

ELITE LIVING AFRICA

Superyacht
**BUYERS'
GUIDE**

*Luerssen,
Turquoise, Heesen
and more*

LUXURY WITH A CONSCIENCE: STYLE AND
SUBSTANCE WITH EDEN DIODATI

THE BEST LUXURY SAFARIS FROM
ACROSS THE CONTINENT

RESTORING A CLASSIC MERCEDES
BENZ IN SOUTH AFRICA

PRESTIGIOUS PROPERTY FROM
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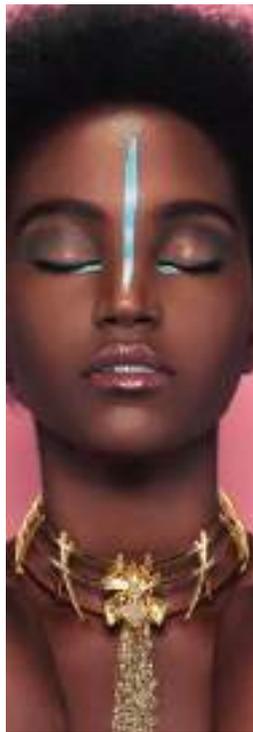
TURQUOISE
YACHTS
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Michel Club, seat system designed by Antonio Citterio. [www.bebitalia.com](http://www.bebitalia.com)

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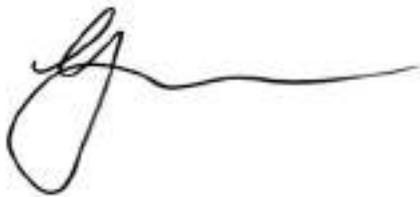
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# WELCOME

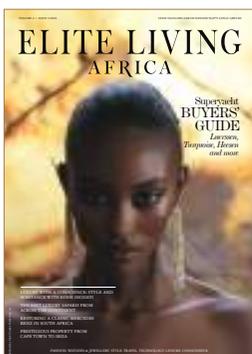
**F**or pure luxury set against some of the world's most stunning natural landscapes, Africa is truly special. To celebrate this, our style columnist, Temi Otedola, recommends her favourite destinations from across the continent on page 20. On page 62, we stay with our theme of high-end African travel with spectacular safari recommendations to take you in style from South Africa to Senegal.

And speaking of ultimate African style, our cover for this issue features the incredible jewellery of Eden Diodati – and there is a powerful and passionate story behind the magnificent pieces. The jewellery for Eden Diodati's dramatic collections is made by women who survived the genocide in Rwanda and a percentage of the sales is donated to Médecins sans Frontières, a charity which does incredible work helping people in Africa and beyond. Turn to page 26 to see more from the collection with a conscience.

Elsewhere in this issue, we proudly present the first-ever *Elite Living Africa* superyacht buyers' guide, with insider information from industry leaders such as Heesen, Lüerssen and Turquoise from page 46. With the Monaco Yacht Show just around the corner, it is a great time to check out the latest entrants to the superyacht market.



**Georgia Lewis**  
Managing Editor



Enjoy our current issue online at [www.elitelivingafrica.com](http://www.elitelivingafrica.com)

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Image provided by Eden Diodati

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# ELITE DIARY DATES

Car lovers, art connoisseurs and opera buffs can look forward to fabulous events over the coming months in places as diverse as Zanzibar, Dubai, Cape Town, London, Monaco and San Diego.

## A very Jaguar celebration Beaulieu, United Kingdom

The National Motor Museum in the leafy surrounds of Beaulieu will play host to a festival of Jaguar cars of all ages. For those seeking out new models, the new F-Type and F-Pace will be on show. And if you prefer a classic, you won't be disappointed with the MkI, MkII and MkX, modern S-type, X-type, XF, XJ and luxurious Daimler-badged models all expected.

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



8 July

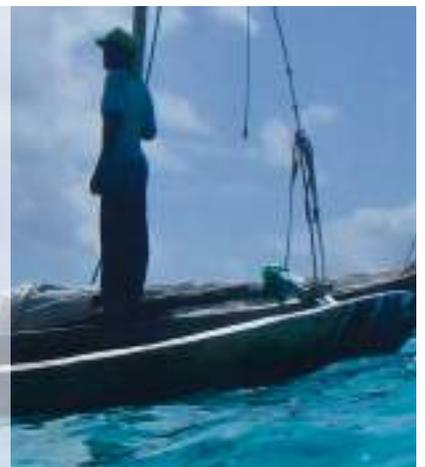
## Silver screens Stone Town, Zanzibar

Stunning Zanzibar will further its reputation as a hub of culture for East Africa with the Zanzibar International Film Festival. The programme includes 20 feature films, 10 African animations, 17 Swahili films, 30 documentaries and 50 shorts. Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Rwanda and Ethiopia are all represented.

[www.ziff.or.tz](http://www.ziff.or.tz)



7-15 July



## A tribute to Mandela Cape Town

Cape Town Opera is celebrating the Mandela Centenary with the Mandela Trilogy at Artscape Opera House. The three acts cover his youth in Qunu, early adulthood in Sophiatown and incarceration on Robben Island, fusing Xhosa traditional, jazz and modern classical music.

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



17-18  
July



### Modern master London

The John Hansard Gallery is running an exhibition by Gerhard Richter, one of the most important artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. The exhibition features paintings, photography, prints and tapestry, including works from Richter's private collection. The exhibition runs until 18 August.

[www.jbg.art](http://www.jbg.art)

Until 18 August



6-8  
September

### The passion of Carmen Dubai

Dubai Opera, one of the city's newest entertainment venues will come alive with the passion and drama of Carmen, one of George Bizet's best-loved operas. The production, featuring the classic March of the Toreadors, will be staged by the Armenian National Academic Theatre Opera and Orchestra. It will be sung in French with English and Arabic subtitles.

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



26-29 September

### Monaco at sea Port Hercules, Monaco

The Monaco Yacht Show is once again coming to Port Hercules with some of the world's most impressive superyachts on display. For 2018, an outstanding fleet of 120 superyachts will be moored in Monaco. Around 40 new yachts will debut at this year's show and buyers can meet yacht builders, designer and brokers.

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

### Art California-style San Diego

The chilled-out Californian city of San Diego is home to an art event that is attracting those in the know from all over the world. Art San Diego, a four-day event held at the Wyland Center at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, will attract more than 15,000 high net worth collectors.

[www.art-sandiego.com](http://www.art-sandiego.com)

18-21  
October



## INDULGE YOUR senses with LOHN'S OUD scents

Born and raised in Lagos, Nigeria, Lami Olopoenia graduated from the University of Lagos with a degree in estate management. After further studies, she launched Lohn, a home and lifestyle brand.

WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

Made in Nigeria, Lohn is a luxury home fragrance, a home goods store and a full service interior design firm.

Envisioned as an opportunity to bring high-end perfumery into the world of home fragrance in Nigeria, Lohn has evolved into a lifestyle collection that makes every day a little more luxurious. It is one of many examples that demonstrates that African companies are creating luxury products that are genuinely world-class.

The name 'Lohn' is derived from the Estonian translation of the word "aroma". At the heart of the brand is the desire to create fragrances that capture a moment in time. Lami believes in the power of scent and her aim is to share with the customer the olfactory journey through beautiful scent creation with premium products. The hand-poured, 100 per cent premium soy wax luxury candles and reed diffusers are steeped in premium fragrance to impart inspiring scents.

All the candles give a cold and hot scent throw. This means that when the candle has still unlit, the wax still gives off an aroma – or the "cold scent throw" – while the more intense aroma achieved when the candle is lit is the "hot scent throw".

According to Lami, the candles and reed diffusers should offer a complete luxury experience. This includes opulent packaging, rich and lingering scent and,



for the candles, specially selected glass vessels. The vessels are an important part of the experience. They have been finished with an exquisite diamond cut designed to reflect light, bringing a touch of luxe glamour to your space.

The candles in the latest collection are encased in matte black, matte white and shimmery rose gold geo jars complete with a domed lid which is ideal for keeping the dust out and scent in when not burning. For this particular collection, the burn time is around 80 hours. A long burn time is a particular feature of Lohn's luxurious range, with the burn time for each candle varying, depending on the size of vessel.

All Lohn's candle vessels are chosen for their beauty, form and functional use beyond their initial life as a candle. Black oud is a dark, rich and mysterious scent. This candle offers a strong, yet distinct scent of special oud, mysterious, woody, oriental facets of incense, and the warm, intense notes of amber and black musk.

White oud offers a rich, woody, silky scent of sensual oud immersed in amber, musk and saffron. This long lasting fragrance is light, sublime and smooth.

Rose oud offers rosy notes of jasmine and shades of patchouli. This candle offers a punch of sweet and fresh characteristics with notes of sandalwood, shades of tobacco, powdery vanilla and agarwood. ❖

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



## BUY IT NOW

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This season add a splash of colour to your home with our handpicked selection of bright, bold and quirky pieces.

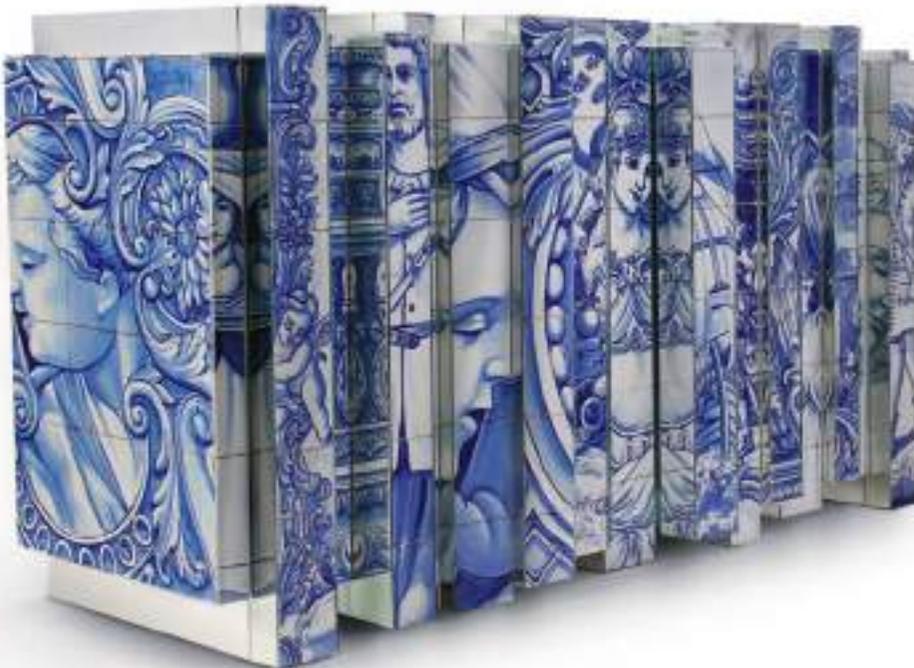
WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU



### Clan Milano Bon Bon armchair

POA, [www.clanmilano.house](http://www.clanmilano.house) [www.marioni.it](http://www.marioni.it)

The flexuous lines of the Bon Bon armchair (and the delicious matching ottoman...) evoke the French patisserie as part of the Petra collection. Compact dimensions and subtle comfort lend a refined and functional aesthetic to the collection. The convivial sensitivity of interior spaces continues in outdoor areas thanks to Petra, an appealing proposal with irregular profiles that recall organic and compact shapes of genuine charm. Between minimalist design and versatile functionality, The collection consists of chair, armchair, sofa, ottoman and chaise longue.



