COULECTION Spring - summer 2011



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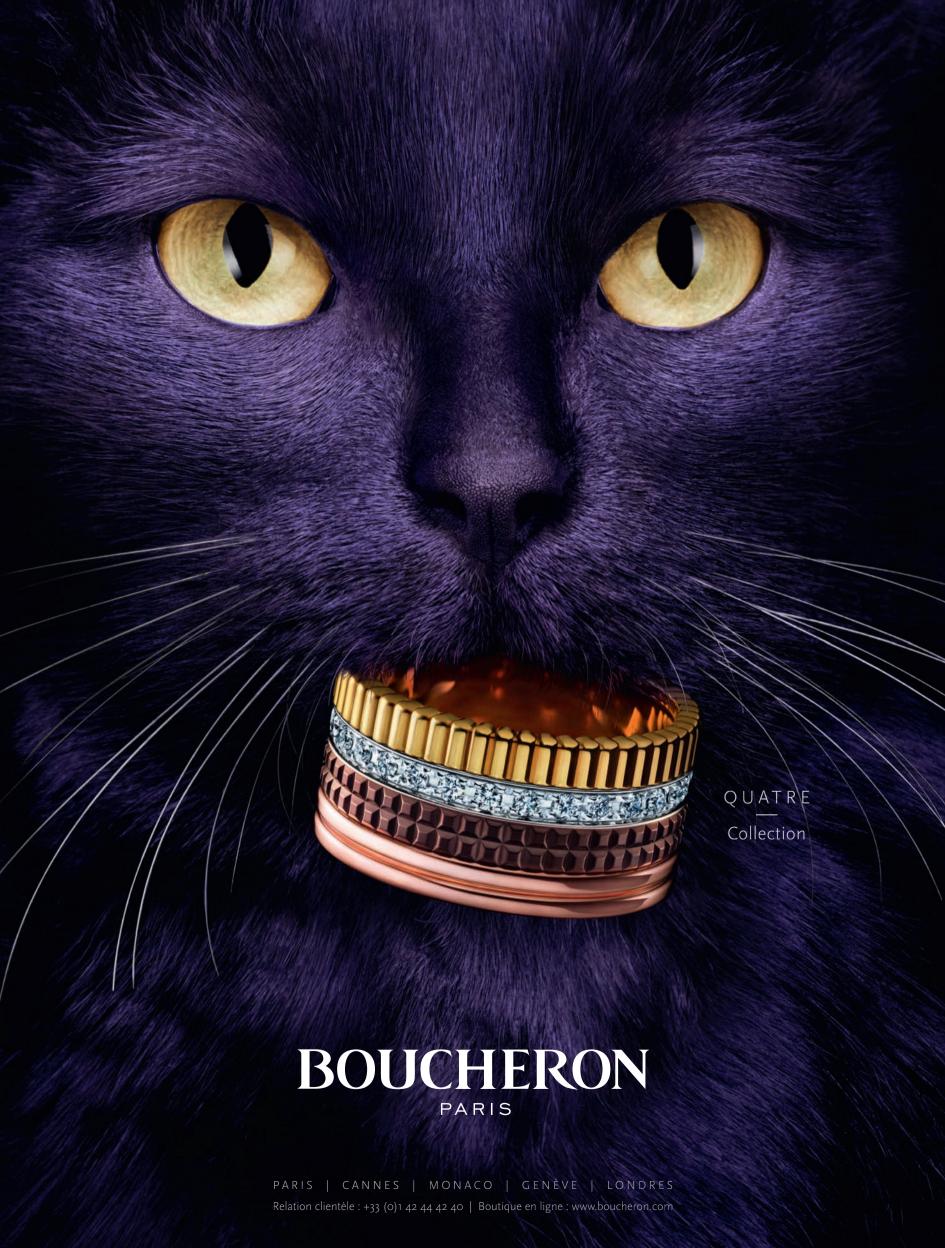
HERITAGE IN THE MAKING



collect N°9 dorchester collection...

Welcome to the ninth edition of Collect. Seasonally, the magazine aims to keep abreast of the Who, What, Where and When of the cultural life of the cities and regional areas where Dorchester Collection hotels reside. Each hotel carries with it such a greatly distinctive identity. They serve as anchors for the "Zeitgeist" or, as they say in French, "l'air de temps" that breathes through these regions. That is what creative designers and thinkers – and the people who bring their works to light – go forward in their passions to find. Enjoy.

Yaffa Assouline



Dorchester Collection

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London W1K 1BJ, England

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A portfolio of the world's foremost luxury hotels in London, Ascot, Beverly Hills, Bel Air, New York, Paris and Milan. All nine hotels combine character with modern amenities.

Christopher Cowdray

Christopher Cowdray

Chief Executive Officer of Dorchester Collection

Each hotel within Dorchester Collection possesses certain characteristics that remain constant across the Collection: individuality, luxury, style and craftsmanship of the most seamless hospitality service. We are pleased by achievements that recognise these qualities, such as the Living Heritage Enterprise Award given to Hôtel Plaza Athénée for its cuisine the first and only luxury hotel to receive it – and the 11 Michelin stars across four Dorchester Collection restaurants. We are pleased with the opportunity to elicit the best of a legend through the extensive refurbishment of Hotel Bel-Air, which is revealed in October. An icon in the making, 45 Park Lane opens this year to debut the story of its own legend. Like an art collection, Dorchester Collection is cultivated as a whole that is far greater than the sum of its parts.





(Dorchester Collection

The Dorchester



















At the centre of London society since it opened in 1931, The Dorchester is set in the heart of Mayfair opposite Hyde Park. The landmark 1930s art deco exterior houses 250 rooms and suites, all designed with classic English interiors, with the exception of three contemporary roof suites that feature wrap-around outdoor terraces overlooking the London skyline. The glamorous and award-winning spa as well as the restaurants and bars including The Grill, The Promenade, China Tang and three-Michelin star Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester, altogether rank superior.

Standing majestically on 12 acres of lush tropical gardens, The Beverly Hills Hotel is a legend, nicknamed "The Pink Palace" by those who cherish its unique charm. Royalty, world leaders and celebrities have all enjoyed its secondto-none service and graced its luxurious rooms and hideaway bungalows. The sumptuous resort feeling is enhanced by the world-renowned Polo Lounge Bar and Restaurant, Bar Nineteen12, the Spa by La Prairie, and the famous pool and cabanas. This is the place where all the stars come out to play.

Looking across the beauty of the Tuileries Garden, the imposing Le Meurice stands in Paris's most fashionable neighbourhood, with many of the world's best-loved sights only a short walk away. Its rooms, decorated in Louis XVI style, as well as its Spa Valmont, offer calm and luxury in a space where history and the latest fashion trends mingle perfectly. Its three Michelin star restaurant, headed by **Executive Chef Yannick** Alléno, is considered to be among the very best in town.

Surrounded by the fantastic shopping opportunities found along Avenue Montaigne, Hôtel Plaza Athénée is the place where fashion, business and celebrity crowds meet to beautiful effect. At its heart lies the peaceful Cour Jardin, around which are arrayed its stylish rooms, including the gorgeously refurbished Royal and Eiffel Suites. The hotel has five exclusive restaurants (including those open during the summer months), overseen by world-renowned chef Alain Ducasse, and a dreamlike modern bar designed by Patrick Jouin.

This is the true spirit of Milan, an exceptional experience of hospitality and comfort. Dominating Piazza della Repubblica as a landmark neo-classical building, the Hotel Principe di Savoia has been the home to international travellers and cosmopolitan society since the 1920s. Discover the newly refurbished rooms and suites, or sip a cocktail at the Principe Bar, spoil yourself with the impeccable cuisine of Executive Chef Fabrizio Cadei in the five-star Acanto Restaurant, and immerse yourself in a world of wellbeing at the Club 10 Fitness and Beauty Center.

The Dorchester Park Lane London W1K 1QA

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Website: www.thedorchester.com

The Beverly Hills Hotel 9641 Sunset Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90210

T. +1 310 276 2251 F. +1 310 887 2887

Email: reservations@beverlyhillshotel.com

Website: www.beverlyhillshotel.com

Le Meurice 228, Rue de Rivoli 75001 Paris

T. +33 (0) 1 44 58 10 10 F. +33 (0) 1 44 58 10 15

Email: reservations@lemeurice.com

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T. +33 (0) 1 53 67 66 65 F. +33 (0) 1 53 67 66 66

Email: reservations@ plaza-athenee-paris.com

Website: www.plaza-athenee-paris.com

Hotel Principe di Savoia Piazza della Repubblica 17 20124 Milan

T. +39 02 62301 F. +39 02 659 5838

Email: reservations@ hotelprincipedisavoia.com

Website

www.hotelprincipedisavoia.com



(Dorchester Collection

NEW YORK PALACE



COWORTH · PARK

45 PARK







Located in the heart of Midtown Manhattan, with a view upon St. Patrick's Cathedral and Bockefeller Center, The New York Palace is an icon of the late 19th century's Gilded Age, offering 899 guestrooms, 86 of which are suites, across the historic 55-storey mansion. For the ultimate privacy and service, The Towers on the top 14 floors has a separate reception, lobby and dedicated concierge, with exclusive access to the 3,789-sq-ft. Towers Club and its stunning views of the city. GILT, the hotel's two-Michelin star restaurant and destination bar, serves New American cuisine created by Executive Chef Justin Bogle.

Undertaken with great care to retain its intimate charm and celebrated character, iconic Hotel Bel-Air is re-opening in October 2011 for a fresh start. The extensive refurbishments include a new La Prairie Spa and 103 guestrooms and suites, including 12 new accommodations built into the hillside offering sweeping canyon views, outdoor fireplaces and large patios with private infinity-edge plunge pools. With an illustrious history as a discreet hideaway for the rich and famous, the hotel harks back to the timeless elegance of the 1950's Hollywood, and re-opens with an enhanced status as a truly living classic.

Coworth Park opened in September 2010 and is Dorchester Collection's 70bedroom luxury country house hotel and spa that rewrites the rules. Set within 240 acres of picturesque Royal Berkshire parkland, Coworth Park integrates extensive renewable and energy-efficient facilities; it is also the only hotel in the UK with its own polo fields. Other features include an equestrian centre, eco-luxury spa, and dining headed by renowned chef, John Campbell. The jewel in the crown of Coworth Park's 16 suites is The Dower House, a three-bedroom private house that originates from 1775.

Dorchester Collection's newest and latest addition to its roster of hotels opens mid 2011 in the heart of London's Mayfair. 45 Park Lane hosts 45 rooms, including suites all with a view of Hyde Park, and a top floor penthouse. Yards away from its sister hotel, The Dorchester, 45 Park Lane will be more contemporary in spirit with a private media room, club lounge and a bar, and a restaurant overseen by Wolfgang Puck. 45 Park Lane even incorporates eco-friendly technology into its exterior for the reduction of energy consumption. An icon in the making, 45 Park Lane is Dorchester Collection's latest hospitality luxury.

The New York Palace 455 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022

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Website: www.newyorkpalace.com

Hotel Bel-Air 701 Stone Canyon Road Los Angeles, CA 90077

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collect N°9



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Surrounded by his selected favourites, the Creative Director of Asprey, certainly knows a thing or two about supremely fine goods.

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Much of Hollywood history has taken place at this legendary hotel, most especially in its bungalows. Collect meets with long-time Managing Director Alberto del Hoyo.

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Sales: contact@luxuryculture.com Printed by: Grafiche Milani SPA

Cover: "Dague Aero", inspired by a Christian Louboutin shoe, produced by Lux Inside.







he was a model) as well as having wielded high level positions at Valentino for well over a decade, Hoeksema understands, if not embodies, luxury. In the more recent arch of his career trajectory, he displayed particular savvy in the business of exceptional accessories with the 2000 launch of a brand named after his initials, VBH, that produced standout exotic skin handbags and darkly indulgent jewellery. A stunning Peter Marino designed New York boutique, located in a former bank, proved he knew how to do these things and do them well. After consulting with Asprey for a spell, he has assumed the role of Creative Director, presently punching up a more international and dynamic desirability for this Grande Dame of British luxury and lifestyle goods.













