When we launched our first backpack two years ago, it sold out in one month. It was obviously something that young businessmen were looking for.

#### ELA: And what about the demand for digital in the watch segment?

FJ: It's still increasing, and looks set to continue. Our Summit Smartwatch, which the Maison launched recently, combines digital technology with Swiss savoire-faire. Thanks to our case, which is made in Switzerland, the Summit still looks like a watch which is what clients want. It's how we can keep our DNA and values while evolving, and I think it's where Montblanc has been through the Summit and the augmented paper we launched last year. The Summit is selling very well in South Africa.

#### ELA: Montblanc launched The Great Characters, The Beatles collection of writing instruments. How were they the inspiration for this work of art and how long did it take to complete?

FJ: The link is very easy – The Beatles did their first public concert in Hamburg and Montblanc was founded in the city. Following our theme of craftsmanship, the design of writing instruments, as for watches, takes years in development before we can reveal one of our new creations. I saw the first drawing for this edition two years ago. •



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Rettore, and France by Noor Fares and Akillis. Other countries represented included the United Arab Emirates (Alessa Jewels), Turkey (Aida Bergsen), Singapore (Qayten), Spain (Magerit), and China (Kelly Xie).

Bea Bongiasca was one of the designers making her Vincenzaoro debut this year. Her No Rice, No Life collection blends East Asia and Western consumer culture and makes the point that rice is one of the most important resources in Eastern culture as well as being a symbol of life. The Happy-Go-Cola collection reflects the Mandarin synonym for cola which means "to permit happiness", as well as corresponding to the Japanese concept of "Kawaii", which translates as cute and adorable. Her Floricultural collection is about the secret language of flowers and the different meaning flowers have in different cultures. She looks to Hanakotoba, the Japanese language of flowers, where the tiger lily means prosperity, the heliconia means uniqueness and the honeysuckle stands for love ties. Her You're So Vine! Collection took inspiration from climbing plants, with shellac used to colourful effect.

Extended for VOJ, the Look district picks up on the theme of what jewellery is actually made of – stones and other coloured elements, precious metals and alternative materials. Exhibitors included Rebecca Pesavento, Brosway, Moesi, Francesco Barbato, Cuddly, Gumon, FashionWorld, Dueci Bijoux, Pampaloni, Petit Juju and Oroazteca.

Creation is the district dedicated to private labels. These ompanies specialise in processing precious metals and elements for unbranded jewellery. Expression, meanwhile, is the district for the experts in visual merchandising – the ones who make jewellery look even more tantalising for those who will ultimately wear it. Essence is the district for non-precious and semi-processed jewellery components.

#### THE GROWTH OF GOLD

And Evolution is where T.Gold, the ever-expanding gold-focused part of the show takes place. This district is for the companies specialising in design, production and sale of the technologies that help jewellery designers and craftsmen and women to continue to produce amazing pieces in gold, as well as coloured gemstones and jewels. The good news is that the jewellery industry is on the rise again and gold is picking up. Global demand for jewellery is up by more than >

FACING PAGE AND ABOVE: The exhibitors at VOJ showcased some of the current trends in jewellery design, including looks that are inspired by nature, a proliferation of coloured stones, and a resurgence of gold in line with the re-emerging gold market. 26 JEWELLERY

14 per cent with the European, US, Russian and Indonesian markets being particularly positive.

#### SUSTAINABLE SEA TREASURES

Pearls and coral were in the spotlight in Vincenza at the "Green and Blue Jewellery, Environmentally Sustainable Luxury". Sustainability is vital to today's jewellery industry many of the valuable natural resources that are used in jewellery can provide sustainable economic and social opportunities to people and communities. The business can be environmentally, socially and economically sustainable. It often involves organic materials from a marine environment, where sustainability is made possible through aquafarming, such as with cultured pearls, and precious coral.

Unlike a mine, which has a finite life span, a pearl farm can produce indefinitely, if it is responsibly operated – it is an asset that can act as a resource for sustainable economic and social opportunity. Precious coral, in contrast, is harvested from deep water natural reefs. Here, sustainability is maintained mainly by keeping production levels below the ability of the coral reefs to grow and regenerate. However, research is being undertaken to investigate the means of actively restoring precious coral reefs in protected zones. �

#### www.vicenzaoro.com

ABOVE AND RIGHT: Federica Rettore's creation's embody multiple trends – inspiration from nature, coloured stones, alternative materials and gold.





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# EXPERIENCE

Create a full olfactory journey with Floris London's bespoke perfume design service.

BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

sing precious essential oils and floral essences from across the world Floris London will take you on a sensory journey. Ahead of the two-hour appointment with a Floris perfumer, customers will receive a beautifully designed gift box, including a bottle engraved with their initials, as well as four fragrance bottles. This gives customers the opportunity to test their perfumer's nose across a section of the Floris fragrance wheel before their session.

The session starts with a short introduction from a member of the Floris team who will

give guests some background on the family business, while they sit back and relax with a glass of champagne. It is here where the unforgettable journey begins. The perfumer will start off by choosing a wide selection of fine fragrance bases and over the appointment as you learn about fragrance creation, you will adapt your perfume with iterations of new accords to your taste.

The perfect gift or simply a special treat for fragrance lovers, this bespoke experience will mean your fragrance is adding to private perfume ledgers dating back nearly 300 years,

started by the brand's founder Juan Famenias Floris. As you go on this journey, your record is being protected for you and Floris London's in-house perfumers are continually crafting timeless scents to enhance their collection, all of which are personally approved by Edward Bodenham, the Floris 'nose' and ninth generation of the Floris family.

These individual fragrances were in the past created for the gentry of St. James's. One such scent for Grand Duke Orloff went on to become the iconic Special No.127, named after its formula on page 127 of the 'Specials' book, a future favourite of Sir Winston Churchill. With this expertise we look forward to offering you a comprehensive bespoke fragrance service tailored completely to your preference, at the very heart of where fragrance was born in London nearly three centuries ago. Floris offers its Bespoke customers the finest craftsmanship and heritage put into a product created with love for detail, inspired by years of respect and dedication.

For those seeking a truly immersive experience, also available is a full perfume design service over a six-month period. This where you will come and work with the perfumery team, including Edward Bodenham, the perfumery 'nose' and ninth generation of the Floris family. The initial session will take place with a perfumer alongside Edward. where he will be with the customer throughout the process to guide them through the creation.

Once the scent has been created customers will receive 100ml Eau de Parfum with Certificate of Provenance in a Floris signature bespoke experience box. You can be sure that the experience will last for a very long time, as you will also receive five more repeats of the same fragrance. The fragrance can be repoured by hand for \$222 at any time after your appointment. \*

The full bespoke perfume design service is \$6,245. Visit www.florislondon.com for more information.





ronovias presents its new 2018 bridal collection, with creative director Hervé Moreau taking the helm of the label. The Atelier Pronovias 2018 collection is inspired by the magic of wishing wells and the new designs are so varied that there is something to suit every bride's taste. The gowns are adorned with glittering rhinestones and feature intricate lace and embroidery detailing. The collection presents an assortment of silhouettes and volumes to bring to life the element of water - a fluid movement reflected in the collection. Herve takes innovation to a new level, experimenting with ball gown, mermaid and flared silhouettes to focus on body shape. The volume is revamped with original designs and lighter patterns. The designs of the ball gown, mermaid and flared silhouettes are modified to focus on body shape, achieving more movement and lightness in the skirts. Beautiful fabrics are combined with thread and lace embroideries to enhance the bride's femininity; silk chiffon, organza and mikado are used to create full gowns, while crepe and soft satin cling to the body. The new designs include fringes on the sleeves and necklines, and white rhinestones, to bring a lot of shimmering details into this collection.

Another focus for Herve was to create daring necklines and accessories that can either be taken off or put on to create different bridal looks. Some gowns in the collection feature openings on the sides that create a feminine figure and bodices in illusion crystal tulle and French lace. Delicate details such as the lightness of the designs is emphasised with applications of lace and chiffon godetsm while the dresses buttoned from top to bottom provide fluidity and elegance. The off-the shoulder styles and overskirts create multiple combinations to change the dress depending on the occassion.

