

# VANTAGE

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## The BIG Smoke

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:  
NUNO MENDES AT  
CHILTERN FIREHOUSE

## DAWN of the Ages

INSIDE O'PORTER'S  
VINTAGE FASHION  
TREASURE TROVE

## A WINNING FORMULA

CECILIA BONSTROM, THEA GREEN MBE,  
DAN ROOKWOOD AND LULU GUINNESS OBE  
SHARE THEIR GROOMING SECRETS





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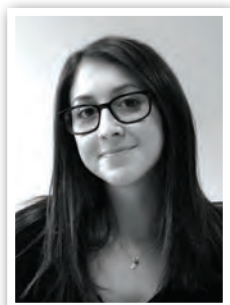
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# From the editor



All this sunshine can only mean one thing: baring your skin in its full post-winter glory. Aside from a host of new products to get you feeling beautiful (p. 59-63), Cecilia Bönström, Thea Green MBE, Dan Rookwood and Lulu Guinness OBE have shared their most intimate grooming indulgences with Gabrielle Lane (p.64). “As I am a working woman with three boys, my days start really early and I

only have 30 minutes of me-time in the bathroom,” says Bönström, creative director of Zadig & Voltaire. “My biggest luxury would be to get three days completely alone!”

Having fallen a little bit in love with a certain pair of prism-print leggings, it seems that almost out of nowhere, your boyfriend’s faded grey T-shirt is no longer a socially acceptable piece of workout gear. I talk to Anjhe Mules, creative director of cult workout-wear brand Lucas Hugh and Ashma Kunde, apparel and footwear analyst at market-trend forecasting agency Euromonitor International, to track the rise of the luxury sportswear market (p. 80).

Author, journalist and all-around style-and-sass icon Dawn O’Porter (we love the ‘O’) is set to host her own TV show centered on her love for vintage fashion. But as well as looking great on the outside, we admire our cover star’s career-driven passion (p. 10).

The buzz around Chiltern Firehouse is still going strong, and you can’t swing a crab-stuffed doughnut in there (providing you can get a table) without hitting a member of London’s A-list. At the helm of the buzziest and most exciting restaurant opening this year, Nuno Mendes gives Joe Warwick an exclusive interview (p. 88).

Elsewhere, get the full Baselworld brief (p. 22-31); discover the magical history of the Regent’s Park Open Air Theatre as it opens for the May-August season (p. 36) and get to know the real Dame Vivien Duffield, the brains and funds behind JW3 (p. 38). That should keep you busy until June...

Kari Rosenberg  
Editor

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Dawn of an Old Era, (p. 10)  
Photography by Gary Morrisroe

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# Dawn of an Old era

As she unites her passions for vintage fashion, writing and television, *Gabrielle Lane* has breakfast with Dawn O'Porter to discuss a very special new project

PHOTOGRAPHY / GARY MORRISROE

First things first: outtakes from the *Vantage* photo shoot with Dawn O'Porter. We took 120 shots in three hours and she didn't complain once. Nor did she bat an eyelid when I sat on the floor of a suite at The Dorchester hotel to interview her, questions in my lap – “Shall I hold your dictaphone?” she offered. She was cajoled into ordering food two hours in and ate poached eggs and avocado in a ten-minute-flat outfit change – “Only if you're having something too,” she says – and, as our shoot drew to a close and I realised just how much I liked Dawn, she readily agreed to star in my own impromptu snap.

However, the most important point is this: all of the clothes that Dawn is wearing are her own wonderful vintage treasures that emerged from a suitcase she had been lugging around on the promotional tour for her second novel, *Goose*. And therein probably lies the key to her enthusiasm: her forthcoming TV series and accompanying style tome – *This Old Thing*, sees her exploring her personal passion for the fashion of bygone eras and imparting this (boundless) enthusiasm for the topic to others.

“I think there is something really charming about a dress that has lived a longer life than I have, and probably more of a life than I have,” Dawn tells me with a conspiratorial grin. “I'm not put off at all by the idea of someone else wearing it and I want others to feel the same way.” O'Porter (she added the 'O' following her marriage to Hollywood actor Chris O'Dowd in







2012), personally pitched the idea of a vintage fashion series during a meeting with Channel 4 – “I think it’s quite a niche subject for them, but vintage fashion is definitely having a moment” – and first and foremost an author and journalist, she took the opportunity to reveal further in fashion history with the launch of the accompanying book. “I’m obsessed with the way that vintage fashion illustrates what women were going through in society at the time. The 1960s, for example, were quite fun and free; people were looking to the future so there were lots of space-age styles. Women were also in control of [their sexuality] for the first time and I think it’s no coincidence that the skirt lengths got shorter! I find that fascinating.”

Raised by her aunt and uncle in Guernsey, conversations about quality and style were embedded in her childhood. “When I was growing up they would always talk about fashion and the ways that clothes used to be made,” she says. “They’d talk about structure and the British manufacturing industry. So, when I left Guernsey, which wasn’t exactly the epicentre of British fashion in the 1990s, I’d try to be adventurous. When I went into my first vintage shop everything fell into place; the most important thing was that these clothes were mine and nobody else’s. Clothes should be really special to you – it was always in me but it took me a while to work out how to do it.”

These days Dawn estimates that 95 per cent of her own wardrobe is sourced from vintage boutiques and flea markets around the world – including velvet Pucci skirts and Courrèges shift dresses. “We should be investing in pieces which we want to wear forever, lined beautifully, mounted on silk organza and done really well. The thing that I love about going into a vintage shop is that you never know what you’ll find. I visit



the 1960s section first and then I search the 1970s jumpsuits because I think they're so awesome."

In *This Old Thing*, O'Porter's main task is to convert women who traditionally spend sizeable sums on their clothes but find themselves uninspired, to this mantra, with often hilarious moments of opposition. In reality, she thinks there are simple tips women can bear in mind when looking for a piece which is rich in personality and a sense of history. "I've got into the habit of not being put off by something if it doesn't fit," she explains. "If there's something that you love about it, you can make it work. A lot of clothes have quite big seam allowances so if it's too small you can usually go out a couple of inches. Sometimes I buy a dress that is a hideous shape, but the fabric is amazing so I take it to a local dry-cleaner and say, 'what can we do with this?'"

Asked to choose fashionable figures from history that inspire her; "there are those that just *are* [icons]," she says. "Jackie O, even in her casualwear – pedal-pushers and a black polo-neck – she's the ultimate in sixties chic."

“We should be investing in pieces which we want to wear forever”

Her vintage hunting ground is wherever she happens to be on a given day including the sunny climes of LA, New York, Texas – and Leeds. "We discovered that in the show," she adds. "No matter what part of the country we're in, we'd always find an outfit."

To date, even though her confessed style fantasy of finding a Chanel bouclé jacket eludes her, such is her skill for stumbling across beautiful finds, that this year Dawn will also launch her own business venture, entitled BOB. "I have built a collection of over 500 pieces for BOB and half of the business will be [made up of] vintage sales. The other half involves me taking my favourite finds and sitting with a designer to identify details which I think would make the perfect dress, while remaining inspired by the original vintage one. So I have ten new designs launching by the end of June. To be in a position to make what I'm searching for is amazing. This was the right time to do it."

Accessorising, Dawn admits, is less her forte. "I'm not one of those women who have lots of shoes," she smiles. She'll later



tell me that accompanying actor husband Chris (star of the film *Bridesmaids* amongst others) on the red carpet, can become cringe-worthy. "I now know that I have to spend my time thinking about bags and shoes so I have a good time. The good thing is that the red carpet is never about me, it's about Chris – so I can get out of the car, have a picture and go and have a glass of wine," she laughs.

Her own primary career as a writer is incredibly precious to her. "Now that I've experienced being in control of what I'm putting out there, it's so satisfying. It's the best job in the world," she says. "You shouldn't be doing TV and writing and resenting going to work." With this in mind, she bats away any suggestion that her schedule is too frenetic. "There's a lot of women out there juggling careers and motherhood who are a lot busier than I am

and they manage their time a lot better. As I don't have children, if inspiration doesn't strike until midnight, I can sit down and write at midnight. At this point in my life, talking about 'managing' being busy... well, I'm just busy! If I had to choose between books and TV there's no question, but I'm lucky that I get to do both. Making *This Old Thing* was such a pleasure. I still can't actually believe it." ■

**Dawn O'Porter presents *This Old Thing* on Channel 4 in May. A tie-in book is also available in hardback and e-book from Hot Key Books**

LOCATION: *Dorchester Suite at The Dorchester*  
HAIR: *Cristian Pignatta at Neville Hair & Beauty*  
[nevillehairandbeauty.net](http://nevillehairandbeauty.net)  
MAKE-UP: *Debbie Finnegan at MAC Cosmetics*  
[maccosmetics.co.uk](http://maccosmetics.co.uk)



# JASMINE & HONEY: at play

PHOTOGRAPHY / NICOLE BLAIR

*Gabrielle Lane* spends a nostalgic morning with Jasmine Guinness and her close friend Honey Bowdrey, as they reflect upon the success of their vision for traditional toyshop, Honeyjam

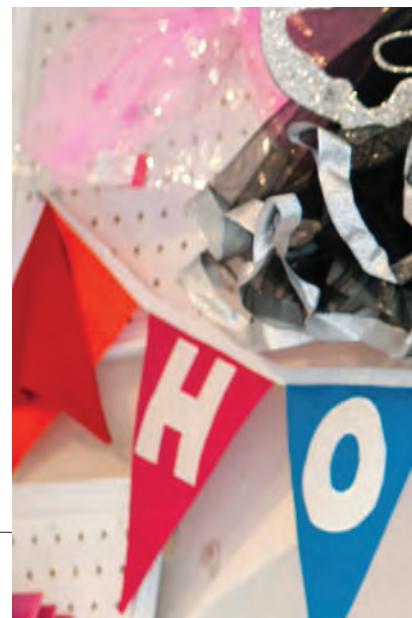
A huge, stuffed elephant stands proudly in the corner. Fancy dress costumes hang from the ceiling. There are petal-pink dolls-houses, shelves filled with china-dolls sporting glossy, conker-brown plaits (all named Clementine) and rows upon rows of miniature tea sets, construction kits and paints that change colour when mixed with water: Honeyjam, the toy shop in Blenheim Crescent co-owned by model Jasmine Guinness – one of the heiresses to the Irish brewing dynasty – and Honey Bowdrey, is a dynamic monument to childhoods spent beyond the reach of games consoles, or, as Jasmine tells me with a wicked grin: “chaos, according to my husband.”

It becomes clear quite quickly upon meeting the two that Honeyjam’s light-hearted ambience radiates from its founders. The pair arrive fresh from ferrying their own children to school, laden with bags and ideas: Jasmine, whose modelling career was kick-started in the 1990s with fashion campaigns for the likes of Joseph, is gregarious and warm, tweaking displays enthusiastically and suggesting angles for our photographs from the get-go. Honey is more reserved and

charmingly self-deprecating, whispering; “do I have to put my smart shoes on?” and “I have an inane grin,” when it’s time to pose. It’s easy to imagine them playing together during their own childhoods and by the end of our interview – which, due to a miscommunication they originally thought would last ‘for four hours’ but, agreed to nonetheless – I wish I was part of their gang...

“I knew Jasmine before she knew me as she was younger and just a ‘babe in arms’ when I met her,” explains Honey. “She made the perfect doll with her huge blue eyes.” Thrown together through their existing family connections, summers were soon spent charging around the beach and countryside in Guinness’s native Ireland or at Honey’s grandfather’s house in Tuscany. It was therefore with a heavy dose of nostalgia for “hours spent in the playground eating Fizz Whizz” [Honey] and “building forts and climbing trees” [Jasmine], that the pair decided to recreate the excitement of the traditional toys and games that they once enjoyed, by opening the shop in 2006.

“Honeyjam is a real mix and that’s what stimulates us,” says Jasmine. “Our aim was to fill the gap of a traditional toy













“ I let my own children know that ‘Guinness’ is just a well-known name, it doesn’t make us special ”

– JASMINE

shop in our area, with both those unique items that will last a lifetime and the latest fun gadget.” The pair decide between them what to stock: “Some staple, old-fashioned games never go out of style like Pick-Up Sticks and marbles; some are so cool and from our childhoods so we have to get them – like Scratch ‘n’ Sniff stickers! Then there are modern classics like glitter tattoos – that don’t wash off in the bath,” she adds.

Portobello is the area in which both Honey and Jasmine’s husbands grew up and was a natural choice of setting for the first Honeyjam. “It has a really friendly village feel which is great for small, independent shops,” says Honey. While the West London area is home to plenty of high-profile residents, one imagines what the neighbours think of the vivacious friends and their fun-filled project. As they attempt to lean casually against the cuddly elephant, and then the outside sign for our photographs, the girls stifle their giggles: “This is why the other shopkeepers laugh at us,” they mutter.

Honey and Jasmine also live locally with their respective families, with the latter choosing Maida Vale: “I love Maida Vale for its great parks and independent shops, the architecture and the wonderfully wide avenues make you feel that you could be in another country,” she says.

Of course, some would see working life as a contrast to the apparently privileged lifestyle enjoyed not least by Jasmine, who grew up as part of Ireland’s most famous family: “I let my own children know that ‘Guinness’ is just a well-known name, it doesn’t make us special, but what is special is the philanthropic work that the Guinness family has done in the past,” she says. “I am just as strict with my kids as my parents were with me about things like manners; I was an only child so they were determined to stop me being spoilt and give me a good work ethic.”

Rather than distancing herself from the glamour of the fashion industry in which she’s also worked, both as a model and a designer, Jasmine embraces it. “I feel passionately about designing and want to design lots more,” she admits. “I do love having a double life. I can be a shopkeeper all day, making decisions and

selling toys and then run home, put on a smart dress and go to a glamorous party. The roles complement each other well and keep me on my toes.”

Accordingly, during the week, both women are often found behind the counter at Honeyjam until tea time when their youngest children leave school. “As both of us had children quite young, it is all we have ever known. My eldest is 20 years old and my youngest just five, so of course there is always a need to juggle, but it’s worth it,” explains Honey, painting an idyllic picture of family life; “...light a fire and all do a jigsaw, a long walk with the dogs and kids, followed by a cup of tea and crumpets.”

Jasmine agrees: “Honey finishes work in time for the school pick-up so she can be there for her kids. I leave at about 4pm so I can do homework with mine, and neither of us works during the school holidays: the flexibility of having our own business allows us the luxury and it is so important to us both.”

Their younger children (Honey has a 12-year-old and a five-year-old, while Jasmine’s children are aged 12, eight and three), are firmly on board with the idea of a toy shop, of course. “They love it and are the best product testers out there,” says Honey. Jasmine nods: “We consult our kids about most of the things in our shop and are always asking the children what they are ‘in to’ now. It is important to know that what you have really is what they want: you can see when kids come into the shop that they get excited about everything and that is great for us to see.”

In the future, the plan is to build on the success of the shop. “The next step for us is to grow Honeyjam and start producing our own products. We have done collaborations before but it now feels right to move on with our plans,” explains Honey. However, one wonders if she’ll soon be cajoled by her sparky co-founder – with a flash of fuchsia lipstick and a big grin. “I agree we need to focus on Honeyjam,” begins Jasmine, “...but I would love to collaborate with Honey on any kind of business. She has such inspiring ideas and we bounce off each other. That’s probably why we’re such good friends!” ■

2 Blenheim Crescent, W11  
020 7243 0449; [honeyjam.co.uk](http://honeyjam.co.uk)











WISH *list*

## ROYAL BLUSH

Since it was discovered in 1979 by a group of geologists exploring north-west Australia, the Argyle pink diamond has captured the imagination of collectors and investors across the globe and among these is luxury jeweller Calleija. Founder John Calleija, a fellow of the Gemmological Association of Australia, developed a passion for this rare and exquisite coloured diamond and is today recognised as one of its leading suppliers, creating the finest pieces as worn by royalty, actresses and loyal clients. Celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, Calleija will be presenting its latest Argyle pink diamond creations, including Antoinette, Aurora and Ava Rose. "These incredible diamonds are one of nature's rarest creations and one of the world's sublime wonders," says John Calleija.