Her jewellery designs mix both the delicately refined and an enticing element of exotic surprise. Aurélie Bidermann perpetually portrays an international spirit about her; for this reason, we ask after her favourite addresses across continents.

R aw materials receive a refined finish and a degree of interpretative play that raises the designs of Aurélie Bidermann to the point of pretty poetry. This is what the French jewellery designer herself calls her very own "art of happiness", a happiness that is manufactured in her Parisian workshops and sold at the most exclusive retail destinations worldwide.

A true nomad at heart, it was during a visit to India (a destination that has served as inspiration to many a destined jeweller) amidst extensive travels that defined and motivated Bidermann's distinctive design style, with its talismanic yet modern charm.





Bidermann was raised around fine creations; her parents were art collectors and she herself earned a Master's Degree in Art History and worked at Sotheby's Impressionist Department and later Contemporary Art Department. And, now she is busy creating her own pieces of beauty to share.

What do you love most about Paris?

Contemplation, because Paris is all about beauty and luxury.

And about Los Angeles?

The light.

Where do you go to relax and rejuvenate when you are in Paris?

I go for a walk in the Jardin des Tuileries, and to the Spa Valmont at Le Meurice, it's amazing (228, Rue de Rivoli, 75001, T. +33 1 44 58 10 77).

And in Los Angeles?

The Pool at The Beverly Hills Hotel.

Which are you favourite places to shop when you are in Paris?

Colette, the concept store that was the second shop to buy my jewellery collection. They have continued to buy each collection since then, and I'm a big fan. I love the idea of my jewellery being sold alongside fashion. For me, mixing fashion and jewellery with music and technology is interesting. I love the concept. (213, Rue Saint-Honoré, 75001, T. +33 1 55 35 33 90).

In Los Angeles?

Maxfield's because it's a reference for style in L.A. (301 Canon Dr, Beverly Hills, T. +1 310 275 7007) and Opening Ceremony because you always find something personal and cool (451 North La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, T. +1 310 652 1120).

What is your favourite part of Le Meurice?

Le Bar 228, because they serve the best cocktails in all of Paris (228, Rue de Rivoli, 75001, T. +33 1 44 58 10 10).

And The Beverly Hills Hotel?

So many memories there! My first time with my family in L.A. was at The Beverly Hills Hotel. I was just five. I was staying in a bungalow, and I totally loved it! Then I have since come back regularly and always stayed there. I love the history and the atmosphere of this hotel.

www.aureliebidermann.com



Véritable merveille de miniaturisation, le *Quantième Perpétuel Jules Audemars*, est conçu sur la base du calibre automatique extra-plat 2120 et du module 2802. L'ensemble atteint 4 millimètres d'épaisseur. Les complications, destinées à reproduire notre calendrier sur le rythme des minutes, heures, jours, date et mois, maîtrisent également l'irrégularité des mois de 30 ou 31 jours tout comme le cycle des années bissextiles. Ainsi, le module du quantième est conçu pour ne subir aucune correction avant le 1^{er} mars 2100, date d'ajustement au calendrier grégorien. Les connaisseurs apprécieront.

Boîtier en or rose, cadran brun ou argenté, index appliques en or rose, aiguilles heures et minutes en or rose.

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Sabrina Gschwandtner / New York

New York artist Sabrina Gschwandtner works at the helm of a trend using traditional handicrafts, such as knitting and needlework, as media in contemporary art. Exhibitions like "Radical Lace & Subversive Knitting" capture this revival of granny chic.

T n our era of fast fashion and service, certain $oldsymbol{ol}}}}}}}}}}$ become so obsolete they become rich resources for contemporary reinterpretation. Freshly modern yarn stores in downtown Manhattan, knitting clubs throughout Brooklyn filled with 20-somethings people are seeking greater participation and meaning in the material objects of their lives. Artists like Sabrina Gschwandtner take it a step further by using these humble crafts as artistic media for more conceptual undertakings. From 2002-7, Gschwandtner self-published KnitKnit, now in the permanent collections of MoMA, the New York Public Library, and the Fine Arts Library, Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University. Her book "KnitKnit: Profiles and Projects from Knitting's New Wave" was released in 2007.

Upcoming 2011 and 2012 exhibitions, scheduled to include the visual arts practice of Gschwandtner that is deeply rooted in craft culture, are "Power of Making" at the V&A Museum in London as well as "40 Under 40: Craft Futures" at the Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington DC. She has lectured extensively on the subjects of craftivism, feminism and textiles at art schools, universities, and museums worldwide, including the Rhode Island School of Design; the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, London. This may be a niche within the larger contemporary art scene, but it is certainly making rounds.

nun sahrinaa com

For more on New York, visit *luxuryculture.com*, the web's first high-gloss window into the world of luxury.



"Phototactic Behavior in Sewn Slides," 2004.

By Sabrina Gschwandter







 $i\ love\ shopping...$ $collect \ \mathrm{N}^{\circ}9$



22







A native New Yorker presently settled in London, Tierney Horne has an extensive career in fashion; her current coup is with Rosa de la Cruz jewellery.

ierney Horne co-founded the American $oldsymbol{ol{ol{ol}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}$ Creative Director and mastermind behind their innovative lifestyle catalogue/magazine. She was Fashion Director at American Elle and has consulted on creative matters for brands such as Connolly, Anya Hindmarch and Net Jets. At Rosa de la Cruz, she works in tandem on all the elements of the jewellery brand's budding development in partnership with Ms. Rosa de la Cruz. The designs look back to period jewellery - early 20th century Boivin wood and gold jewellery, for example - while looking forward to organic, minimalist sculptural forms. The pieces are a relaxed form of adornment that effortlessly bridges the minimal and the luxurious, expressing a bit of Tierney Horne's style pedigree; we seek her current shopping favourites here.



www.rosadelacruz.co.uk



Rosa de la Cruz, heart cuff



T. Anthony, Wheeled duffel



London New York Beverly Hills Miami Dubai St. Moritz Tokyo Asprey.com

 $city\ guide...$ collect N°9

Charles Finch / London

Charles Finch has built an impressive career as movie producer, manager and marketing maestro; he realises a personal dream with Chucs Dive & Mountain in London selling attire for the sporting kind. We open up a little bit of his London address book.

Liuxury address (Mayfair) in the latest venture of Charles Finch, Chucs Dive & Mountain. Son of legendary actor Peter Finch, and raised between Jamaica and France under the nickname "Chucs", both adventure and design run in the family: Finch's grandfather, Captain George Ingle Finch, set a world altitude record climbing Everest with George Mallory in 1922, while wearing two of his own inventions: a down-filled jacket and a portable oxygen tank. Charles Finch is perhaps better known for pulling the strings behind Hollywood, in international image and celebrity culture with Finch & Partners, a powerful marketing and PR combination representing and advising celebrities and brands. His utterly unique publication, Finch's Quarterly Review, is a reference in all matters of style and the art of living.

eisurewear gets a high-profile pedigree and a

"Stand tall, live well, give freely, explore often" is the edict of Chucs Dive & Mountain, that took Finch two years to bring to fruition. More pointedly, it took him two years to develop the perfect swimming trunk with many trials at the hands of his Savile Row tailor, Anderson & Sheppard. Freshly minted in February 2011, Chucs Dive & Mountain adds old world glamour, style and elegance to leisure and adventure apparel.

www.chucsdiveshop.com, www.finchandpartners.com www.finchsquarterly.com

For more on London, visit *luxuryculture.com*, the web's first high-gloss window into the world of luxury

National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, WC2,

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Charles Finch

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Clive Darby / London

This deeply dapper Londoner is redefining what it means to be a well-tailored man about town. Rake, his menswear line destined for the "gentleman of rogue habits" is shaking up tradition, mixing the relaxed and refined.

Ive Darby cut his cloth on Savile Row at the A likes of Richard James and Kilgour, which he part-owned for five years before selling it in 2008. Darby's new venture, Rake, distinguishes itself by a philosophy based on celebrating separates to liberate standard styling. All pieces are sold separately, so that a high-twist wool and cashmere Prince of Wales check jacket can be paired with jeans or dark trousers. Mixing tailoring with casualwear is Rake's distinction, along with subtle fabric texture; the lapel is also formed by three built-up fabric layers. His designs take inspiration from French music legend Serge Gainsbourg who was a rake but, more importantly, mixed sharp tailoring with sneakers for utterly chic shock. With Rake's design ethos, English tailoring is taking it easy, and that just may be how the boys like it these days.



Above: Clive Darby.

Below and at right: Looks from Rake's
Spring/Summer 2011 Collection.





What do you love most about London?

London has a dynamic energy that is hard to beat. It also manages to retain a sense of humour, which for me is pretty important.

What is your favourite part of The Dorchester? It has to be the entrance.

Which are your favourite design and architecture landmarks in London? Why?

Tate Modern. I love its industrialism (Bank Side, SE1, T. +44 20 7887 8888).

Where do you go to relax and rejuvenate? I also love walking in Regents Park.

What are your favourite museums and cultural institutions?

The Natural History Museum. The building is just fantastic and I really like the fact that there are things older than I am in there (Cromwell Rd., SW7, T. +44 20 7942 5000).

Which are your favourite private galleries?

Hamiltons Gallery (13 Carlos Pl., W1, T. +44 20 7499 9493), Michael Hoppen Gallery (3 Jubilee Pl., SW3, T. +44 20 7352 3649) and Atlas Gallery (49 Dorset St., W1, T. +44 20 7224 4192). They all seem to hit notes with me from time to time.

Which are your favourite shops?

Matches (60-64 Ledbury Rd., W11, T. + 44 20 7221 0255). Allans (75 Duke St., W1, T. +44 20 7409 7888). Allens Butcher (117 Mount St., W1, T. +44 20 7499 5831) and Berry Bros & Rudd (3 St. James's St., SW1, T. +44 20 7396 9600) – wine, whisky – need I say more?

Where would you go to buy a watch?

I have to admit that I have a great weakness here and currently have my eyes on an Audemars Piguet, so Marcus (170 New Bond St., W1, T. +44 20 7290 6500).

Please describe a perfect 24 hours in London.

No rain, no traffic problems, a little sun and a good meal with friends. Walk around Tate Modern, take in a film at the Electric and relax (191 Portobello Rd., W11, T. +44 20 7908 9696).

www.rakestyle.com

For more on London, visit *luxuryculture.com*, the web's first high-gloss window into the world of luxury.

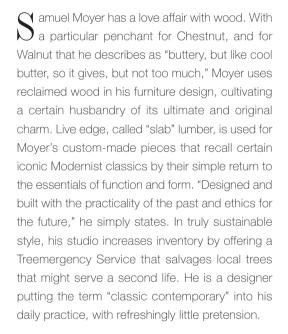


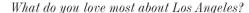
THE MOST FABULOUS JEWELS IN THE WORLD



Samuel Moyer / Los Angeles

Samuel Moyer Furniture celebrates the perfectly imperfect. His singular design approach joins the extremes of refined and rustic. Working from his downtown L.A. studio, with a view onto the snow-capped San Gabriel Mountains, we ask after his local his loves.





When it rains! (Or, in the words of Loudon Wainwright: "when it's gray in L.A., I really like it that way, there's way too much sunshine 'round here.")

What are your favourite museums, galleries or cultural institutions?

The Ennis Brown House – Frank Lloyd Wright's weird masterpiece from Bladerunner and many other films (2607 Glendower Ave., Los Angeles, T. +1 323 660 0607), the Griffith Observatory (2800 E. Observatory Ave., Los Angeles, T. +1 213 473 0800) and also the Gamble House (4 Westmoreland Pl., Pasadena, T. +1 626 793 3334). MOCA is pretty amazing, too (152 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, T. +1 213 621 1745). Obviously, it is Blum & Poe that sets the tone for the city's contemporary art (2727 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, T. +1 310 836 2062).

Which are your favourite shops?