New York born fashion designer Jean-Ralph Thurin's love for couture led him to mastering the art of sewing and offers clients a custom-made service. This is reflected in his HUExJRT collection. This gowns cater to every bride as its see-through effect means it would perfectly match different skin tones. "Every bride is different, and I've learned to>

Model wears a dress from Jean-Ralph Thurin bridal collection.



ABOVE: Designs from Jean Ralph Turin and Pronovias.

RIGHT: Model wears dress from Cindy Bam's bridal collection.









# Ata Ashiru bespoke wedding invitations

Inkhearts Studio was launched in January 2009 in Lagos, Nigeria by Ata Ashiru, owner and creative director. The design studio caters to clients in search of unique designs, ranging from special occasion stationery to product kit packaging.





# Sleek and stylish SPEAKERS

We bring you a selection of high performance speakers on the market that boast unique design and deliver ultimate sound quality.



#### LINN SERIES 5 SYSTEMS

\$13,000-\$17,500, Linn www.linn.co.uk

The speakers have been cleverly designed to deliver a depth of bass normally associated with much larger speakers, thanks to powerful Isobarik bass. Customisable, the speakers are not just perfect in sound, they are very fashionable, with Linn's designers coming up with an innovative Fabrik finish for the speakers. Linn promises its unique Exakt technology removes any distorting effects to ensure that, no matter which Fabrik you choose, your speakers will produce the same outstanding performance designed in the factory. You can choose from a range of exquisitely tailored designs for a speaker cover that makes a statement.

#### BEOLAB 50

POA, Bang & Olufsen www.bang-olufsen.com A high-end active loudspeaker, BeoLab 50 does not fail to impress. The speaker adapts to your living space and has a slender, tall silhouette and rounded base. It features a folding design - the acoustic lens gracefully opens up to face the audience and that is when you know its set to deliver an extraordinary performance. The speaker's aluminium surfaces and warm oak lamellas are inherently Bang &Olufsen in a refined way.





## LIMITED EDITION CHROME GOLD AEROBULL WIRELESS SPEAKER

\$5,454, Jarre Technologies, www.musiclife.paris

If its the wow factor you are after look no further. Shaped like a French bulldog, these speakers are undeniably incredible, providing high definition sound and a fierce design. The new AeroBull HD1 speaker is limited to just 99 units, each numbered and comes with a certificate.



#### CARUSO BLUETOOTH GRAMOPHONE

#### \$6,446, Smithers of Stamford, www.smithersofstamford.com

Made In Italy by Paolo Cappello this high-tech gramophone playeroffers high quality sound. The futuristic and retro design pays Homage to the old vintage gramophones that were common between the 19 th and 20th century, the age of Caruso, the world known Italian tenor from whom it derives its name. It is equipped with a modern 4.0 Bluetooth functionality and is available in a variety of finishes and colours with a limited edition version in real plated gold.



# THE NEED FOR SPEED

Across Africa, motorsport is growing in prominence, crossing over from expensive hobby to a serious continent-wide sport.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS







wning one's own racing team is a childhood dream but it does not have to stay in the realm of fantasy. Whether one is an enthusiastic amateur looking to try their hand at motorsport or one is serious about investing real money in a properly equipped team, there is no doubt it can be addictive.

Across Africa, the motorsport scene is growing and with it comes greater investment and professionalism. Touring car racing started in South Africa in the 1990s and in 2016, the Sasol GTC Championship made its debut with a field of 2.0-litre turbo-powered racing cars. Featuring a common chassis, running gear, a single ECU to control performance, control tyres, suspension and other components, Sasol GTC Championship exists to create a revival in South African circuit racing.

For those looking for a new way to spend the weekends – and their money, the series offers an affordable form of serious racing. The purchase price and running cost of a GTC car will be less than existing top line motorsport series in SA, but offer exponentially more car, excitement and value for money which means that many of the country's top line teams and drivers are attracted to GTC Africa.

The 2018 Sasol GTC Championship has gone from strength to strength with a busy calendar planned for this year. A nineround season is planned, starting at the Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit in Midrand on 23 March. The number of tracks has been expanded for this season with the Red Star Raceway in Delmas playing host to the season finale on 19 October.

"Introducing a new circuit in particular, where no-one has any form of testing or racing data, will also add an exciting element to our championship fight which we expect to go down to the final few races again like last year, "said GTC director Gary Formato. "In the coming months, we'll unveil details >

about new entries to the grid and also improved ways of reaching out to our fans at each round so that we can truly showcase the best of GTC to a wider audience and make 2018 our best season yet."

Other circuits to be visited over the 2018 season include Aldo Scribante in Port Elizabeth, East London Grand Prix Circuit on the Eastern Cape, Killarney Raceway in Cape Town and Zwartkops Raceway in Gauteng. While eight of the nine rounds will be part of the Extreme Festival, round seven will incorporate the SA Festival of Motoring at the Kyalami track with tens of thousands of people expected to converge on Midrand.

Last year, Engen Xtreme Team's Michael Stephen claimed his second consecutive Sasol GTC Championship at the final round at Zwartkops Raceway, ahead of title rival Gennaro Bonafede from the Sasol GTC Racing Team, and third-placed fellow Audi driver Simon Moss who broke through for his first two wins in GTC at the grand finale.

Like all good racing seasons, last year's championship went right down to the wire and was decided in the final race of the year.

To add to the thrills and spills, the finale took place under grey skies and pouring rain. For Michael Stephen, it was his third pole position of the season. The soggy conditions saw him put safety first and he drove a cautious race, finishing the day in fifth place. This meant he scored enough points to secure the championship for the year over his nearest rival, Gennaro Bonafede, who proved to be a worthy rival all season in his Sasol BMW.

In a double triumph for the Audi team, Simon Moss overcame a tough year but he saved the best for last, pushing through with confidence in the trying conditions to seal his first Sasol GTC victory in the first 10-lap race. He then repeated that result in race two from the back of the inverted grid. A masterful drive on a wet track saw Moss set both fastest race laps and nearly depose Bonafede from second place in the final standings. In the end, there were just three points between Bonafede and Moss on the final points standings of the year. ❖

#### 2018 Sasol GTC Championship Calendar

23-24 MARCH - Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit, Midrand

20-21 APRIL - Killarney Raceway, Cape Town

11-12 MAY – Zwartkops Raceway, Gauteng

15-16 JUNE - East London Grand Prix Circuit

13-14 JULY - Also Scribante, Port Elizabeth

17-18 AUGUST – Zwartkops raceway, Gauteng

31 AUG-2 SEP - Kyalami Grand Prix Circuit, Midrand

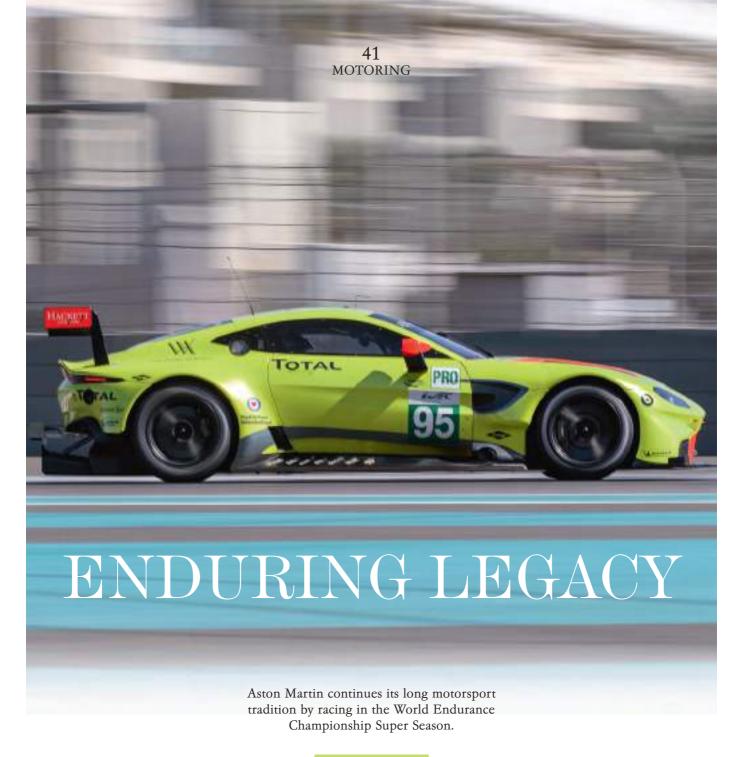
21-22 SEPTEMBER – Killarney Raceway, Cape Town

19-20 OCTOBER - Red Star Raceway, Delmas



ABOVE AND LEFT: The touring car scene is growing in South Africa and this is largely thanks to the Sasol GTC Championship.