### Heritage Sideboard

POA, [www.thebelongestay.com](http://www.thebelongestay.com)

More than 200 individually cut and hand-painted tiles chronicle the history of Portuguese mythology, renaissance and colonisation. This piece of ornamental art has segments that playfully vary in length, and a layer of mirrored glass separates each one. Open the double doors to reveal the delicate gold leaf lining in each of the four drawers all contained in bronze glass shelves.



### Diana Cabinet

POA, [www.nomadous.com](http://www.nomadous.com)

Diana Cabinet is a charismatic art piece that will add a unique touch of style to your living room. Inspired by one of the most iconic engagement rings of our time, this faceted cabinet is finished in blue antique mirror, making it a bold design piece with a very strong presence, but which can also blend in easily and reflect the environment it is located at, much like the Princess who it is named after. The interior is finished in silver leaf, making it a balanced yet unique and exquisite design piece.



### Mai Tai Bar

\$17,702, [www.artemest.com](http://www.artemest.com)

This superb piece of furniture, designed by Alatere, is a cabinet bar with a supporting structure made of an array of stainless steel elements with a gold finish. The wood cabinet has a high-gloss lacquer finish outside, while the inside is upholstered with white leather and features an antique mirror and a sensor-activated LED light system.

## Fonteyn Chair

POA, [www.galleryfumi.com](http://www.galleryfumi.com)

This chair is named in honour of the celebrated ballet dancer Dame Margot Fonteyn 1919-1991, who together with her dance partner Rudolf Khametovich Nureyev 1938-1993 mesmerised audiences around the world with their performances of extraordinary grace and athleticism. The Fonteyn Chair explores the relationship between two separate but interdependent bodies, the seat of the Fonteyn Chair is resolutely athletic, it's weight shifted and in motion, it holds its back panel partner in a daring but perfect lift, the two bodies dancing in dynamic equilibrium. The athleticism of the seat is achieved through the use of a single block of Verde Guatemala marble giving it weight and strength. Book-matched Burr Oak veneer is used to construct the back panel, the flamboyant display of burring completes the performance. The two bodies of The Fonteyn Chair cover very different but equally great epochs in time. The Verde Guatemala Marble quarried in India formed millions of years ago. The Oak Tree from which the veneer originates grew in a cattle pasture on a large English Estate in the Cotswold Hills. The tree lived for at least 825 years, growing as a sapling around the year 1250. Combined, the two materials span geological time and great changes in our civilisation.





### Console Raymond

POA, [www.marioni.it](http://www.marioni.it)

Unique Raymond console table made with welded metal elements. Rectangles of different sizes are decorated with the application of metal leaf and provided with marble top of different materials.



### Howard Round Table

\$12,234, [www.marioni.it](http://www.marioni.it)

An elegant and refined dining table, this creation from Marioni features a metal structure and incorporates decorative glass elements. The top is fixed with a plate bonded with a UV system. This bold statement piece has been created using high-tech methods and skilfull Italian craftsmanship. It will enhance any space in your home.

# CHIC AND SLEEK BATHROOMS

Grohe and Hansgrohe Middle East present a selection of stylish bathrooms with smart features for a luxurious showering experience.

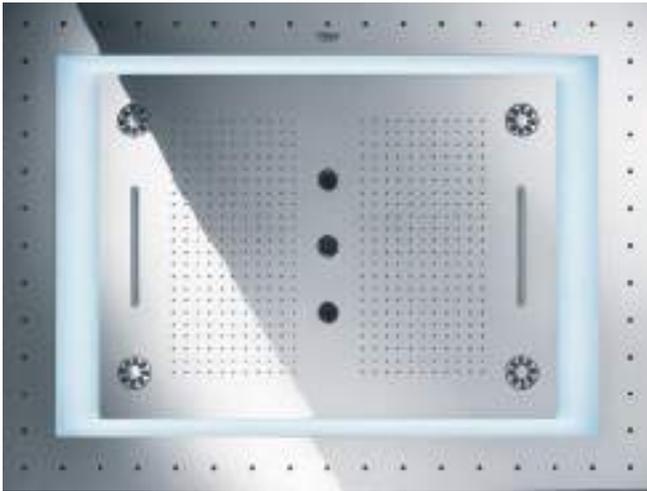
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WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

## AquaSymphony by Grohe

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

Possibly, the most luxurious shower in the world AquaSymphony is the ultimate showering experience. It transforms the ordinary daily shower routine into a luxury spa experience. In addition to its impressive size of 1,016mm x 762mm, the AquaSymphony shower presents the perfect interplay of water and innovative technologies. The experience will leave you your body and mind revitalised. The smart features include a highly advanced sound system for lovers of music, mixing personal favourite music with the sound of splashing water – in every way this bathroom will not fail to impress.



## AquaCurtain

Aqua Symphony's AquaCurtain drops subtle beats of water while rainbow coloured lights provide soothing chromotherapy. As you enjoy a personalised light show, a variety of different nozzles allows wonderful sensations to be felt on the skin. The Waterfall XL Sprays lives up to its name as some extra-wide water outlets give you the sense that you've stepped straight into a relaxing waterfall. The Bokoma Sprays, eight dynamically pulsating spray nozzles, deliver the sensation of a stimulating fingertip massage. For a really refreshing and immersive experience, the Rain Spray delivers very large and soft droplets. With their cool, fine mist, the Drizzle Sprays revitalise the skin, while the Pure Sprays provide straight-falling water, perfect for getting rid of the day's stress.

## Healthful steam bath

Prepare yourself for an invigorating experience. With just the touch of a button you will be instantly transported to spa heaven. The gentle steam has been long known for its many positive effects – it opens the pores, detoxifies the body and hydrates the skin. This, along with the use of aromatic oils, creates a relaxing and peaceful setting. "From our customers we know that their busy, modern lifestyles leave them with less time for traditional health and wellness treats like a trip to the SPA. Instead they want to pamper themselves at home", says Michael Seum, vice president of Design at Grohe.





## The Metropol Classic collection

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

A classic bathroom collection, Hansgrohe's Metropol Classic line offers a range of mixers for high-end private bathrooms in collaboration with Phoenix Design. One of the outstanding features of this new collection is its surface design: the Metropol Classic collection features elegant, gold accents on the base, the handles and the spouts of the mixers. As beautiful as the designs are, they're also eco-friendly. The Hansgrohe Metropol Classic mixers all come equipped with EcoSmart technology whereby an aerator in the nozzle reduces water flow to about five litres per minute. With Metropol Classic, you have the ideal combination of control unit and height, available in three variants. Select high-quality surface finishes in the chrome/gold look. The collection is a blend of the ultimate in manufacturing quality and stylish design expertise. The mixers and showers, along with smart features from Hansgrohe such as EcoSmart or QuickClean are innovative touches that will enhance any bathroom. A comprehensive solution for the entire bathroom customers are invited to create aesthetic unity by combining stylish Metropol Classic products for the wash basin, on the bath tub and bidet as well as in the shower.



## Africa's Grandest Polo Tournament

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



*Temí enjoys a stroll  
in Accra, Ghana.*

# DESTINATION AFRICA

Temí Otedola shares her top picks for  
must-see places in Africa.

WORDS BY TEMÍ OTEDOLA

If there was ever an optimum time to holiday across Africa, it would be now. Every month new luxury resorts are being opened, along with boutique restaurants, and world-renowned nightclubs. So, being a continent that boasts 54 idiosyncratic and uniquely beautiful countries, I narrowed down my list to four African cities I have immensely enjoyed, and yes, to disguise my blatant bias, I have left Lagos off of this list.

## GRAND BASSAM

Cote d'Ivoire is best known for its stunning beach resorts, and a favourite of mine is situated in the incredibly charming city of Grand Bassam, a place where you can stroll along white sand

beaches whilst you're shaded by palm orchards. Also, their exquisite varieties of fresh fish and seafood are a must.

## CAPE TOWN

When in Cape Town, make sure to head to Ellerman House. It truly feels like a home away from home. The hotel has a beautiful location overlooking Bantry Bay and is within walking distance to the beach. Plus, you won't be far from major Cape Town tourist attractions such as Table Mountain, the V and A Waterfront, and Robben Island.

## NAIROBI

Nairobi is undoubtedly one of the best places to experience the remarkable

wildlife that the continent has to offer. In addition to its urban core, Nairobi hosts some of the best safari experiences. I would recommend the Ol Jogi Ranch, a private game reserve in the more secluded north of Nairobi where you can truly be at one with nature.

## MARRAKECH

If you're headed to Marrakech, I would highly recommend Hotel Selman and one of their luxurious private riads. For sightseeing, my favourite site in Marrakech is the Majorelle Garden, an exotic paradise where you can visit a museum entirely devoted to the work of the legendary fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent, one of the former owners of Majorelle.

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# RED ALERT

Trendy wristwatches for women.

WORDS BY HIRIYI BAIRU

## Bulgari, Serpenti Karung

Bulgari's Serpenti Twist creation has been a signature of the brand since the 1940s, preserving its iconic and multi-faceted power. In this version, the timepiece slips into ever-changing and personalised 'skins' with a range of joyful, colourful leather straps for daily wear or a bracelet featuring several dainty rose gold chains, flowing around the wrist, transforming it from a merely functional timepiece into an item of jewellery. The Serpenti Karung comes in a steel case set with diamonds, red lacquered dial and interchangeable double spiral bracelet in red karung.