I really like Anzen Hardware (309 E 1st St., Los Angeles, T. +1 213 628 2068) and the Red Wing shoe store in the little Tokyo area (226 E 1st St. Los Angeles, T. +1 213 625 8246), Lost & Found (6314 Yucca St., Los Angeles, T. +1 323 856 5872) and Liz's Antique Hardware, because I'm a nerd (453 S La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, T. +1 323 939 4403). The Rose Bowl Flea Market (1001 Rose Bowl Dr., Pasadena, T. +1 626 577 3101) is nice for a Sunday afternoon.

What would you say is your favourite part of The Beverly Hills Hotel?

I really like the little coffee shop downstairs. It is like a time warp to the fifties, and with really great breakfast food.

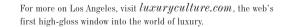
Which are your favourite weekend getaways from Los Angeles?

Joshua Tree National Park (San Bernardino County, CA 92252) is of course nice.

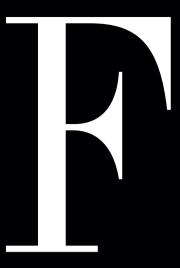
Do you have a favourite view of the city?

I love seeing the city from the 2 freeway, heading west from Pasadena towards Glendale. You come down this long hill and can see the whole layout of the city, all the way to the ocean when it's clear. It's breathtaking.

www.samuel moyer furniture.com







With strong form, and darkly serious contrasts, a selection of flagship watches from the 2011 Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie takes time forward.

Flagships







Cartier Rotunde de Cartier Astrorégulateur



Parmigiani Bugatti Super Sport

Richard Mille RM 017 Extra Flat Tourbillon

30 collect N°9 rendez-vous with...

Laurence Torno / Paris

French mosaic artist Laurence Torno takes this ancient craft to heart, and into contemporary times. With nature as her inspiration, she works tirelessly and with passion on the detailing of unifying fragments.

 \mathbf{I} t's a real love story with every one," explains Laurence Torno, who fuses pictorial tradition, a passion for nature, and painstaking precision in her mosaics. Whether on show at a gallery, commissioned by interior designers or private clients all around France, it takes a minimum of two to three months to form each mosaic, depending on the size. In her pursuit of mastery, Torno destroys all imperfect works. Even though she has been practicing for over 30 years, she still does not yet call herself a master.

Each mosaic starts with several pastel drafts, then





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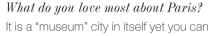
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39 $city\ guide...$ collect N°9

Béatrice Saint-Laurent / Paris

The contemporary design scene in Paris has flourished within the past five years, and Beátrice Saint-Laurent, with her expertly curated boutique in the fashionable northern end of the Marais, leads at the head of the pack.

> former executive at the French Ministry of A Culture, Saint-Laurent lends a fresh vision to contemporary design. Creating a "universe" in her eponymous Galerie BSL, yet at the same time avoiding the way of concept stores, the space presents one-off furniture pieces, objects, jewellery and fashion alongside selected objects such as a rare Italian lamp from the 20th century. With signatures such as Ron Arad, Nacho Carbonell, Joe Colombo, Ingo Maurer and Ettore Sottsass this is no lightweight design endeavour. A divisive strip of white Corian, designed by Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance, wraps around the interior as a 'carte blanche' for the pieces on display with the intent of encouraging correspondence. "It's about stimulating dialogue between rare objects," says



It is a "museum" city in itself yet you can find many avant-garde cultural places. It is the incarnation of the French spirit while also being very international, where History meets the Future and France meets the World...but, above all, I love all I still have yet to discover, as Paris is like a never-ending story!

What do you like about Le Meurice?

I truly appreciate Yannick Alléno's talent, it is such a dream each time I have the opportunity to dine at Restaurant Le Dali (228, Rue de Rivoli, 75001, T. +33 1 44 58 10 44, for reservations).

And Hôtel Plaza Athénée?

I love the "Rose Royale", a simple yet unique cocktail made of fresh raspberries and champagne that is only available there! (25, Avenue Montaigne, 75008, T. +33 1 53 67 66 00).

Which are you favourite cultural destinations? Bookshops Artcurial (7, Rond-Point des Champs Elysées, 75008, T. +33 1 42 99 16 20) and Librairie 7L (7, Rue de Lille, 75007 T. +33 1 42 92 03 58) they both offer an incredible choice!

Which are your favourite bars?

I adore the cosy and timeless atmosphere of hotel bars, such as Bar 228 at Le Meurice! (228, Rue du Rivoli, 75001, T. +33 1 44 58 10 66).

What are your favourite museums?

Musée des Arts Décoratifs (107, Rue de Rivoli 75001, T. + 33 1 44 55 57 50) is my favourite museum; it inspired me for Galerie BSL.

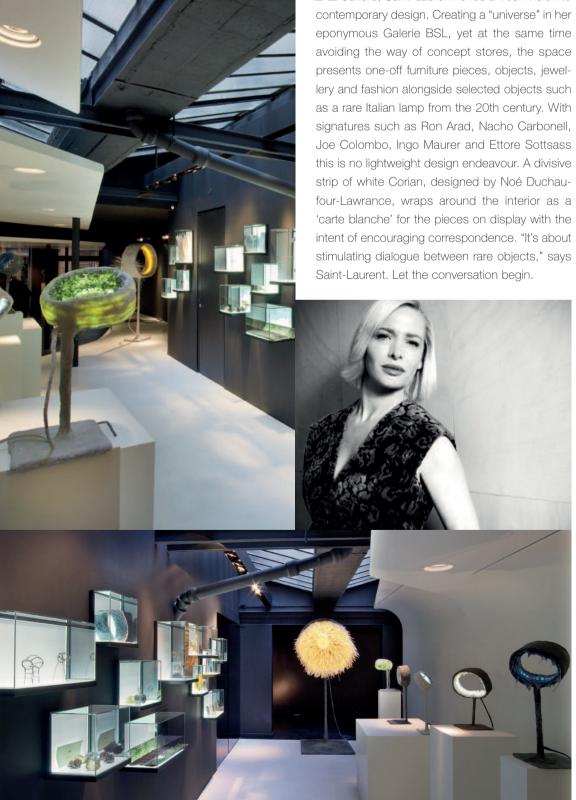
Which are your favourite private galleries?

Galerie Eric Dupont (13, Rue Chapon, 75003, T. +33 1 44 54 04 14) is an excellent contemporary art gallery that truly defends a point of view on art.

Which are your favourite shops?

Maison Deyrolle (46, Rue du Bac, 75007, +T. 33 1 42 22 30 07) with taxidermy of all kinds. Lito Karakostanoglou finds beetles there, which she turns into necklaces and earrings, made exclusively for Galerie BSL. Martin Grant (10, Rue Charlot, 75003 T. +33 1 42 71 39 49). A real tailor/stylist, trained in sculpture, who also creates for Galerie BSL.

www.galeriebsl.com

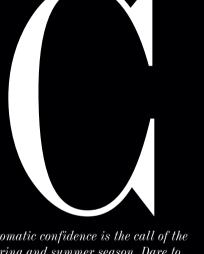


For more on Paris, visit *luxuryculture.com*, the web's first high-gloss window into the world of luxury





Fendi Casa Avile bed and Dedalo ebony macassar bedside table.



Chromatic confidence is the call of the spring and summer season. Dare to splash your bolds and brights.





Diamond studs that burst with gold sunrays from Backes & Strauss.



The most chic way to shop in Paris? The small in scale but large in luxury Aston Martin Cygnet can negotiate the traffic and parks easily. Reserve one of the Hotel Plaza Athénée's signature suites, the Royal Suite, the duplex Art Deco Suite or one of the Eiffel Suites, for complimentary unlimited access to its very own Cygnet.





34 rendez-vous with... collect N°9

Award-winning hairdresser Royston Blythe, and business partner Nick Malenko, receive clients in a private salon at The Dorchester. An insider's destination for gorgeous glamour and feeling fantastic.

$Royston \\ Blythe$



Prom catwalks to television, media darlings to Her Majesty – the styling experience behind the Royston Blythe at The Dorchester salon is the best in town. The international clientele find respite in the pristinely modern and opulently private space. And, by the astute eye and magic hands of Royston Blythe, guests leave with a bounce in their step – a natural consequence of having fabulous hair and knowing it. In addition to Royston Blythe, the salon welcomes stylist lan Carmichael, who is personal hairdresser to the Queen and has been for 13 years; he is available for appointments on a part-time basis when he is not at the palace.

Consultations are tailored to individual needs, where understanding the essential personality of a woman takes precedence over following trends. Hair products are by Kerastase, while colouring is by L'Oreal Professionnel, for whom Royston Blythe is a worldwide ambassador. We ask Royston Blythe about his uncanny ability to deliver glamour.

What are your inspirations?

We are inspired by everything; not only hairstyles, but also things around us in daily life – shapes, textures, and colours. We are also both fans of abstract and graffiti art.

What do you love about The Dorchester?

The Dorchester is simply the ultimate in luxury and elegance. A true icon of England, and the epitome in glamour and decadence. There is nowhere else in London where you can receive such faultless service and enjoy some of the most beautiful food, not to mention a bottle of champagne or two! We love spending time there when we're not working.

Can you share any stories about your work with clients?

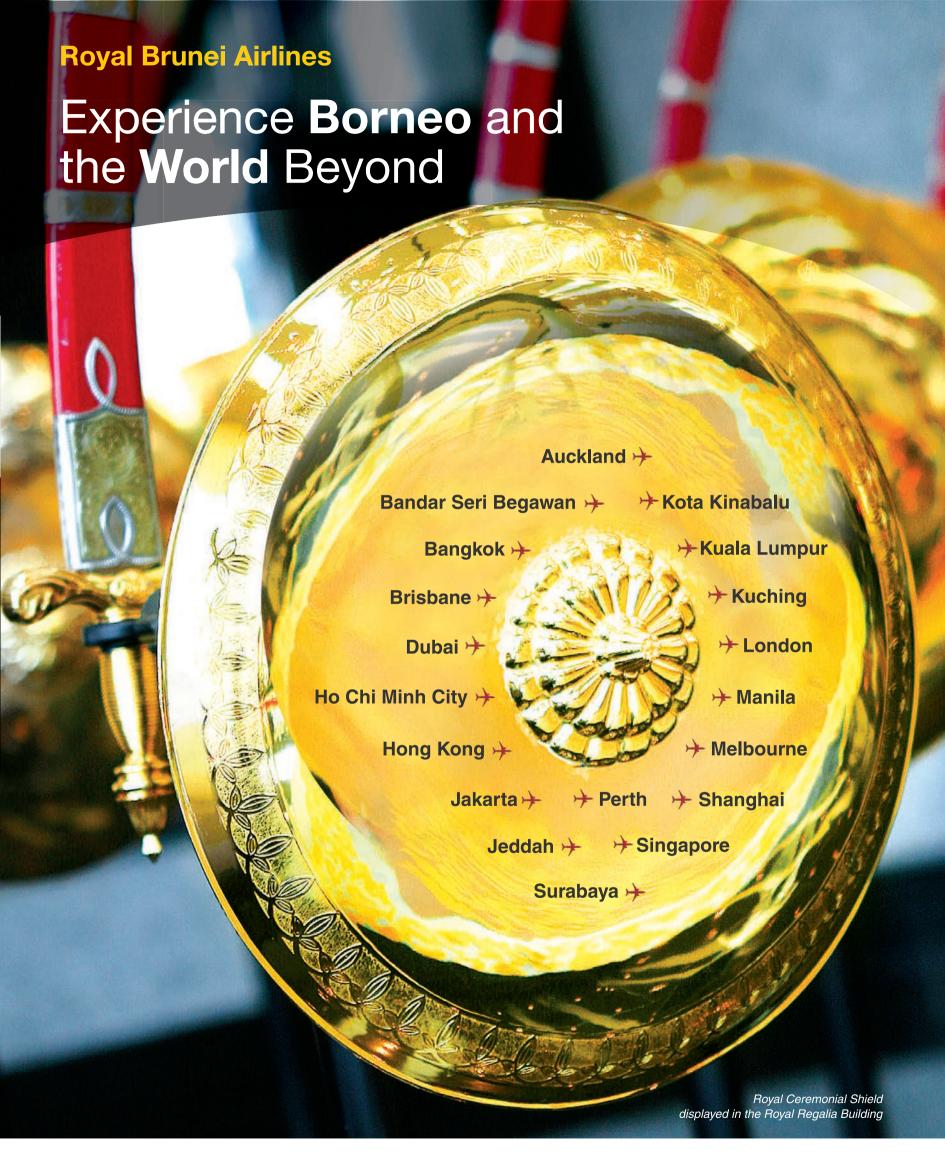
The clientele who frequent our Dorchester salon are wide and varied, to say the least! There are the well-known celebrities who pop in regularly, including a smattering of Hollywood A-listers; we have

also styled a host of foreign princesses, dignitaries and ambassadors. Some of the nicest ones that spring to mind were the wife of the President of a South American country, who was a lovely lady, and a couple of Hollywood starlets, who were both stunningly beautiful and really sweet. The salon is a popular choice for high-profile guests because it is small and private, and not visible from the outside, allowing them a break from the paparazzi. We also offer hairdressing in guests' hotel rooms, which again is very convenient for a lot of clients.