Photography by Reynard Gelderblom, BacePics co za



WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

ston Martin Racing will be putting two stunners on the track for the 2018/19 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) Super Season. Two brand new Vantage GTEs, bearing the number 95 and 97, will be competing.

Number 95 will be shared by Nicki Thiim, Marco Sr̃rensen and Darren Turner, while 97 will be piloted by new signing Alex Lynn and Maxime Martin, along with Jonny Adam. In addition, the ultra-successful trio of Paul Dalla Lana, Mathias Lauda and Pedro Lamy will defend their GTE AM world championship title in their trusty Aston Martin Racing V8 Vantage GTE.

April and May are set to be busy months for the team with all drivers playing their part in the

The Aston Martin Vantage V8 GTE at Abu Dhabi's Yas Marina track. Photography by Max Earey. development programme of the Vantage GTE. The team is now working on the performance and tyre development phase ahead of the WEC Prologue at Cicruit Paul Ricard on 6 April.

The extended 14-month season will start in Belgium on 5 May with the TOTAL 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps.

After the first race in Belgium, the season will incorporate two 24 races at Le Mans, and a return to Spa-Francorchamps in 2019, as well as a 12-hour race at the famous Sebring circuit in the USA. The series will also include six-hour events at Silverstone, Fuji and Shanghai. §

www.fia.com

#### **VIRTUOSO** PERFORMANCE

The Performance Car Show was a feast for the eyes and the ears as the worlds of motorsport and luxury motoring collided in the UK.

WORDS BY GEORGIA I EWIS

he Performance Car Show, held in January in Birmingham, England, may have been held against the backdrop of a cold British winter but inside, the machines on display were definitely hot.

Lamborghini, Jaguar, McLaren. Mercedes AMG, Porsche and Audi were among the big names on display at the event which ran alongside Autosport International, a pre-season motorsport show for lovers of all things fast and European.

The Lamborghini Aventador was represented by a specially commissioned version for the Liberty Walk EU part of the show. It had a bespoke body kit and the 6.5-litre V12 engine was tuned to produce an eye-popping 800bhp.

Other cars to join the Aventador in the Liberty Walk EU included the 2018 XITE World Rallycross car, which will be driven this season by Oliver Bennett, a rising star of British racing.

Fresh from dazzling crowds at the Dubai International Motor Show, the Jaguar XE SV Project 8 was again on show in all its bold orange and black finery. It is the most powerful road-legal Jaguar ever built, as well as being the fastest-ever production-spec saloon car to lap the famous Nürburgring. It was joined in Birmingham by the Mission Motorsport Jaguar F-Type SVR, resplendent in red and black.

McLaren and Porsche were on hand to thrill the crowds with their unique road-legal beasts. The McLaren 570S GT4 was another Dubai star that

"The Lamborghini Aventador was especially the event with a bespoke body kit and a 6.5-litre to produce an eye-popping 800bhp."

commissioned for V12 engine tuned travelled to the UK for this show. Meanwhile, the Porsche 991.2 GT3 boasted a 493bhp Cup-derived 4.0-litre engine.

The Mercedes AMG GT R was parked in the Social Influencer Hangout with its owner, supercar vlogger Shmee 150.

As well as the household names with the high volume international sales, the show played host to some niche players in the performance car market. Briggs Automotive Company (BAC) returned to the Performance Car Show for the 2018 BAC Mono's first ever public showing, featuring a host of new standard technology, including a lightweight, lithium-ion battery.

While there was a static BAC on show in Birmingham, across the Channel, a BAC Mono set a new record for the fastes-ever production car lap at Belgium's Zolder Circuit. The stealth-like single seater set a lap time of 1:38.12 seconds, beating the previous best record for the track by over a tenth of a second. The record was held by the McLaren 650S with a time of 1:38.23.

At the Autosport International part of the show, Ginetta had a strong presence with the launch of the G60-LT-P1. It made its debut on opening day, with the car's moniker a tribute to the 60th anniversary of the Ginetta marque. The debut example was resplendent in the livery of TRS Racing Manor and it will take part in the eight-race 2018/2019 FIA World Endurance Championships, which includes two attempts at the prestigious Le Mans 24 Hours. \*







Lamborghini, Ferrari, Audi and Ginetta were among the big names at the Performance Car Show, demonstrating the possibilities for both road-legal and track day automobiles.

## Showstoppers in Switzerland

The 2018 edition of the Geneva Motor Show promises some seriously powerful cars for lovers of exhilarating, road-legal thrills.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

he Geneva International Motor Show is synonymous with prestigious launches. Last year's show saw everything from the brash RUF CTR, bold in yellow, through to the Lamborghini Aventador S and the Aston Martin Valkyrie. In past years, such automotive luminaries as the Lotus Esprit V8 (1996), the Ferrari F55 Berlinetta (1994), the Lamborghini Countach LP5000 S Quattrovalvole (1985), the Maserati Merak SS (1975) and the Jaguar E-Type (1961) have debuted at Geneva.

For the 2018 show, there are plenty of showstoppers for car connoisseurs. Indeed, while the automotive industry is undergoing a green revolution, some of the predicted stars of this year's Geneva extravaganza are focused more on power and performance. It might seem somewhat old school but given the history of sporty launches at this show, it is entirely appropriate.

The love-it-or-loathe-it Lamborghini Urus will be on show, after it was revealed to the world at the end of last year. It has already had a turn in Detroit at the North American International Auto Show and now it's time for the European market to see beyond the press images and decide if it has appeal when seen in the metal.

Another much-anticipated machine, the McLaren Senna will be sure to draw crowds at the Palexpo exhibition centre in Geneva. It is being touted by McLaren as their "most extreme" road car yet. Named in honour of the late, great Ayrton Senna, it weighs in at 1,198kg and is powered by a 4.0-litre twin-turbocharged V8 with 789bhp and 800Nm of torque. It promises seriously beastly performance, particularly as it's a rear-wheel drive model, and there will only ever be 500 of these bad boys made, with a pricetag of US\$1million.

The Porsche 911 GT3 RS will be showing off its latest facelift in Geneva, another one for those who love a true driver's car.

However, clutch pedal purists may be dismayed to learn that this model will not herald a return to manual gearboxes – it is only going to be on offer with the PDK gearbox. Still, that particular box is a force to be reckoned with and the lack of a third pedal probably won't be a deterrent to many buyers. The





presence of flappy paddles should be enough to appease those who fancy themselves as an F1 driver on the open road.

Mercedes-Benz will be showing off the glorious AMG GT 4, which follows on from the AMG GT Concept launched in Geneva last year. It has been spotted in spy shots doing some cold weather testing – the car was heavily camouflaged but the solid-yet-still-sporty shape and rectangular tail lights were clearly visible. It promises to be a chunky four-door saloon with a big spoiler, an obvious rival to the Jaguar XE SV Project 8, which stunned the crowds at the Dubai Motor Show towards the end of 2017.

Bentley, not an automaker known for its green credentials, is aiming to change perceptions at the Geneva Motor Show with the Bentayga hybrid. Rather like the response to the Lamborghini Urus, there have been mixed feelings about the unapologetically chunky Bentayga. And, like the Urus, it is a car that challenges perceptions and starts debates about whether marques such as Lamborghini and Bentley should diversify their line-up or stay in their respective lanes.