## Bulgari, LVCEA

Lvcea Skeleton makes this sophisticated mechanical timepiece a playful addition to its family of watches. The Lvcea Skeleton introduces a new complication into the Lvcea collection that offers a glimpse into the art of watchmaking at Bulgari. Designed for women who appreciate the delicate complexity of mechanical timepieces, it is a display of Haute Horlogerie. The Lvcea Skeleton definitely has a wow factor. It is the only skeletonised watch on the market made expressly for women. The new Lvcea Skeleton presents the exquisitely complicated automatic winding BVL 191 skeleton movement, crafted by hand in-house in Bulgari's Manufacture in Switzerland. However, this being Bulgari, the Lvcea Skeleton is not just a mechanical masterpiece that allows women to admire its beating heart. It is the first skeleton watch in history that takes the letters of the watchmaker's logo and features them heavily in the design. The design of the three new models in steel and rose gold is inspired by the original Lvcea watch but bring a new boldness to the collection.

## Omega Seamaster, Aquaterra

The jewellery models in this collection brings together fine craftsmanship and sophisticated design. This is the perfect timepiece for watch lovers who have eye for beauty. It features a symmetrical 38mm case crafted from 18K Sedna gold and includes a diamond-paved bezel. This same gold is also used for the watch's hands, which point to 12 marquise-cut red rubies at every hour. The dial is notable for three different styles of horizontal waves, which is reminiscent of the rhythm of the ocean. To bring this creativity to life silvery guilloché waves are interspersed with waves in 18K Sedna gold as well as 18K Sedna gold waves that are paved with a total of 191 diamonds. On the side of the case, the Aqua Terra's conical crown is included and polished with an Omega logo on a matte surface. The watch is presented on a glossy red leather strap and is driven by the Master Chronometer Calibre 8807, offering the industry's highest standard of precision, performance and magnetic resistance.



## Andersen Geneve, The Automaton Joker

Andersen Geneve has created the first timepiece with a poker game scene on the back dial, making this truly a one-of-a-kind timepiece. The dial of the Automaton Joker tells time through the Joker's eyes and, moon phase displayed by the mouth. As the piece was created in collaboration with Konstantin Chaykin, a logo has been placed on top of the eyes while Andersen Geneve's logo can be seen on the nose of the Joker. On the back of the timepiece, every element of the scene has been cut and painted by hand. By the push of a button on the case at 8 o'clock, the Joker's eyes, the dog, the man and the lady are being in motion. The scene plays out for around two minutes. This timepiece is comfortable to wear on the wrist, while its case has been made to measure to be able to incorporate such a complex dial and an automaton on the back.



# PUSHING the boundaries of WATCHMAKING

*Elite Living Africa* sat down with Frederique Constant's CEO to talk about the brand's vision and new trends in watchmaking.

WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

**What made you decide to forge a career in the watch industry and how did your journey begin?**  
We started 30 years ago when we had the idea to design classical watches at accessible luxury prices for businessmen and women. We saw expensive watches in Switzerland that we could not afford ourselves. We developed a watch collection that would be accessible to us. Now, we produce 160,000 watches per year.

**What trends and innovations do you expect to see from the watch industry in the next 10 years?**  
We see the development of Smartwatches continuing. Frederique Constant introduced the Horological Smartwatch in 2015, it is smartwatch with dial and hands, still looking like a true beautiful classical Swiss watch.

**Hollywood actress Gwyneth Paltrow is Frederique Constant's brand ambassador. How did this partnership come about?**  
We were looking for a classical actress with a genuine personality. At the time, we were already active with the Frederique Constant Foundation with various Children oriented charities. Gwyneth is also very active with charities and this clicked. We now collaborate to support Donorschoose.org

**What was the inspiration behind the Ladies Automatic collection?**  
The line is developed by women for women. We see that women are increasingly interested in the movements inside their watches, they also appreciate mechanical watches. Aletta designed and developed a contemporary collection that stands out and where women can see the inner works of the watches.

**Does Frederique Constant sell into the African market? Are there any particular pieces that may interest UHNW Africans?**  
We have representation in various countries in Africa, both in North, Middle and South. We sell our regular collection in Africa with increasing success. We have made recently a Limited Edition

of the Worldtimer for a customer and are always interested to develop special editions for particular distributors.

**How does Frederique Constant set itself apart from its competitors?**  
We offer beautiful classical watches at accessible prices, we offer more value for money. Frederique Constant watches are designed with major attention for detail, craftsmanship and selection of best materials.

**How important is it for the brand to push innovation in watchmaking?**  
We feel it is important to continue to develop new watches, for example the Hybrid. We will also introduce a Tourbillon Perpetual Calendar at an incredible attractive price because we could innovate the manufacturing of the mechanical caliber. ❖



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# EDEN DIODATI

*ethical fine jewellery*

Eden Diodati creates jewellery with a special group of women – they are artisans who survived Rwanda’s tragic past and now look ahead to a positive future.

---

WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

At the heart of the Eden Diodati brand is artisanal heritage and craftsmanship. The skill and courage of the Rwandan artisans, all genocide survivors, are the very reasons why the founder Jennifer Ewah decided to create such beautiful and striking jewellery, whilst challenging pre-conceptions of 'Made in Africa.' This is why wearing an Eden Diodati piece is more than a fashion statement. It reflects a fashion ethos embedded in a philosophy represented by Eden Diodati's 'Talisman'. The Talisman draws together four brand values that together reflect the optimism of the human condition.

Jennifer studied law at Oxford University but soon after wanted to pursue her love for fashion and went on to study design at Central Saint Martins and the London College of Fashion. It was there that she found her true passion, by combining design with her interest in ethical issues and the rights of underprivileged members of society. Jennifer was soon on her way to creating a brand that would serve those in need in a sustainable way whilst creating beautiful and unique luxury pieces.

"Eden Diodati was born out of fascination and desire to capture the compassion, empathy and strength that lies at the heart of the beauty of the women that I know. My mother, a doctor, being the foremost example," says Jennifer. "Our brand seeks to evoke beauty through crafting wonderful pieces, yet also to commit to love for others as well as to a strong, beautiful aesthetic. The ethical aspect of the brand is not independent of the aesthetic; it informs and inspires it in the most fundamental way. She adds: "The name comes from Eden after the garden of Eden, and Giovanni Diodati (6 June 1576-3 October 1649) the Swiss-born Italian theologian and translator. He was a pioneer."

Eden Diodati's jewellery collection is truly breathtaking. It is clear to see it's a label of love from all the hours the artisans have put in to create such extraordinary jewellery. Her pieces appeal to the modern luxury customer who is both intelligent and compassionate as well as fashion-conscious.

In the past five years, the Eden Diodati brand has been recognised for its jewellery, for example, it was a finalist at UK Jewellery Awards - Ethical Jewellery Business of the Year 2018. Also as the founder of the brand, Jennifer was recognised for her work and was invited to write a chapter in a book on Sustainable >



1.

2.

3.

MAIN IMAGE: African Toga Earrings and Delta Rain Cuff  
1. Antelope Knuckle Duster Ring  
2. Iman Necklace  
3. Eze Torque  
4. Iman Bracelet  
5. Tiwa Earrings  
6. Orun Earrings

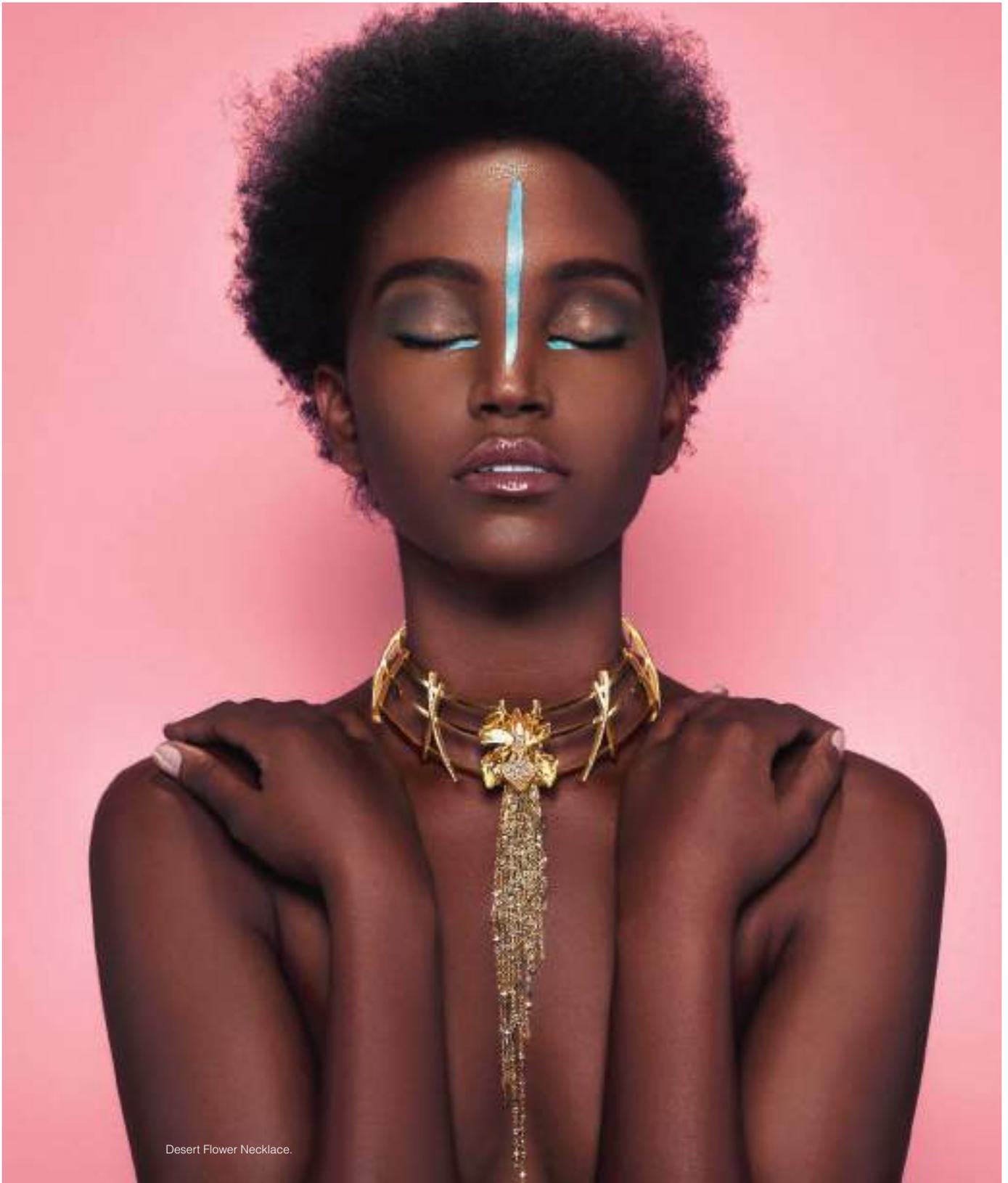


4.

5.

6.