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



# JEWELLERY NEWS



## NO SMOKE WITHOUT FLOWERS

“There always has to be a story behind it,” explains Tessa Packard. Indeed, no one could doubt the conceptual element behind the designer’s latest collection, No Smoke without Flowers, which was inspired by the 19th century opium dens of the Chinese Qing dynasty. It follows Packard’s debut collection, Mexicana, which draws upon her love of architecture and the Latin-American country’s ancient temples. The new selection of floral pieces pays tribute to the female courtesans, or ‘flowers’, who worked in the opium dens while being courted by the male clientele. The collection also features strong, geometric pieces with brightly coloured gemstones and one of our favourites is the Madam Pistil ring. No Smoke without Flowers, from £200 to £20,000; [tessapackard.com](http://tessapackard.com)

## CUTTING EDGE

Lydia Courteille’s whimsical and surreal creations never fail to charm and amuse us, as shown by the Parisian jeweller’s latest high jewellery collection, Animal Farm:

*Taking inspiration from British novelist George Orwell’s classic novel, Courteille’s Animal Farm similarly plays on the political allegory of animals dreaming for equality and features a farmyard full of familiar faces set in rings, including a crown-wearing cow, a golden goat and a diamond-encrusted pig. The collection is made up of 12 rings, with matching earrings in the pipeline for later this spring*

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



## COMING UP ROSES

To celebrate the newly expanded Piaget boutique, this month sees Harrods’ Fine Jewellery Room play host to an exclusive preview of six never-before-seen white gold and diamond pieces from the jewellery house’s Rose Passion collection, launched in January. Pieces include the Rose Elegance high jewellery necklace and bracelet set, and two necklace and earring sets from the Rose Garden. The in-store boutique has now doubled in size and brings with it a comprehensive assortment of Piaget’s fine jewellery and watch collections. Bespoke orders and personalisation services are also available.

**Piaget Rose Passion collection, presented exclusively from May Harrods Fine Jewellery Room**  
[harrods.com](http://harrods.com)

## THE STRONGEST LINK

Those of you who’ve sauntered down the King’s Road of late will not have failed to notice that Links of London has relocated from its Sloane Square location and reopened on the King’s Road.

The new concept boutique pays tribute to the jewellery and watch brand’s British heritage, incorporating bespoke furniture and decorative details from established British designers, and offers a more relaxed and informal setting where customers can browse the latest collections, including the new skinny friendship bracelets, precious charms and the Hope collection, all of which are now available in store.

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





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BEST of

# Baselworld

2014

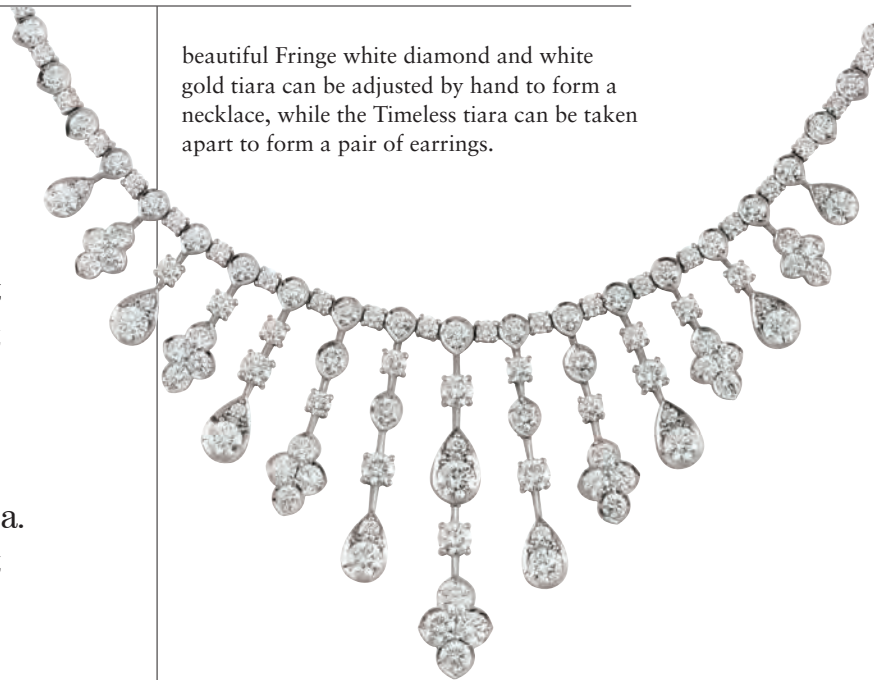
Each spring, Basel hosts the world's largest watch and jewellery extravaganza, an event that sees 1,500 exhibitors showcase their wares to more than 150,000 international visitors. Here are the pieces which most caught our eye during the eight day bonanza. *Olivia Sharpe & Richard Brown* report

## Heritage Pieces

For Garrard's latest collection, Albemarle (named after the London flagship store's location) the royal jeweller based it on the tiara of 'the Girls of Great Britain and Ireland', commissioned in 1893 at Garrard by the ladies-in-waiting of Princess Victoria Mary of Teck. The tiara has since become one of the most familiar of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's, also appearing on English and Commonwealth banknotes and coinage. Its intricate 'diamond and dot' design can be noted throughout the collection, which has been split into two: Albemarle London (fine jewellery) and Albemarle Heritage (high jewellery). Garrard has also released new, one-of-a-kind high jewellery tiaras. The



beautiful Fringe white diamond and white gold tiara can be adjusted by hand to form a necklace, while the Timeless tiara can be taken apart to form a pair of earrings.



*From above:* Earrings, part of the Timeless tiara piece; Fringe 18-carat white gold and white diamond tiara by Garrard, POA. Tiara can be adjusted by hand to form a Fringe Necklace (as depicted)







## Rainbow Wave

Basel stands were awash with colour this year as jewellery houses showed off their stunning collections of coloured diamonds and gemstones, proving how size is no longer the only thing that matters when it comes to stones. Graff demonstrated why it is famous for being the supplier of the largest and rarest Natural Yellow diamonds with a magnificent yellow and white diamond Fringe necklace.

When it came to gemstones, brands experimented with various colour combinations. Like purple, Pantone's 'colour of the year 2014', green pervaded the Halls of Baselworld. Chopard presented two new pairs of earrings as part of its Green Carpet Collection, the first composed of diamond briolettes and emeralds, and the second of amethysts and diamonds. At Sutra Jewels, the Texan company mesmerised visitors with its vivid display of Paraiba tourmalines. Finally, never one to do things by half measures, Stephen Webster presented his magnificent Magnipheasant collection featuring a rainbow of coloured gemstones, including citrines, amethysts, red garnets, blue topaz and peridots.

Above: Emperatriz Cascada medium necklace in white gold and diamonds, POA, Carrera y Carrera; Tears of the Forbidden Fruit necklace, POA, Wendy Yue

## The Rites of Spring

Taking a leaf out of the fashion industry's book, florals were once again a key trend at this year's fair. Due mention must firstly be given to Chanel, which presented its latest line of Mademoiselle Privé timepieces. Inspired by Mademoiselle Chanel's favourite flower, the Gold Camellia motif is engraved and polished by hand and features a matte black dial set with five brilliant-cut diamonds and five navette-cut yellow sapphires, while the new 'Maki-e dial' is the result of a partnership with Japan-based artists and employs the ancient skill of lacquering dating back to 794 AD.

Continuing to look east, Wendy Yue's much-anticipated new collection did not disappoint. The Tears of the Forbidden Fruit necklace presents a melancholy depiction of the Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil. Italian jeweller Roberto Coin similarly paid homage to nature with his Garden collection rings.



Mademoiselle Privé Gold Camellia watch, POA, Chanel

Clockwise from Above: 100.88-carat fancy intense yellow cushion-cut diamond centre and 164.60-carats of emerald and pear shape white diamonds set in platinum, POA Jacob & Co; Magnipheasant Feathers collar, POA, Stephen Webster; 100.86-carat ruby earrings with 8.6-carat diamonds, POA, Jacob & Co; Emerald earrings from the Red Carpet Collection 2014, POA, Chopard





## A Stitch in Time

Spanish jeweller Carrera y Carrera's latest collection, Seda Imperial, is based on an Eastern legend said to have occurred 46 centuries ago and tells the story of a Chinese princess named Liu-Tsu who was forced to marry a barbaric Khan. In revenge, she hid in her shawl the secret of Imperial Silk embroidery and threw it into the ocean.

This compelling tale has been reimagined in a series of fine jewellery pieces. Emperatriz is inspired by the shawl's floral patterns and features a variety of flowers, from the English rose to cherry blossom (reminiscent of China), to illustrate the fusion of Eastern and Western cultures.

In Sierpes (named after one of Seville's most iconic streets), delicate lattices imitate the shawl's silk fringing, while the translucency of the chalcedony (sourced from Brazil) and moonstones creates a crystal ball effect.

Garzas, meaning heron, was another typical decorative element and one of the pieces presents two of the birds linked together in an embrace. Finally, Orquideas or 'orchid' – a symbol of status in the 19th century – is represented in ruby, yellow gold and diamond pieces.



*Clockwise from Above:* Garzas maxi ring in white gold and diamonds; Sierpes maxi ring in white gold, chalcedony and diamonds

*Left:* Sierpes maxi earrings in white gold, onyx and diamonds  
All POA, Carrera y Carrera



## Sweet Sundae

While the brightly coloured diamonds and gemstones on display certainly packed a punch, the politely pretty pastel pieces which made their debut at Basel were by no means outdone. Pascale Bruni's reimagined signature Bon Ton collection in rose and milky quartz was well-received, as were Wendy Yue's feminine and romantic candy coloured designs. This Madame Butterfly necklace is inspired by the 1898 short story turned opera and is a medley of purple sapphires, rhodolite garnets, pink sapphires, opals, tsavorites and brown diamonds.

*Clockwise from Above:* 18-karat rose gold earrings with pink opal and diamonds, \$20,000, Sutra Jewels; Bon Ton rings in pink gold, milky quartz, smoky quartz, pink quartz and white diamonds, from £2,000, Pascale Bruni; Madame Butterfly necklace, POA, Wendy Yue





## Time to Shine

2014 marked an impressive year for women's jewellery watches. There was a collective intake of breath at the Boucheron stand when it unveiled its pièce de résistance; the Cristal de Lune watch. Setting our aspirational sights to new heights, the three-dimensional timepiece has been classified as 'a masterpiece in 3D watch-making'. Chanel may be a relative stripling in comparison to some of Basel's centuries-old watchmakers but it is by no means inferior; this year saw the release of its first high jewellery J12 Flying Tourbillon. The movement is the result of an exclusive collaboration between Chanel and Renaud & Papi and has been adapted from the Première Flying Tourbillon for a round J12 dial. Springtime was reflected in the dials of Dior's new Plissé Soleil models (part of the Dior VIII Grand Bal collection), while Harry Winston and Bulgari dazzled viewers with their diamond-encrusted timepieces.



From Top: 18-carat white gold rock crystal and diamond 'Cristal de Lune' watch with diamond tassel, POA, Boucheron; Diva watch with 302 baguette-cut diamonds, 16 round-cut diamonds and 394 brilliant-cut diamonds, POA, Bulgari; Dentelle de Monogram watch, POA, Louis Vuitton

## Show-Stopper

It was Graff's first year at Baselworld and the international jeweller certainly made it count. Arguably the most talked-about timepiece of the entire fair, the unveiling of the Hallucination watch not only caused an immediate Twitter sensation but broke the record of the most valuable watch ever created, priced at \$55million. The masterpiece features a phantasmagoria of more than 100 carats of rare fancy coloured diamonds and for Chairman Laurence Graff, it has made his "diamond dream a reality". For many of us without £33million as pocket change, however, owning it shall remain a fantasy.



Clockwise from left: Sun & Clouds necklace and Brio necklace, POA, Mikimoto

Below: 'Lady Stardust' South Sea pearl ring set in 18-carat white gold with white diamonds, £13,550, Stephen Webster

## Pearls of Wisdom

Pearls in all shapes, sizes and lustres reigned supreme. After setting the bar extremely high last year with its 120th anniversary collection, all eyes were on Mikimoto to see whether the ruler of the pearl industry could live up to its high standards. And it certainly did. The ethereal Sun & Clouds necklace got visitors talking with its seamless three-colour graduation (the yellow diamonds placed around each pearl reflect the glowing sun, while the white and grey pearls represent the darkening clouds as they move further away) but for us, the heavenly Angelic creation was the star. The chain of pearls and diamonds designed to adorn the body include a countless number of flawlessly round and lustrously large Akoya cultured pearls. Over in Hall 2, Rocks god Stephen Webster created a considerable amount of noise with his David Bowie-inspired Lady Stardust collection which celebrates the famous lightning bolt motif. The designer's Lady Stardust ring brought a modern twist to the traditional mineral with the large South Sea pearl embedded within a geometric, v-shaped pattern set in white diamond pavé.





## Symphonic Seduction

In complication terms, it's the holy grail of watchmaking; the pièce de résistance in any watchmaker's arsenal; proof that a brand has mastered the most complex of horological pursuits. All hail the revered minute repeater.

Originally designed as a way of telling the time in the dark – examples chime the hours, quarter-hours and minutes of the day – minute repeaters are the most complicated of all watch complications, requiring between 200 and 300 hours, and decades of experience, to put a single one together (and that's according to Patek Philippe). As such, they're impossible to mass produce and constitute the halo pieces in a brand's portfolio. Which is why it's worth shining a light on two beauties debuted at Basel.

It may have launched watches with every sports star under the sun, but Hublot's Cathedral Tourbillon Minute Repeater (£191,700 in titanium / £216,700 in 'King gold') is only the second watch from the brand to physically sound the minutes of the day. Housed in a 45mm case, the watch's hand-winding calibre incorporates a tourbillon escapement and comprises 319 components.

Equally hypnotic was Ulysee Nardin's Imperial Blue. While you might not be the biggest fan of the brand's brasher creations, it's impossible not to be impressed by the intricacy and elegance of this minute repeater. With a flying tourbillon 'floating' on a transparent mainplate, the watch is a thing of jaw-dropping good looks, even before its silver hammers dance into action to produce an enchanting symphony. It costs £510,000. Revisit the first paragraph for as to why.



From top: Hublot's Cathedral Tourbillon Minute Repeater; Ulysee Nardin's Imperial Blue

# BEST of Baselworld 2014

BEST IN SHOW



## A Pilot of Epic Proportions

In 2012, Zenith went big; the newly launched Montre D'Aéronef Type 20 came with a preposterous 57.5mm case. Two years later, the company has gone even bigger. Flying in the face of the pragmatic, the Pilot Type 20 Grand Feu measures a monstrous 60mm. Too big for mortal wrists? Then again, this is a watch dedicated to the fantastic rather than the practical. The timepiece's white-gold crown, bezel and lugs are adorned with an ornate, hand-engraved, garland pattern, while its beautiful white dial is made from Grand Feu enamel. Arabic numerals, blued-hands, a power-reserve indicator and subsidiary seconds register complete proceedings. Ten of the giant pieces will be made. Expect each to cost £108,400.

[zenith-watches.com](http://zenith-watches.com)



## Defying Gravity



Invented by Breguet, who patented it in 1801, the tourbillon aims to improve a watch's reliability by countering the effects of gravity. It does so by placing a watch's escapement and balance wheel (it's most important time-keeping elements) inside a rotating cage, therefore negating the effects of gravity when a timepiece is left in a fixed position, such as on your bedside table. It is one of the most prized, and difficult to master, components in mechanical watchmaking – commanding a suitably-high price point to boot. So which tourbillons stole the show at Basel?