The Bentayga hybrid will be a plug-in model and it is expected to have a powertrain based on the impressive Porsche Panamera 4 E-Hybrid which mates a 2.9-litre twin-turbocharged V6 with an electric motor and an eight-speed automatic gearbox.

Meanwhile, Maurice Turrettini, president of the Geneva International Motor Show, describes the event as "one of the most efficient platforms of communication".

"It allows a manufacturer to attract the attention of the worldwide media," he said. "In parallel, they can test the interest and reactions of an international public to their new products and technologies."

www.gims.swiss

LEFT: The Bentley Bentayga has polarised opinion and it will again be a talking point at this year's Geneva show with the hybrid version.

BELOW: The Maserati stand at last year's Geneva International Motor Show





Elite Living Africa (ELA): What made you decide to forge a career in the creative industries i.e art, luxury and technology?

Aino Grapin: I started off as a management consultant - I decided I wanted to work in the creative industry be it in music or fine art - I was just looking for the right challenges and that's when I joined Christie's and I stayed in the art world for about 10 years before moving to design, so I think looking back what probably interested me beyond my own personal interest is that a business person it is interesting to look at that management challenge that stems from that healthy tension between creativity and business. For instance at Winch Design I managed an extremely creative business. We are constantly designing unique pieces of furtniture or design or architecture and meanwhile we are still running a business. I think that as a business person that is really interesting

ABOVE Heesen's new 66 metre motor yacht, Avanti.

RIGHT Aino Grapin, CEO of Winch Design.

challenge. And that was the case when I worked in tradional art auctions or online auctions or now in artchitecture and design.

ELA: How do you think your vast experience will help in this new role as CEO of Winch Design?

AG: Thankfully I was surprised that were so many parallels between what I encountered at Christie's in particular in the art world and the design field because we share a lot of similar clients and a lot of our clients are avid art collectors as well. The second parallel I would say is people management in the creative industries. A big part of my role is effectively to support the teams here in the three studios in architecture, aviation and yachts and make sure all our designers and all of our people have the right tools, have the right support, have the right training to excel at their jobs.



#### ELA: How did your interest for yachting develop?

**AG:** I went to visit a shipyard before joining Winch Design which Andrew Winch took me on in Holland and it really opened my eyes. Yachting is the ultimate expression of your individuality and freedom and luxury because no two yachts are the same and the attention of detail. It is very easy to fall in love with the industry but there is a whole side of it which is very industrial and when you go to the shipyard in Northern Europe and you see the thousands of people that work in this industry who really put a lot of themselves into it and its not just Winch Design, all our teams work really hard to make the designs exceed the client's expectations but it is also the designers and everyone in the shipyard and their suppliers and that's much more of a hard hat environment. But I really enjoy that side of things as well.



#### ELA: What challenges have you faced working in the creative industry?

AG: As part of my role as CEO I was asked to take part as a judge in 'young designer design competition'. Sitting in a room full of designers on the judging day took me out of my comfort zone but I fully enjoyed it!

#### ELA: What has been your experience in the African art and luxury sectors?

AG: The market interest is really growing at the moment and I think there are some really exciting things happening in African contemporary art. There is a lot going on in South Africa which is really shining a light on African contemporary art so I am really looking forward to being able to go to Cape Town at some point.

#### ELA: Can you tell us a bit more about Avanti, the current project you are working on with Heesen?

AG: "We are delighted to be working with Heesen to design the exterior and interior of a new 66m motor yacht. Inspired by our passion for the world around us, the sculptural surfaces of the concept reflect the sky and ocean, creating a dynamic contemporary appearance. Avanti harmonises interior and exterior living, creating easy access to the infinity edge pool and surrounding waters. The fresh, contemporary interior is filled with plenty of light thanks to the panoramic windows. Various customisable cabin options are available to suit different desires, and the lower deck offers a full spa option, with gym, Hamman and sauna. With lounges on two levels, and both exterior and interior dining for up to 12 guests, family living and relaxation are at the heart of this Winch Design conept." �

Heesen will be at the Dubai International Boat Show, 27 February 3 March, at stand SYL-04. www.boatshowdubai.com

"At Winch
Design,
I managed an
extremely
creative business.
We are constantly
designing unique
pieces of
furniture or
design or
architecture and
meanwhile we
are still running
a business."



### The science of silence

Heesen's latest superyacht shows that silence is the ultimate luxury – and a professor was called in to help make silent cruising a reality.

WORDS BY JESS COUTTS

t the Monaco Yacht Show, Dutch shipyard Heesen debuted Home, a 50m superyacht. This was a very special debut because it is the world's first fast displacement superyacht equipped with hybrid propulsion.

This technology means that Home has a silent cruising mode, with a top speed of 9 knots, as well as an oveall top speed of 16.3 knots. To achieve this ultimate luxury feature, Heesen worked with sensor expert, Professor Barry Smith, the founder of the Centre for the Study of the Senses and director of the Institute of Philosophy.

For the optimal superyacht experience, one that quite often involves enjoying good food and wine on board, a silent cruising mode would surely add to the experience. So Professor Smith undertook a study to examine the effect a silent cruising mode would have on guests on-board.

Professor Smith concluded: "Our research has shown that the brain's processing of taste is affected by noise, which reduces the tongue's ability to detect salt, sweet and sour. The beauty of Home is the ability to run at a sound of around 46



decibels — the sound level of softly falling rain - enabling those on board to enjoy food and drink to the full with no diminution of taste."

As well as being a gloriously quiet craft, Home is cleaner and more fuel-efficient. Again, the science is important here. The fast displacement hull form is more efficient thanks to the use of lightweight aluminium. Propelled by a hybrid of diesel-mechanical and diesel-electric engines, her power sources can be used simultaneously or independently, with a noticeable drop in noise and vibration.

When Home is in silent cruise mode, her fuel consumption is a thrifty 45 litres per hour, incredible for a yacht displacing 295 tons with a gross tonnage of 499.

As well as the latest hybrid technology, Home does not scrimp on style. It features a striking vertical bow, the all-important swim platform and floor-to-ceiling glass windows designed by Frank Laupman of Omega Architects.

The two-tone interior palette features burgundy details, the brainchild of interior designer Cristiano Gatto, who was appointed by the owner to create a one-off design featuring geometric patterns and using precious materials, such as rare Belgian marble.

Another stunner from Heesen is Avanti a new 66 motor yacht which is being created in conjunction with Winch Design.

The owner's cabin is blessed with panoramic views and it overlooks the relaxation area on the foredeck. A stepped aft deck area seamlessly harmonises interior and exterior living, creating easy access to the five-metre infinity edge pool. Meanwhile, the lower deck offers a full spa option, with gym, hammam and sauna. The owner's stateroom connects to a private sky lounge, opening up to an al fresco dining table. Guests can enjoy the Jacuzzi and bar on the sun deck, which is connected to the other three decks via a glass elevator. •





hree new city-pair records have been set by Gulfstream, starting 2018 in fine style. The records were set in its super mid-size G280.

The three records have a distinctly African theme. In December 2017, the G280 took off from Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos for Cape Verde's Amílcar Cabral International Airport, a stunning destination off the northwest coast of Africa, landing 3 hours and 52 minutes later. The aircraft traveled at an average speed of Mach 0.84 for the 1,858-nautical mile/3,441-kilometre flight.

The second record was set later that same day, when the G280 flew from picturesque Cape Verde to Luis Muńoz Marín International Airport in San

ABOVE: The Gulfstream G280 has set 60 city-pair records since November 2012.

Juan, Puerto Rico. This flight took 6 hours and 40 minutes with the aircraft travelling at an average speed of Mach 0.82 for the 3,011-nm/5,576-kilometre trip.

Earlier in the month, the G280 flew from Lanseria International Airport, Johannesburg, to Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos in 5 hours and 31 minutes. The 2,596-nm/4,808-km trip was made at an average speed of Mach 0.83.