Luxury Pioneers (Vol II) published in 2016. She also is Fellow of The Ethical Fashion Forum's 500 ethical leaders around the World and the brand was chosen in 2018 for the global sustainable luxury platform 1.618 Paris. Eden Diodati has pledged to donate 10 per cent of shareholder dividend to registered charity Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), which provides humanitarian aid, medical relief and clean water. Eden Diodati's components for its collections are made in Italy by a >



Desert Flower Necklace.

producer who is RJC certified. The Exodus collection by Eden Diodati is inspired by nomads and the life of Waris Dirie, the international fashion model who became a UN Ambassador and activist for women's and conservation causes. All pieces in this collection feature 24K gold-plated silver and Swarovski crystals.

Eden Diodati's jewellery components are crafted in Italy then transported to Rwanda. This social cooperative of women artisans, all of whom survived the genocide in Rwanda, is one of the most renowned, socially impactful, fair trade organisations in the region, serving more than 5,000 women. ❖

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Can anything new be achieved in the world of diamond jewellery design? It can be hard to stand out in a sea of drop earrings and solitaire rings, but Messika's Arabian Nights collections offer opulent delights that are original and elegant.

The collections – Dance In The Moonlight, Kashmir, Persian Drops, Shahrazad, Shirin, and Starry Night – take inspiration from a range of sources from the across the Middle East and what was once known as Persia.

Shahrazad, for example, is the storyteller in the Middle Persian tale, One Thousand and One Nights. According to the story, she was an educated woman

who caught the eye of a king who had killed wives for being unfaithful. She was able to save her own life by telling the king a story that was so long and intriguing that he had to keep asking her back night after night to regale him with awe-inspiring narratives. She did this for 1,001 nights and by the end, she was crowned queen.

Her story has endured through the centuries and is still re-told to this day. To this end, Messika has taken ancient narratives and themes and interpreted them in a modern way. The result is a dramatic collection that is fresh and exciting.

*In Nigeria, Messika is sold via Polo Luxury.  
[www.pololuxury.com](http://www.pololuxury.com)*



# Arabian INSPIRATION

*Messika's latest collection, Arabian Nights, takes diamond jewellery in a glamorous and imaginative new direction.*

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

1. Kashmir earrings feature a bold geometric design. 2. Starry Night earrings reminiscent of sensual Arabian dancers. 3. Starry Night bracelet is the perfect partner for the earrings. 4. Persian Drops earrings are ideal with a formal gown. 5. Dance In The Moonlight bracelet adds drama to any wrist. 6. Shirin double ring is a dazzling take on a henna hand tattoo. 7. Shahrazad earrings are marvellously mis-matched. 8. Shirin bracelet is regal and modern

# Shining the spotlight on GHANAIAN fashion

Accra Fashion Week is the first  
fashion week in Sub Saharan Africa to  
be held twice a year.

WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

As fashion week events across Africa grow in popularity, Accra Fashion Week in Ghana aims to fill the void which sees high levels of creativity and cultural diversity across the continent suffer from the absence of an operating fashion infrastructure. The first of two events for 2018 was held in March this year and welcomed a host of designers including Nallem Clothing and Figs Fashion. The event held seminars to provide designers with the core business understanding for mass production. One of the major challenges designers in the continent are faced with is making decisions on mass production before promotion. The team at Accra Fashion Week highlighted to all participants that they are looking forward to core buyers taking the leap into purchasing mass produced lines from local designers.

*RIGHT FACING PAGE: Model wearing Nallem Clothing on the runway at Accra Fashion Week.*

The first of two fashion week events for 2018 was a huge success, with a number of African designer showcasing their designs on the runway, including Nallem Clothing, a leading fashion house in Ghana designing, manufacturing, merchandising afrocentric clothing and accessories. The word 'Nallem' is from the Bulisa language of the Upper East Region of Ghana, a sense of beauty, elegance and honour qualities of the clothing line. The collection featured clothing designed for urban professionals, bringing together elegance, creativity and style, embracing the essential elements of African culture and tradition, hence our slogan – the confident urge.

Figs Fashion presented its dynamic clothing line at the show, which is aimed at young, stylish men and >





women – and the brand has fostered a creative environment where talent, imaginations and all round sense of fashion design coupled with “hands-on” made-to-order, sales and management experience can be applied to drive product development. The brand has already presented various collections on a number of runways. They took to their first Accra Fashion Week show in October 2017. Figs Fashion has expertise in fabric sourcing and selection,



colour story creation, ladies and men's wear, cost management, production efficiency, and pattern work, allows them to experiment with unique designs. The second fashion week event for 2018 will take place 3-7 October 2018.

For more information on Accra Fashion Week visit:  
[www.accrافashionweek.org](http://www.accrافashionweek.org) ❖

ABOVE: Models wearing Nallem Clothing and Figs Fashion on the runway at Accra Fashion Week.

*BELOW: Lamborghini  
Super Suv Urus.*



# LAMBORGHINI 2019 *SPRING* SUMMER COLLECTION

Lamborghini's new menswear collection encapsulates luxury for everyday wear.

WORDS BY HIRIYTI BAIRU

Collezione Automobili Lamborghini unveiled the 2019 Spring Summer ready-to-wear collection at the historic Palazzo Gavazzi in Via Montenapoleone during Milan Fashion Week earlier this year. Guests descended on the Palazzo Gavazzi, where the beautiful interiors were transformed into a Lamborghini Lounge, creating the perfect setting to present the collection. The lounge offered an intimate and luxurious space to develop a network among visitors while showing a strong display of the Lamborghini DNA. Lamborghini opened the doors of its Lamborghini Lounge for the first time during New York Fashion Week in Manhattan Upper East Side to offer a preview of the Autumn/Winter 2018-19 menswear collection.

The 2019 Spring Summer Collection brings technology, know-how and research of the Sant'Agata Bolognese brand together with expertise and passion

for detail of the Lamborghini team responsible for the creation of the collection. The contemporary and stylish menswear collection delivers a look that reflect the brand's concepts: informal luxury, future-shaper, designer of experiences.

Featured alongside the collection was Riva 1920 Authentic Living range designed by Karim Rashid. It presented a the limited-triathlon P5X bicycle, the co-branding project with Cervelo designed in collaboration with Centro Stile Lamborghini. SuperLight Trench in breathable windproof and waterproof blue technical fabric. The incredible attention to detail can be seen in the hexagonal-pattern lining, under-collar and quilted sleeves echoing the Urus seat stitching motif. Techno Camo Blouson in jacquard nylon is also a piece featured in the range, with Lamborghini camouflage graphics created using a matte-glossy finish fabric, and a bold >



PHOTO: Stefania M. D'Alessandro/Catly Images for Lamborghini

3D motif. The iconic Supercar Jacket in soft black leather is a must-have for fast-driving enthusiasts and features hexagonal stitching on the elbows. For those seeking a more relaxed look, the Khaki Cotton Jacket with visible stitching and sartorial details is evocative of super sports car design. It is clear to see that design and brand identity are at the heart of the Automobili Lamborghini 2019 Spring Summer Collection, whose creatively designed pieces share the same style codes of the Lamborghini super sports cars.

The collection was presented alongside the Authentic Living furniture line created in collaboration with Riva 1920 and designed by star-architect Karim Rashid. The designer's vision was to blend the world of Riva 1920 and Lamborghini - two brands that share the values and philosophy: design, innovation, emotion, attention to detail, cutting-edge technology and strong heritage. The pieces in the collection feature sinuous and stylish lines enhanced by fine workmanship and carefully chosen top quality natural materials, such as solid walnut and black leather. "Shared values such as design, technological research, craftsmanship and quality of materials make this partnership genuine, authentic and consistent," says Katia Bassi, chief marketing officer and Board Member of Automobili Lamborghini.



TOP: Guests at the Super Suv Urus cocktail party held at Tortona 32 as part of Milan Men's Fashion Week Fall/Winter in Milan, Italy.

BOTTOM: Collezione Automobili Lamborghini and the Super Suv Urus at Milan Men's Fashion Week Autumn/Winter 2018/19.

RIGHT FACING PAGE: Items of clothing by Collezione Automobili Lamborghini FW 2018/19 are displayed during Collezione Automobili Lamborghini.

Also on display was the limited edition P5X triathlon bike co-branded with Cervélo. Katia revealed that Lamborghini Accademia drivers have been training on Cervélo for a while so they already know how special, and how fast these bikes are. “With elite performance, outstanding design and innovation, this collaborative project was a natural fit for both brands,” says Katia. “This limited-edition speed machine unites brands that are passionate about world-class products and performance,” added Robert de Jonge, managing director at Cervélo Cycles. “Our triathletes lead the charge when it comes to racing, and now they can stand out from the crowd even more emphatically.”❖





# Class ACT

While the Gullwing is the obvious choice for collectors of classic Mercedes-Benz cars, those in the know seek out Roadsters. *Elite Living Africa* goes on a restoration journey as a 300 SL is restored to her former glory. Photography by Corné du Plessis.

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WORDS BY JOHANN VENTER



Between 1957 and 1963, 1,858 of these goddesses on wheels were hand-crafted at the Mercedes-Benz factory in Sindelfingen. Spawned from the 300 SL Gullwing, a direct result of Mercedes' successful racing coupé, the W194 SL reclaimed Mercedes's glory years after the war.

While the Gullwing and Roadster are similar in appearance, it was the 300 SLR in which Sir Stirling Moss won the Mille Miglia on in May 1955. The topless 300 SL, however, is substantially more powerful than the racing coupé as well as out-performing the Gullwing thanks to a high performance camshaft and higher compression ratio.

It was aimed at the upper echelons of society, royalty and the glitterati. The jet set of the time including Natalie Wood, Clark Gable, Glenn Ford, Yul Brynner, Horst Buchholz, Curd Jürgens, as well as Elvis Presley, all chose the Roadster to saunter down the boulevards.

The Roadster is more spirited in performance than the Gullwing, it handles better, and it certainly does not require the acrobatic manoeuvres needed for getting in and out via gullwing doors. The cockpit is roomier – and in summer, the top can be removed, whereas the Gullwing feels somewhat claustrophobic in the summer due to the limited ventilation.

However, the biggest technological advance on the Gullwing and the Roadster, is the direct fuel-injection system. Developed during WWII by Daimler-Benz in conjunction with Bosch for the V12 DB601 engine used in a 1942 German fighter plane, the technology was adapted for the Mercedes-Benz SL programme, giving the marque a technological advance that would take other manufacturers decades to master.