Harry Winston's Histoire de Tourbillon 5 (POA) was one example. Having been brought into the fold of the Swatch Group less than a year ago, you'd forgive the brand for taking the time to settle themselves under the new boss. Not so. HW has spent the last 10 months perfecting the latest creation in its Histoire de Tourbillon line, which, this year, for the first time, laid bare the exceptional mechanism behind its movement. Presenting different levels of components inside an 18-karat red gold case, the piece was a three-dimensional tribute to its namesake.

Elsewhere, Bulgari gave the world the thinnest tourbillon it had ever seen, a feat it achieved, in part, by using ball bearings, rather than jewels, for many of the Octo Finissimo's (£18,000) moving parts. With a mind-blowing movement that's just 1.95 mm thick, the watch's case measures a mere 5mm.

The prize for Baselworld's best looking tourbillon, however, surely had to go to the platinum version of Breguet's Classique Tourbillon Extra-Thin Automatic (£108,000). Classic in name; not in nature. Inside, you'll find a silicon balance spring and an escapement made of anti-magnetic steel. The movement itself is only 3mm in height, making this the world's thinnest automatic tourbillon.



From top: Breguet's Classique Tourbillon Extra-Thin Automatic; Bulgari's Octo Finissimo



## A Welcome Return

Omega went old school this year with the De Ville Trésor, a sleek and silky reinvention of a 1949 classic. Boasting a silvery opaline dial with a 'clous de Paris' pattern – that's honeycomb to you and I – the Trésor revisits a line that was distinguished by its thin and classic gold cases. In homage, the 2014 models are smooth, slender pieces that sit 40mm in size. They are available in rose or white gold for £8,730 and £9,490 respectively. Most notable of all, however, is the fact that the pieces are powered by Omega's newest manual-winding movement, the red-gold-balance-bridge-sporting Master Co-Axial calibre 8511. Who said beauty's only skin deep?

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



# Best WATCHES UNDER £2,600

## SPORTS WATCHES



From top: Alpinach, £1,350, Victorinox; Formula 1 Calibre 16 Chronograph, £2,395, TAG Heuer; Startimer Pilot Black Star Automatic, £2,050, Alpiina

## Stopwatch Show-Stoppers

While they're seldom used to time race cars, horses or space shuttles anymore (examples were sent up with Apollo 13), chronographs still provide a sense of interaction and fun between wearer and watch – whether you're using one to boil an egg or simply passing the time in a queue.

Notable examples launched this year included Breitling's new Chronomat Airbornes (£6,760) and Patek Philippe's Annual Calendar Chronograph 5960/1A (£36,920). The four varieties of the vintage-inspired Breitlings mark the 30th anniversary of the masculine aviation collection and come with either a 41mm or 44mm diameter. The stainless steel 5960/1A Patek – complete with red accents on its dial – was a seductive exception to the brand's usual rule of only producing men's watches in platinum or gold. Expect them to become collectors items almost immediately.

For all-out handsomeness, Glashütte Original's Senator Chronograph Panorama Date has to be one of the prettiest watches of the last few years. The timepiece is powered by the company's new Calibre 37-01, the first to be conceived and built specifically as a chronograph movement. Among the exquisite mechanical features on view, thanks to a sapphire crystal case back, are the rotor and chronograph bridges mounted on Glashütte's three-quarter plate; Glashütte's stripe finish on the automatic bridge; blued-screws and a central skeletonised 21-karat gold rotor complete with double-G logo. Exquisite.

From top left: Glashütte Original's Senator Chronograph Panorama Date; Breitling's Chronomat Airborne; Patek Philippe's Annual Calendar Chronograph 5960/1A



## BEST IN SHOW



## Rolex Refined

While this year heralded the return of the famous blue and red 'Pepsi' bezel on the GMT-Master II, it also marked the launch of three new Cellini models – gorgeous dress watches that prove Rolex is as adept at producing pieces for the boardroom as it is for the deep blue sea. All three models feature a self-winding movement, a 39mm case and are available only with a shiny black or brown alligator leather strap. The Cellini Date (£11,900) boasts a date function via a hand on a small sub dial, while the Cellini Dual Time (£12,900) features an elegant sun and moon day/night indicator and will show the time in two time zones. Most handsome of all, was the collection's most understated member, the Cellini Time (£10,150); a pared-back lesson in good taste.

rolex.com



## Wonders from the Women's World



Depicting the daily dance between the sun and the moon, Breguet's Reine de Naples Jour/Nuit 8999 Haute Joaillerie shone, sparkled and stunned. As did Patek's fine-looking, diamond-sporting Calatrava Haute Joaillerie Ref. 4895R. However, with each priced not in the tens but hundreds of thousands of pounds, neither fell within the realm of what you'd call 'reality' watches.

Zenith and Hermès provided the most exciting women's watches from a price point you might actually be able to afford. At £5,600, Zenith's Star Open Steel caters for ladies who appreciate mechanical watchmaking – the piece is powered by the brand's industry-leading El Primero

movement – but for whom 'ladies' and 'watches' doesn't automatically marry up to mean sparkling dials and bejewelled bezels – the model is the first Open Star to feature no diamonds at all, and all the better for it.

Hermès' updated Cape Cod collection (from £2,300) now comes with a redesigned dial and interchangeable straps. While they may possess a quartz movement, the cases of the new Tonneau and Nantucket models incorporate a special silver alloy that preserves the way the metal glows. They are available non-set or gem-set with 52 diamonds and come with a choice of 14 colours of strap – for its name alone, you'd have to choose the 'raspberry mysore goat', surely?

## Best WATCHES UNDER £2,600

### DRESS WATCHES



From top: Maestro Automatic Date, £1,600, Raymond Weil; Slimline Moonphase Manufacture FC-705, £2,530, Frederique Constant; The Britain Automatic with stainless steel case, £995, Burberry



## Good Things Come in Threes

Jaquet Droz impressed both in terms of technical novelty – its mesmerising Signing Machine is a mechanical, manually-wound cam-device that will duplicate its owner's signature – and for sheer artistic beauty; it debuted three products dedicated to the art of paillonné enamelling – the process by which azure and gold are married under flame. The dials of each of the three pieces – the 39mm Petite Heure Minute, a 50mm pocket watch and the recently added 43mm Grande Seconde – is decorated with minuscule, floral-inspired gold foil (or paillons) baked onto its enamel. Add white sub-dials, blued-steel hands and red gold casing and behold watch craftsmanship at its most artistic.

[jaquet-droz.com](http://jaquet-droz.com)



*Swiss movement, English heart*



**C900 WORLDTIMER**

*Calibre JJ03 modification (Patent pending) of ETA 2893 self-winding movement / Personally assembled by Master Watchmaker, Johannes Jahnke and team at CW's Swiss atelier / 2 x 24 hour time-zone display / 24 airport code identification and simultaneous world map indicator / 43mm, marine-grade, 316L polished steel case with sapphire crystal and transparent case-back / Ethically sourced, midnight blue, Louisiana alligator strap with Bader deployment*

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# WATCH NEWS

## TUDOR'S UK LAUNCH

Tudor lovers rejoice! No longer will you have to catch a plane to procure one of the company's timepieces. Having been unavailable in the UK since its relaunch in 2009, the Rolex-owned marque will be available in Blighty from September.

Set up by Rolex-founder Hans Wilsdorf in 1946, the premise of the brand was to offer Rolex quality at more modest prices. To that end, Tudor watches still retain the signature looks of their more celebrated siblings, if not the same movements inside (most are powered by calibres produced by ETA – the firm that makes movements for the Swatch Group). Get the Rolex-look for half the price with the Midnight Blue Heritage Black Bay (£2,120).

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

## HARRODS' HISTORY LESSON

Latching on to the trend for all things vintage, Harrods has launched the Vintage Watch Collection.

Comprising rare and limited-edition Rolex and Omega timepieces, the collection includes GMT Masters from the 40s and 50s, Submariner's from the 60s and Seamasters straight from the set of *Mad Men*. A highlight from the ladies offering is an elegant, yellow-gold Bueche-Girod. Pay a visit for a trip to yesteryear.

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

## ONE TO WATCH

Allun Michaels, store manager at Fraser Hart in Brent Cross, selects his watch of the month

*“The new IWC Aquatimer has an ingenious quick-change strap system, allowing you to replace the rubber strap with a metal bracelet for when you swap your wetsuit for your tuxedo. Waterproof to 300m, this is designed for the toughest situations”*



IWC Aquatimer, prices start at £4,250, Fraser Hart, Brent Cross, 020 8732 8459, [BrentCross@fraserhart.co.uk](mailto:BrentCross@fraserhart.co.uk)

## A SHOT OF JACK

Penned by one of the last living legends of Swiss watchmaking, Jack Heuer's recently published autobiography is a fascinating account of the rise, fall and return of the mechanical watch industry and the company that bears his name. Funny, thorough and fascinating, *The Times of My Life* is a tale of iconic timepieces and the icons who have worn them.

While the hardback version isn't for general sale, the book can be downloaded for free via the TAG Heuer website. It will enlighten even the most expert of horologists.

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





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# LOCAL UPDATE

Covering the whole of north west London







## A LITERARY LUNCHEON

Best-selling author and Hampstead-resident Deborah Moggach will join film fans, bookworms and those that simply fancy light entertainment over lunch at Almeida restaurant on 14 May. In aid of the NSPCC, guests will enjoy a two-course lunch prepared by head chef Tommy Boland before hearing Moggach speak about her new book *Heartbeak Hotel*. The author has enjoyed tremendous success with her previous novels, which include *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel for the Elderly & Beautiful*.

14 May, tickets are on sale now priced at £45  
020 7226 7738



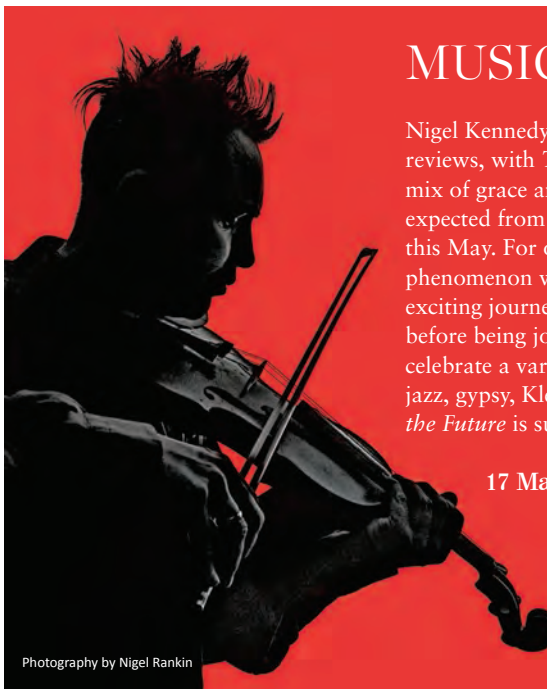
## A LIFE CONFINED



Artist, architect, activist; few in the public eye have pioneered the cause for human rights on the scale of Ai Weiwei, who spent 81 days in prison without charges for speaking out against his government. For his third solo exhibition with Lisson Gallery, Weiwei has created a monumental new site-specific installation of bicycles as part of his ongoing series, *Forever*, as well as a number

of hand-carved, domestic-scale copies – in various materials including wood, stainless steel and crystal – of some highly personal objects. Although some of the sculptures in this show relate to his secret detention of 2011, the overall impression is of his life as it was before, and as it currently is in Beijing, confined as he is to his native China.

23 May – 12 July, 27 Bell Street, NW1



**MUSIC TO OUR EARS**

Nigel Kennedy's 2013 sell-out tour won him rave reviews, with *The Guardian* admiring his "exquisite mix of grace and flavour". Nothing less should be expected from his performance at the Roundhouse this May. For one evening only, the British violin phenomenon will be taking his audience on an exciting journey, opening with a solo performance, before being joined on stage by fellow musicians to celebrate a variety of genres. From classical music to jazz, gypsy, Klezmer and more, Kennedy's *Bach to the Future* is sure to ooze excitement and passion.

17 May, Chalk Farm Road, NW1

Photography by Nigel Rankin

## ALL ENCHANTING

"I know you're no worse than most men but I thought you were better. I never saw you as a man. I saw you as my father" – Hear these powerful words of Arthur Miller's moving play *All My Sons* at the charming Regent's Park Open Air Theatre this month. With the weather getting (and hopefully staying) brighter, witness the spirit of the theatre come alive in this enchanting, magical setting. It's a performance not to be missed.

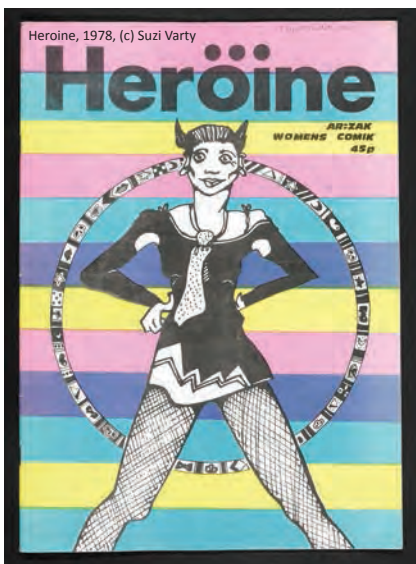
15 May – 7 June  
Inner Circle, NW1



## QUICK AS A FLASH

Do you remember your *Beano* from your *Punch*? *Comics Unmasked: Art and Anarchy in the UK* at the British Library will take you through the history of British comics, beginning with the likes of 19th-century icons such as George Cruickshank and *Punch* magazine, before moving to the post-war comic material, namely *The Beano*, *Viz*, *Action* and *Eagle*. The exhibition promises to explore a range of themes from violence and drugs, to class and sexuality, revealing Britain as an important pioneer of the comic.

2 May – 18 August  
96 Euston Road, NW1



## TINKLING THE IVORIES

Stepping away from her role as piano teacher for the afternoon, the young and outstanding Helen Burford will be offering a warm performance at Hampstead's Burgh House on Sunday 11 May. The critically acclaimed pianist will be presenting a programme of solo works by Haydn, Scarlatti, Butler and Gershwin. With *Music Of Our Time* describing her as "one of the most intellectually incisive and musically appealing young pianists to emerge in recent years", Burford's one-off performance will no doubt leave you tingling.

New End Square, NW3

## WORD ON THE STREET



With live jazz, string quartets, stunning cuisine and goody-bags, all you need to do is relax and grab yourself a cocktail (or two) and prepare to be wowed by the delights of the

Portman Square Garden Party. In aid of Child Bereavement UK, Home House will welcome guests with a glass of Champagne on arrival, while The Churchill will create a selection of different food stations of dishes available at the hotel. From 25-day aged roast beef, to traditional smoked salmon with blinis, fish and chips and a range of six different cheeses and home-made ice-creams, you certainly won't leave hungry.

5 June, tickets are on sale now priced at £40  
london.churchill.hyatt.com

## A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Since moving to its Marylebone location in 2001, Atlas Gallery has become a must-visit. For the first time, the works of two great names of modern photojournalism – English photographer Ian Berry and French photographer Bruno Barbey – have come together

under the title *A Tale of Two Cities*. In 1968, popular unrest was felt separately in Prague and France, and both Berry and Barbey respectively captured the historical social uprisings that took place on the streets more than 40 years ago.

2 May – 14 June, 49 Dorset Street, W1U



Czechs shout abuse at Russian soldiers, Wenceslas Square, Prague, Czechoslovakia © Ian Berry / Courtesy of Magnum Photos

Czech anti-Russian protester wears neutrality placard, Prague, Czechoslovakia © Ian Berry / Courtesy of Magnum Photos





# STATE OF PLAY

Judi Dench, Ralph Fiennes and Benedict Cumberbatch are among those who had some of their early professional acting roles at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. *Jack Watkins* delves into the archives

It is the oldest professional, permanent outdoor theatre in Britain, drawing attendances of more than 140,000 during its annual four-month season, which runs from the middle of May to the middle of September. For years, it primarily specialised in performances of Shakespeare's pastoral comedies, but in more recent times, while remaining loyal to the Great Bard, has also widened its offerings to include musicals and more modern dramas. In spite of its vulnerability to the often inclement British weather, it has become a cultural

fixture at the heart of London's summers.