Since entering service in November 2012, the G280 has accumulated more than 60 city-pair records. It is versatile as it is able to operate at steep approach airports, such as London City, and can fly four passengers 600 nm/6,667 kilometres at Mach 0.80. �







# Blue, greene serene

Zanzibar is the land where fantasies of a perfect beach come to life. It's pristine, romantic and surprisingly accessible.

WORDS BY IPSHITA SHARMA

he beaches of Zanzibar genuinely boast that Hollywood combination of white sand for miles and deep turquoise-blue water. Not only are the beaches divine but Zanzibar is relatively secluded, considering how easily accessible it is. And as well as a wonderful African beach experience, a trip to Zanzibar is ideal for those seeking historical and cultural experiences with their dose of beachside luxury.

#### PLACES TO SEE

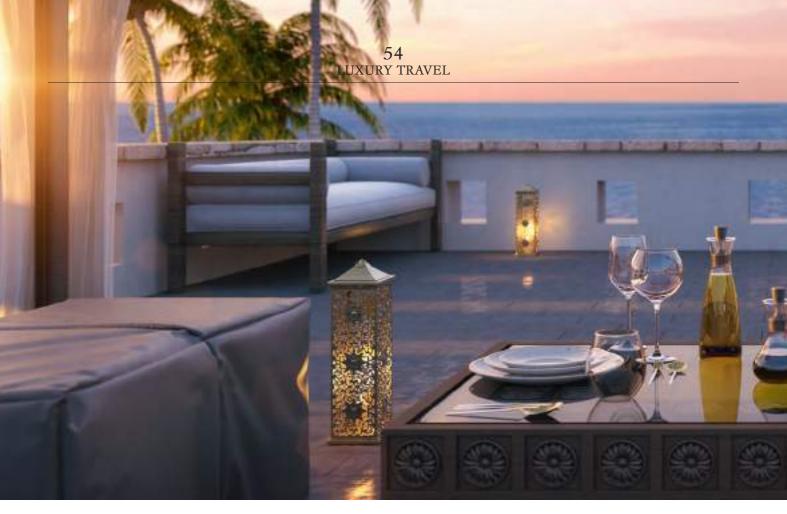
Stone Town is the main city in Zanzibar and it is perfect for lovers of culture and history. You can get a personal guided tour through the narrow alleys of the residential areas where you will spot gorgeously hand-carved doors. These doors have become synonymous with Zanzibar and the amalgamation of cultures, conjuring up a time when tradesmen from all over the world docked in this tiny city.

Within Stone Town is the Palace of Wonders, the erstwhile palace of the rulers of Zanzibar. This monument is now a museum where you can follow the timeline of Zanzibar's sultans from when they arrived as traders until they were overthrown in a revolution. The palace is looking a little rough around the edges at the moment but funds have been secured for a renovation and it is still worth a visit.

The Palace Museum overlooks the Forodhani Gardens, the place to be seen on weekends. Have a drink at one of the many rooftop bars around the gardens to get a view of some marvellous sunsets and for that perfect Instagram shot. The sunsets here are legendary.

Christ Church Anglican Cathedral is a great example of early Christian architecture, but it gained infamy as a site where the slave market was held. Walk around long enough and you will feel a deep sense of connection with the stories you hear there. The special museum built by the church officials gives you in-depth knowledge of the often bloody history of this little island. On a lighter note, go to the local government-run souvenir shops that sell everything from Tanzanite stones to great masala tea. And en route you can peek into Freddie Mercury's childhood home. >





#### CHANGUU ISLAND

A short ferry ride away from Stone Town is the gorgeous Changuu Island. The azure waters around this historicaisland can bring a smile to the most hardened of hearts. Back in the day, this was a stop for traders who dropped off ill travelers for hospital treatment, or those who had committed crimes on the high seas for a stint in the tiny prison on the island. As a result, the island also goes by the morbid moniker of Prison Island.

Today this is a gorgeous place for having a beach day with loads of water sports options. You can hire a yacht to take you around and dock near the beach and swim out to the island or snorkel. It is also an island perfect for a spot of yachting. Contact ecoculturetours@gmail.com or info@ecoculturezanzibar.org for mor einformation about yachting trips and personal tours.

Walk around the island to discover the old architecture – the hospital, a library, and the jailer's quarters – and then walk across to the true treasure here, the giant tortoises. Since 1919 this part of the island has been home to a unique conservation centre for Aldabra giant tortoises, with the oldest being over a 100 years old. Go for lunch to the old quarantine centre-turned-hotel – their exclusive restaurant offers the most stunning view.

#### JOZANI FOREST

Hire a guide to go on a special walking tour around Jozani forest and the nearby mangroves and get in touch with nature. The adorable red colobus monkeys are easy to spot and are a fun addition to a beach getaway.

#### KIZIMKAZI BEACH

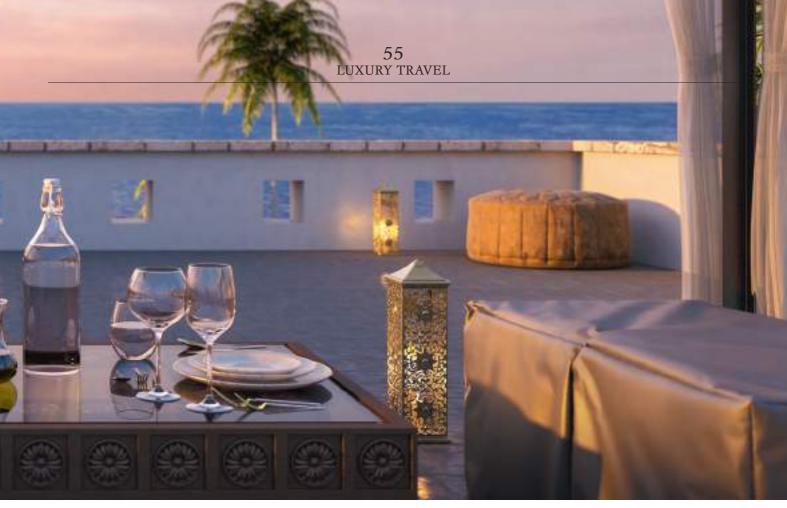
An early morning trip down to Kizimkazi beach is a good idea for a close encounter with the dolphins. Hire a well-established company who can take you on an ecologically-friendly tour around the local waters where the dolphin pods are occasionally spotted.

#### ADVENTURES FOR FOOD LOVERS AND NIGHT OWLS

All great local tour agents will take you around to their local spice farms to walk among plantations of vanilla, cardamom, star anise, jackfruit, pineapple and others. They will usually combine this with a local lunch and if you ask for it, a visit to a butterfly farm.

The local food is heavily inspired by the Indians who travelled through on their way to Europe and you will find Biryanis and Curries everywhere. Lightly and aromatically spiced, these are not to be missed. Try the wide array of fresh fruits available on the island, passion fruit, pineapple, mango, watermelon, everything tastes like the volume has been turned up. Also worth a try is the Stony Beer, the local version of ginger ale. This is not available anywhere else so drink up. Or, if you're brave, try Konyagi, a locally found sugarcane liquor – it is a great companion to the fabulous sunsets.

The tradition of drinks at sunset is very popular in Zanzibar and a lot of places shut down after that. Recently though quite a few clubs have started running till late for drinks and dancing, keeping the party going way beyond sundowners. The best bars are mostly in Stone Town and the beachfront.







ABOVE: Blissful sundowners at the Blue Amber Resort.

ABOVE RIGHT: Christ Church Anglican cathedral is a fine example of early Christian architecture in the region.

BELOW RIGHT: The Palace of Wonders is rich in history dating back to the time of the sultans.



As well as jewellery made from tanzanites, the stunning blue-to-violet stones of Tanzania, the best souvenirs are of the edible and drinkable variety. Don't leave these gorgeous islands without a bottle of Konyagi, spice mixes for biryani and white curry, masala tea packets, books about the history and cultural significance of the land, and of course the local Tanzanite stones.