The immaculate 1961 Roadster featured is, according to the Mercedes-Benz Club of South Africa, one of only 12 imported into the country. The Roadster in the Franschoek Motor Museum has been superbly restored in Anthracite metallic which is period-correct, although not a standard colour option at the time. According to Mercedes-Benz Classic, only seven were originally ordered in this hue. Many Roadsters today have been resprayed this colour and it is easy to see why. The Anthracite metallic over the blood-red cabin, combined with the black hardtop is stunning.

This Roadster has not been owned by one family since new, nor has it enjoyed the benefits of living in a temperature-controlled garage and hauled to shows every so often. It has not won prizes, nor does it have a complete history. Instead, it's onto its fifth owner but three owners ago, a story of devotion began.

The story started at Grey College in the Free State, a renowned rugby school. While attending Grey College, a young Steve Rademeyer falls in love – with the 300 SL Roadster, a late 1957 model, the first to be imported into South Africa in early 1958, to be precise. It was the very car in which Dr Jan Stegmann broke the official speed >

*The Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Roadster is an imposing presence on the road.*

record between Bloemfontein and Cape Town, doing it in six hours and 20 minutes, a record which stands to this day. So enthralled was Steve that he made it his mission to befriend Dr Stegmann.

One weekend, he hitched a lift to Senekal with Dr Stegmann en route to Durban. They covered the 117 miles in an hour and 10 minutes. Steve's first impression of a Mercedes-Benz left him in awe and set him on a path to his own 300 SL.



Fast-forward to October 1980, Steve realised his dream and acquired the Roadster from a collector. Steve was approached by Mercedes-Benz SA to change the colour to Ivory at their expense, to better reflect the bright-work, as the star exhibit at the 1981 Rand Easter Show. In 1983, Steve put the Roadster through its paces, racing in an historic meet at Welkom, achieving second place over four heats. Financially constrained towards the end of 1983 after purchasing a pharmacy, he reluctantly sold the Roadster to G.L. Motor Services, to pay for renovations to his house.

But G.L. Motor Services was only able to honour the first payment, according to the terms agreed upon with Steve. In the meantime, the fourth owner-to-be, Dr Frank Snyckers took his Rolls-Royce Corniche to G.L. Motor Services for repairs. Steve sued G.L. Motor Services for lack of payment, they were forced to liquidate and auction off their assets. Included in the auction was Dr Snyckers's Corniche, unbeknown to him. Frank cut a deal with G.L. Motor Services to take the 300 SL Roadster which survived the auction, and paid a substantial amount of cash for the Roadster.

In October 1986, Dr Snyckers insured the Roadster for R40,000, the equivalent of \$16,725, giving an indication of the value of the car back then. He then set about restoring the 300 SL. One of the biggest challenges was to refurbish the dashboard. Recovering the seats with the correct perforated leather, and getting the perforations to align properly, at times seemed an insurmountable task.

With a new lease on life, the Roadster became the centre of attention in a 1986 Mercedes-Benz SA television advertisement, completely overshadowing the W124 220E it was meant to promote. Then, in 2014, a deal was brokered through an automotive investment concern, between Dr Snyckers and Franco Scribante for the sale of the Roadster.

Franco Scribante is a racing enthusiast and car collector – his Ferrari Daytona was featured in an episode of *Top Gear*, pitted against the XSR 48 powerboat, at the time the fastest diesel production boat with 1140hp at its disposal. The race took place on the Italian Riviera between Portofino and Saint Tropez. Franco wasted no time in getting his team to work on an off-body ground-up restoration. His crack team of mechanics, more suited to building and maintaining race cars,

*From every angle,  
the Roadster is a  
spectacular machine.*



however relished the opportunity to prove their mettle. Expert advice and parts were sourced from Kienle, HK Engineering and Mercedes-Benz Classic. In their quest for perfection, fabrication tools such as a bead roller and planishing hammer were imported. They even made their own English wheel. Honouring the handcrafted tradition in which the Roadster was made, the body repairs were done through lead-loading instead of using modern synthetic materials. The chassis was crack-tested and measured to ensure it retained its structural integrity.

A specialist was called upon to rebuild the engine, while a former Bosch technician was entrusted to refurbish and set up the throttle body and fuel injection pump to ensure the engine performed at its best.

The motor trimmer, who happened to be a Mercedes-Benz concours judge, was supplied with 10 hides which had been sourced locally and dyed to the exact red.

These hides were used to re-trim the interior, including the carpeting and roof-lining of the hardtop. Franco decided to keep some patina and left the seats with the perfect perforation pattern as it was. While the radio may look period-correct, it was fitted with the necessary accoutrements for such modern musical advances as USB and Bluetooth.

And so an average Roadster, starting to show its age, was transformed into a near-perfect specimen of the breed, ready to take on the next 60 years of its life. It is worth noting however that although this car has not led a simple life, all body-panels are still original and carry the relevant stamps to prove it. And because of the restoration, the value has gone up significantly between the fourth and fifth owner and will continue to do so with each passing year. ♦

*Special thanks to Ron Silke.*

# ROOM TO MOVE



Project SHU is the latest stunning superyacht from Lürssen.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

**P**roject SHU has passed her final sea trials with flying colours with successful tests in the Baltic Sea. Her delivery is planned for autumn this year and superyacht connoisseurs will be able to check her out at the Monaco Yacht Show.

Her exterior profile is an exercise in balance, style and, of course, ultimate oceangoing luxury.

The generous deck space is ideal for guests and there are more intimate spaces for quieter gatherings. Sea terraces and platforms allow easy access to the water for swimming and more adventurous water sports.

A special feature is the enormous swimming pool, running transversely on the main deck aft. And there are two

helipads, one on the bridge deck and one on the sun deck aft.

Inside, Mark Berryman has created a calming, spacious design in soft neutral tones and tactile finishes.

Imperial Yachts supervised the built project. "Project SHU represents a major milestone for Imperial," says Julia Stewart, director at Imperial Yachts.

"Being involved in impressive superyacht projects like these show our capacity and experience in superyacht and megayacht management, with regular deliveries of 80m+ projects supervised and operated by our team since 2015. Our strong and very dynamic links with Lürssen, Espen Oeino and Mark Berryman helped to achieved one of the most impressive vessels of the next decade." ♦



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no matter which size.



  
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# Simplicity in LAYERS

Project Aster by Heesen Yachts is poetry in motion.

WORDS BY JULIA ZALTMAN



**P**roject Aster is Heesen Yachts' latest semi-displacement 50m superyacht under 500GT. Exterior design by Omega Architects, she is the seventh iteration of the Heesen 5000 class, and the third hull of her kind that has enjoyed interior styling by Italian designer Cristiano Gatto.

"Aster is one of my favourite projects," Gatto enthuses. "I have invested a lot into her interior design, and my hope is that the lucky owner who buys that boat will have the patience to look over the details and appreciate the level of attention that has gone into her."

Aster is a five-year collaboration between Heesen and Gatto. Her sister ships, M/Y Loyalty launched in 2016 and M/Y White launched in 2017, share the same proven platform, but Aster's interior is entirely new. From the main architectural elements to the fixed furniture (both crafted by Heesen's in-house team) to the custom-made loose furniture, it has all been "entirely reimaged".

Far from being an interior that shouts, Aster's design is understated. The light and fresh feel has been achieved using spruce, a wood selected for its

tone and texture, which is then bleached, patinated and brushed. Something of a "reference material" throughout the yacht, in some areas the spruce has been lacquered for a glossy effect and features rich dark wood inserts. "The result is that the boat feels very light and modern, but executed in a way that looks fresh, perfect for summer, akin to a villa by the Mediterranean Sea," says Gatto.



TOP: A stunning aerial view of Project Aster.  
BOTTOM: The luxurious master suite.

Design emphasis has been placed on the colour and light that flows in from outdoors, while the use of interior materials creates a relaxing and complementary ambience. "The 'wow effect' is realised by the perception of freedom on board. Many of our clients need to feel like their yacht is a secret escape; somewhere they can fully relax."

Each element has been researched and designed to look "simple yet perfect", says Gatto – it took two months alone to source the correct stone, selecting only one slab in every 200 examples – but the final result is a showstopper. "The interior needs to work in harmony throughout the yacht, and Aster is an orchestral performance. It's quite a task to achieve – some will interpret it as simple, but it's built up using subtle layers, and is so very far from simple." ♦

*Crafted in Holland. Home of yacht building.*



## *Heesen*

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[heesenyachts.com](http://heesenyachts.com)





# TALA'S TIME

*Tala*, the latest superyacht by Turquoise Yachts, will take luxury to a new level.

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WORDS BY JESS COUTTS



**C**onstruction is well underway for the new 53-metre superyacht, *Tala*. With hull and superstructure already completed and interior work in process, she is taking form and the early pictures promise a truly spectacular vessel.

Her exterior styling and interior design are by the renowned Miami-based studio DeBasto Designs. There will be no shortage of space for discerning yacht owners and their guests – *Tala* offers multiple staterooms, roomy decks and a substantial swim platform to make it easy to slide into the water for a refreshing dip. The sun deck promises to be the party

hub with a hot tub, sun-pads, TV, barbecue and plenty of open space for enjoying the open seas. There is an on-board beach club with a gym and sauna and the owner's stateroom and VIP suite are on the main deck.

On a practical level – because truly good design is seamless – traffic circulation between guests and crew are completely separate on all decks, including discreet access on the lower deck between the laundry and the guests' area.

There is crew accommodations for 10 people on the lower deck and there is a captain's cabin on the upper deck with the pilothouse. >



*Tala, scheduled for delivery in 2020, is looking spectacular from all angles.*

“With *Tala*’s enormous volume, my objective was to make the exterior less bulky and give a feeling of a forward dynamic movement, rather than a static feel,” says Luiz DeBasto.

“I wanted the design to show movement and purpose from any angle. I achieved this with the long ascending line from the swim platform all the way up to the mast and down to the pilothouse windshield.”

For the interior design, Luiz has been working closely with his in-house team, led by his wife, Cristina DeBasto.

*Tala*’s interior is bright on account of the large windows, light colours juxtaposed with semi-precious woods and materials used as contrasting accents. It is ideal for enjoying the views from anywhere onboard.

Each space, including the ceilings, combines varietal materials and use linear and indirect lights to define geometry and shape.

*Tala* is scheduled to be delivered in 2020. ♦

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

# BESPOKE BRILLIANCE

Igor Lobanov, of Lobanov Design, on creating unique superyachts.

WORDS BY ROMAN ZINCENKO

Igor Lobanov speaks exclusively to *Elite Living Africa* about his work on the superyacht *Jubilee* and the future of design.