What are the most popular looks?

Relaxed, unstructured styles that are soft around the face. The most popular look for day, and my favourite, is long hair in loose waves, with plenty of body and volume. We offer some amazing treatments that make hair look and feel wonderful.

www.roystonbly the at the dorchester.com



36 new talents... collect N°9

Dorchester Collection Fashion Prize / London

A selection of the most powerful figures in London fashion assembled for the inaugural Dorchester Collection Fashion Prize on October 19th, 2010. Founded to support new fashion talent, first place went to young designer Thomas Tait.

The Holford Room the jury reviewed the five shortlisted presentations by Louise Goldin, Mary Katrantzou, Chau Har Lee, Hermione de Paula and Thomas Tait. The winner was to demonstrate a unique combination of design flair and capacity for future distinction and success; and, their work a degree of individuality, luxury, style and craftsmanship – qualities in each Dorchester Collection hotel. The jury comprised Manolo Blahnik, Stephen Jones, the Hon. Daphne Guinness, Yasmin Le Bon, Giles Deacon, Elizabeth Saltzman, Gianluca Longo and Bronwyn Cosgrave, who acted as the Dorchester Collection Fashion Prize Chairperson.

In the elegant Orchid Room, before a selection of VIP guests, Mr. Christopher Cowdray, the CEO of Dorchester Collection, announced the winner: Thomas Tait. He was admitted at age 20 to the Central Saint Martin College of Art and Design's womenswear MA programme, and is the youngest student ever to join and complete it. "A star is born," said Bronwyn Cosgrave. Tait will receive £25,000 to facilitate his next collection, as well as an event at a Dorchester Collection hotel of his choice. Thomas selected The New York Palace for his event, which will also serve as the launch pad for this year's Dorchester Collection Fashion Prize. Open to designers in North America, this year's search is sure to find another star in the making.

www.dorchestercollection.com

For more on London, visit luxuryculture.com, the web's first high-gloss window into the world of luxury.







Photographs courtesy of Getty Images.



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S Vintage Style Los Angeles

The glamour of yesteryear abounds in Tinseltown. We select addresses for atavistic style adventures in fashion, furniture and property.

BLACKMAN CRUZ - Interiors

Founded in 1993, Blackman Cruz is the definitive destination for exceptional, idiosyncratic and truly offbeat furniture and decorative objects spanning centuries, design styles, and diverse countries of origin. An aesthetic sensibility unites the selection that is governed by drama, humour and surprise. Contemporary objects of their own design in the Blackman Cruz Workshop, as well as certain pieces produced in collaborations with artists, complement a comprehensive selection of antiques. Its showroom is a candy store of curiosities with a decadent yet sharp vintage patina.

SIELIAN'S VINTAGE APPAREL - Fashion

A diehard celebrity favourite, Sielian's is an insider address – a well-kept secret, a hidden gem on the west end of Melrose. Sielian's Vintage Apparel specialises in sexy form-fitting vintage clothes from the 60's, 70's, and 80's as well as fresh daywear pieces. Chanel, Halston, Alaïa, Hervé Léger, YSL... A Rachel Zoe favourite, one day Scarlett Johansson is picking up couture Givenchy, another Paris Hilton a birthday gown and Naomi Campbell a sexy 80's Oleg Cassini black sequined jumpsuit. Alberta Ferretti and Selma Blair are regulars. Stylists for Angelina Jolie, Rihanna, Jada Pinkett Smith, Katy Perry come for red carpet gowns. Major design teams visit for inspiration. A vintage mecca that is still slightly under the radar (for now).

DRAGONETTE - Interiors

DRAGONETTE, 711 North La Cienega Blvd.

Los Angeles, 90069, T. +1 310 855 9091

www.dragonetteltd.com

With fresh modernity, Dragonette specialises in custom-made furnishings by important and noted mid-20th century interior designers which include Tommi Parzinger, Samuel Marx, James Mont, with a particular focus on Billy Haines. In addition to furnishings, Dragonette carries art and accessories from the same era and more recently designer vintage costume jewellery as well as a select line of custom-order furnishings and lighting to stand along masterpieces from the past.

DECADES INC. - Fashion

A reference in vintage apparel under the aesthetic leadership of Cameron Silver, his first vintage couture salon opened in 1997 and is now double the original space, offering a pristine respite amidst dusty vintage resources. Decadestwo is the ecommerce site, consigning pre-owned or unworn designer jewellery, bags, shoes and clothes from the 21st century. Decades Denim launched in 2010, though vintage is Silver's first devotion.

CROSBY DOE - Houses

Important houses designed by the likes of Richard Neutra and Frank Lloyd Wright are the specialty of Crosby Doe, real estate agent of iconic modernist houses designed by mid-century architects; he deals in what he describes as homes with "design integrity". Julius Shulman, legendary architecture photographer and long-time friend, described in a 2006 LA Times interview, "I think Crosby has a rather unique understanding of good architecture. The others are salespeople. They're serious and good to their clients, but he's a real specialist."

LILY & CIE - Fashion

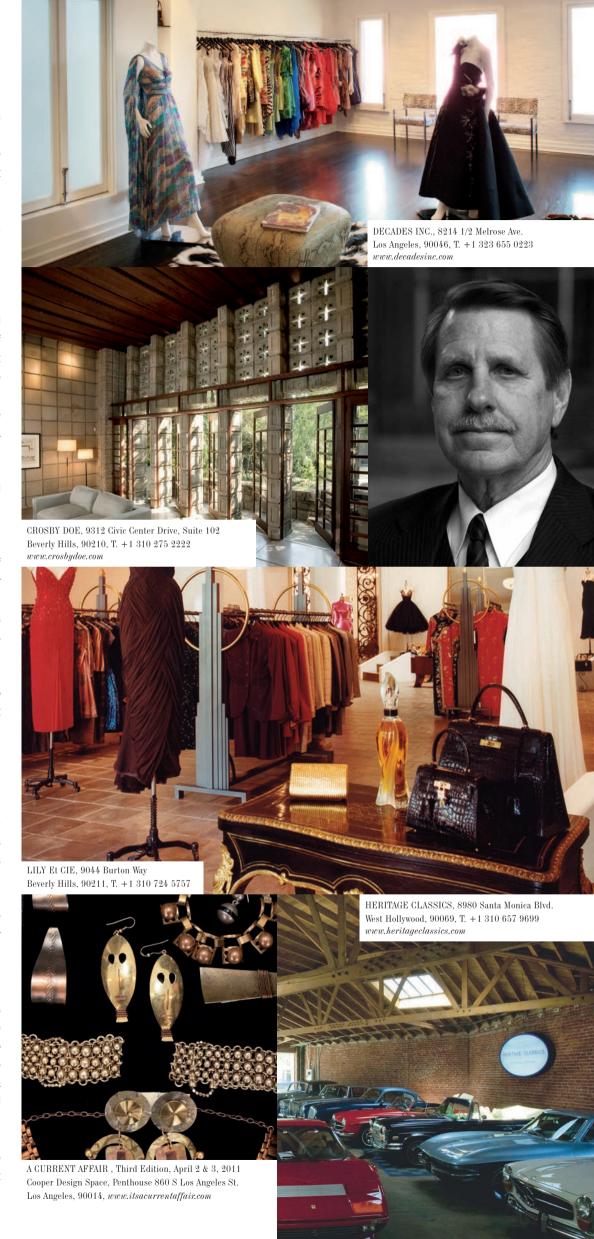
Rita Watnick has amassed a superb collection of vintage haute couture for over twenty years. Her collection claims Yves Saint Laurent, Balenciaga, Givenchy, Chanel suits and American designers like Trigere, Norell and the futurist Gernreich. Lily's also harbours handbags from Hermès in addition to jewellery from the '40s-'70s by Miriam Haskell, William De Lillo, and Kenneth Jay Lane. A visit to the Art Deco-styled boutique, likely has the perfect vintage cocktail dress awaiting.

HERITAGE CLASSICS - Cars

What could be better than a day spent cruising in a classic, throughout the streets of Los Angeles? Heritage Classics is the largest classic car showroom in Los Angeles. For over 25 years, it buys and sells the finest high line classic and sports cars with a client list that includes Heads of State, royalty and stars, as well as classic car enthusiasts worldwide, who appreciate both the service and high level of discretion. Any classic car lover will melt with desire, and leave with keys in hand.

A CURRENT AFFAIR - Fashion

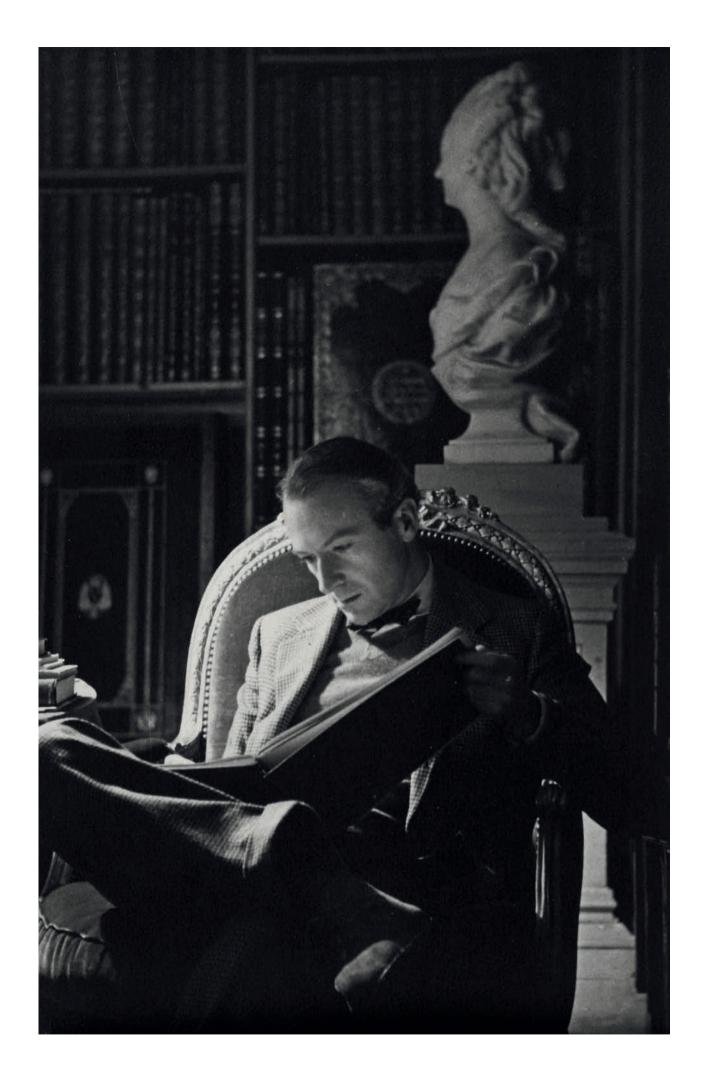
For an utterly unique shopping experience, this pop-up marketplace unites 25 of the best vintage retailers and private dealers around town for two days of vintage, vintage, vintage! Curated by the private dealer Richard Wainwright and Joey Grana of Scout L.A., A Current Affair will host its Third Edition in April 2011, an event partnership with Fashion's Night Out is scheduled for September, and another Edition in December 2011. Subscribe to the mailing list to be sure not to miss the next vintage pop-up opportunity.