#### WHERE TO STAY

Zanzibar's luxury accommodation scene has gone from strength to strength particularly in the past decade. Now there is something for every shade of luxury holiday.

Families can enjoy private time in the all-villa Baraza Resort and Spa (www.baraza-zanzibar.com). Mnemba Lodge, on a minuscule atoll off the east coast, is ideal for diving and barefoot romance (www.zanzibarislandhotels.com). For easygoing relaxation, a great beach and plenty of pampering, there's Breezes Beach Club and Spa with 71 rooms, including 20 suites and 11 garden villas (www.breezes-zanzibar.com).

While there are many hotels in Zanzibar, it is now possible for non-locals to invest in a landmark property in the most exclusive part of the island. The Blue Amber Resort will have 47 Luxury villas that are available on 99 year rentals with 45 year renewals. The resort will also boast East Africa's first signature 18-hole golf course.

These sumptuous villas have been designed keeping local ecological sensibilities in mind and the aesthetics are in balance with the incredible natural surroundings.

Owning property in Zanzibar also offers significant tax benefits like a 15 per cent tax rate on local income earned, no tax on worldwide income, and no capital gains tax, stamp duty or inheritance tax on properties purchased. Prices for the villas in phase one of Blue Amber range from US\$670 000 to US\$1.7 million. Contact brian.mccurrach@pamgolding.co.za if you would like

brian.mccurrach@pamgolding.co.za if you would like to make your stay in Zanzibar a long-term affair.

#### **GETTING THERE**

Zanzibar International Airport is very well connected with major airports around the world. It is only a few kilometres away from Stone Town and it is quiet and efficient. Most nationalities get visa on arrival but you do have to stand in line to get your photo taken for the visa. The visa officials accept all international credit cards.

Or you can also take a ferry from the mainland at Dar Es Salaam – this option is very popular for tourists who have on safari in Tanzania and then want to head off for a chilled-out beach break. There are four classes in the ferries with the VIP class available for around \$50. This will ensure that you can lay back in style and arrive at Zanzibar port refreshed and ready to take on the aggressive porters who want to help. •

#### 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

#### **KNOWING TOKYO**

Tokyo's Ginza district is famous for its colour, chaos and culture. Now discerning guests can enjoy the Ginza experience in a luxury hotel experience thanks to the Hyatt. The Hyatt Centric Ginza is a 164-room full-service hotel offering a young, modern vibe in comfort and style. located on the famous Namiki-dori Street, which runs parallel to the main Chuo0dori Boulevard, the hotel is perfect for exploring the galleries, shops, bars, restaurants, theatres and public art. back at the hotel, the quintessentially Japanese dining experiences continue in the Namiki Suite. Perched on the top floor, this suite is equipped with a full-sized teppanyaki grill, making it ideal for dinner parties with a great view. Guests can step onto the generous terrace, which overlooks Namiki-dori Street. The hotel's signature restaurant is Namiki667, where the menu includes slow-cook dishes created by Shingo Hayasaka, a chef from Hokkaido.

www.hyatt.com



# Munich for lovers



The enchanting Germany city of Munich is a divine destination for romantic getaways. Whether it's a wonderfully wintry city break for Valentines's Day or you plan to experience this fascinating and photogenic destination in all its summery glory, there really is no bad time to be in Munich. Art and design lovers can check out the Bauhaus, Bavarian palace will delight those with passion for history, and if you love your cars, the BMW museum is a must-visit. And the Mandarin Oriental Hotel is especially good for lovers, particularly if you book into the Presidental Suite.

The hotel is located in the picturesque Old Town and the Presidential Suite offers particularly exquisite views from on high of this glorious neighbourhood. it is perfect for a room service breakfast on the terrace as Munich wakes up. The suite also features a glassenclosed dining area for four in case a double date is on your mind, kichen, jacuzzi, steam room and, for the all-important bling, a Swarovski crystal chandelier. Or for a family experience, the Grand Presidential Suite offers seven beds, a dining area, wraparound terrace, kitchen, jacuzzi and steam room.

www.mandarinoriental.com



#### ART DECO LUXE

The Umaid Bhawan Palace hotel in Jodhpur has been ranked the number one hotel in India in the Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Awards. Built between 1929 and 1942, the art deco delight was designed by Edwardian architect Henry Lanchester and commissioned by the grandfather of the present Maharaja of Jodhpur, and remains the last word in luxury.

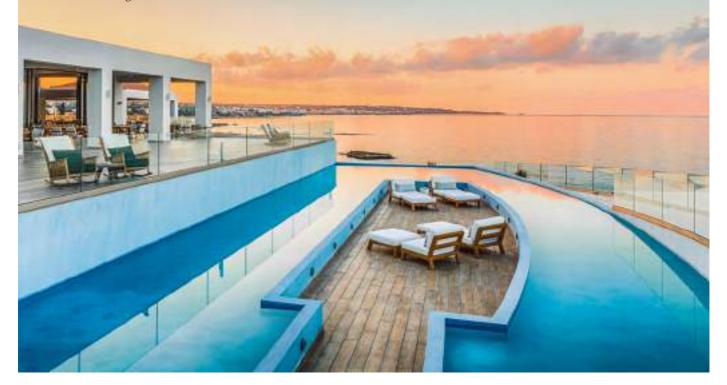
www.tajhotels.com



#### A treat on Crete

The Greek island of Crete is synonymous with relaxation, stunning vistas and the option of a lively night at the bars and restaurants, should you be in the mood. Abaton Island Resort & Spa is located in the Cretan town of Hersonissos and it promises to offer guests ultimate relaxation, while the nightlife is just a stone's throw away. But if you prefer to stay put, Abaton Island is selling itself as a sanctuary. The old and the new blend seamlessly – the design is one of marble staircases, creative use of light and historic architecture. The layout reflects that of a maze with one room leading to the next. There are 152 rooms, each with a unique design and 71 of these rooms come with pools. Opening in April 2018, just in time for the gorgeous joys of a Greek summer, the resort promises to be a treat for lovers of fine food with seagood, traditional Cretan cuisine and sushi among the delights on offer.

www.abaton.gr





#### Manoah from heaven

The paradise-on-Earth that is Anguilla has gone through challenging times thanks to Hurricane Irma, but the Manoah Boutique Hotel has reopened and it is once again offering fine hospitality on one of the most pristine beaches in the Caribbean. The photograph does not lie – the sand really is that powdery and the water really is that dazzling shade of turquoise. Guests will be able to return to witness glorious sunsets while enjoying a tropical cocktail, perhaps with a splash of the rum for which the region is so famous. With all rooms offering water views, there is no such thing as a bad room at the Manoah.

www.tbe-manoab.com



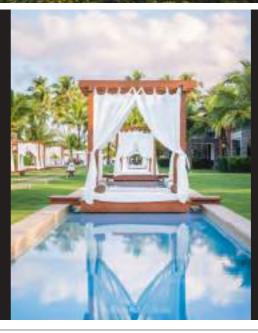
#### **SHORE LEAVE**

While cruising conjures up thoughts of infinite water views, lazy days by the onboard pool and dressing for dinner at the captain's table, another attraction of a holiday on the high seas is the trips ashore. For 2018, selected Silversea Cruises voyages on the all-suite, butler-serviced Silver Wind and Silver Muse vessels will offer a shore excursion in every port of call as part of the package. A half-day sightseeing tour of stunning Martinique (pictured) is one example of the excursions on offer. Other trips include an exploration into the spice industry amid tropical forests in St George's, Grenada, and a half-day of turtle-spotting and snorkelling in Bridgetown, Barbados. The excursions are complemented by onboard amenities, including complimentary wines, premium spirits, speciality coffees, soft drinks; in-suite bar stocked with guests' preferences; in-suite 24-hour dining; and lecture and enrichment programmes.