Yet the unique place of Regent's Park Open Air Theatre (often simply called "The Park") in the history of the London stage is little appreciated. In the early '60s, after a series of poor summers and dwindling returns at the box office, there were proposals to put a roof over the stage and auditorium. Had this gone ahead, it would simply have become the 47th indoor theatre in the West End, stripped of its peculiarities and charm. It would have been warmer, but not as much fun – and the story of its development far less colourful.

Theatre in the open air goes back to the Greek dramas and Roman comedies of classical antiquity. And in medieval England, travelling players performed on their carts in town squares or on trestle stages in the yards of the old inns. Shakespeare, who would have seen such things, wrote comedies set out of doors – *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *Love's Labour's Lost* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – and they became staples of pastoral theatre companies over the centuries.

Performances of Shakespeare in Regent's Park date back to 1900, though



the theatre's formal opening wasn't until 1933. The theatre is currently working on a project, in conjunction with the Shakespeare Institute, to create a digital collection – available to everyone – of its production history. It is looking for donors or any other trusts or foundations who could help with the project, but also wants to hear from anyone with material from past seasons, particularly for the period between the '30s and '60s.

There have certainly been some great characters involved with the company over the decades. The impresario behind the early productions was Sydney Carroll, who was extremely proud of the stage, which was known as “the greensward”, covered as it was in newly laid turf, specially procured from a company in Surrey. Fond of giving speeches to the audience, one night, with the cast gathered round him, he concluded his address by adding: “And I wish you all to know that every sod on this stage tonight comes from Richmond.”

Carroll spent a lot of money ensuring it was kept well-drained and springy. In fact, he even employed Ben Greet, an ancient actor who had performed in a “lovely woodland glade” in Regent's Park in 1900, as the grandly titled Master of the Greensward. Greet was similarly fond of speaking to the audience, standing up and welcoming them before each show, invariably including some superfluous comment on the temperature.

But the weather truly was an issue in those early years. There were only two fine premieres in the first 16 years of the Open Air Theatre, with only an ill-equipped marquee to provide cover during an especially heavy shower. Still, while a chill breeze, or gnats and the sudden onset of hay fever, are among the other potential drawbacks, these have to be set against the magic of a play performed outdoors.

David William, artistic director at Regent's Park in partnership with David Conville in the '60s, after they had set up the New Shakespeare Company here, once wrote of the potential of the open-air settings to impart “a numinous atmosphere”, and suggest the presence of the supernatural. The onset of dusk, followed by the appearance of the stars in the sky, and the play of artificial light on the actors and the surrounding trees and greenery, create an experience impossible to repeat in a conventional auditorium.

Looking back at bygone seasons is like taking a stroll through British theatre history. Recently, I was invited into the office to have a look at some of their archive material. While most of the information relating to the past is held

*Opposite page:*

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre  
Photography by David Jensen

*This page, from top:*

*Henry VIII*, Vivien Leigh and Lyn Harding;  
*Romeo & Juliet* 1986, Dilys Hamlett (nurse)  
and Ralph Fiennes (Romeo); Judi Dench



by the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon, they do have a collection of programmes and commemorative brochures going back to the early '30s.

Robert Atkins, the co-founder of the theatre with Carroll, was a performer whose career stretched back to the days of the great actor-managers like Herbert Beerbohm Tree, Johnston Forbes-Robertson and John Martin-Harvey. These are names only recalled by historical devotees today, but were giant figures in their time. Atkins played Caliban in *The Tempest* in the first full season at The Park as “a monster seeking desperately for speech, his intellect dawning like a sullen daybreak”, wrote the drama critic JC Trewin.

Among the other notable names were Gladys Cooper – “I cannot tell you how eagerly I am looking forward to seeing you prank about the greensward,” Carroll wrote to her ahead of her appearance in three plays in the summer of 1938. In more recent times, Judi Dench has been a major supporter, not only as an actor and director, but also as a trustee. Ralph Fiennes and

Benedict Cumberbatch are among those who had their first professional acting roles at The Park.

Now, with a gradual overhaul of the stage and seating arrangements, including the creation of a fixed, amphitheatre-style auditorium in 1974, and further refurbishments completed in 2012, the old deckchair days, when the audience was separated from the actors by a privet hedge, are long gone. But, watched perhaps by the ghosts of actors past, there's no denying that the magic still lingers, and when the climate is right, there are few more memorable places to watch a play in London. ■

**Inner Circle, Regent's Park, NW1**  
0844 826 4242



# A Great DAME

*Rebecca Wallersteiner* speaks to Dame Vivien Duffield about realising her vision for a Jewish Community Centre, as Hampstead's JW3 celebrates its six-month anniversary this spring



Photography by Maria Spann



**D**espite what you may have heard – “mean as hell” are three choice words she’s been quoted as using when describing herself – Dame Vivien Duffield is one of the most charismatic and generous women alive. Extremely private and low-key, she rarely grants interviews, preferring instead to let her generous actions speak louder than her often misconstrued words.

In fact, over the past three decades, Duffield has given in excess of £200m to various bodies and charities in Britain (and another £200m in Israel), spanning children’s causes, hospices, museums and art-gallery appeals. Her permanent memorial will be the modernist Clore gallery she had built to house the Tate Gallery’s Turner bequest.

Proud of her Jewish lineage, her father was the financier and property magnate Sir Charles Clore (owner of Sears Holdings, the parent company of Selfridges) while her mother was awarded the Croix de Guerre for bravery in the Second World War, driving an ambulance for the resistance. So it’s fair to say that she inherited her father’s brains, flair and energy. She counts models Poppy and Cara Delevingne among her step grandchildren from her three-decade relationship with Sir Jocelyn Stevens, (we’ve all heard the story about how she once threatened to buy *The Express* and sack her ex-partner when he was managing director of Express Newspapers and dared to keep her waiting downstairs, sending him a text message saying that if he did not come down immediately, she would buy the paper and fire him). She also has two children with Sir John Duffield; Arabella, who worked for Save the Children in Ethiopia, and George who runs Blue, a charity centered on the preservation of the oceans.

So I felt privileged when she allowed me to interview her about JW3, London’s first Jewish community centre situated on Finchley Road, which celebrates its six-month anniversary this spring.

“I first conceived of the idea for JW3 after visiting the Jewish Community Centre in Manhattan, New York. It occurred to me that [north west] London would benefit from something similar,” she says. In order to bring the centre to fruition, Dame Vivien generously donated much of the £50m needed through the Clore Duffield Foundation. The impressive glass-fronted JW3 building, which covers 35,000ft on four floors, was designed by well-known architect Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands, who previously designed Hungerford Bridge and the Oxo Tower, which helped revitalise the South Bank. JW3 is now breathing new

life into a rather neglected corner of the Finchley Road, and with its exciting events programme, it now rivals the Barbican and South Bank Centres as a London arts venue. In the run-up to May’s General Election, JW3 will be in the spotlight as interviews with leading party leaders are being planned.

Who would Dame Vivien like to attract to the centre, I ask her? “JW3 is a centre for the whole community – whatever someone’s age, background or beliefs. Knowing and understanding more about each other’s culture, life and history can only lead to better relationships within communities. I have been delighted to hear that Jews, Christians and Muslims have been using the facilities. In fact, even local taxi and bus drivers have heard of us,” she answers. This must surely be the only venue in London to offer language classes in Arabic as well as Hebrew, thus encouraging a better understanding between both cultures.

“JW3 offers diverse cultural happenings, entertainment and activities for Londoners from all walks of life,” she says. Local mothers from all faiths have been taking their children to the excellent kindergarten, playgroups and educational events. For adults, JW3 offers state-of-the-art facilities including a 270-seat auditorium, 60-seat cinema, a restaurant and bar, dance studios and a tree-lined outdoor piazza. Dame Vivien is particularly keen to target “people who are Jewish but have forgotten” and hopes that the centre will encourage them to dip in again. There is a Shabbat lift, programmed to stop at each floor on Saturdays, the day of the week Jews are meant to stop operating machinery. With a kosher restaurant and sensitive Shabbat policy, it is attracting religious and secular Jews, as well as people from other backgrounds. “As no religious services are planned, this enables a broader range of Londoners to take part, and everyone is welcome.”

If you are planning to drop into JW3, don’t miss trying Zest, the Kosher restaurant and cafe, presided over by chefs Josh Katz and Eran Tibi, who previously worked for the Israeli-born master chef Yotam Ottolenghi. Even *The Times’s* food critic, Giles Coren was wowed by Zest describing it in his column as “probably the best new restaurant in north west London to open in ten years.” Zest offers an eclectic mix of flavours and textures of modern Jewish cooking with a twist. It has a buzzy Tel Aviv vibe and is a great place to take friends. Even looking at the mouth-watering display of cakes in the café would tempt the most disciplined of dieters. The bar offers a range of Israeli and European wines and cocktails. Elsewhere, on the afternoon I

visited, jazz was playing softly in the background and the atmosphere was very friendly. The mixed crowd included a Muslim lady sipping aromatic tea made with real peppermint leaves.

Behind JW3’s glamorous façade sits the events team, whose members are constantly organising new entertainment programmes. This summer a series of outdoor screenings are planned in the centre’s tree-lined piazza including a selection of classic Jewish films, at least one of which will be suitable for the enjoyment of all the family. “Our plush 60-seat cinema continues its weekly mix of the best new art-house releases, six screenings a week of the best Jewish and Israeli films curated by our partner UK Jewish Film, plus our Monday evening film clubs,” explains Kate Ross, the films organiser. If you feel like a night off from cooking, Zest will be providing mini hampers containing hand-made snacks and treats for the outdoor events.

For this summer the team are also planning a series of modern and classical music performances, including jazz and opera. I ask Dame Vivien if she has a favourite opera: she hesitates, then replies, “It is difficult to select just one as I love Wagner’s *Ring Cycle* and *La Boheme* and sometimes cry during *Tosca*.” Jazz at JW3 takes place on Sunday evenings with musicians performing live – who needs to schlepp into Soho when you can swing with the stars at JW3?

Art lovers haven’t been left out as exhibitions are regularly held, with expert teachers at hand to teach creative skills from life-drawing, screen-printing, jewellery making and photography. When I ask what art she likes best, she hits back – “What’s that got to do with it!” – but she admits to enjoying 16th century and 17th-century paintings, but is “less interested in contemporary art.”

Dame Vivien hopes that JW3 will have a transformative effect on the way Londoners interact with each other. Has she personally encountered any anti-Semitism, I ask? “I haven’t come across this in recent years although I remember my mother warning me about it when I was younger,” she tells me. The great Dame reminds me of the words of the 19th-century American philosopher Albert Pike; “What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.” ■

341-351 Finchley Road, NW3  
jw3.org.uk



# GUEST LIST



## Jameson Empire Awards 2014, Mayfair

30 March 2014

Local residents including Jonathan Ross and Emma Thompson gathered for the 19th annual *Empire* Awards, celebrating success in the film industry. The event was held at the Grosvenor House Hotel in Park Lane and saw Tom Cruise and Arnold Schwarzenegger receive the Legend of our Lifetime and Action Hero of our Lifetime awards respectively to mark 25 years of the magazine's publication. Other attendees included Kate Beckinsale, Professor Brian Cox, Stephen Fry and Hayley Atwell.



Park Lane, W1K

Images courtesy of Tom P. Whitby; © 2014 Getty Images



## The Glamour of Italian Fashion 1945-2014 Opening Night, South Kensington

1 April 2014

At the hotly anticipated unveiling of the V&A's latest fashion exhibition, honouring the craftsmanship and cultural contribution of Italy's luxurious brands, there was many a famous face in attendance. Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi spoke with the CEO of event sponsor Bulgari, Jean Christophe Babin, while the likes of Naomi Campbell, Elizabeth Hurley, David Gandy and Henry Holland look on – in suitably decadent attire, of course.



vam.ac.uk





Sarah Mower, Charlotte Dellal and Ruth Chapman

Stephen Jones and Gianluca Longo

Charlotte Dellal

MATCHESFASHION.COM storefront

## Decades x Jean Paul Gaultier, Marylebone

*31 March 2014*

To coincide with a major exhibition of the work of fashion designer Jean Paul Gaultier at the Barbican Gallery, co-founders and joint CEOs of Matchesfashion.com, Tom and Ruth Chapman, partnered the founder of LA vintage store Decades, Cameron Silver, to view an installation of archived designs by the French designer alongside guests including Charlotte Dellal, Stephen Jones and Gianluca Longo. The private view was held at Matchesfashion.com's Marylebone store.

87 Marylebone High Street, W1U  
[matchesfashion.com](http://matchesfashion.com)



Tom and Ruth Chapman, CEOs, MATCHESFASHION.COM, Cameron Silver, Founder of Decades

Images courtesy of JAB Promotions



Peter Pilotto, Tracy Sedino and Christopher De Vos

Nicholas Kirkwood

Markus Lupfer

Paula Goldstein, Jaime Perlman and Emma Elwick-Bates

Matthew Williamson and Tracy Sedino

## Linda Farrow Gallery Opening Dinner, Mayfair

*2 April 2014*

Some of our favourite fashion types, including Belsize Park's Matthew Williamson, gathered for dinner to celebrate the opening of the flagship Linda Farrow Gallery, which specialises in luxury eyewear. Seabass, scampi Provençale and olive mash was the main of choice, laid on at Scott's private room and hosted by the brand's creative directors Tracy Sedino and Simon Jablon. An after-party also took place at nearby The Scotch. Nicholas Kirkwood, Markus Lupfer and Peter Pilotto also received invites.

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



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# WISH *list*

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## WIDE A.W.A.K.E

A.W.A.K.E. is an acronym for All Wonderful Adventures Kindle Enthusiasm, a label inspired by Japanese art and culture, from Ex-Russian *Vogue* fashion director, Natalia Alaverdian. The strong lines of its dramatic silk silhouettes – often supported by quirky prints and stabs of bright colour – caught the eye of the distinguished buying team at Browns, which has just decided to stock the A.W.A.K.E. springtime collection exclusively. We're tipping the brand for big things.

**From £215, available exclusively at Browns  
[brownsfashion.com](http://brownsfashion.com)**



# STYLE UPDATE



## LOOK GOOD, DO GOOD

Danish supermodel Freja Beha has stepped up her collaboration with Zadig & Voltaire. The face of the French brand's S/S14 campaign has joined its creative director Cecilia Bönström, herself a former model, in producing a capsule collection of androgynous-style pieces with a rock 'n' roll edge. 40 per cent of all proceeds from sales of the range will be donated to the international aid charity, Doctors Without Borders, which provides medical assistance in war-torn and developing nations.

23-24 Hampstead High Street, NW3  
020 7433 3600; [zadig-et-voltaire.com](http://zadig-et-voltaire.com)



## THE DOODLE BUG

Something very special happens when a classic British leather-goods brand partners an emerging artist. Model and illustrator Quentin Jones has been given the honour of artfully scrawling across limited-edition Smythson totes, notebooks and coin pouches which has somehow made the pieces feel even more London-centric than before. Jones's style owes much to surreal characters and paintwork and has been seen previously in animations for the likes of Chanel. Each piece will have a limited production run of 75.

40 New Bond Street, W1





## ISABEL MARANT ON VACATION



What would the queen of effortless but alluring style (think distressed biker jackets and oversized silk shirts) want from a pair of shades? "Timeless sunglasses that you can wear everyday, even when it rains... chic with a vintage feel at the same time," apparently. Isabel Marant is the

latest designer to work with Oliver Peoples on a collection of eyewear, which has just launched internationally. Lightweight aviator frames and tinted lenses pervade the collection – with colour also being firmly on Marant's wishlist.