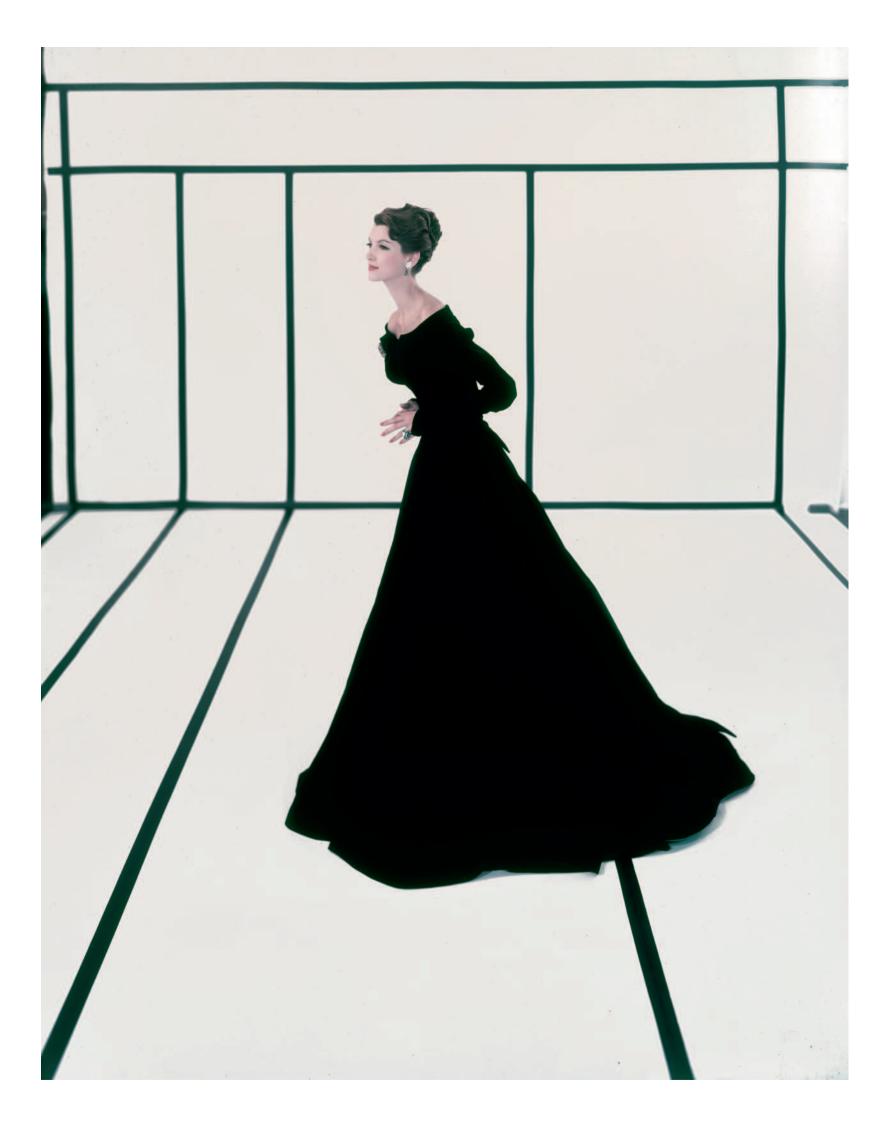




Cecil Beaton

British photographer Cecil Beaton's portraits are renowned for their sublime elegance. His career spanned five decades and, while he succeeded in other career paths such as that of diarist, costume, stage and interior designer, his ability to capture an individual posture of enchantment has marked photography forever. We ask leading London gallery Chris Beetles Fine Photographs about the legacy he left behind.





This Page: Fashion Shot - Evening Wear, 1950s. At Right: Mrs. Charles James, 716 Madison Avenue, New York, 1955. Copyright Sotheby's Gecil Beaton Archive. Courtesy of Chris Beetles Fine Photographs.



Born in London, having come of age in the 1920s, Cecil Beaton (1904-1980), CBE, held a deep fascination and cunning instinct for theatre, fantasy and the charms of society. The aesthete danced across multiple creative domains, and came to influence each along the way in inimitable Cecil Beaton style. He crafted images charged with sophistication, often shaded with Surrealism, and always celebrating glamour. Working as staff photographer for Vanity Fair and Vogue, he captured the profiles of Hollywood starlets, England's young and privileged, France's artistic set and New York socialites. He became photographer to the Royal Family for official publication (the Queen Mother, Queen Elizabeth, was his favourite Royal

sitter; it is rumoured he pocketed her scented hankie as a keepsake from a successful shoot). He photographed the wedding pictures of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. And, even in the midst of war (during which time he served with the Ministry of Information at home and abroad), Beaton did not forget his true calling, using the bombed buildings of the City of London as a backdrop for a fashion shoot.

By the end of his career, he had accumulated an impressive photographic archive (purchased by Sotheby's in the late 1970s), four Tony Awards and three Academy Awards for his stage and costume design, including contributions to the film

versions of the musicals Gigi (1958) and My Fair Lady (1964). The relatively short history of photography is in the process of shaping its own masters and masterpieces, and Cecil Beaton photographs are canon. His portraits are a perennial favourite, especially amongst the British and Americans; the provocative society darling captured a certain era with distinct, elevated precision. The gallery Chris Beetles Fine Photographs in London, a short walk from The Dorchester, is one of the few places worldwide where it is possible to buy Cecil Beaton prints today. Giles Huxley-Parlour, who has built the gallery's Cecil Beaton collection as Head of Photographs, describes Beaton within the context of his time and the history of photography.



What is Beaton's contribution to photography?

He is extremely important – aesthetically, he turned portraiture and fashion photography into a true art form, combining his theatrical flair and his highly developed eye to create photographs that transcend their original purpose, to sell clothes or record a personality. He influences photographers today, from Mario Testino to Tim Walker.

How is his work considered among collectors? Probably not as highly as it ought to be. There have been many museum shows and I see more of it appearing at auction. His prices are still very low,

however, compared to other international names of similar influence. Because Beaton was much more than just a photographer – a costume designer, diarist and social butterfly, etc.– sometimes I feel his photographic skills get slightly ignored in favour of the more juicy stories that surround other parts of his life.

What photograph is your personal favourite?

The portrait of Gwili Andre, a Hollywood starlet. It's a compositional tour-de-force, classic Beaton. The gutsy determination in her face is powerful considering she failed to make it, became an alcoholic

and burned to death in a pile of her own presscuttings years later. A tragic story indicating that today's obsession with celebrity is nothing new.

What image caused you to reconsider his work?

I hadn't realised the extent and strength of his documentary photography during World War II. Slightly out of favour in his usual circles, he threw himself into his wordwide assignments. The work is stunning, important and relatively unseen. α

 $Chris\ Beetles\ Fine\ Photographs,\ 3-5\ Swallow\ Street$ London, W1B 4DE, T. $+44\ 20\ 7434\ 4319$ www.chrisbeetlesfinephotographs.com









collect N°9

The great art of sport is tailored to a tee at Coworth Park, near Ascot. With proprietary polo fields situated on 240 acres of Berkshire parkland, its open expanse of greenery and its rustic yet refined aesthetic – coupled with only the highest of standards, service and amenities – allow for serious sporting play.

And not far afield is Wentworth Club, located in equally glorious Surrey heathland, dotted with patches of ancient woodland of pine, oak and birch. Golfers have been going here for over 80 years, for both gaming and expert practice conditions of unrivalled quality.

Each of the 18-hole courses is considered to be the best in their class in the United Kingdom where classic golf course design meets standards of immaculate 21st century course conditioning. Players can expect to stand on pristinely groomed surfaces with some seriously illustrious tournament pedigree. They can hope to follow in the

footsteps of golfing greats such as Arnold Palmer, Seve Ballesteros, Nick Faldo, Emie Els, Tiger Woods and Lee Westwood. They will swing in similar situations where the World Match Play Championship took place from 1964 to 2007 and, over a half a century ago in 1953, where the Ryder Cup was played.

For this natural and timely association, guests can play under the auspices of the Coworth Park package, created in commemoration and called the 'Wentworth Club Golf Experience'. The package privileges guests to a bespoke shuttle service to travel the short distance from Coworth Park to Wentworth Club, a forecourt welcome from the Wentworth Golf Concierge, access to the Clubhouse, a boot room shoe cleaning service, as well as individual caddies, buggy hire and use of the superb practice facilities — not to mention, of course, a round of golf for two played on the East or Edinburgh Course. Upon their return, guests indulge in one treatment per person at The Spa at

Coworth Park, with a crisp glass of champagne to finish, and English Breakfast the next morning to round off a truly agreeable sporting experience.

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In addition to the 'Wentworth Club Golf Experience', Coworth Park's guests can book a round at Wentworth Club during their stay by mentioning their interest at the time of reservation, and choose amongst the famous West Course (currently home to the European Tour's flagship BMW PGA Championship and reopened in June 2010 after a £6.5 million modernisation programme), the Edinburgh Course or the East Course. And, for those on a tighter time frame, there is the 9-hole par 3, or an hour's lesson with one of Wentworth's top golf professionals. Coworth Park is delighted to offer guests yet another sporting opportunity, amongst the many that its natural setting already affords. May fine fairways lie ahead. x

Membership enquiry: T. +44 13 4484 6337 www.wentworthclub.com





Luxury from the inside

Lux Inside is a project that combines medical scanners with digital art and photography to produce images that reveal the workmanship and savoir-faire behind the fabrication of luxury goods. The project's pioneer, Laurence Picot, reveals the importance of showing artisan techniques.

On March 1, 2011, the leading French auction house Artcuriel-Briest-Poulain-F. Tajan held a unique sale. They did not charge a buyers premium – as profits were for charity – and the works on sale were unlike anything that has come to auction before. Original objects as well as images of them were up for auction; the images reveal the inside of the objects' exceptional craftsmanship, and a deeper level to luxury materialism.

"Nowadays we are at a point where we cannot trust the outside appearance of a luxury object," says Laurence Picot, a Paris-based writer and specialist in the world of luxury. "We need to know what's inside because of the disappearing savoirfaire, with inventors quitting their countries and with delocalisation." In her project, Lux Inside, Picot teases and satisfies this need to know.

The long tradition that stands behind artisans has been threatened for years now – the number of houses practicing genuine Haute Couture has dwindled dramatically in the past two decades amidst the rise of ready-to-wear fashion. Furthermore, younger generations are not as willing as in previous times to undertake an apprenticeship

that may lead to a career centred around beauty but not necessarily one of financial stability; skills stand without being transmitted to posterity, and traditions of detail are lost. In 2008, Picot set out to do more than just write about this predicament in the luxury industry. "As a journalist, I realised that I never had the space to write the full story about these products, about the workmanship that is dying and the artisans who no longer have jobs," she says. "We are an image society. If you don't show the workmanship, how can we see it?"

Working with Jean-François Paul, who is a leading radiologist as well as Ricardo Escobar, a digital artist and Sylvain Ordureau, an internationally renowned software inventor, Picot began to create images that literally show the inside of products. By utilising the same scanners used in hospitals, and combining this with photography and pioneering software, the team produced remarkable works of art that actually reveal the details that tell of the process behind a product's creation. In a bespoke shoe made by the Paris-based Pierre Corthay, the unusual tools used in the creation of its essential internal parts can be seen underneath its shiny leather exterior. In a Dupont lighter, its

patented technology can be seen surrounded by fuel. In a pair of couture gloves by Mary Beyer, the hand pattern appears like an X-ray skeleton. By 2010, Picot and her technical supporters had created 14 revealing images, from bottles of Louis XIII cognac to a Dyson vacuum cleaner. By this point, they were keen to give back to the Mécénat Chirurgie Cardiaque Foundation, which uses the same scanners as the art collective for medical purposes. Picot organised the March 1st auction, whereby ten photographs ("Is it art?" she enquires) were for sale along with the objects; the majority of the proceeds went towards the foundation, and the rest to Quixotic, an association centred around the preservation of savoir-faire.