www.silversea.com

The appropriately named Sublime Samana Hotel & Residences in the divine Dominican Republic is an ideal escape for families as well as couples seeking a romantic retreat. Adventurous holidaymakers can explore the Samana Peninsula, a photogenic mix of verdant landscapes and beautiful beaches. Couples seeking a grown-up getaway can take advantage of blissful treatments at Coconut Whispers Spa and with all accommodation in either suites or casitas, privacy is guaranteed. If you choose a three-bedroom casista on the second level, you can take advantage of a private rooftop terrace and Jacuzzi. But if you truly want to indulge yourself, the Presidential Suite is a must. The two-level suite features four en suite bedrooms with direct access to the private balcony and Jacuzzi from the master bedroom. There are glorious views from every window of the suite and the beach and pool can be accessed in a matter of moments.

www.sublimesamana.com



Soothe your soul





Woolloomooloo may be an improbable name for a neigbourhood but for those in the know, it's a great spot for visitors to Sydney to enjoy fine cuisine and stay in hotels that epitomise modern luxury. The W Hotel set the trend in this part of Australia's biggest city back in 2003. It then changed hands to become Blue Hotel and now the iconic Finger Wharf site is into its third incarnation. Now it's called the Ovolo, part of a group that is popping up in Australia and Hong Kong. The good news is that the Ovolo is just as stylish as the W and Blue were before, and if you want to indulge in some eco-friendly luxury on your trip to Sydney, you can be met at the airport by a chauffeur who will whisk you across rown with zero emissions in a Tesla Model X.

www.ovolobotels.com





# INSIDE THE HOUSE OF DE SOUSA

The House of De Sousa began in the early 1950s and resembles the old vineyards which have been preserved for more than half a century in Avize France.

BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

ituated in Avize, France
The House of De Sousa
takes champagne lovers on
an unforgettable journey
with the first sip of De
Sousa. One of their finest
champagnes, The Brut Réserve,
combines freshness and fine
elegance, with an exquisite
expression of all the Chardonnay
vineyard grapes, reminiscent of
cut grass in the morning.

The Brut Réserve is one of De Sousa's best, whose freshness and fine elegance are an exquisite expression of all the Chardonnay vineyard grapes. "The overall quality of champagne has significantly improved over the past thirty years. But it tends to be neutral. It always has the same sort of taste. Champagne must leave an imprint. It's first and foremost a terroir wine," says Erick De Sousa, the great visionary behind the brand. Having graduated from a prestigious wine-making school in Avize, Erick soon after decided to practice biodynamic farming on the family estate he took over in 1986, a technique where there is zero tolerance for plant care chemicals and where only active matters (plants and minerals) can be used to protect the vines.

To develop the best out of his plots Erick would keep old vines even when the trend was to have them removed, some of which were planted by an ancestor back in 1933. "They are between 60 and 80 years old. Their roots dive down about thirty metres into the chalky underground to extract the mineral salts" he explains. "The production is admittedly less than for a younger vineyard, between 20 to 25 per cent less, but these old vines have grapes with a higher natural sugar concentration. This gives richer wines with well-rounded and riper bitterness".

De Sousa's organic champagnes can be found as far away as South Korea, Australia, New Zealand,





#### A NEW WAVE IN GENEVA

A new event on the Geneva art and design scene looks very promising for modern African collectors.

WORDS BY JENNYFER IDEH

he Geneva art and design scene has just welcomed a prestigious new arrival. Last October, during the annual temporary residence in London's Berkeley Square, it was announced that the PAD art and design fair would extend its international offering with a new fair in Geneva. Established 21 years ago in the Tuileries in Paris, PAD expanded to Berkeley Square 11 years ago, bringing together the same highquality selection of galleries and dealers showcasing modern and contemporary design, antiquities and tribal art.

This latest edition, PAD Geneva is a collaboration with artgenčve – the modern and contemporary art fair which, in under a decade has taken root as the premier international art event in the Lake Geneva region. For its 7th edition, artgenčve has invited PAD – a fair within a fair, if you will – following a series of discussions between Thomas Hug and Laura Meillet, the directors of the artgenève and artmonte-carlo fairs, and Patrick Perrin, the founder of the PAD.

The collaboration makes sense – both PAD and artgenčve offer quality, and a refined yet intimate fair experience for their growing numbers of international collectors. The fairs opened to the public from the 1-4 February with museum-quality exhibitions of Max Bill

and Martin Disler at artgenčve, which also saw major galleries Pace and Perrotin join as

exhibitors for the first time. Within PAD, the international selection of exhibitors span the United Kingdom, France, Belgium and of course Switzerland. If we shall stay here for a while, the following dealers stood out in particular for the modern African collector.

#### **GALERIE LUCAS RATTON**

Lucas Ratton comes from a line of tribal art dealers, beginning with his grandfather and great-uncle, Maurice and Charles Ratton in the 1920s. The pair were influential in developing the growing interest in traditional African art at the time, and today Lucas Ratton preserves the family history with his gallery in the heart of Paris' Saint Germain des Prés. The gallery specialises in African ceremonial masterpieces: from classic Punu masks from Gabon to Chi Wara sculptures from the Bambara in Mali, each object is carefully selected for quality and rarity. In his typically dark booth, an Igbo statuette is elegantly presented

beside a modernist painting - a

pairing to be replicated at home.

#### PHOENIX ANCIENT ART

In a segment of the art market that is increasingly difficult to navigate, Phoenix Ancient Art have stood the test of time, and are widely considered among the top dealers >

FACING PAGE: Early 20th Century Ashanti art from Ghana by Galerie Lucas Ratton ABOVE: Statue of Osiris from Egypt, circa 664-332BC. From Phoenix Ancient Art. THIS PAGE: "Spazio Tattile: A Collector's Home, Chapter 2", Ettore Sottsass foir Memphis, DIVA Mirror, 1984. By Galerie Italienne, Marco Illuminati.

FACING PAGE. TOP: Booth of Galerie Italienne at PAD Geneve.

FACING PAGE, BOTTOM: Booth of Gallery Alain Marcelpoil at PAD Geneve.

worldwide for antiquities. Founded in the mid-1960s by the late Sleiman Aboutaam, the business is now managed by his sons, Ali and Hicham across their two locations in Geneva and New York.

The galleries display objects of the highest quality, extending over more than 7,000 years of human history. An Egyptian statuette of Osiris graced the serene white booth at PAD. If you would like to discuss your ancient art collection, whether starting to collect, or interested in a buyer for a piece, please do be in touch and I may be able to assist you.

#### **GALERIE ALAIN MARCELPOIL**

Paris-based Galerie Alain Marcelpoil specialise in Art Deco furniture and art objects, and once again brought breathtaking pieces by André Sornay to the fair. Clean lines, solid mahogany and Sornay's signature brass nails are the codes for a classically elegant interior.

#### **GALERIE ITALIENNE**

Galerie Italienne recently inaugurated their new gallery space in Paris – 400sqm on the rue du Louvre, opposite the building that houses the Pinault Collection. With an innovative new programme, the gallery has created a series of 'experience-exhibitions'; entitled "Spazio Tattile" (which means 'tactile space' in Italian), each exhibition is arranged in the style of a collector's home, showcasing furniture and design objects together with the contemporary artists that the gallery represents.

A true living-exhibition, the gallery hosts dinners, conferences and tastings within each exhibition setup. As indicated in the gallery name, the focus is on the major Italian art and design movements – in particular Memphis and Alchimia. While Memphis founder Ettore Sottsass was widely celebrated last year, living artists Alessandro Mendini and Nanda Vigo are not to be missed right now.

The gallery recreated one such tactile space for PAD, widening their offering with objects by Diego Giacometti, Gio Ponti, Gerrit Rietveld and Franz West lighting, created for Memphis.