£226, [oliverpeoples.com](http://oliverpeoples.com)



## THE ART OF FASHION

Billed by its curator, Michael Rock, as "a portrait of one of our generation's most creative minds", from 2 May Harrods will trace the inspirations, history and creative endeavours of Miuccia Prada with a month-long *Pradasphere* installation on its fourth floor. More than 40 of Harrods' windows will also be dedicated to showcasing pieces from the Prada archives, details of the house's external projects and exclusive products.

Handbag, POA, 4th floor, Harrods, SW1



## THE CAPITAL CELEBRATES JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

From now until 25 August, London is staging its first major exhibition honouring the work of French designer Jean Paul Gaultier. Famed for his irreverent and provocative looks, including stage outfits for the likes of Madonna and Kylie Minogue, 165 of Gaultier's couture and ready-to-wear garments are now on display as part of *The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier* at the Barbican art gallery. In addition, visitors will be able to purchase an array of Jean Paul Gaultier apparel and accessories on-site.

Until 25 August 2014  
[barbican.org.uk](http://barbican.org.uk)



Jean Paul Gaultier  
© Rainer Torrado



Body corset worn by Madonna, *Blond Ambition* World Tour, 1990 ; *Dazed & Confused*, April 2008  
© Emil Larsson



William Baker; Kylie Minogue, 2008; *The Surrealists* collection, "Médée" gown; Haute couture fall/winter 2006–2007; Amethyst chiffon and organza "anatomical" gown with ribcage and clavicle-motif detailing © 2008, Darenote Ltd.

## WEDDING FEVER

The bejewelled Rapunzel gown, created by Hampstead resident Jenny Packham to celebrate 25 years of her own brand, has been chosen to appear in the *Wedding Dresses 1775-2014* exhibition which opens on 3 May at the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Until 15 March 2015, [vam.ac.uk](http://vam.ac.uk)





Sleeveless top in yellow bird print, £2965, Mary Katrantzou, [mytheresa.com](http://mytheresa.com); Taffy trouser in white petal embroidery, £980, Erdem, [erdem.com](http://erdem.com); Iguala earrings, £80, John & Pearl at Boticca, [boticca.com](http://boticca.com)





Where  
The **WILD**  
Things  
Are



PHOTOGRAPHY : **DOMINIC NICHOLLS**

STYLIST : **PIP EDWARDS**





Opposite: Green sweater with yellow flowers, £550, Sister by Sibling, [net-a-porter.com](https://www.net-a-porter.com); Orchid embroidered A-line skirt, £1,774, Peter Pilotto, [theoutnet.com](https://www.theoutnet.com); Vibrant pink rubber sandals, £450, Burberry Prorsum, [burberry.com](https://www.burberry.com); Statement ring, £16,800, Amrapali, 020 7584 4433











Opposite: Yellow floral patchwork top, £495, Michael van der Ham at Harvey Nichols, [harveynichols.com](http://harveynichols.com); Pale blue structured skirt, £1,774, Peter Pilotto at Matches, [matchesfashion.com](http://matchesfashion.com); Green flower necklace, £355, Oscar de la Renta, [outnet.com](http://outnet.com); Erica sky-blue and silver leather strappy sandals, £485, Bionda Castana, [biondacastana.com](http://biondacastana.com)







Opposite: Cotton mesh bomber with cotton and silk floral embellishment, £2,410, Marni, 020 7245 9520;  
Floral brocade tapered leg trousers, £625, Dolce & Gabbana at Matches, as before; Cascade silk top in tunnel green, £645, Peter Pilotto,  
lanecrawford.com; Apostrophe S in 100 Suede heels, £435, Christian Louboutin, 0843 227 4322; Ring, Mawi, stylist's own

STYLIST: PIP EDWARDS @ FRANK AGENCY  
MAKE-UP: BOBBIE ROSS AT LHA REPRESENTS USING BOBBI BROWN AND BUMBLE AND BUMBLE  
HAIR: TIMOTHY DAVID USING JOICO HAIR CARE | MODEL: VIKA @ ELITE MODEL MANAGEMENT  
PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: SAM THIRGOOD | ILLUSTRATION: SCOTT WOOLSTON  
WITH THANKS TO MCQUEENS FLORIST AND ITS BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS; MCQUEENS.CO.UK









Paige Adams-Geller

# THE AMERICAN DREAM

Former fitting-model Paige Adams-Geller turned her understanding of cut and comfort into a multi-million dollar denim empire. *Gabrielle Lane* meets the founder of fashion label Paige, as she unveils a pair of jeans that just might change your life

“I hit a plateau and thought ‘what am I going to do with my life?’”

It would be the turning point of any Hollywood movie. A young, Alaska-born beauty heads to California to try her luck as a model, only to become one of the most recognisable figures in the denim industry. Wrapped up in a male-dominated sector of the clothing world – “they [the CEOs] were called the denim mafia” – and experiencing the pressures of a role as a fitting-model (used by designers to check the cut of a garment), which depended almost exclusively on the size and shape of her body, Paige Adams-Geller undertook some soul-searching and discovered a new purpose: “To help women feel great about themselves.”

Prompted by a meeting with a life coach, she set herself the goal in May 2004, telephoned premium designers to resign from her day job in June and started her own business on 1 July of the same year, pouring everything she had learnt about the style, cut and comfort of jeans, into her own eponymous collection – Paige. Like in all movies where you root for the outsider, the project was a huge success, which is why we’re sitting in The Soho Hotel in London just shy of ten years later, as she prepares for the international launch of her latest innovation – the Transcend collection.

“The idea for Transcend came about from all of the travelling I do,” she explains. “It’s something that can take you from morning to midnight – because we women have no time to change and we want to look refreshed all day. I wanted a pair of jeans in a fabric that was the perfect hybrid – something that feels just as soft as say, cashmere, and is elegant and high-end, but won’t stretch out...” As she speaks knowledgeably about the development process (the Transcend fabric is born of an existing denim variety called Twilight, coupled with a Cupro Tencel blend) it’s clear she’s unlocked her passion.

Of course, she still tries and tests every pair of jeans that her own label produces – leading to squeals when I ask how many pairs she owns. “Aaahh! It’s bad. I test everything we put on the line and then want the newest thing. I have jeans in my room, in the guest room, in my step-daughter’s room: I easily have 500 pairs, but that’s including an archive. The sad thing is I have this space in my closet and everything that’s on top I wear all the time, so they get washed and put back on top – I end up wearing the same ones [over and over].”

Today Paige is sporting her favourite pair, the black, silk-coated Edgemont style with zips at the front, which look like leather. “I think they’re super flattering,





The Transcend collection  
is available now



“ I have 500 pairs of jeans – but that’s including an archive ”

with more quirky suggestions than others. “Someone was really into stuffed animals,” she begins with a giggle. “They’d designed animals in felt that you put onto the back of jeans. They still looked fluffy! Then, I also got an email from a woman who had designed a cap that looked like a baseball cap tilted to the side. She called it ‘side-cap’. It killed me!”

One of the more unique additions that has made the collection is a size-23 jean – which fits a little smaller than a UK size four. Pausing for a moment, Paige stresses there was a demand for such sizing from naturally thin women. “There’s never been any negative reaction. With the invention of super-stretch fabrics, the same trousers will fit differently. When I wear jeans, I like them super tight and I wanted to give people the option. There are people that are naturally born that way.” With that, her sunny, Californian smile returns.

As a style, slim-fitted jeans also perform best in both the UK and US marketplaces. “Universally, skinnies and ultra-skinny are the best sellers,” Paige nods. “What I do find is that the LA crowd is into authentic, ripped and torn jeans with a laid-back vibe. New York and London customers like elegant, clean jeans without too much whiskering or hand-sanding. Although it’s shifted this spring – we’ve had a huge explosion in the UK of our boyfriend jean, our ‘Jimmy-Jimmy’,” she beams.

“I never anticipated that I would be a clothing designer,” she adds. “When I was working as a fit-model, my mind-set was to be the best that I could be, but I think my own form of expression was to tell the creative team what I would change if I could. When I had seen my life coach a few times and she said ‘I think you need to start your own clothing company’, it was the best gift that anyone could have given me. It’s perfect for me – everything I’ve ever done in life, wrapped up with a bow.” ■

I’m naturally quite feminine so I’m typically drawn to something that is a bit more edgy.” She goes on to list her daily wardrobe as a motorcycle jacket, a tank top or a silk, buttoned-down blouse, all of which will become a larger part of her clothing collection later in the year.

“There was a boy that I had a crush on in high school for years – he was a wrestler and he ran on track. He always wore his black leather motorcycle jacket and when we went steady he gave me it to wear. My heart melted and I wore it with everything, whether I was getting dressed up or in a sun dress: that’s when leather became a staple in my wardrobe.”

The success of her brand has triggered an army of willing would-be collaborators to get in touch with Paige – some

Paige jeans are available at  
Trilogy Hampstead  
52-54 Heath Street, NW3  
020 7431 8582;  
trilogystores.co.uk



# NEVENA *Couture*





# BEST OF BEAUTY

May

1. Harrods in London has become the first store in the world to take Or Rouge GFC Crème to counter. YSL's latest skincare release exploits the properties of the saffron flower, harvested by hand in the mountains of Morocco. As part of a potent mix of glycans, molecules which help trigger collagen production by boosting cell communication, the day cream is said to combat signs of ageing including dullness, wrinkles and dryness.

£275, YSL, available at Harrods

2. Estée Lauder has harnessed the staying power of its classic Double Wear make-up and made its formulation lighter and more luminous for the season, as part of two new launches. Double Wear Brush-on Glow BB highlighter is its concealer pen, offering touches of radiance with a swoosh of its integrated brush. What does it have over its rivals? Up to eight hours of staying power...

£23.50, Estée Lauder, available at Selfridges

3. According to Linda Cantello, Giorgio Armani's international make-up artist, the perfect sun-kissed complexion needs both bronzer and blush – the latter for a pinch of colour on the cheekbones. This May, the brand will release Maestro Fusion Blush, a liquid that achieves just the right amount of colour with one drop.

£35, Giorgio Armani, [giorgioarmanibeauty.co.uk](http://giorgioarmanibeauty.co.uk)

4. As face masks go, the most luxurious must be Crème de la Mer's new Lifting and Firming Mask. It's applied with a brush, features a high concentration of the brand's lauded Miracle Broth (with its softening oceanic minerals) and has brown-algae and plant stem cells added to boost the skin's support system.

£150, Crème de la Mer, [cremedelamer.co.uk](http://cremedelamer.co.uk)

5. Whether you're a product junkie or take a no-frills approach to beauty, from 28 April ESPA's Optimal Body TriSerum – a hybrid body oil/serum in a spray form – should be on everyone's shopping list. Brilliant for soothing and hydrating dry skin, the blend of marine kelp, antioxidants and plant extracts is a summer essential for both sexes – and thanks to frangipani, orange and jasmine, it smells just like the brand's sophisticated spa resorts.

£38, ESPA, available at Liberty

6. In April, Bobbi Brown reintroduced its iconic foundation stick of 1992. Now known as Skin Foundation Stick, we've been experimenting with it ever since. Available in 24 shades, its humidity-resistant blend has already made it a must-have for photo shoots and summer social events.

£29 each, Bobbi Brown, [bobbibrown.co.uk](http://bobbibrown.co.uk)





# BEAUTY UPDATE



## THE BRONZE AGE

Each year Estée Lauder reimagines its Bronze Goddess collection in time for summer: we count on its limited-edition pops of colour for lips and cheeks and sweet fragrances that remind us of holiday. And this year is no different. Among its various themed releases, May sees a limited-edition Luminous Liquid Bronzer arrive on counters which, when mixed with a touch of moisturiser, gives the perfect golden skin tone. The brand will also unveil its amber, sandalwood and vanilla scent as a light Body Splash, Shimmer Body Oil and Whipped Body Crème.



**Limited Edition Bronze Goddess Luminous Liquid Bronzer, £24**  
Estée Lauder, [esteelauder.co.uk](http://esteelauder.co.uk)

## HAPPY 15TH CHANTECAILLE

Chantecaille has spent the past 15 years fundraising for the conservation of bees, elephants, turtles and butterflies, as well as giving us gorgeous skincare products which blend nature's best ingredients with modern science. To celebrate the longevity of its work, La Crème à la Rose de Mai debuts this month. The intense moisturiser is a precious anniversary launch, incorporating the healing properties of a flower which blooms annually only for three weeks in May, as well as various plant-derived stem cells to soothe the skin and reduce inflammation.



£175, Space NK, 62 Hampstead High Street, NW3  
020 7431 4841, [uk.spacenk.com](http://uk.spacenk.com)

## AHOY THERE! DIOR

Striped nails weren't really our thing either. Until we saw the way Dior touted them as part of its summer beauty look called Transat. This is a subtle, pin-thin stripe crowned by the CD logo (thanks to a stencil). It's nautical, French Riviera-style stuff – a blink-and-you'll-miss-it detail, and you can do it in Yacht (beige), Sailor (blue) or Captain (red).

£22 each, Dior, [dior.com](http://dior.com)







## SPRING FLING PART ONE: JOSH WOOD ATELIER

Yes, you can book waxing, tanning, facials, massages and just about everything in between at the new-look Josh Wood Atelier. But, first and foremost, the salon is the playground of super stylists, working their magic with balayage brushes. Here, brunettes don't just go blonde (or vice versa) they might go rose gold, or chilli red, or sleek ebony, largely because this is a place with the expertise to inspire confidence – which is just what a new season calls for. With a concierge on hand throughout each appointment, clients are put immediately at ease and transformations are undertaken not only with their natural colouring in mind, but their lifestyle demands, too.

Our tester was full of praise for the work of Andreas who gave her a rich, glossy auburn colour and for Marcos, who cut, sliced and blow-dried with visible flair. We're envious.

Atelier Lansdowne, 6 Lansdowne Mews, W11  
0203 393 0977, [joshwoodcolour.com](http://joshwoodcolour.com)



## CHARITY IN BLOOM

Since 2012, Jo Malone London has partnered with charities that use gardening to inspire and motivate those affected by health or economic problems, in recognition of the power of nature's ingredients and scents. As it continues on its quest to provide access to community gardens for all, May's limited-edition, lightly-spiced Fresh Blossom Cologne has been twinned with a candle that will raise money for its chosen causes.

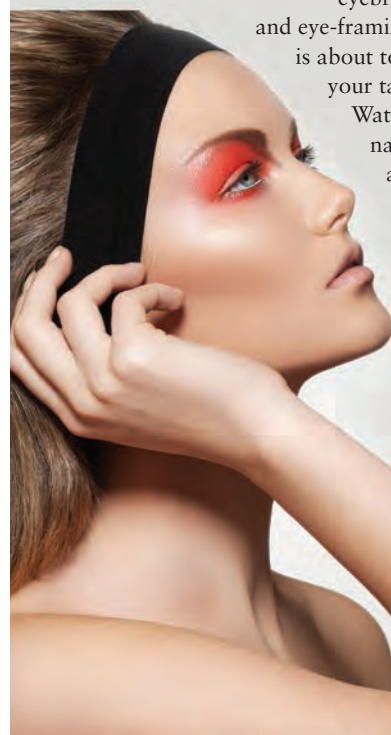
Silk Blossom Cologne, £30  
Candle, £42  
[jomalone.co.uk](http://jomalone.co.uk)



## POWER BROWS



If you're still struggling to achieve a fashionable statement eyebrow – think full, thick and eye-framing – MAC Cosmetics is about to launch a kit to make your task easier. Named The Waterproof Brow, it offers natural-looking tones and a smudge-free, water-resistant result. There's a brush-on, less dramatic fluid to shape and sculpt arches (The Waterproof Brow Set) and three colours of Fluidline Brow Gelcreme for rather more enthusiastic contouring.