Lux Inside negotiates a curious relationship between luxury artisans and a medical apparatus, something not lost on Picot. "Hospitals and their medical equipment is not my usual universe. But, for me, it is correct because I wanted to show the human beings inside a product." χ

www.luxinside.com

For more on Lux Inside, visit luxuryculture.com, the web's first high-gloss window into the world of luxury.



52 hotel icon... collect N°9



The Beverly Hills Style

The Pink Palace is a vibrant icon. She stands majestic, in both her old-time ways and her dynamic modernity. We celebrate The Beverly Hills Hotel, which stands alone in history as a landmark of cult California style. She is the stuff that California dreams are made of...

pon The Beverly Hills Hotel's former tennis courts, that saw many a leisured serve, two new Presidential "Ultra" Bungalows stand, to welcome guests and residents with uncompromised discretion starting May 2011. As the largest (5,500 square feet) and most impressive suites in Los Angeles, these signature classic pink stucco structures are nestled amongst 12 lush acres of banana leaves, palm trees and pristine gardens. They join 21 original bungalows for a total of 23 (there is no #13) that have remained at the heart of The Beverly Hills Hotel's truly mythical allure. The expansion of the bungalow collection naturally turns attention to the past and present, and now future, of this legendary Beverly Hills institution.

The history reads like "Who's Who" of Hollywood. Opened in 1912, it was already a glamorous spot in the silent film era, attracting stars like Charlie Chaplin and Gloria Swanson. The Depression forced the hotel to close its doors, though some of

the bungalows were occupied under individual leases. In 1932, Bank of America installed one of its vice presidents, Hernando Courtright, to oversee foreclosure upon a failed effort to reopen. Courtright fell in love. He orchestrated a buyout as well as The Beverly Hills Hotel's trajectory into a period of enormous success.

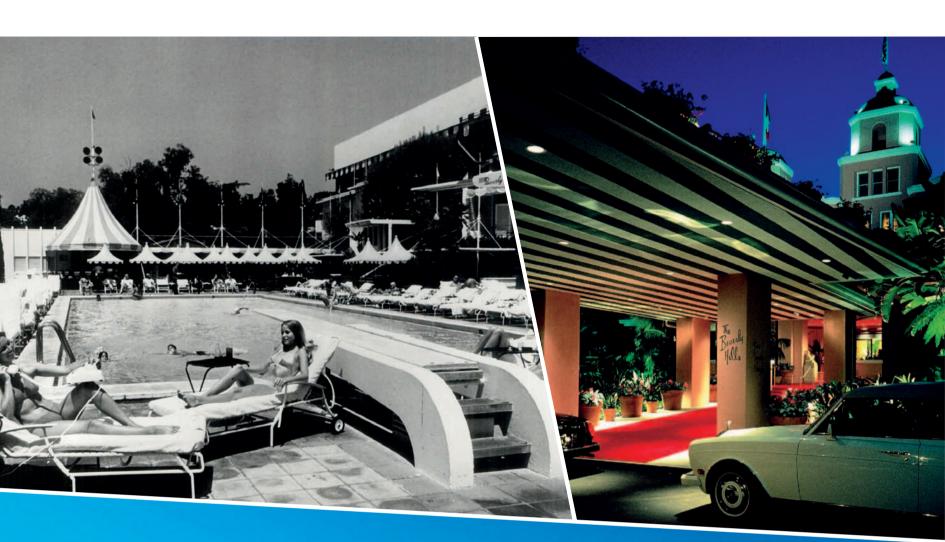
Secret affairs, idiosyncratic behaviours, winding pathways, grand pianos, grander ambitions, and even grander parties – the bungalows, particularly, have volumes and volumes of stories to tell. If only the walls could speak, as they say. Clark Gable and Carole Lombard used to rendezvous in the bungalows before his divorce and their marriage. A 1938 picture shows Jimmy Stewart and Norma Shearer at a charity dinner thrown by Bette Davis. Howard Hughes took up residence in four of the hotel bungalows beginning in 1942 (Bungalow 4 was his favourite): one for him, one for his actress wife Jean Peters, and two as decoys. Off and on

for 30 years, the reclusive billionaire lived in splendid isolation at the hotel. On occasion, he could be seen dancing with young starlets in the Persian Room, later named the Sunset Room. By the end of the 1950s, Marilyn Monroe and Yves Montand stayed in Bungalows 20 and 21 while filming Let's Make Love. Meanwhile, in The Polo Lounge, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and the rest of the Rat Pack would engage in prodigious drinking bouts, and Marlene Dietrich (Bungalow 11 was her favourite) changed the "No slacks for ladies" rule one day when she appeared at the bar in pants. In the 1970s, John Lennon and Yoko Ono hid out in a bungalow for a week, and Charlie Chaplin, who frequented the hotel in the 1920s, returned in 1972 to accept a special Oscar. Every L.A. native, or devotee of California style, likely has a story to tell about the "Pink Palace". If pink be the colour of play, The Beverly Hills Hotel is Hollywood's most prestigious playground that has no intention of growing old.

 $collect N^{\circ}9$ hotel icon... 53



54 hotel icon...







56 hotel icon... collect N°9

Serving as the General Manager of The Beverly Hills Hotel, as well as the Regional Director of West Coast USA for Dorchester Collection, Alberto del Hoyo provides superb stewardship to the unique spirit found in this California institution.

With Collect, Alberto del Hoyo shares his insider perspective before his retirement in May 2011.

How would you define the magic of The Beverly Hills Hotel in three words? Energy, emotion and mystique.

What element of your management strategy allows you to maintain the distinctive spirit of The Beverly Hills Hotel, where you have worked for almost 15 years?

Always providing guests with the ultimate best maintains the unique spirit of our hotel, because it establishes great memories and continues to bring our guests back time-after-time.

Can you please recount a personal anecdote from your time at The Beverly Hills Hotel that portrays its special spirit?

On one occasion, after a legendary movie-maker won an Academy Award, their excitement and celebration continued in their bungalow bathroom when they decided to fill the entire tub with Dom Pérignon champagne. Fittingly, since our opening in 1912, the hotel always radiates luster, glamour and premier service.

What is a particular detail that still remains in The Beverly Hills Hotel today, recalling its storied heritage?

In 1941, Hernando Courtright christened the world-famous Polo Lounge (formerly El Jardin) in honour of the polo players who frequented the hotel following their casual matches. In order to coincide with the Polo theme, a large black and white Polo match photograph was hung directly above the Polo Lounge Bar. After 71 years, the same picture still hangs in the exact same place. I feel it truly represents our iconic history and longevity.

Describe an ideal day spent on the grounds of The Beverly Hills Hotel.

An ideal day would start with waking up in a suite, ordering room service and enjoying it outside on the garden patio. Following, would be a swim and some sunshine by the pool and ordering a fresh, light lunch at the Cabana Café. To continue with the relaxation, a massage in a pool cabana by La Prairie Spa will provide the ultimate peaceful and rejuvenating indulgence in preparation for a fun and exciting night ahead. After freshening up, there would be dinner in the legendary Polo Lounge that fittingly caps off the Beverly Hills Hotel experience. As high profile individuals, acclaimed entertainment clientele and celebrities also dine around you, the best cuisine is not to be forgotten nor the glamorous essence.

What provoked the decision to add two new Presidential Bungalows?

With our prominent clientele always requesting premiere suites, we decided to build two new Presidential Bungalows to provide our guests with even more luxury, and what is also the largest accommodation in Los Angeles.

What were your priorities when adding these new bungalows?

When deciding to add two new ultra Presidential Bungalows, we wanted to include absolutely the most exclusive amenities, that include complete indoor and outdoor living spaces, top state-of-the-art technology, unique finishes, outdoor pools with outdoor exercise areas and rain showers.

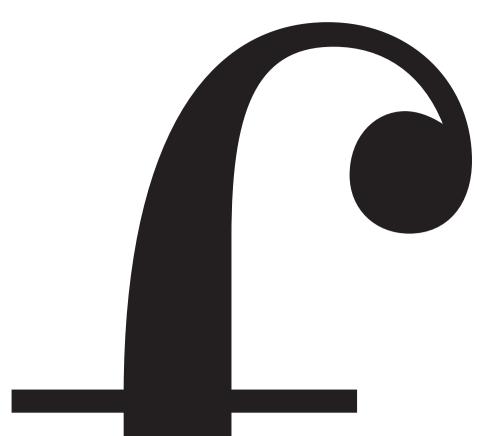
Can you please recount a favourite story related to the history of the bungalows?

During Howard Hughes's litigation with his company, Trans World Airlines, Hughes stayed here and rented a total of four bungalows to hide his personal identity, α

collect $N^{\circ}9$ hotel icon... 57







Jean-Michel Frank

Cult 20th century designer and decorator Jean-Michel Frank collaborated with Maison Hermès during his rich career in the interwar years. For the opening of their Paris Left Bank boutique in late 2010, Hermès debuted re-editions of certain Jean-Michel Frank designs produced between 1925 and 1935; they provide an opportunity to revisit his inimitable style that is meditative, geometric and wildly simple.



collect N°9 design legend...

The captivating, pure forms of Jean-Michel Frank (1895-1941) are celebrated for their "poor luxury" or, as French novelist François Mauriac had once phrased it, for their "aesthetic of renouncement". Frank reconsidered what were considered to be humble materials: plaster stone, terra cotta, mica, graphite, straw, shearling, parchment, rosewood oak, sycamore and lemon wood, jute and goatskin. He would often seamlessly mix the poor and the precious, particularly later in his career, contrasting simple materials with more classic materials such as ivory, ebony or mahogany. His colours remained natural: white, beige, cream and a full range of browns. All were refashioned toward heights of sophistication.

An autodidact, who tragically ended his own life in New York City at the age of 41, Jean-Michel Frank vigorously immersed himself in the creative spirit that was afloat during the Art Déco period in Paris. His friends and collaborators were Salvador Dali, Alberto Giacometti, Christian Bérard. His patrons were aesthetes Charles and Marie-Laure de Noailles, musician Cole Porter, writer Paul Eluard, couturiers Marcel Rochas, Elsa Schiaparelli and Madeliene Vionnet as well as American banker Nelson Rockafeller. Later, Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Bergé became avid collectors of his work, and forthcoming French designers such as André Putman owe him much. He opened a boutique at 140 rue du Faubourg-Saint-Honoré for less than a decade until he was forced to flee France at the imminence of World War II. He was a distant cousin of Anne Frank.

His emblematic designs include those comprised in the Confortable Line of chairs and thickset low sofas in perfectly cubist forms. Some of the originals were upholstered with Hermès's famed leathers in 1920, just one example of his many collaborations with the luxury brand. Frank worked closely with Jean-René Guerrand, a fourth generation descendant of the saddle maker's founding family. Frank also caused an international buzz with his leather wall and screen panelling, and in white leather to boot.

Understated and rigorous at the same time, Jean-Michel Frank is a decorative arts legend. There were periods in which to be aware of his work was an indication of an insider's privileged design knowledge. With fresh light shed on his designs and brilliant career, it is truly amazing to consider how his pieces appear, to this day, contemporary and self-contained.