**Tell us about when you were a young designer and Lürssen's Michael Breman allowed you to exhibit at their stand at the Monaco Yacht Show.**

In 2007, I first exhibited the scale model of the concept *White Knight* at Lürssen's booth and I didn't eat for the whole show. I didn't take any breaks because I was so excited and I didn't want to miss out on anything or miss any clients or visitors. I wanted to talk to everybody and listen to their comments – it was an incredible experience, seeing the public's response to my design – it was really encouraging. After that, I was confident in what I was going to do.

**Name the things every superyacht buyer should know before talking to a designer.**

There are plenty of things the designer and yacht buyer should discuss, like the quality of the yacht, lifestyle, budget, delivery time and other things. But I don't know if the buyer must know something before talking to the designer. These things can be discussed together. There is a list of questions and, of course, we will address all of these questions and concerns and doubts.

**Tell us about the Moroccan design inspiration for Jubilee. It's a wonderful aesthetic.**

We designed the exterior furniture and layout based on Moroccan architecture,

ornaments and furnishings – all of that was inspired by Moroccan culture. The pattern on the ceiling is modern – a custom creation for this particular project – but we definitely knew that we had to cover the ceiling with something ornamental. We didn't want to use a



traditional Islamic ornament, but it's in line with Islamic culture.

**Describe Jubilee in seven words.**

Natural, fluid, peaceful, confident, elegant, royal, gentle.

**What is special about designing yachts for Oceanco?**

From the first time I saw their new designs, I knew I wanted to work with

them. I realised that they may be one of a few superyacht shipyards that was willing to be different; to be fresh and to bring new products to the market. Of course it is unfair to say they are the only ones but nevertheless, at this large size, the yachts really demonstrate a difference. I approached them and participated in a competition, a tender bid between designers, and our design won. They are always looking for something fresh and innovative, they don't want to repeat themselves. Of course, they use platforms and these platforms evolve, but the vision stylistically in terms of layout, they avoid sistership, copying and stagnation.

**What do you expect from the African market?**

I don't have any enquiries from African clients so it's hard to say what I can expect. Nevertheless, I believe that, as other markets, it is going to grow and there is going to be some interest in the future.

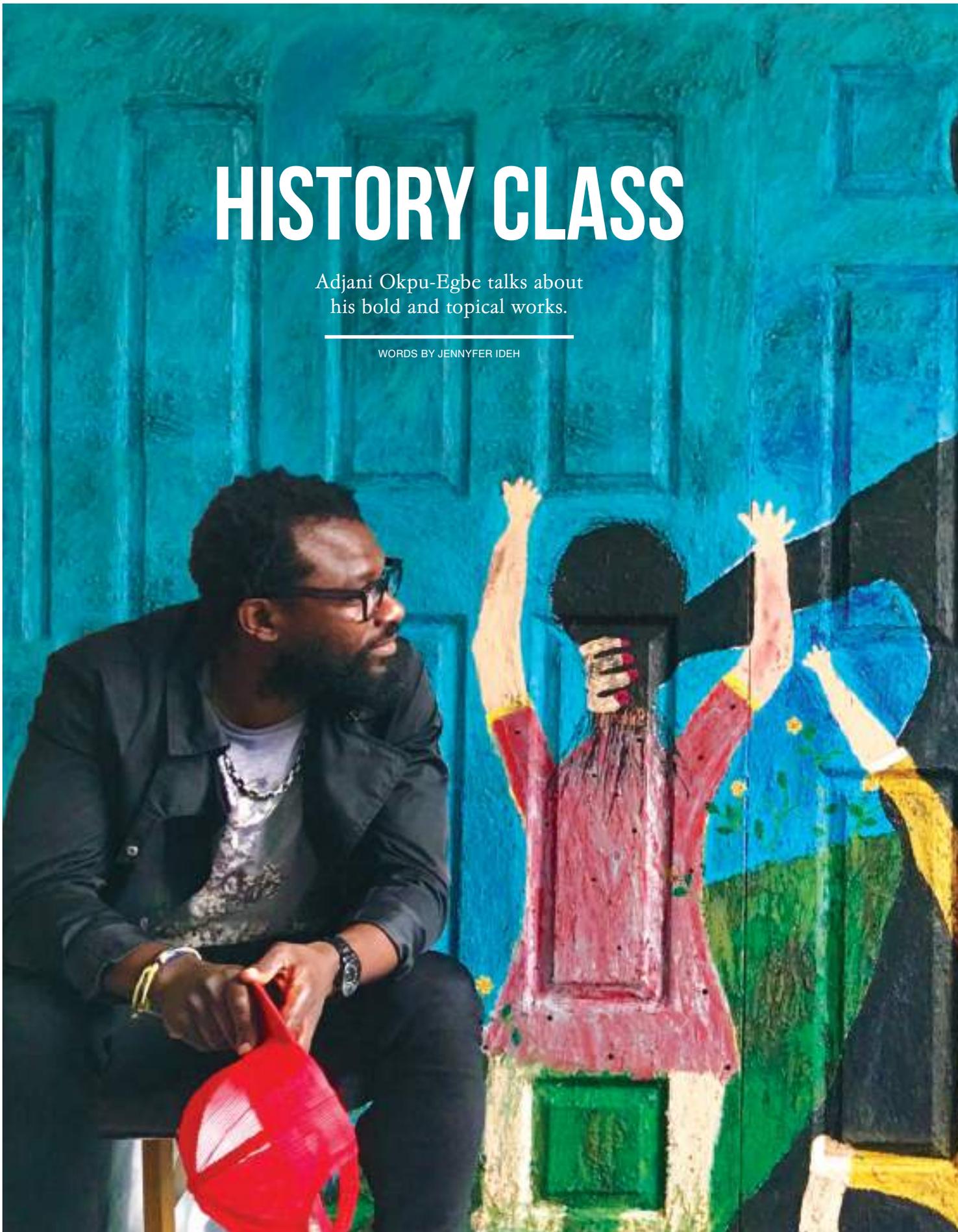
**What will the superyachts look like in the next decade?**

We will continue to see variety. I don't think there will be any radical trends – there will certainly be some radical yachts breaking the boundaries and creating trends of the future, but it doesn't mean that radical ideas are going to be copied and repeated. Radical solutions sometime create new niches – they break the limits, they push the industry in a different direction but the trends are not really radical. I think we will see more polar trends, retro-looking yachts, explorer yachts, and family yachts. Speed boats and fast and environmentally friendly yachts will exist in parallel. ♦

# HISTORY CLASS

Adjani Okpu-Egbe talks about  
his bold and topical works.

WORDS BY JENNYFER IDEH





ABOVE: Artist, Adjani Okpu-Egbe  
LEFT FACING PAGE: *Fabricated Anthropology*.  
Mixed media on door panels 2018.  
LEFT: *Self Portrait as an Endangered Species*.  
BELOW: *King Njoya No2*. Mixed media on canvas  
2017. Private collection, London.

**A**djani Okpu-Egbe speaks in a calm, steady tone – a direct contrast to the emotional-charge and political activism of his mixed-media artworks. Such artworks are informed by an unconventional background. Born in Cameroon in 1979, Adjani left home at the age of 14, going on to join the British Army and move to the UK. As a soldier, Adjani continued to paint, combining political themes with his identity as a Cameroonian far from home. When he became a full-time artist, he chose South London as the base for his studio, and was taken on by Knight Webb Gallery, who continue to represent the artist today.

Working between the schools of Afro-Expressionism and Afro-Surrealism, Adjani's work incorporates very personal signs and symbols, and makes reference to the tradition of oral history passed down through his African lineage. He has exhibited internationally in New York, Los Angeles, Tel Aviv and in his native Cameroon. Ahead of an exhibition of the artist's work at Knight Webb Gallery in London, we discussed the artist's career to date, and his latest work.

**When did you start to paint, and what would you say are your sources of inspiration?**

I have been making drawings since I was a child, and started painting in 2007. I turned professional in 2012 following demand for my work. I have been inspired by many artists including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Willem de Kooning, Jacob Lawrence, Kara Walker, Barkley Hendricks, Lorna Simpson... the list goes on. My inspiration is not limited to painters, the works of many writers and musicians have also informed my state of mind. For example, Taiye Selasi, Amiri Baraka, Jay Z, Sun Ra, Naughty by Nature, Chimamanda Adichie, Ngugi Wa Thiongo, Chinua Achebe, Steve Biko, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Rebecca Walker, Alice Walker, Zadie Smith, Bob Marley and many more. Observations of the day-to-day lives of the general public can be very inspiring and I do make use of that [in my art] as well.

**How would you describe the recurrent themes in your work?**

My work is informed by a plurality of topics. However, I take a keen interest in exploring themes on Afrocentrism, Eurocentrism, equality, history, oppression, politics, education, race and racism, feminism, the African diaspora, the civil rights movement, and precolonial African history.



◆  
*“My work is informed by a plurality of topics – Afrocentrism, Eurocentrism, equality, history, oppression, politics, education, race, feminism, the African diaspora, civil rights, precolonial African history...”*  
◆



**What would you consider to be your most significant work?**

Do you mean commercially or artistically?

**That's a good question. Is there a distinction for you?**

I have made a lot of work over the years and feel very privileged to have some of them in important collections. However, I would consider the following to be my most significant: Syrian Conundrum, FROM 2013, which is in an important private collection in Brussels; The Diamond Jubilee Queen, which was commissioned by the BBC as an artistic interpretation of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012; Prowess of the Mutant Underdog, part of a private collection in Amsterdam. This work received a lot of airtime following the second edition of 1:54 African Art Fair in London in 2014. Also of significance to me are Politics of Mary Seacole, A Mother's Dream, Good Governance2 and Self Portrait as an Endangered

Species, all of which featured in the show "Regarding Africa" that took place at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art in 2016. The show included the works of Wangechi Mutu, Malick Sidibé, Ibrahim Mahama and Aboudia.

**Can you give us an idea of what we can expect in your latest show in London?**

I will show four paintings in collaboration with Aboudia and Juliane Hundertmark. I can reveal that Fabricated Anthropology is one of the pieces that will be shown... I am still applying the finishing touches to the remaining works. If you are in London, you are invited to come and have a look. ♦

*The exhibition can be seen Knight Webb Gallery at the gallery's new location, 58 Battersea Bridge Rd, SW11 3AG.*



## THE VIRTUAL HIGH SEAS

If you're looking for a yacht to enjoy this year's European summer, a new solution has made this so much easier. Click&Boat is a platform which allows boat owners to hire out their vessels when they are not in use. This offers vacationers the luxury of a yachting holiday without the responsibilities of permanent boat ownership. Within Europe, destinations with yachts for hire include the Greek islands, Catalonia and Croatia's gorgeous Dalmatian Coast. There are also beautiful boats available for hire in the Caribbean.