Pro Longwear Waterproof Brow Set, £13  
Fluidline Brow Gelcreme, £15  
MAC Cosmetics  
[maccosmetics.co.uk](http://maccosmetics.co.uk)



# HEAVEN

## *Scent*

PHOTOGRAPHER: IAN WALSH  
STYLIST: BOO ATTWOOD



1 Aine de Verre 100ml eau de parfum, £94, Serge Lutens, harveynichols.com 2 Joy Forever 50 ml eau de parfum, £95, Jean Patou, harrods.com  
3 Royal Extract, £280, Guerlain, harrods.com 4 Les Exclusifs de Chanel 1923 15ml parfum, £155, Chanel, 020 7493 3836





5 See by Chloe Eau Fraiche 50ml eau de toilette, £52.93, Chloe, johnlewis.com 6 Cédrat Enivrant Cologne Absolue, £85, Atelier Cologne, selfridges.com  
 7 Essence Aromatique eau de cologne, £58, Bottega Veneta, houseoffraser.com



## Dan Rookwood

Both the US editor of luxury e-tailer Mr Porter and a lifestyle columnist for ES magazine in the UK, Dan Rookwood is fast-becoming known for his dapper, British sense of style.



1. Aesop  
2. Kiehl's

**Has the industry you work in shaped your grooming and style regime?**  
Absolutely, because I tend to hear about all the new products first and am often sent them to try out. I talk to the grooming artists on our Mr Porter shoots about what products they recommend, as they are the real experts.

**Sisley for Men seems to get the unanimous nod of approval. However, the cost of it tends to bring out my frown lines.**

**Do you have any regular treatments?**

I will always book a pretty vigorous massage on day one of any holiday so that I can maximise the relaxation and enjoyment from the break. I also like to have the occasional beard trim at a proper traditional barbershop. It feels resolutely masculine.

**How often do you work out?**

When I am at home in New York I try to exercise every day. I have a very well-appointed gym in my apartment building just 30 steps from my front door so I can do a 30-minute blast before breakfast. If you do high-intensity interval training, half an hour is plenty of time. In fact, you'll be exhausted after just four minutes.

**Do you use any particular grooming brands?**

You should see my bathroom cabinet! I have a wide selection of aftershaves and choose which one to wear on a whim. I made my own fragrance at Floris on Jermyn Street in London last year which was a decadent experience. My go-to brand is probably Kiehl's Face Fuel range. I rely on the undereye cream to ease the dark circles brought on by late-night carousing and early-morning coffee. I also really like Aesop soaps.

**Do you have a lifestyle motto?**

I always think: "It's better to be slightly overdressed than slightly underdressed."

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



# GROOMING of the Stylish

**What are your make-up bag essentials?**

Lipstick Queen Sinner in Scarlet Red – my signature look; NARS Lip Liner Pencil in Jungle Red – this keeps my lipstick in check; and Lancome Hypnôse Custom-Wear Volume Mascara in Black – to really open up my eyes.

**Do you have any favourite lip/nail colours?**

I always wear red on my nails and my lips – it just suits me and nothing else seems to beat it! I always seem to go back to Ciaté in Red Hot Chili for my nail colour.

**What is your beauty treatment of choice?**

I swear by the Murad skincare range. I discovered Murad when I went to Grayshott Hall and was having problems with my skin and it really did work miracles.

**Do you have a top beauty tip?**

When choosing a red lip, go for a matte not a glossy one and make sure it is highly pigmented.



2

## Lulu Guinness OBE

Lulu Guinness OBE is an award-winning designer who founded her eponymous accessories brand in 1989. She is famed for her outlandish creations, including the distinctive Lips clutch bag.

**What is your favourite item in your wardrobe?**

At the moment it is my Saint Laurent shirt which is covered in red lips, paired with a simple black pencil skirt.

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



1



1. Lulu Guinness clutch  
2. Saint Laurent at mytheresa.com  
3. Lulu Guinness Lips clutch



3



## Thea Green MBE

A former fashion editor, entrepreneur Thea Green MBE introduced the glamorous nail bar concept to London in 1999 with the launch of Nails Inc. Its branded product range is now available internationally.



**What are your beauty must-haves?**

I don't like to wear a lot of makeup so MAC Strobe Liquid gives my skin a healthy-looking glow. NARS Lip Gloss in Easy Lover gives a fantastic sheer shine and isn't sticky and Faux Cils Volume Effect Mascara from Yves Saint Laurent is a beauty staple.

**How often do you change your nail colour?**

I change my nail colour at least twice a week to make sure I am always wearing our newest trend colour or special effect. My favourite Nails Inc shade is Baker Street which is a fantastic cobalt blue. A new shade that I also love and have on now is our new summer Gel Effect Polish in raspberry red, Covent Garden Place.

**What is your beauty treatment of choice?**

I like my skin to have a sun-kissed glow so a St Tropez Spray Tan is a must.

**Do you have a beauty top tip or lifestyle motto?**

Run whenever you can. I love to run as much as possible. Not only does it keep me fit but it gives me time to think and I always come back fresh to tackle any problem.

**What is your favourite outfit in your wardrobe?**

For my husband's 40th birthday party last year, I treated myself to a great black dress by Victoria Beckham.

nailsinc.com



1. Nails Inc  
2. Victoria Beckham at Net-a-Porter.com  
3. NARS

# SECRETS

They work at the head of image-conscious empires, having forged success from turning a discerning eye to fashion and lifestyle trends: *Gabrielle Lane* asked the experts to share their own indulgences



1. Caudalie  
2. Zadig & Voltaire

**How long do you take to get ready in the morning?**

As I am a working woman with three boys, my days start really early and I only have 30 minutes of me-time in the bathroom: I decide what to wear the day before. After washing my face with cold water, I put a serum on. I hide my imperfections with Concealer in NC 20 from MAC and I powder my face with the same powder I've used since I was a model, Shu Uemura Matte Libre Powder in 7YR. I finish with a rose-coloured blush on my cheeks from MAC and a black mascara to open up my eyes, by Clarins.

**Are there any beauty must-haves in your handbag?**

I always have Eau de Beauté by Caudalie to spray onto my face and refresh during the day.



**Has working in fashion changed your style?**

Definitely. When you work in fashion, you are constantly surrounded by fabrics and colours so my style has become more pure, and I mostly wear black. I can't have anything on me that confuses my eye when I

make decisions.

**What are the biggest luxuries in your life?**

My biggest luxury would be to get three days completely alone, just stopping all the obligations and thinking. I think that sometimes the brain needs to start from scratch somehow and just rewind. But usually I unwind from work by going away to my house in the Normandy countryside. I play golf and eat well.

**Is there a holiday destination which you love?**

Hotel Cipriani in Venice. You enjoy the fantastic pool, you eat at La Madonna restaurant and you walk around the museums.

Zadig & Voltaire, 23-24 Hampstead High Street, NW3; zadig-et-voltaire.com



## Cecilia Bönström

Cecilia Bönström is the creative director behind Zadig & Voltaire, credited with giving the clothing label its highly successful laid-back luxury aesthetic since joining in 2003.



# *Tired of feeling fatigued?*

*Are you getting your 8 hours  
a night and still feeling tired  
in the morning?*

*There are a number of physical,  
psychological and lifestyle factors which  
may be keeping you up at night and,  
left untreated, can be detrimental to  
your health.*

*Often, the causes of progressive fatigue  
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*To make an appointment  
call our team today*

**020 7483 5000**







# AMAN ABOUT TOWN

*Kari Rosenberg* is pleasantly surprised by the Aman spa at The Connaught hotel

As the old-fashioned top-hat and tailed doormen greeted me at the entrance of The Connaught Hotel, I had a good feeling about the day-spa underneath, the first in London from the distinguished Amanresorts brand, and the only facility to be built outside one of its own-name hotels. While I'd read some less-than-complimentary reviews already (lamenting the impractical design and poor acoustics), I was determined to keep an open mind about one of my favourite hotels in the capital – both aesthetically, and for its unrivalled service.

The Asian-inspired design is quite a contrast from the ornate Edwardian lobby above; true, it is rather compact for your usual five-star standards, but this is central London, after all. In addition to the variety of therapies, the spa also boasts a stunning cascading

granite water wall in a romantically-lit swimming pool, and a mini fitness studio with Technogym equipment. The phrase 'small but perfectly formed' definitely springs to mind...

My male therapist received me with a hot foot bath, proceeding to massage my feet and bathe them in green tea while I filled in the obligatory questionnaire; aside from the standard medical questions, it is designed to determine your inner energy, a form of 'holistic' survey, so that the oils can be chosen and the treatment carried out bespoke to the client. I chose a signature Aman experience, tailored to my needs. There are four such experiences on offer, which draw their inspiration from the renewing traditions of China, Thailand, India and the Americas.

I went for the one influenced by China, designed to help restore your body's 'Qi' (vital energy), using rejuvenating essential oils and acupressure point-massage techniques from the head and face to feet, stimulating the 'meridians' (energy lines) to release stress. All of the options include some kind of scrub, steam and massage pattern.

It took all of five minutes to get used to the male therapist (following a slightly 'unconventional' experience in Argentina) but it was undoubtedly one of the best massages I've ever had, and I was already drifting off as he pummelled salt all over me, and was almost disappointed to have to wake from my slumber to wash it off pre-massage. Old-fashioned, impeccable service continued throughout the spa, as I realised on my way out that I hadn't had to lift a single finger to push open a door or retrieve a drink: while I wouldn't name it the best spa in London (as many a top 10 list has), the treatment itself couldn't have been better. Such is the guarantee of The Connaught. ■



The Connaught Hotel, Carlos Place, W1K  
[the-connaught.co.uk/aman-spa](http://the-connaught.co.uk/aman-spa), 020 3147 7305





**STARCK.  
A CLASSIC REVIVED.**

Design by Philippe Starck

Sanitaryware, bathroom furniture, bathtubs, shower trays, wellness products and accessories: Duravit has everything you need to make life in the bathroom a little more beautiful. More info at Duravit UK, Milton Keynes, Phone 0845 500 7787, Fax 0845 500 7786, [info@uk.duravit.com](mailto:info@uk.duravit.com), [www.duravit.co.uk](http://www.duravit.co.uk)





# WISH *list*

## READY FOR A CLOSE UP

Few interior designers can claim that their pieces have starred in some of the fashion industry's most sought-after campaigns: but Parisian architect and designer Guillaume Alan's Valmont sofa, Spa Bed daybed and Stella chair have been used by Chanel, YSL, Tom Ford and Balenciaga as well as a worldwide campaign for Dior featuring Kate Moss. His new collection of conceptual work uses clean, modern lines and sleek silhouettes in simple, neutral tones and manipulates a surprising assortment of materials. Having opened his first studio in the heart of Saint-Germain-des-Prés at the age of 24, the Mayfair flagship, which opened at the end of 2013, blends French and English styles using a wholly monochrome palette. Indeed, "Only great minds can afford a simple style."

1 Hay Hill, W1J  
[guillaume-alan.com/en](http://guillaume-alan.com/en)



# INTERIORS *INSPIRATION*



## A VERY CLEVER KITCHEN

Prepare your food like a Michelin-starred chef with the help of the Electrolux Grand Cuisine. Providing professional cooking systems for more than 90 years, Electrolux has added interactive touchscreen technology to its list of products including blast chillers, vacuum sealers and combination ovens. Available in an array of bespoke finishes, the world-class cooking system can subtly revolutionise any kitchen, empowering the domestic chef with the lightest touch. Watch out, Heston.

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

## BASKET CASE

Nothing screams summer like a picnic, and the beautiful new Somerset Hamper from Linley has certainly put a spring in our step. Catering for all outdoor needs, the quintessentially British basket comes equipped with the finest accessories, including horn-handled cheese knives, six Champagne flutes and an ice bucket. The wicker basket and hand-crafted leather straps are inspired by the vintage hampers from the Edwardian era; constructed with steel reinforcements, Linley's version is built to last and to be handed down to future generations. A luxury investment worth making.

£9,500, [davidlinley.com](http://davidlinley.com)





## ANIMAL HOUSE

Turning ten this year, British wallpaper and fabric brand Rapture & Wright celebrates its significant birthday with a new cushion collection. Based on the popularity of the brand's signature Doves print, Hares and Flamingos are added to the mix in the latest simple, graphic designs. Each unique cushion is hand-printed on high-quality linen and comes in a mix of different colourways to suit every living room.

Available at Liberty,  
Regent Street, W1B  
[raptureandwright.co.uk](http://raptureandwright.co.uk)



## A STORM IN A TEACUP

A story that has been brewing for years, this month sees the release of the fine bone-china Daisy tea collection from Wedgwood. Encapsulating a truly English obsession, its indulgent china is a must-have for the forthcoming season's tea-parties. The new design combines elements of the iconic Wedgwood Daisy print and a sophisticated colour palette of black, blue, pink and gold to create the most luxurious cuppa yet. We can't get enough of the beautiful campaign imagery, shot by Rebecca Miller.

[wedgwood.co.uk](http://wedgwood.co.uk)



## V FOR VICTORY

Taking inspiration from the brand's famous Palazzo bag, Versace has previewed the first furniture item in the extended Palazzo family, from creative director Donatella Versace. The style of the Palazzo sofa is unquestionably Versace, from the 'V' quilting at the back, to its sloping arms and Medusa head – an insignia that will run repeatedly throughout the line. Like the handbags themselves, the Nubuck leather of the grey sofa is luxuriously padded and entirely upholstered by hand. The sofa will be available in store from June.

[versacehome.it](http://versacehome.it)



## CRYSTAL CLEAR

Renowned glassmaker Lalique and celebrated architect Zaha Hadid have joined forces to create the visionary Crystal Architecture collection. Hadid has created two vases for the brand, which weld together her fluid, innovative lines with the contrasting satin and polished finishes of the historic French glasshouse. Mixing ancient techniques with modern-day tastes, the vases are available in clear and black crystal (which is notoriously difficult and complex to work with), for a beautifully modern finish.

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





# HIGH SOCIETY

*Kari Rosenberg* enters property tycoon John Hitchcox's Maida Vale home to quiz him on celebrity partnerships, his impending wedding and building his way to the very top



In the years since John Hitchcox founded Marylebone-based property development and interior design company yoo with Philippe Starck in 1999, his name has barely left the spotlight, both for his increasingly impressive investments and partnerships – pioneering the trend for stylish, cool and sociable high-rise, urban towerblocks, or, as he calls them, “vertical communities” – as well as his rather glamorous lifestyle. Having entered *The Sunday Times Rich List* in 2010 with an estimated fortune of £90m, he seems to have successfully resolved, through thoughtful design, the conundrum expressed in the preface of his new book *Vertical Living: Interior Experiences by yoo*: “The 21st Century can be daunting, especially for newcomers, and it can be difficult to find a place within a society that moves at such a fast and frenetic pace.”

We are meeting in Hitchcox's very own tower, a multi-storey and impeccably designed townhouse in Maida Vale: upon entering, you're immediately dazzled by a spherical twinkling chandelier hanging from the high ceiling. It's all clean-lines with quirky additions; an ultra-modern linear fireplace; a futuristic blush and gold cocoon-like chair that looks like something from an Austin Powers film; a descending projection screen which separates the main TV-room and secondary sitting space on the open-plan ground floor. A dozen or so guitars hang from the wall, while other music paraphernalia is scattered through the house: as well as developing hotels and mansions all over the world, 53-year-old Hitchcox also plays in a “dads' band” with his mates. He even has a small basement









studio. “I think the thing with a home is that it’s not a fashion accessory,” he says, when I comment at the relative normalcy of most of the rooms. “It’s not a fashion item and it’s the most expensive thing you will ever buy, by a mile. You can always add things as you go along.”