A successful first edition for Geneva audiences, it will be interesting to see what galleries bring to the next edition of PAD in Paris in March. \*

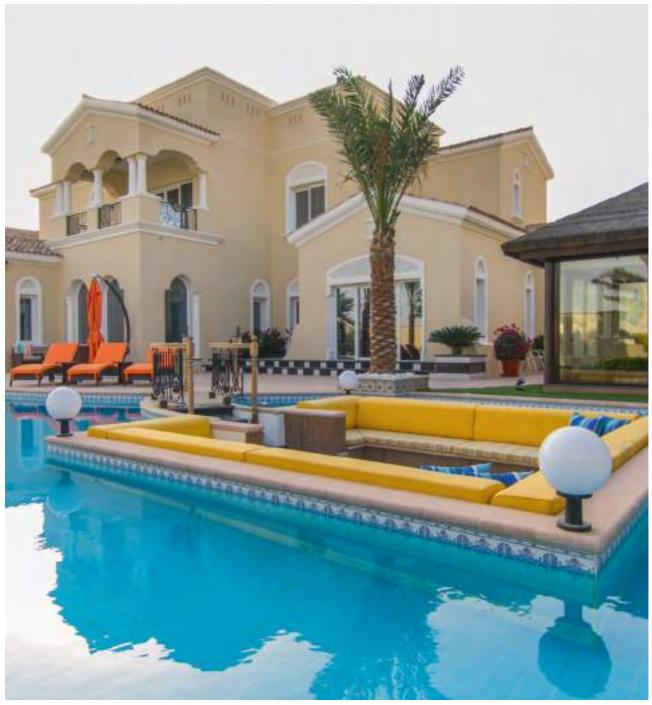






# AN ARABIAN PARADISE

Old world charm and modern day luxury come together at this stunning Arabian Ranches Villa in Dubai.













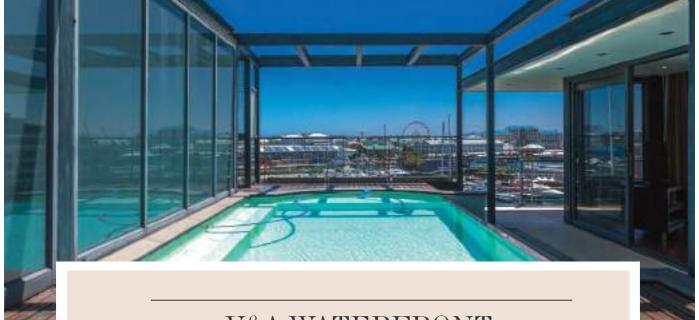


#### ARABIAN RANCHES VILLA, DUBAI

#### **POA**

This stunning villa features four large en-suite bedrooms and a huge master suite, a spacious custom made Scavolini custom-made gourmet kitchen, study room, very open light and airy living space, a guest powder room. In addition to this, the owners have made their own thoughtful additions to the living space incorporating a stunning outdoor social retreat for quiet, private outdoor living. The villa features a large outdoor covered dining area, fully equipped cooking station and two outdoor showers. To the side of the property by the outdoor bathroom is a self contained staff quarters ideal for two drivers with an extra two maids living area within the house. There are four covered parking spaces with ample extra driveway space and a fantastic gymnasium/games room just beside the garage with special wood floor insulation adjacent to a well appointed, selfcontained guest suite across the courtyard. The outdoor sanctuary is every entertainer's paradise with a huge swimming pool with a unique sunken seating area within the pool connected via a bridge, a mini golf course set up to the side of the property, high class artificial grass areas that complement the outdoor majlis and social retreat. Outside this, a comfortable Spanish courtyard, with fountain awaits you for quiet outdoor relaxation.

www.pamgolding.co.za, web ref#AS1353525



#### V&A WATERFRONT, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

#### \$5.76m

#### Pam Golding Properties

Set against iconic Table Mountain and overlooking historic Robben Island is this two-levelled Penrith Penthouse, at the V&A Waterfront. Elevator doors open to reveal the sophisticated open plan living area, which seamlessly flows through to the spacious and elegantly appointed kitchen.

From the covered terrace, which overlooks the free-flowing canal beneath, the sounds of South Africa's oldest working harbour breeze through the elegant dining room. Also on the first floor are three en-suite spacious bedrooms and a guest cloakroom. This unique harbour home concludes on the upper floor with a fully equipped bar area, private pool and master bedroom, complete with a spacious walk-in closet and en-suite bathroom. Penrith Penthouse is luxury marina living at its best.





## CORNWALL HILL ESTATE, PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

#### \$3.95m

#### Pam Golding Properties

A long, hedged driveway ushers you past large automated steel gates, flanked by stone pillared lanterns. The gentle sounds of a water fountain and the dappled shade cast by mature maple trees transports you to a serene world of timeless class and elegant style.

Set on a 12,083 sq m park-like estate, the sprawling 1,140 sq m English Colonial Manor is a sophisticated family residence. The solid wood double doors open to a grand double volume entrance hall where a delicate Belgian chandelier acts as the centrepiece of the home.

The seemingly endless landscaped gardens are teeming with a variety of plants, trees, manicured hedges, a natural koi dam, several water features and a maze, giving this prestigious home the unmistakeable air of an English countryside manor, in the heart of the Highveld.

- 6 vehicle garage
- Swimming pool
- Pyjama lounge/library
- 4 large en-suite bedrooms
- Movie theatre with surround sound
- Air-conditioning and underfloor heating





www.pamgolding.co.za, Web ref# FWI1357027



#### BURGUNDY BOURGOGNE, FRANSCHHOEK, SOUTH AFRICA

#### \$11.25m

#### Pam Golding Properties

First established in the late 17th century by French Huguenot settlers, Burgundy Bourgogne has a rich history, a dramatic mountain backdrop, a breathtaking views from every angle and exceptional attention to every detail, which all serve to make it the crown jewel of the Cape Winelands.

The 46ha farm consists of two illustrious houses, a collection of cottages, vineyards and award-winning olive groves. The Main House, originally a farm cellar dating back to 1791, was restored and enlarged to a luxurious 1031 sq m residence. The Manor House, also built in 1791 and expertly restored by master craftsmen in 2001, is recognised as a National Monument of the Republic of South Africa.

Burgundy Bourgogne is just waiting for an owner passionate enough to make their dream a reality.

- 3 luxurious cottages
- Breathtaking views and prime location
- Vineyards with 7 grape varietals
- Impressive private wine cellar
- 24-hour security
- Managers house and various farm buildings











www.pamgolding.co.za, Web ref# ST1335637









#### STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA

\$3.42m

#### Pam Golding Properties

The majestic Stellenbosch mountains stretch to infinity above you while 30ha of the fertile and verdant Cape Winelands lay at your feet.

Welcome to Grande Maison Patrysvlei.

In close proximity to central Stellenbosch, the Boland Winelands area, Cape Town International Airport and encompassing eight homesteads, the estate is as charming as it is unique. Finely manicured lawns, cobbled paths and an elegant pergola fountain lead to the manor house. As you cross the threshold of the authentic period doors, you are met with the impressive proportions of the formal lounge and seating area, dining room, luxe kitchen and double volume bedroom suites.

The formal structure of the interior contrasts beautifully with the lush gardens that offer expansive outdoor entertaining amid stainless cookers and rotisseries, a charming water station, lap pool and open fire pit.

- Separate guest cottages
- Borehole, storage tanks and computerised irrigation
- Office studio
- Private wine tasting room
- 24-hour security
- Walking and cycling path within the estate

#### STANHOPE GATE MAYFAIR W1

#### A HISTORIC MAYFAIR PROPERTY OFFERING EXCEPTIONAL CONTEMPORARY FEATURES

10 Stanhope Gate is in the heart of Mayfair, close to Hyde Park, the Dorchester Hotel, and near Mayfair's most important streets and amenities. The property is on six storeys with all floors, from lower ground to roof terrace, connected by both stairs and passenger lift. Accommodation: Entrance hall, 3 Reception rooms, 2
Dining rooms, 2 Kitchens, 6 Bedrooms, 6 Bathrooms,
Study, Media room, 2 Staff bedrooms, Laundry room.

Amenities: Roof Terrace, Roof terrace bar & kitchen,
Balcony, Passenger lift, Swimming pool, Treatment room,
Steam room, Wine room.













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