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



## Gin palace

Gin has become increasingly fashionable with artisan gin bars opening up in major cities around the world. Now the experience is available in the Maldives thanks to OZEN by Atmosphere, the luxury all-inclusive resort. Gin Is In, the aptly named gin bar stocks myriad gins, including 25 top-shelf international brands, such as Tanqueray, Hendrick's and Monkey 47, as well as a selection of premium tonics. There are gins infused with herbs and other exotic flavours and the bar staff are on hand to advise.

[www.ozen-maadboo.com](http://www.ozen-maadboo.com)



## Breathtaking Andalusia

The view of the pueblo blanco of Casares is surely one of the best spots on the planet for an afternoon of relaxation, particularly if fine champagnes are involved. At DDG Retreat, the ultimate in adults-only relaxation can be experienced with just three gorgeous casitas – Royal, Maharja and Pino – on offer for accommodation which guarantees total privacy. Royal and Maharja are tented super-suites with marble floors and chandeliers, while Pino is a characterful artisan cottage with its own plunge pool. The diverse Andalusian heritage can be experienced with a traditional hammam or stunning cuisine.

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





## Beachside bliss

A new waterfront area has opened up at Porto Montenegro just in time for a serene summer. It promises to be a fine place for socialising, admiring the superyachts as they come to town and taking in the glorious views afforded by the UNESCO-protected Boka Bay.

The Porto Montenegro Yacht Club now boasts its own private beach, a pristine 600 square metre oasis with direct access to the sparkling waters as well as divine daybeds, heavenly hammocks and bountiful beanbags for a relaxing seaside experience.

By night, the space transforms into an open air bar with a cinema screen and a truly fabulous cocktail menu.

Events planned for the club over summer include a fashion festival (27-28 July) and the Motor Yacht rally (8-13 August)

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



## SPECTACULAR SCENES IN SRI LANKA

Pasikuda Bay is a wonderful Sri Lankan gem – the beaches are glorious and golden and the bio-diverse coral reefs attract visitors seeking adventures in unspoilt seawater. The offshore reef surrounds the bay, making it one of Sri Lanka's safest and most shallow bays, which is ideal for families and anyone learning to dive or snorkel. Other watersports include windsurfing, sailing and canoeing. Nature lovers should visit between March and October as that is when blue whales and sperm whales visit the bay. Relaxing boat tours are on offer, which is an ideal way to see these gentle giants of the sea. Maalu Maalu Beach Resort and Spa is a great base for a Pasikuda experience located directly on the water – dazzling blue waters, beaches of the softest sand and chalet accommodation are all on offer.

[www.theresorts.com/maalumaalu](http://www.theresorts.com/maalumaalu)

No matter what time of year you choose for a Sicilian holiday, you can be assured of glorious weather to accompany the beautiful scenery and cuisine. And if Sicily appeals for a summer escape, Verdura Resort is offering exclusive experiences between July and October. These include dinners cooked by leading chefs, football training experiences for budding sports stars with Italian team coaches and players, golfing clinics with PGA professionals, learning to fence with four-time Olympic gold medallist Giovanna Trillini and beach volleyball lessons with Maurizia Cacciatori, a former member of the national team and a hip-hop dance academy for children and teens. For those seeking a more sedate holiday, there are plenty of fine dining options as well as opportunities to learn to mix bespoke cocktails.

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



## By the sea in Sicily

### ECO-EXPERIENCES IN COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is known for its stunning natural environment and resorts across the country – a magnificent strip running between Nicaragua and Panama – are endeavouring to be awarded a Certification of Sustainable Tourism (CST) from the Costa Rican Tourism Board. One such resort is Secrets Papagayo, which has a level three CST. The luxury all-inclusive resort is surrounded by the breathtaking beaches of Guanacaste and lush tropical gardens. It is an adults-only resort so it is ideal for a romantic South American getaway. The CST was designed for the tourism sector businesses and organisations to comply them with a sustainable model of natural, cultural and communal reserve management.

The CST assessment is based on four criteria: physical-biological parameters, service management, external client reviews and socio-economic environment.

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

The word “iconic” is overused these days but in the case of the Hôtel Martinez in Cannes, it is entirely appropriate. It has a proud and fascinating history dating back to the 1930s. It has been a landmark in Cannes from the time it was built and it is now benefiting from a magnificent refurbishment under the sympathetic guidance of Parisian architect Pierre-Yves Rochon. He has combined the hotel’s original Art Deco style, with contemporary, chic design that takes inspiration from the colours of the French Riviera and the Mediterranean way of life. It is a wonderful location for enjoying Cannes with 409 rooms and suites.

[www.hotel-martinez.hyatt.com](http://www.hotel-martinez.hyatt.com)



Grand revival

## MACHU PICCHU IN STYLE

The spectacular remains of the ancient Incan civilisation will always be a popular bucket list item. While it can be a strenuous hike to experience Machu Pichu, there are opportunities for a little luxury along the way. Inca rail has introduced The Private Service, a completely remodelled and refurbished parlour-style luxury train carriage designed for exclusive use. It has its own bar, balcony, lounge area and fine furnishings. Two butlers and chef cater to the dining needs of guests, complete with champagne and some of South America’s finest wines on offer. Peruvian classics, such as a unique local chocolate mousse, will be served and live musicians are on hand to entertain intrepid travellers. The services run a daily round trip.

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

## Morocco from the air

While the souks of Marrakech certainly have their allure, an aerial tour over the nearby Atlas Mountains should be added as a must-do on your Moroccan agenda. Air Partner is one company that has helped clients make the most of Morocco with flights over the scenic North African country adding an extra dimension to special occasions, such as weddings.

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





*Cormoran Lodge on the shore's of Rwanda's Lake Kivu.*

# CALL OF THE WILD

African safari adventures are as diverse as they are luxurious.

WORDS BY GEORGIA LEWIS

Safaris are not homogeneous holidays. Across different parts of Africa, safaris can encompass the sea, lakes, rivers as well as spectacular greenery and countless opportunities to see amazing wildlife.

Every safari is special, offering unique insights into the local areas in regard to everything from geography to cuisines. One could try a different safari destination every year and have a truly unique experience every time. And a safari holiday does not automatically mean paper-thin tents or eschewing creature comforts.

From South Africa to Senegal, there are plenty of incredible safaris to enjoy complete with accommodation that is sympathetic to the surrounds. In Rwanda, for example, guests can stay right alongside Lake Kivu at Cormoran Lodge (pictured left – [www.cormoranlodge.com](http://www.cormoranlodge.com)).

There are just five luxurious wooden cabins to ensure privacy and from the coveted VIP cabin, guests can see the crater of the Nyiragongo volcano in Congo, which still offers fiery spectacles for visitors.

For lovers of wildlife, Cormoran Lodge is an excellent base for seeing mountain gorillas in their native habitat. Elephants, leopards, lions, rhinos and buffalo are also found in Rwanda, so there are plenty of opportunities for ticking off some spectacular and rare creatures from the safari spotter's checklist. And after a rewarding day among the natural attractions of the area, the sandy shores of Lake Livu are ideal for winding down.

The following pages feature some of the best places to stay across Africa for incredible nature experiences combined with the very best of accommodation and hospitality. >

## FATHALA WILDLIFE RESERVE, SENEGAL

Senegal offers a diverse range of wildlife, particularly for bird-watchers. The osprey, western reef heron, pink-backed pelican, little bee eater, horn bill and hooded vulture can all be seen here. Among the non-feathered friends, warthogs, white rhinos, giraffes and zebras can also be spotted.

At the Fathala Wildlife Reserve, located in the south-west of Senegal, a five-hour drive from Dakar, travellers can enjoy cocktails by the pool.

The tented accommodation is a far cry from thin canvas structures. Instead, there is air-conditioning, en suite bathrooms with twin sinks and deep, freestanding baths and open air showers.

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



## AVANI VICTORIA FALLS RESORT, ZAMBIA

Victoria Falls is a true African icon, one of the most spectacular and unforgettable natural world experiences on a continent that offers such things in abundance. A safari-style adventure incorporating Victoria Falls is a truly special way to experience the heart of Zambia.

Avani Victoria Falls is just a five-minute stroll away, and guests of this resort will enjoy an adventurous start to their stay with a water taxi ride along the Zambezi River. If the grand arrival whets one's appetite for further Zambezi exploration, Avani can organise river cruises. Alternatively, you can see Victoria Falls and the glorious surrounds by air with a helicopter joyride, learn more about Zambian culture and cuisine with a village experience or meet the animals on a wildlife day safari.

Thrillseekers are also catered to with an exhilarating white water rafting excursion followed by a cable car ride over breathtaking Batoka Gorge, or a flight above Victoria Falls in a microlight aircraft. Fitness fans can try a running or walking trail with the chance of seeing zebras, giraffes and impalas along the way. And for those who prefer a more relaxed holiday among Zambia's natural wonders, the resort itself offers rooms with pool or verdant bush views.

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





## OCEANA BEACH & WILDLIFE RESERVE, SOUTH AFRICA

A beach holiday can blend effortlessly with a safari experience in South Africa. Located near Port Alfred on the south-east coast, Oceana Beach & Wildlife Reserve offers direct access to seven kilometres of unspoilt beach and a reserve that is home to more than 220 bird and 30 animal species, including giraffe and rhino. A game drive and beach experience in the same day is a major attraction for this exclusive destination.

There are four ocean suites offering 180-degree views of the beach, private decks and relaxing lounge areas. There is also a three-bedroom, three-bathroom private house and three lodge suites, which are part of the main lodge and offer easy access to the games room.

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



## MOREMI GAME RESERVE, BOTSWANA

The magnificent landscapes of the Okavango Delta draw visitors to the Moremi Game reserve.

Game drives are the main attraction for visitors, and arrival is made easy with transfers available via the reserve's airstrip. The lagoons are wonderful for bird-watching, and the reserve is a great place for seeing leopards and the rare African wild dog.

Named after Chief Moremi of the Batswana tribe, the reserve offers a range of accommodation, including luxury tents with en suite bathrooms, game lodges, safari lodges and a river lodge, scattered across diverse parts of the site.

There are premium camps with swimming pools and teak viewing decks for enjoying the wonders of Botswana just footsteps from the comfortable beds.

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



## SANCTUARY KICHAKANI SERENGETI CAMP, TANZANIA

The Kichakani Serengeti Camp takes tented accommodation to a new level. One of three Sanctuary locations across the Serengeti, Kichakani offers tents decorated in a style inspired by pioneering explorers that blends seamlessly and elegantly with modern comforts.