He points to a collection of beautiful beads and an accordion he picked up at Portobello market. “When I finish a project, I like to take myself out and get a little instrument as a well-done. I used to do it because I had to sign these personal guarantees to the bank all the time so I thought, ‘God, if it all went wrong I wouldn’t have anything to show for it’. So originally I started buying things that you could walk out the front door with! I thought it was a smart idea. Not that I could walk out with all the guitars or pianos now though...”

The project to build his current house (where he lives with his fiancé Phoebe Vela and both their children, having proposed on Necker Island in June 2011) was a





family affair that took only about a year to complete. Despite having been linked to the likes of Kate Moss, Elle Macpherson and Caprice in the past, the ‘playboy’ tag doesn’t seem to fit: there’s no doubt that the family nucleus is at the centre of every single one of Hitchcox’s designs. “[Building this house] was fun. My sister is an architect and we did it together. My brother is a project manager, and he did all the building work, and my nephew was a joiner... It’s a really lovely family area around here.”

His passion for travel and designing took hold young, he says, and the concept of yoo’s first book has been the realisation of a long-imagined dream. “Maybe it came from the enjoyment of taking cardboard boxes and cutting holes out of them and playing with Lego which I do with my step-son Cameron today. That’s deep in my subconscious.

“There are a lot of tall buildings out there that are just dead, with no character whatsoever. And architecture’s great, but your home is the most important thing:



Clockwise from Top Left:

Acqua Iguazu, yoo inspired by Starck, Manila, Phillipines; As before; The Lakes by yoo, yoo Studio, Cotswolds, UK

it’s your love-life, your contentment, your family, your stress-levels, all of those things – and it was about giving some focus to that, and the common areas around you. In my mind, there was a whole new study that we were giving attention to with the concept of these tall buildings and the communities that were growing within them, and that’s what the book’s about. I went to Miami recently and I was walking round one of our old buildings and I was chatting to somebody and he was a musician and he started telling me how his accountant lived on floor 34, his producer lived on floor 60 and so on, and they’d all met watching football on a Sunday night in one of the club rooms. That’s quite satisfying. I tried to bring some level of, not to use the word old-school, but enhanced communication in an urban environment. And the thing about ‘urban’ is that it’s huge. There are 250-odd tall buildings that are being planned in London alone at the moment, and what’s happened is that because towns can only go so far out before they go into other cities or become massive suburbs, they squeeze upwards.”

Partnering with Philippe Starck in the early days was “a very conscious decision”, he says. “I was quite good at architecture and I was good at the macro-spaces but I was a bit useless when it got to furniture and interiors. I was doing lofts at the time, a lot of that [exposed] brick stuff. And I thought ‘I really need to have someone around me who can deal with the small pieces’. We’ve been together now for 20 years. My role is conceptual and his is the detail, and they’re quite clear, those roles, but there’s a huge amount of commonality in our beliefs. It’s not just about deciding what throw to drape over the sofa – there’s a lot more humanity to it.”

And then Jade Jagger came along. “Actually it [all started] just down there,” he says, pointing out the window. “In my old house, about 15 years ago, because



Mick [Jagger] used to come round, who to me was like a God – I still stutter and stammer whenever I try and speak to him. I met Jade through him in Mustique and I

started to think that maybe she’d be nice to work with. And that evolved through some people we were waiting on for dinner who just didn’t show up, so we got onto the conversation and started this business. It was very rude of them, actually!” It later transpires that the couple were Hugh Grant and Jemima Khan. “We got a celebrity apology later!” he laughs.

He admits that although he was “really nervous” about the celebrity thing at first (despite the names he casually drops when chatting about his upcoming wedding), he was also “equally inquisitive about the celebrity world we live in”. But joint ventures with everyone from Kelly Hoppen and Marcel Wanders (all of whom are interviewed in the new book) prove that his fear didn’t last too long. “The thing I was really conscious of was that the emperor’s got to have some clothes, i.e. that the designs have got to be good.”

With a new exclusive collection soon to be revealed, and a move further west (of London) in the pipeline, there’s plenty on the horizon, but Hitchcox is nostalgic for the past. “In the last ten years I’ve been sort of agnostic to design because a lot of it has been done,” he says, “so now it’s really a case of curating it.” In between band practice, of course. ■

*Vertical Living: Interior Experiences by yoo* by Dominic Bradbury and John Hitchcox is published by Thames & Hudson at £19.95  
yoo, 2 Bentinck Street, W1U, yoo.com



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**WISH** *list*  
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## THE FUCHSIA'S BRIGHT

Rose-tinted hues permeate the spring/summer 2014 Baby Dior collection which is inspired by the couturier's childhood trips to Normandy. It was here that the young Christian Dior and his mother grew roses and Lilies of the Valley, his two favourite flowers, the romantic yellows and pinks of which would later influence these dresses. The holiday he remembers so fondly also saw him don his signature sailor-boy outfit for the first time to take part in a carnival, whereby he discovered a passion for fancy dress which would never leave him. Get swept away in the enchanted garden of Dior's imagination, regardless of your age.

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



# NURSERY NEWS

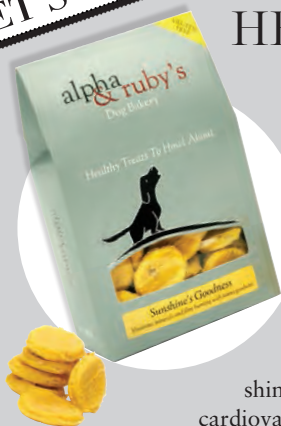


## A WORLD OF PURE IMAGINATION

Playtime just got a whole lot more glamorous thanks to these beautiful playhouses from The Masters Wishmakers. Handmade in England, each design is created from scratch and takes around 12 weeks to build. Fully insulated and weatherproof with bespoke furniture inside, you can customise your dream playhouse and add your own finishing touches. From the 'Hotchpotch' which combines four quintessential English themes, to the adventure's treehouse or princess bedroom, dreams really can come true. If you have just shy of £50k to spend, that is...

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

### PET'S CORNER



## HERE COMES THE SUN

Creating healthy treats to howl about, Alpha and Ruby's dog bakery is getting ready for the season with its new Sunshine's Goodness biscuits, which blend orange juice, carrots and sunflower seeds. Gluten and dairy-free, with no artificial colours or flavourings, these snacks will help support a healthy and shiny coat and look after your pooch's heart and cardiovascular system. Do not be tempted to try.

[alphaandrubys.co.uk](http://alphaandrubys.co.uk)

## IN THE DOGHOUSE

Dogghaus believes a dog bed should complement home and hound, creating both a work of art and an integral piece of interior design. But don't hang around for long; each canine throne will only be made a maximum of 200 times.

From £1,750,  
[dogghaus.co.uk](http://dogghaus.co.uk)





## THE KIDS FROM IPANEMA

Inspired by the spirit of summer, the latest looks from Scotch and Soda transport your little ones to the streets of Rio with floral designs, fruity embroideries and a smattering of tassels. The wardrobe is stylish but comfortable and includes a tropical twist, with straw hats and bright prints. With splashes of tie-dye and sun-faded fabrics, the brand creates a relaxed surfer feel that will last until school starts again.

Available at Anna Park  
126 Regent's Park Road, NW1  
[scotch-soda.com](http://scotch-soda.com)



## GIDDY UP

Monnington Equestrian Livery Yard in West Sussex provides a home for the equine members of your family and is located just 15 minutes from the sea, ideal for when you want to get out of the city and enjoy some fresh air. The livery offers good grazing, a horse walker with rubber matting, plus a large, well-ventilated and air-conditioned barn to keep your horse happy and healthy. Full, part-time and temporary livery is available.

[monningtonequestrian.co.uk](http://monningtonequestrian.co.uk)



## LIBERTY LOVE



The exciting launch of the adorable Harrods of London Liberty baby collection is finally here as two of the capital's most luxurious institutions come together under one roof. Reinventing classics, the capsule features super soft baby blankets, vibrant floral bibs and lightweight ruffled trim rompers with Peter Pan collars. Exclusive to Harrods, soft organic materials meet timeless liberty prints and we're sure you'll agree – it couldn't be cuter.

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

## BABY'S FIRST WHEELS

Finding the perfect pram is a problem every parent-to-be must face. To make things easier, Joolz has launched its first customisation programme, giving you the chance to design your baby's first wheels. Available in three different fabrics, with over 120 different colourways, it comes complete with a matching rain-cover and nursery bag. After the design is finished, it will be delivered ready for the significant new arrival.

£999, available at Huggle,  
8-10 Winchester Road, NW3  
[myjoolz.co.uk](http://myjoolz.co.uk)



## LES PASCALLETES

We are pleased to report that the dreaded dilemma of messy meal times has been resolved. Protect the prettiest outfits from spills and splashes with the new collection of fashionable bibs from Les Pascalletes. The range of fun and reusable bibs are available in leather, ostrich and fine lace, and have been designed to complement rather than clash. Practical as well as pretty, the plastic coating can be wiped clean and folded away ready for the next mush-banquet.

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





# SURVIVAL of the FITTEST

As the catwalk continues to permeate the changing-rooms, *Kari Rosenberg* tracks the rise and rise of the luxury sportswear market

**W**hat I'm about to reveal will almost definitely make you gasp: until three months ago, I hadn't bought a new pair of trainers since I was at school.

And that's not because my feet haven't grown since the age of 13 (which they haven't) – I just didn't see the point of spending money on a pair of shoes that a) I didn't really like in any colour or style and b) donned once a year for a dash to the Heath at the sound of the ice-cream van. With a fair selection of Miu Mius and Manolos at home, it wasn't about the money: what's £150 when compared to the sums the perfect pair of Louboutins can command, or even the cost of a thrice-weekly yoga class? It wasn't even the fact that for all my January-intentions, the need for exercise hadn't actually become a reality until the late twenties hit. It was, in practice, all down to the thrill-factor – or indeed, the lack thereof.

What Isabel Marant helped kick-start with the veritable rise of the heeled trainer (an ideal introduction for the sneaker-virgin) has continued to flourish, with the barriers between high-fashion and sportswear continuing to blur. From Chanel, Prada, Erdem, Hermès and Jason Wu to Marni, Christopher Kane, Vera Wang and Tom Ford, sport-luxe has never been bigger than it was for spring/summer 2014, with even the most sophisticated of luxury fashion brands picking up the style baton. And while it's fair to say that sport-inspired looks have been cropping up over the last few years, the ripple effect from the runway to the running machine is something utterly new. Almost out of nowhere, your boyfriend's faded grey T-shirt (even









if it is Dolce & Gabbana) is no longer a socially acceptable piece of workout gear. Try it on for size at your next Psycle class and expect to be relegated to the back row – the pumping music should just about drown out the Regina George-style chorus of “You can’t sit with us!”

Although my first new purchase (a pair of Asics running shoes) left me feeling uncharacteristically splurge-guilty, a neon-pink Lucas Hugh vest soon followed, and from there, my horizons suddenly broadened in a sea of prism-print detail. High-end, luxury sportswear brands are infiltrating what used to be a Nike/Adidas cornered market (from both a wardrobe and investor perspective), and its customers aren’t thinking twice before parting with upwards of £200 for a pair of leggings. Just a handful of brands, many of which are still fairly young – Hey Jo, HPE, Charli Cohen, Pepper & Mayne, Lululemon and Lucas Hugh, to name a few – are quickly securing a very stylish and (lucrative) monopoly on the luxury activewear market.

Despite having had a slightly messy year on the PR-front (the brand pretty much banned all fatsos from its rails), Capital Group, one of the world’s largest investment management firms, recently announced that it had boosted its stake in the Canadian cult yoga-wear label Lululemon. According to FashionMag.com, investment and wealth management firm RBC Capital Markets recently raised its rating on the stock, saying that the



recent sell-off in Lululemon was a unique opportunity to buy into a still-compelling growth story. The brand also just launched its first UK-based standalone store to much fanfare in Covent Garden at the end of March this year.

Ashma Kunde, apparel and footwear analyst at Euromonitor International (euromonitor.com) sees the luxury sportswear market going the same way as that of designer denim: in a word, the only way is up: “Stylish women’s activewear is bringing in the big bucks,” she says. “Gone

are the days when female consumers were satisfied donning a ragtag ensemble of frayed, oversized cast-offs for their fitness pursuits. This is not an ephemeral frenzy driven by January’s good intentions, detox plans and gym memberships, but, rather, part of a larger healthy lifestyle drive that is gripping the masses. While most prominent in Western markets, the trend is picking up pace in Asia Pacific as well. As the category begins to pique the interest of everyone from sportswear heavyweights to luxury labels, it is interesting to draw parallels with the denim market...

“Brands like Australia’s Lorna Jane, the UK’s Sweaty Betty and, most famously, Canada’s Lululemon have racked up cult followings selling US\$100 yoga pants. The emergence of even pricier brands like Lucas Hugh, where a pair of leggings can cost £225, suggests the category is graduating into a bona-fide luxury commodity. The premiumisation of both jeans and sportswear indicates that there is an overarching allure to pieces which have a high frequency of wear and can be worn on numerous occasions. A winning mix of durability, functionality and fashionability will continue to command premium prices. It has now also become a commonplace sight to see magazine editors flit between shows during Fashion Week in their neon Nike Frees. It is chic to turn up to dinner having thrown a jumper over Lululemon yoga pants post-workout. Performance sports clothing and footwear have become integrated into daily attire, and, as such, it is likely that designs will see closer alignment with seasonal trends and colour palettes.”

The idea of making workout wear so chic that you don’t want to take it off was central to Lucas Hugh creative director Anjhe Mules’ vision, having founded the label in July 2010. Born in New Zealand, Anjhe studied at Massey University Fashion College, and after a brief stint in New York (and an internship at Alexander McQueen), settled in London to launch her brand. She says the phenomenon has only recently gained momentum in the UK:

“In fact, I think [the British market has] only really developed in the last five years,” she says. “US and Australian women have been wearing activewear through the day for a long time (which could be due to the warmer climates), but it’s only just catching on over here. Previously, there were designer brands with diffusion sport lines, or velour tracksuits, but where Lucas Hugh filled a gap was for a more technical performance product, which incorporated high-fashion detailing such as tailoring and unique prints.

“Women need clothes that can







transcend the gym to a lunch meeting or to visit the shops along the way. Designer brands are also now incorporating intelligent and responsive textiles into their ready-to-wear collections – such as men’s shirting with wicking properties. I think activewear is the future for ready-to-wear clothing.”

As more and more people are taking an interest in their health, with new, fun fitness classes popping up almost daily, looking good while working out has become just as important on a social level as finding the perfect dinner or office ensemble. “When you are paying £40 for a class that is a bit different and cool, you want to look the part,” says Anjhe. Vanity aside, there is real evidence to support the motivational power of looking good, which in the gym, might just mean that extra few minutes on the bike or additional five per cent push which, as any trainer will tell you, can make all the difference. If you’ve ever caught a sideways sight of your downward dog and not been utterly traumatised, then chances are, you’d even pay double on what you’re already spending if it’s guaranteed to make you look and feel better. After all, is that not the point of the class in the first place?

Kunde thinks more high-end partnerships are on the horizon, helping luxury brands appeal to a wider audience with whom they have yet to engage. “Adidas has already made headway with its long-term partnership with Stella McCartney,”

she says. “Fashion collaborations are likely to become a popular marketing strategy for sportswear brands that have not focused on female consumers from the outset. Partnerships aside, it is likely that fashion brands will want to go at it alone in this compelling category.”

“At the premium end of the market, jeans have become a natural extension of the ready-to-wear business, and often a more profitable endeavour (like in the case of Calvin Klein Jeans). It is very likely that designer fashion brands will launch activewear as a similar addition. Emporio Armani already has EA7, and affordable luxury brand Tory Burch has expressed an interest in launching activewear. Ongoing innovation on the part of activewear specialists will remain paramount in retaining market share.”