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Fast forward to current times and Hermès homeware takes over a full third of their stunning new Left Bank boutique, located in a former pool near Hôtel Lutetia on Rue de Sevrès. The classic reeditions, signed "J.M. Frank par Hermès" that are accompanied by a certificate of authenticity at the time of purchase, stand iconically strong and lead the brand's budding home sector. In addition to the Confortable Line of furniture, further re-editions comprise memorable pieces such as a circular coffee table with sun-pattern straw marquetry, and a majestic four-panel screen also with the straw marquetry. A three-drawer dressing table, features a mirror that can be pulled down to be a desk, and is in the shape of an overturned, distended "U"; coffee tables echo this same shape, while both dining tables and nesting tables with an X-shape support similarly portray his signature exploitation of rectilineal lines

Understated and rigorous at the same time, Jean-Michel Frank is a decorative arts legend. There were periods in which to be aware of his work was an indication of an insider's privileged design knowledge. With fresh light shed on his designs and brilliant career, it is truly amazing to consider how his pieces appear, to this day, contemporary and self-contained. Perhaps this is what makes a classic, and this is what is meant by a sense of timelessness. x

17rue de Sèvres, 75006, Paris, France T. +33142228083, www.hermes.com





11 Michelin Guide Stars

A cluster of culinary constellations shines brightly for Dorchester Collection. As the highest accolade for a cuisine professional, Michelin Guide stars are a symbol of success and an assurance of excellence. Four restaurants across Dorchester Collection's nine hotels have accrued a total of eleven Michelin Guide stars; no fewer than three of the restaurants claim the highest award of three stars. We look to the celestial spheres.

 $64 \qquad rendez\text{-}vous \ with... \qquad collect \ N^\circ 9$

 Γ he politics, precision and anticipation that is associated with the release of the annual Michelin Guide, and the announcement of its prestigious discernment of stars, are elements that greatly influence the chefs within every major kitchen, and the front of house staff of every major restaurant, across the world's most outstanding dining establishments.

The career of a restaurant professional can be as physically and mentally demanding as that of a high-level medical surgeon. The hours are long, the pressure is great, and the competition is fierce. What is at stake, however, is the delicate orchestration of gastronomic pleasure.

Seamless service, seriously selected wines – both of these complex and highly subtle skills are the supporting elements that can bring cuisine to truly elevated heights. No one element, just like no one talent, stands alone. All hands, minds, and well-educated professional palates work together in

order to craft an effect so simple as to make a piece of fresh, locally sourced produce taste like something has been solicited from it that is new, exotic, almost otherworldly. This is no easy art.

Hôtel Plaza Athénée has received a particular recognition for this fine art - awarded to all of its gastronomic offerings - in February 2011, by the French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry with the Living Heritage Enterprise Award in the gourmet food category. The award recognises companies in various sectors of business that have distinguished themselves with their expertise and excellence. The award is duly well-merited, considering that the Hôtel Plaza Athénée claims the celebrated three-star restaurant Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée and two world champion pastry chefs, Christophe Michalak, who was awarded the title in 2005, and Jérôme de Oliveira, his assistant, in 2009. Hôtel Plaza Athénée, with its dedication to cuisine from the source of nature, is the first and only luxury hotel to receive this award. The Michelin Guide star system is another recompense altogether, that awards one to three stars to a limited number of restaurants. The one star rank indicates "very good cuisine in its category", a two-star ranking represents "excellent cuisine, worth a detour", while three stars are awarded to restaurants that offer "exceptional cuisine, worth a special journey". A three-star Michelin ranking is rare. As of late 2010, there are only 90 restaurants with this distinction in the world: two of these restaurants claim this accolade in London, five in New York City, and ten in Paris.

Michelin Guide operates on the principle that it is only anonymous and professionally trained experts that can be trusted to make accurate, impartial assessments of a restaurant's food and service. Those discerning these stars are as assiduous – and as private – as a secret service government official. They visit restaurants entirely anonymously. Many Michelin Guide inspectors are advised not to disclose their line of work to their families.



Alain Ducasse & Christophe Saintagne

Alain Ducasse & Jocelyn Herland

collect N°9 rendez-vous with...

This degree of rigorous external recognition for cuisine's delicate labour is essential not only for drawing a hierarchy among aesthetes – and justifying their special journey – but is also perhaps more essential in the way that it drives ambition and crafts dreams towards an ever more exquisite dining experience. It unifies team spirit in a work environment that demands team spirit remain at peak performance. It is succinctly stated by Chef Yannick Alléno of Le Meurice Restaurant of his three stars, "It is the recognition of work by an entire team. It is a dream that becomes reality".

Altogether, there is Chef Jocelyn Herland from Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester; Chef Christophe Saintagne at Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée; Chef Yannick Alléno of Le Meurice Restaurant – all claim a triumvirate of stars – while Chef Justin Bogle rises with two stars at New York Palace's GILT Restaurant. Every single one of these chefs will admit that he is a figurehead for an interwoven and hardworking team.

When asked what the Michelin Guide stars mean to them, these Chefs clearly know the importance of such a benchmark. For example, Chef Bogle at New York Palace's GILT Restaurant explains, "The Michelin stars are very important to me, and to the team at GILT. It validates the hard work that we put in on a daily basis. To be considered a part of a select few with this distinction pushes us to work harder every day."

Meanwhile, as Chef Christophe Saintagne at Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée explains, "The three stars are very important to the restaurant team, led by Denis Courtiade who was awarded the 'Top Prize for Hospitality' in 2010 by the Interational Academy of Gastronomy, and to the cooking team; it is a daily motivation for them. Thanks to these stars, they are sure to work with the best products, in the best environment possible." The Michelin Guide's declaration of starry standards can, of course, carry personal meaning as well as collective meaning: "It's a very nice reward for me

because it means that the cooking remained as excellent as it was before I became the Chef at the Alain Ducasse au Plaza Athénée." And, Chef Christophe Saintagne continues, "It might also mean that our customers understand the honesty and simplicity with which we cook, impelled by Alain Ducasse." Far from superficial, these celebrated stars shine from a deep profundity, and return to the clients whom they are intended to guide. "It is a great achievement. It makes us proud of being amongst a selection of amazing chefs and restaurants," explains Chef Jocelyn Herland from Alain Ducasse at The Dorchester, "But, day after day, what is the most rewarding is the positive feedback we receive from our clients. They are our ultimate judges and the very reason why we strive toward excellence."

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Dining well, and especially with those whom one loves or with whom one shares similar tastes, can be a near holy experience. And, this experience of excellence sings in the stars.



Yannick Alléno Justin Bogle

66 rendez-vous with... collect N°9

Chef Christophe Saintagne

What is your "star" dish?

The most iconic dish of the restaurant is most definitely Homard, Pommes de Mer (Lobster with sea potatoes). It is cooked in a cookware tailor-made for this use by Pierre Tachon and Alain Ducasse: the Cookpot. All products used in this dish come from one single land: Noirmoutier's Island. It is made of lobster, potatoes, butter and pure sea salt.

Which dish is the most labour-intensive?

The Pâté Chaud de Pintade Truffé (Warm Truffled Guinea Fowl Paté) is the most technical and labour-intensive dish. It was the one that needed the most trials. But, like a pianist who has rehearsed his scales relentlessly, all the work has to wear off to give space to pleasure during tasting.

What would be the ideal menu for a client to try?

We offer a Collection Menu in which you can taste six dishes made of the best seasonal products.

Chef Jocelyn Herland

What is your "star" dish?

It is the Saute Gourmand of Lobster, homemade pasta, and truffled chicken quenelles. It is one of our signature dishes and definitely a best-seller. Guests are curious, as this is not the dish you would eat everywhere. It's a rich and delicious association of flavours and textures with a powerful lobster sauce.

Which dish is the most labour-intensive?

Turbot Matelotte, potato gnocchi, country bacon – inspired by a classic French recipe, it is a complex dish. The turbot is a meaty fish and is cooked on the bone. The sauce is a savvy reduction of red wine, port and Madeira wines with shallots, cep mushrooms, heads and bones of the fish. The dish comes with bacon strips, which add to the richness of the flavours.

What would be the ideal menu for a client to discover?

The tasting menu is the perfect combination of à la Carte dishes; it captures the essence of my cuisine.





Hôtel Plaza Athénée The Dorchester

collect N°9 rendez-vous with...

Chef Yannick Alléno

What is your "star" dish?

Le Poulet à la Bouteille, it comes from a recipe by my grandmother.

Which dish is the most labour-intensive?

Currently it is the Terrine de Noix de Coquilles Saint-Jacques aux Truffes, beurre blanc mousseux (Sea Scallop and Truffle Terrine, with butter foam), although all the dishes require a lot of work and meticulous detail.

What would be the ideal menu for a client to try, who hopes to discover the restaurant and your cuisine?

I would suggest a meat dish called "Agneau de Lait des Pyrénées, filet lardé au basilic et servi rosé, côtes bien grillées, epaule confite aux pommes fondantes, epigramme sur une salade pastorale".

(Milk-fed lamb from the Pyrénées region, larded fillet with basil and served pink well-grilled chops, preserved shoulder with melted potatoes, cutlet on a country-style salad.)

Chef Justin Bogle

What is your "star" dish?

Our foie gras has been on the menu for over two years, but it has taken on several different forms. The main flavour profile is always the same but it has gone from a hot preparation to several different cold presentations. Our return clientele is always excited to see the next form it assumes.

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Which dish is the most labour-intensive?

Our seasonal salad. At any given time, there could be 15 to 20 components in the dish. The base of the salad is a mushroom "soil" which is a mixture of dehydrated mushrooms, almond flour, sugar, salt, and walnut oil. It is meant to resemble a small garden once plated. The rest of the salad is composed of baby vegetables that are all prepared differently. They could be pickled, raw, marmalades, dehydrated, turned into marshmallows or even custards. We finish the dish with petite lettuce and flowering herbs.

What would be the ideal menu for a client to discover GILT's cuisine?

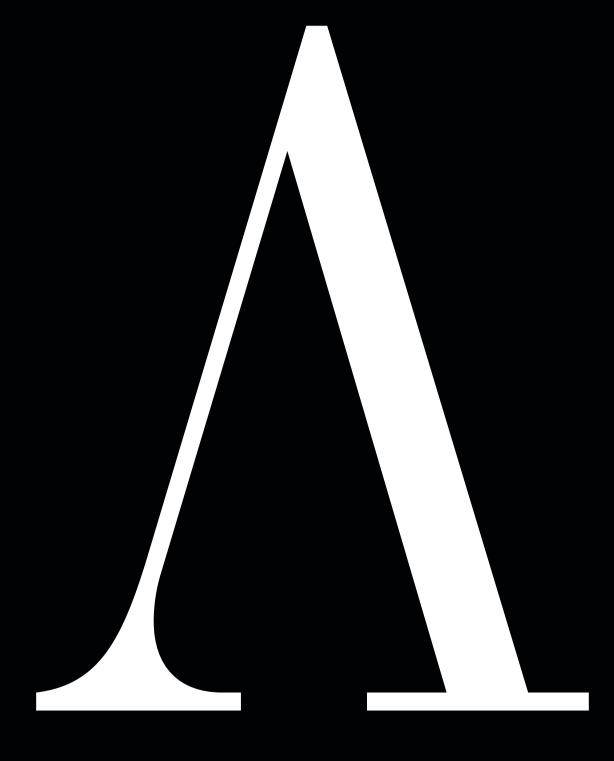
The seven-course tasting menu would be the best way to fully experience GILT. When all is said and done, with the canapés and extra little bites, it works out to be 12 courses.

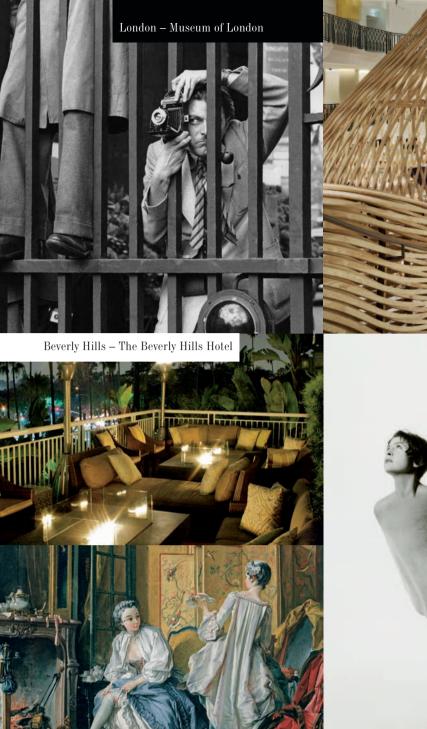


Le Meurice The New York Palace



collect $N^{\circ}9$









Los Angeles – Hotel Bel-Air

Paris – Hermès

Museum of London: London Street Photography February 18 – September 4, 2011 150 London Wall London EC2Y 5HN T. +44 20 7001 9844

Los Angeles - The Getty

An extraordinary collection of over 200 candid images from 1860 to the present day.