Game drives take in a variety of landscapes, from open plains to sweeping grasslands and rocky kopjes. Along the natural migration paths, guests have the opportunity to see wildebeest, zebra, gazelles, cheetahs, wild dogs, giraffes, waterbuck and impala. A particularly popular choice is a sunset safari where holidaymakers can take in the famous Serengeti sunsets with a cocktail in hand.

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



## TOKA LEYA CAMP, ZAMBIA

Located 12 kilometres from iconic Victoria falls and overlooking the Zambezi River and some of its islands, Toka Leya Camp gives guests unlimited access to Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park.

It's an intimate escape with just 12 en suite luxury tents with decks for taking in the dramatic views. Hippos, crocodiles and elephants are regularly seen nearby and, as well as safaris, guests can enjoy the tranquility of a fishing trip on the Zambezi.

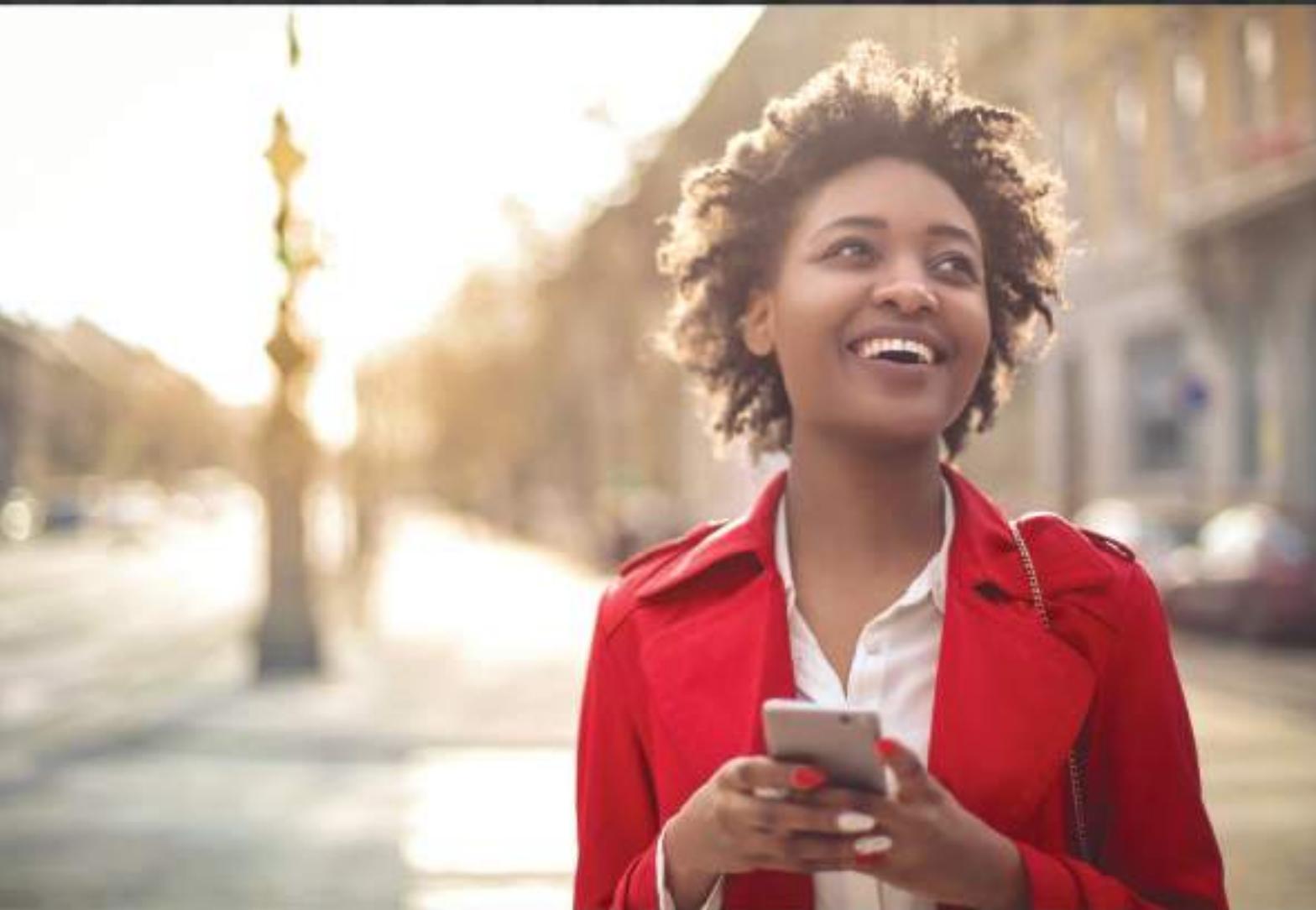
By night, there is a fire pit, ideal for sharing stories about the day's adventures.

[www.wilderness-safaris.com](http://www.wilderness-safaris.com)

# ELITE LIVING AFRICA

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*The magazine for Africa's international elite*



## ELITE LIVING AFRICA ONLINE

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

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

A photograph of a modern, white, single-story villa with large windows and a covered outdoor area. The villa is illuminated from within, and its lights are reflected in a large, clear swimming pool in the foreground. Several tall palm trees stand in front of the villa, also reflected in the water. The sky is a soft, twilight blue. The overall scene is serene and luxurious.

WELCOME TO YOUR  
**DREAM CASA**

This fetching property is located close to Ibiza town and offers stunning views of the sea and Dalt Vila.

# NUESTRA SENORA DE JESUS, IBIZA

\$21.4m

Engel & Völkers

The property is located close to Ibiza town and comprises of a main house and separate guest and staff quarters. The house offers stunning views of the sea and Dalt Vila. Situated on a spacious plot of 2.4 ha, the main house boasts of five suites. In total, there are 10 bedrooms. The luxurious property has generous interior spaces. The impressive Mediterranean garden, designed to the last detail, add to the appeal. Other features include a large outdoor swimming pool, a paddle tennis court and a fitness centre with Turkish bath.



- 11,302.11 sq ft
- Tennis court
- Turkish bath
- Garden



# FRONDS, PALM JUMEIRAH, DUBAI

\$16.3m

LUXHABITAT

The villa sits at the tip of the Frond serving up exquisite views of Dubai skyline and Dubai Eye. The floor-to-ceiling windows, with interlocking sliding doors, let in ample natural light. The property has four open plan reception rooms with a large aquatic tank dividing the dining and the main living room. The ground floor consists of a guest bedroom, a cloakroom, and a garage entrance.

The first floor has five bedrooms with en suite facilities. In addition, a part of the plot juts out into the shore line.



[www.luxhabitat.ae](http://www.luxhabitat.ae)

- Seafront
- Open kitchen
- Infinity private pool
- Six bedrooms
- Al fresco dining





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## EMIRATES HILLS VILLA, DUBAI

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**\$20.4m**

LUXHABITAT

This tastefully designed contemporary home is located in Dubai's most prestigious Emirates Hills. The ground floor has a large office/guest bedroom with en suite facilities and walk-in wardrobe along with a stunning German design kitchen and a huge vaulted family room.

The basement area has parking for up to five cars, a gymnasium, a massage room and a movie area. The level is serviced by one of the two elevators that connect all floors of the property. The first floor has five bedroom suites with breathtaking views. The master suite has a large walk-in closet. The water frontage villa has two large terraces overlooking a golf course.



- Open kitchen
- Private elevator
- Parking
- Laundry room

## EMIRATES HILLS VILLA, DUBAI

\$19m

### LUXHABITAT

The meticulously finished family villa is located at one of the most exclusive sectors of Emirates Hills. Standing on a plot of around 30,000 sq ft, the seven bedroom villa offers a built up area in excess of 25,000 sq ft. Upon entering the villa, you are greeted by a huge open plan entrance area from where you have access to a large family area with doors opening to the garden. To the left of the entrance, you will find one of the best home office spaces in a private residence in Dubai. Continuing through the open entrance area to the right, there is a grand staircase and private lift with access to all floors including the basement and roof terrace. The master suite on the first floor has a huge walk-in wardrobe, safe room and a huge bathroom with twin bath and rain shower.



[www.luxhabitat.ae](http://www.luxhabitat.ae)

- Private pool
- Golf course
- Private elevator
- Gymnasium





- Smart home technology
- Open kitchen
- Private pool
- 18,000 sq ft built up area



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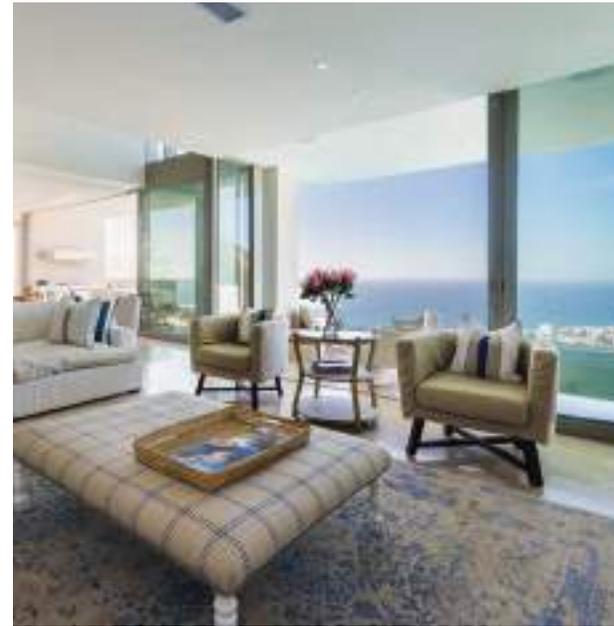
## FRONDS, PALM JUMEIRAH, DUBAI

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**\$18.5m**

LUXHABITAT

The custom-built villa is located in Palm Jumeirah. The materials used in the construction of the villa were imported from Germany. The layout of the property is so flexible you can choose between living/dining/entertainment areas or go up to seven bedrooms. The design is contemporary and rare to find in Dubai, especially in areas such as Emirates Hills, Al Barari and Palm Jumeirah. The villa also boasts of an open kitchen and a private pool. Marble flooring, six wardrobes, walk-in closet and smart home technology give the property an ultra-modern touch.



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

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## FRESNAYE, CAPE TOWN

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\$5.7m

FINE & COUNTRY

The residence is situated at the top of Fresnaye in a quiet cul-de-sac. The property comes with a vineyard and fetching views of Atlantic Seaboard. The residence has six bedrooms, two kitchens and an intercom security gate with CCTV. The house is equipped with a home theatre, a gym and a wine making facility. It boasts a solar panel heating system, reducing electricity consumption by 50 per cent. The house has a lawn area, irrigation system and a borehole. The large pool and smaller plunge pool, along with the outdoor deck and entertainment area encompassing a water feature and Koi pond, make living all that more enjoyable.





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