The Beverly Hills Hotel's Bar NINETEEN12 9641 Sunset Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90210 T. +1 310 273 1912

Bar NINETEEN12's Fireside Lounge, long available only for semi-private dinners, now warmly welcomes space for 40 guests with chocolate-brown modernist sectional sofas, a place for head-to-toe lounging and "fire tables" lit with atmospheric flames. A new menu of "Mixology Creations" features ten original twists on classic cocktails such as the Strawberry Thyme Collins, the Spanish Manhattan, Honey Ginger Sour and Prickly Pear Margarita. Menu temptations include delights such as Truffled Grilled Cheese Sandwiches.

The Getty: Paris, Life & Luxury April 26 – August 7, 2011 1200 Getty Center Drive Los Angeles, CA 90049 T. +1 310 440 7300

Diverse objects portray the daily life of prosperous Rococo eighteenth-century Paris.

Hermès Boutique 17, Rue de Sèvres 75006 Paris T. +33 1 42 22 80 83

Hermès lands on the Rive Gauche in a former swimming pool. A definitive destination.

V&A: The Dance Photography of Chris Nash March 19 – August 29, 2011 Cromwell Road London SW7 2RL T. +44 20 7942 2000

A dazzling display of Nash's love of movement, light, colour and composition. Over 60 prints cover three deacdes and his most significant works.

Hotel Bel-Air Canyon View Guestrooms & Suites 701 Stone Canyon Road Los Angeles, CA 90077 T. +1 310 887 2505

For its eminent reopening, Hotel Bel-Air debuts twelve hillside guestrooms and suites with limestone floors, natural wood ceilings and retractable walls that open onto a terrace with a stunning infinity-edge pool. Equipped with top technology for work and play, Canyon View guestrooms and suites can interconnect for integrated private living.

45 Park Lane's New Restaurant Park Lane London, WIK 1PN T. +44 2074 934 545

As Wolfgang Puck's first restaurant in Europe, 'CUT at 45 Park Lane' is a modern American steak restaurant slated to open in summer 2011. Executive Chef David McIntyre with Restaurant Director Loyd Loudy offer pure deliciousness from prime dry and wet aged beef, to succulent panroasted lobster. Gourmands take note.



Musée d'Art Moderne: Kees Van Donger March 25 – July 17, 2011 11, Avenue du Président Wilson 75016 Paris T. +33 1 53 67 40 00

A leader on the 1920s Paris art scene, over ninety paintings and drawings cover the Fauvist's career.

Coworth Park's New Polo Manager Blacknest Rd. Ascot. Berkshire SL5 7SE

Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7SE T. +44 13 4487 6600

lain Forbes-Cockell is appointed to the position of Polo Manager, to manage the Coworth Park Polo Club's membership, grounds and facilities which includes stabling for 30 horses. With over 40 years experience as a player, instructor and team coach, the well-connected Forbes-Cockell is known affectionately by many as "Major". Some recent events include the Jaeger-LeCoultre Polo Charity Cup and, in 2011, the Indian Empire Shield, the Coworth Park Challenge as well as the Valerie Halford Memorial Trophy.

Tate Modern: Jean Miro Retrospective April 14 – September 11, 2011 Bankside London SE1 9TG T. +44 20 7887 8888

One of the greats of modern art comes to London for the first major retrospective there in 50 years; more than 150 paintings, drawings, sculptures and prints span six decades of his career.

The Dorchester's 80th Anniversary Park Lane London, W1K 1QA T. +44 20 7629 8888, for reservations.

In conjunction with international charity 'Trees for Cities', relative youngster The Dorchester will plant eighty trees around London from November 2011 to celebrate its 80th anniversary, and invest in something having an integral impact on the London landscape. The anniversary walk will start from The Dorchester's plane tree, which is a listed tree and one of the 'Great Trees of London', as published in the Time Out guidebook.

Giuseppe Zanotti Boutique 9536 Brighton Way Beverly Hills 90210 T. +1 310 550 5760

This audacious designer opens his first boutique in L.A., deeply delighting local shoe addicts.

The Met: Alexander McQueen, Savage Beauty May 4 – July 31, 2011 1000 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10028 T. +1 212 535 7710

This retrospective celebrates the late Mr. 'Lee' McQueen's extraordinary contributions to fashion, from his postgraduate collection in 1992 to his final runway presentation in February 2010.

Les Ateliers Ruby Boutique 30, rue Coquillère 75001 Paris T. +33 1 40 28 93 07

This original motor accessories brand offers the perfect way to ride safely and with style.





New York - The New York Palace





Beverly Hills – The Beverly Hills Hotel



Giambattista Valli Boutique 30, Rue Boissy D'Anglas 57008 Paris T. +33 1 83 62 09 04

This Italian fashion designer is a star on the rise. His first Paris boutique opens; glamour is defined.

The New York Palace Adopts "Doggy John" 455 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022 T. +1 212 891 8100

Parisian artist Julien Marinetti's bulldog sculptures travel to The New York Palace Hotel in 2011.

The Beverly Hills Hotel Spa by La Prairie 9641 Sunset Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90210 T. +1 310 887 2505

Ultimate Indulgence, a new spa treatment at the Spa by La Prairie makes tension melt. The sublime body treatment starts with rejuvenating exfoliation, a warm hydrating wrap, and an hour-long, four hand full-body Caviar Massage: unforgettable.

The New York Palace's Green Initiatives 455 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022 T. +1 212 891 8100

One of the few New York hotels with a full-time green practices manager, The New York Palace introduces 2011 operations on 100% renewable power to offset 22 metric tons of CO2 emissions (the largest hotel in Manhattan to do so). It is also participating in "Clean the World" which donates gently used guest-room amenities to relief organisations. A true pioneer, their 2005 installation of the US's first hotel power solution system reduced energy use by 20% while emitting 40% less CO2. A heating and power co-generation system is under discussion for installation within the year.

Pierre Hardy Boutique 30 Jane Street New York, NY 10014 T. +1 646 449 0070

A special sandal design celebrates Manhattan, where Hardy's flagship store is freshly minted.

Hotel Principe di Savoia's Package Escapes Piazza della Repubblica, 17 20124 Milan T. +39 02 62301

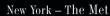
The Romantic Package welcomes couples with strawberries and champagne, a massage at the Club10 Fitness & Beauty Center, and a threecourse dinner as well as a daily limousine service to the historic city centre. This is just a taste of one of the many exclusive packages that can be found at the hotel. Others include beauty and style, and the exploration of art, design and fashion in Milan.

LACMA: David Smith - Cubes and Anarchy April 3 – July 24, 2011 5905 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90036 T. + 13238576000

The first major thematic exhibition devoted to the renowned twentieth-century American sculptor David Smith (1906-65) brings together more than 100 works that are a three-dimensional counterpart to the Abstract Expressionist painters.













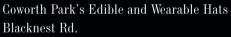
Introducing the perfect cocktail hour snack: "Sum Eat" – six steamed bite-sized Dim Sum in three unlikely French flavours: Duck à l'Orange, Shrimps Thermidor and Field Mushrooms, with savoury and spicy sauces. This gastronomic delight is served 6-10pm each evening.

Hotel Principe di Savoia's Gold Medal Award Piazza della Repubblica, 17 20124 Milan

T. +39 02 62301

T. +33 1 53 67 66 00

Ezio Indiani, General Manager of Hotel Principe di Savoia since 2005, was awarded the prestigious Gold Medal from the "La Torretta" National Prize honouring distinguished figures in Italian society. "This recognition honours me particularly," said Ezio Indiani, "because it affirms our commitment to spreading the culture of etiquette and bringing it to new, unprecedented splendour."



Paris - Le Meurice

Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7SE T. +44 1344 876 600

Coworth Park celebrates the 300th anniversary of the Ascot racecourse with teacakes by Chef John Campbell taking form of the Coworth Park Couture Millinery Collection designed by celebrated milliner Stephen Jones, OBE. Coworth Park guests are invited to a special Coworth Park Ascot Afternoon Tea, and to wear an original from the Collection. Stephen Jones will hold a Pop-Up Hat Salon at Coworth Park on Friday April 15th to advise on hat choice, styling, and 2011 millinery trends.

The Met: Cabinets, Caskets, and Cases December 7, 2010 – August 21, 2011 1000 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10028 T. +1 212 535 7710

From travel cases to containers for tea or toiletries, 100 examples of European boxes, from 1500 to 1900, come out from the Permanent Collection.

Teatro alla Scala: Summer Opera Season June 6 – 23, 2011 (Romeo and Juliet) June 30 – July 14, 2011 (L'italiana in Algeri) Via Filodrammatici 2 20121 Milano T. +39 02 860 775

Ascot - Coworth Park

Milan – Teatro alla Scala

The new stagings of these opera classics by Gounod and Rossini are not to be missed, particularly in this iconic and historical opera house.

Le Meurice 228, Rue de Rivoli 75001 Paris T. +33 1 44 58 10 09

On October 11, 2011 French artist Eric Baudart, who is represented by Chez Valentin Gallery, won the Third Edition of Le Meurice Prize for Contemporary Art. Held under Jean Charles Castelbajac's patronage, the prize grants 10,000 Euros to the artist and 10,000 Euros to the gallery to advance their careers. For its upcoming Fourth Edition, the already prestigious jury will further welcome important collector Maryvonne Pinault.

From the World With Love

What would you bring back from your travels:

- 1. For a Friend?
- 2. For a Lover?
- 3. For a Child?
- 4. For a Dog?

Hermoine de Paula: This London fashion design

This London fashion designer is a rising star, selected amongst the 2010 Dorchester Collection Fashion Prize shortlist of talent.

- 1. Something to bring luck.
- 2. He is a musician charms to go on his necklace and vintage printed jackets to wear on stage too.
- 3. Anything that is colourful and fun. From Italy, pretty pasta to make pictures and jewellery with!
- 4. Soft toys for my two dogs to play with, tacky and traditional: an Eiffel Tower toy from Paris, a teddy bear with lederhosen from Austria.

Amanda Spring:

Managing Partner at Janou Pakter, Spring places top creative talent in design and fashion between their Milan, Paris and New York offices.

- 1. Earrings by Evren Kayar, who is a jewellery designer in Istanbul.
- 2. A painting by local Parisian artist Nicolas Foster Bécourt.
- 3. From Italy, an Alberta Ferretti white baby doll dress for a girl.
- 4. Creature Comfort Robe from the Trixie & Peanut dog boutique in Manhattan "Terry cloth after-bath leisure attire for the posh pet".

Vicki Sarge-Beamon:

Jewels are her passion. After 25 years in the business, Vicki Sarge-Beamon is Creative Director of Erickson Beamon jewellery.

- 1. Something spicy.
- 2. Something organic.
- 3. Something to wear that is very traditional to the area.
- 4. I have a cat, and I always bring back something with Catnip!

Francis Kurkdjian:

This ultra-sophisticated "nose" launched an eponymous perfume brand, and to stellar success.

- 1. A local alcoholic drink, to drink together...
- 2. A book on Art or Architecture.
- 3. A local toy.
- 4. A local bone!

Ophélie Renouard:

Truly international in spirit and in profession, Ophélie Renouard is one of the most well-connected event organisers in the business.

- 1. One-of-a-kind, custom-made bags by Delphine Delafon in Paris.
- 2. A scent from Jar or from Sisley, both in Paris.
- 3. Anything from Bonpoint.
- 4. A plastic mouse that makes noises when it's chewed.