With the Lucas Hughs and Lululemons of the world invoking an almost tribal reaction among its patrons, it doesn’t matter which camp you’re in, as long as you get with the (very fashionable) programme. Although one thing’s for sure – I won’t be waiting another 15 years before buying my next pair of trainers. ■

**Lululemon Athletica is now open at 19/20 Long Acre, WC2E, [lululemon.co.uk](http://lululemon.co.uk) Lucas Hugh, [lucashugh.com](http://lucashugh.com)**



*Opposite page, from top:*  
Chanel Haute Couture, spring 2014;  
Lucas Hugh S/S14

*This page, from top:*  
Lucas Hugh S/S14;  
Christopher Kane S/S14;  
Prada S/S14





# Bring me SUNSHINE

---

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Mr Allon Barsam provides insight into how sunny conditions affect our vision



This May, as part of Sun Awareness Week, there will be much focus on safe sun habits and, in particular, how to protect your skin from harmful rays. However, it is not just your skin that can be dramatically affected; you should also consider the effects that different light levels can have on your vision.

In bright, sunny conditions, the coloured portions of our eyes (the iris) constrict and the pupils become smaller. This is done as a protective measure to stop sunlight from dazzling our vision with glare. In addition to this, it also has a natural focusing effect, which can be very helpful for people struggling with their reading or focused vision.

### Eyesight and age

Many people develop problems with their reading vision in their 40s, 50s and 60s and will often use a bright light source to increase visibility in a bid to reduce or delay the need for reading glasses. Another common eye problem often associated with middle to old age (particularly 60s, 70s and 80s) are cataracts, a clouding of the natural lens of the eye. In sunny conditions, cataracts tend to reflect and divert light

rays which result in glare, diminishing the quality of vision.

At night-time or in other dark conditions, the iris dilates making the pupil larger, working as a protector by allowing more light into our eyes. However, this function causes light to be handled in a different way which can make us more near-sighted – this is known as night myopia. This effect is more pronounced in young drivers, with some

even needing a different pair of glasses for driving at night. Also, with a large, dilated pupil, any minor imperfections in the visual system within the cornea (the clear natural watch crystal of the eye) or the lens of the eye can become accentuated, presenting as troublesome glare with haloes around lights at night.

## MEET the specialist

*Mr Allon Barsam MA, MBBS, FRCOphth, is a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon at the L&D University NHS Foundation Trust, UCL partners and in private practice. He specialises in cornea, cataract, laser and lens vision correction. He has published over 30 peer review publications, six book chapters and is the co-author of a comprehensive textbook of ophthalmology, used by ophthalmologists around the world.*

*Visit [allonbarsam.com](http://allonbarsam.com) or follow him on Twitter @AllonBarsam*

### When darkness falls

For any people currently dependent on glasses or contact lenses for reading, glare, distance or blurred vision from cataracts, there are many treatment options available. Mr Barsam carries out state-of-the-art vision correction and cataract surgery with premium lenses and laser eye surgery, depending on the best option for each individual person.

## GP SESSIONS: KEEP YOUR SKIN HEALTHY IN THE SUN

Private GP at The Wellington Hospital, Dr Lisa Anderson discusses staying safe in the sun

Skin cancer, particularly malignant melanoma, is rising in the UK with 2,200 people dying from melanoma in 2010 alone. Damage to the skin is caused by ultraviolet rays from the sun which leads to damage deep in the skin, triggering the cells to change and potentially turn cancerous. Hence protecting your skin in the sun is vital to prevent this

The sun-smart message gives sensible advice on protecting your skin:

- Spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm
- Make sure you never burn
- Aim to cover up with a t-shirt, hat and sunglasses
- Remember to take extra care with children
- Then use factor 15+ sunscreen

A sunscreen with a minimum sun protection factor of SPF 15 should be used, ensuring that it protects against UVA and UVB rays.

Sunscreen should always be reapplied after swimming, even if the sunscreen is 'waterproof'. Children's skin is much more delicate and more easily damaged by the sun, so ensure you team their high-factor sunscreen with protective clothing such as t-shirts and hats.

If sunburn does occur, cool skin by sponging water on the area and take paracetamol or ibuprofen to help reduce any pain from inflammation. Aftersun, aloe-vera and calamine lotion can also help with soothing. The use of sunbeds is not advised, with one source quoting that their use before the age of age 35 can increase your risk of skin cancer by 75 per cent.



For further information or if you'd like to arrange an appointment at The Wellington Hospital, contact the hospital Enquiry Helpline on 020 7483 5000 or visit [thewellingtonhospital.com](http://thewellingtonhospital.com)





*Johnnie Walker*

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WISH *list*

## FAN FERA

Ever since it was announced that Gordon Ramsey was leaving Claridge's, the Chinese-whisper machine has gone into overdrive about what his replacement – the fantastic Michelin-starred Simon Rogan – has up his sleeve. Fera (which means 'wild' in Latin) will reflect "both the primal influence of nature and the highly seasonal ingredients" used in the chef's cooking while the interior will be curated by British designer Guy Oliver, who has designed a space that defines Rogan's own natural style, whilst also capturing the timeless art-deco glamour of the London institution. For anyone who got the chance to eat at two-year pop-up Roganic in Marylebone, you'll know exactly why we're salivating.

49 Brook Street, W1K



# FOODIE FAVOURITES

## FRENCH FANCIES

How does one prepare for a summer in the south of France? A personal trainer and a liquid diet, did I hear you say? Not likely. We suggest heading to The Conran Shop for its 'A Season in France' series, showcasing a collection of the hottest French names in art, design, food and drink. Throughout spring, the store will take inspiration from the Provençal lifestyle with its blue-and-white striped textiles designed by Jasper Conran, copper champagne holders, lobster crackers and mussel pots. Moving into summer,

Francophiles will reminisce with black-truffle mustard, lavender honey straight from Provence, and fish soup and beef goulash by Conserverie St Christophe. *J'adore.*

55-57 Marylebone High Street, W1U



## HOOK, LINE AND SINKER

Having first popped up at 93 Marylebone High Street in April, new Peruvian (and gluten-free) street food brand Ají will be taking its ceviches all over London this summer. We particularly loved the Classic (seabass, sweet potato, avocado, onion, choclo corn and ají tiger's milk) and the Nikkei, which brought an Asian twist to the salmon-based dish by adding soy and sesame seeds.

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



## NO SMOKE WITHOUT A FIRE

Meat, meat and more meat is the order of the day at US-style smokehouse One Sixty. This is a far cry from restaurateur

David Moore's Michelin-starred restaurants Pied a Terre and L'Autre Pied, but the foodie with the foot fetish has teamed up with Sean Martin to bring an altogether more chilled-out offering to the West Hampstead crowd. But with a choice between lamb, pork and beef, and the only fish option for mains being lobster, vegetarians may as well stay at home, unless they fancy a mac 'n' cheese. Wash it all down with one of its craft beers; there are enough to try a new one every day for a year.

291 West End Lane, NW6



## BARN DANCE

It seems to be the restaurant trend *du jour* for Michelin-starred chefs to follow up a fine-dining experience with something so simple you'd barely know they were linked. The latest venture from golden boy Ollie Dabbous (following the roaring success of his self-named restaurant down the road) together with Oskar Kinberg comes in the form of Barnyard, offering wholesome, fuss-free dishes such as homemade sausage rolls, lard on toast, chicken in a bun and jacket potatoes, without even the slightest hint of irony. Prices are even easier on the wallet than your local sandwich chain, and the menu boasts a reassuring caveat that all tips go straight to the staff. Order a blueberry pancake shake with bourbon or a signature shandy with homemade lemonade, gin and lager and you'll see what all the fuss is about.

18 Charlotte Street, W1T





## RESTAURANT REVIEW

## More PARFAIT please...



Sixtyone is a smart neighbourhood restaurant that everyone should try, writes *Gabrielle Lane*. You'll soon be back for seconds...



A confession for you: I don't always like reading restaurant reviews. They can sometimes be a bit pretentious and I struggle to connect with descriptions of everything arriving foamed, curled, grated or prepared in the presence of Tibetan monks. Thus, I think a back-to-basics approach is best. Sixtyone – five minutes from Park Lane in south Marylebone – is somewhere you should bookmark as a great all-day, all-purpose venue for dinner. Tricky situations are diffused here – be it a date, a business meeting or the arrival of the in-laws – and the restaurant would probably even be able to cope with the unfortunate occurrence of all three at one table. The service is smart and friendly, the wine choices brilliant and the atmosphere relaxed.

The chef patron is Arnaud Stevens, an Anglo-Frenchman with a passion for seasonal artisanal produce. On the menu, key ingredients are listed alongside the distance from their source, revealing lots of fresh, British finds – *talking point one*. Then there are witty amuse-bouches including peanut-butter marshmallows, freshly-baked crusty rolls infused with Marmite and a light mushroom broth which arrives in a shisha-like brewing contraption with lots of glass domes and pipe-work, leading us nicely on to *talking point two*.

You can't order here without inadvertently being cultured and adventurous (*talking point three* – you get the idea). For starters, my friend and I opted for octopus carpaccio with red-pepper confit and then Cheltenham beetroot, with Cashel blue cheese and walnut. Both were light, pretty salad-like dishes matched with goblets of



white wine: Maury La Coume du Roy and Petaluma respectively.

For the main course, Sixtyone serves mutton instead of lamb, and it was everything I thought it wouldn't be – succulent and tasty, with wild garlic and pearls of Jersey Royals. It also does an amazingly fluffy, rich home-made gnocchi with rosemary curd and chanterelles – fungi seems to pop up here often, but the restaurant is creative with it, and there's a real sense of hearty smugness as you tuck into fresh greens and foraged sides. Options for the fish-lover include steamed pollock with chickpeas and baby gem and slow-cooked sea bream with grapefruit.

For dessert, don't look any further than the banoffee parfait... I still think about it now. There is a Saturday afternoon with my name on it that includes Sixtyone's mushroom parfait heaped onto crusty bread, followed by the sweet variety and one of its rich red wines. A pretentious, food-critic style fantasy perhaps, but one I think you should join me in experiencing... ■

61 Upper Berkeley Street, W1H  
020 7958 3222, [sixtyonerestaurant.co.uk](http://sixtyonerestaurant.co.uk)



# If YOU CAN stand the HEAT





With Chiltern Firehouse remaining the hottest opening this year, *Joe Warwick* is granted an exclusive interview with the chef whose name is on everyone's lips, Nuno Mendes

**N**uno Mendes has done a lot of wandering in his life; so much so that the restaurant where he made name, *Viajante*, is Portuguese for traveller. But despite a restless creativity that's taken him from Lisbon, via 16 years in the States, to making East London his home, it's probably fair to say that he never expected to find himself spending that much time in Marylebone.

Sat in the dining room of Chiltern Firehouse, where he is executive chef, he's still adjusting to the postcode. "I feel like I've picked my project well," he says, any understatement unintentional. "If I was ever going to do something in [north west] London, this is the right one."

Located in the Grade II-listed Victorian-Gothic pile that operated as Manchester Square fire station until 2005, it's been sensitively converted into 26 luxury suites by starry Hungarian-American hotelier André Balazs. It's his first project outside of the US, where his portfolio includes Chateau Marmont in Hollywood, The Mercer in New York and The Standard in Miami.

Its restaurant, housed where the fire engines used to sit – a seriously sexy looking room, serviced by staff dressed like they'd stepped out of Wes Anderson's latest – immediately became one of London's hottest tables when it opened at the end February. Mendes, who, ➤



Steak Tartar, Photography by  
Jamie Orlando Smith





“ *In many ways, my formative years in terms of cooking were spent in America* ”



- unexpectedly, simultaneously announced that he was closing Viajante, his Michelin-starred restaurant in Bethnal Green's Town Hall hotel, has brought culinary credibility to the project.

Although he was reassured by Balazs's track record, it was not an easy decision to take on something so different, somewhere so different, from what he was doing at Viajante.

"I'm never over-confident about doing things. I look at who I'm working with, I look at the location and I look at the project itself. This had all the right elements to work but I'm always very critical about what I offer," he says. "I was wondering how the food was going to be received. What was going to be the response to me screaming for East London for so long, then coming to Marylebone and doing this?"

Are they going to think that the food is too complicated for this place? Maybe it's not complicated enough? Am I selling out? How was it all going to go down?" Rather well, has been the critical consensus.

Whereas at Viajante a busy night would see 40 guests sitting down to envelope-pushing tasting menus of six, nine or 12 courses, Chiltern Firehouse typically feeds 180 each night from an a la carte of classy American-tinged comfort food.

"The funny thing is, that although we're feeding four times as many people, we're using the same number of plates," he notes with a grin.

"What I'm doing here is inspired by my 16 years in the States. In many ways, my formative years in terms of cooking were spent in America," he explains, in the Stateside drawl he picked up at the same time. "This was always going to be something completely different to Viajante. The idea from the beginning, from when I first met with André, was always to do something that drew from my American experiences."

Mendes left Portugal when he was 19 and moved to Miami, where he spent five years. From there he went to San Francisco, where he spent another five years, studied at the California Culinary Academy, before going on to cook at Santa Fe's Coyote Cafe, with spells in LA and New York to follow before he settled in East London in 2005.

He lives in Hackney with his wife, his daughter and the recent arrivals that are his twin

sons. He is planning to reopen Viajante there when the right site comes up. "The restaurant was working and we were fully booked right up until we closed. I'm proud of what we achieved there but looking back now, it could perhaps have been something more than what it was. When we do it again, I'd prefer to have something standalone, away from the distractions that go with being in a hotel. It's a project that belongs in Hackney, which is where I want to keep living."

Despite the difference of location, concept and menu, there's lots about what he's doing at Chiltern Firehouse that remains the same.

"I'm using produce that I love, I'm cooking the way that I like to cook. The way we mix ingredients, the processes we use, the way we cook, is exactly the

same. I don't feel like I'm doing the steak-and-chips version of my cooking. I think it's still fun and exciting. I like a Caesar salad but if I'm going to do it, I'm going to do it slightly differently (his is seasoned with shards of crispy chicken skin). The one thing I will say is that we'll never do a tasting menu here. That's a different message and not what we're about. The food is not meant to be the focal point of this joint; if someone wants to focus on the food, there's enough on the menu that they can go that way with a gastronomic feel. But that's not what this place is about; it's about the space, it's about the feel of the place."

That feel has made him reconsider what he was doing before. "There's a social element to dining that works so well here and I'm thinking – as much as I loved what we did at Viajante – do I still want to sit in a room like that for four hours? I'm not sure that I do. If I'm to do 15 courses again, maybe I'll do it at a counter for five people and I'll cook it all myself."

For now he's got a new lunch menu to launch, which should be up and running by the time you read this. "It's going to be slightly different; everything will be lighter, we'll tone down the ingredients a bit," he explains. "We're going to do pizzas, a good burger, nice salads and lots more fish." But don't expect a lunchtime berth in Chiltern Firehouse's courtyard to come easy this summer. ■

1 Chiltern Street, W1U  
020 7073 7676  
chilternfirehouse.com



Crab Doughnuts and Beetroot Rolls, Photography by Jamie Orlando Smith



Monkfish, Photography by Jamie Orlando Smith



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# WISH *list*



## THE BEAU MONDE

It's going to be a busy year for Jeremy King and Chris Corbin, who have been business partners for 30 years and are behind some of London's most successful restaurants (and some of our favourite mid-week brunch spots). As well as Viennese café Fischer's on Marylebone High Street, the pair will be embarking on their first hotel venture with The Beaumont: evocative of pre-war London, the 73-bedroom property will house a New York-style grill, a private residents' bar and lounge and a 24-hour gymnasium, ideal for working off those super-sized T-bones. Expect the fashion crowd to be utterly torn when it opens in autumn: how long will Balazs hold on to his hotspot crown?

Brown Hart Gardens, W1K  
[thebeaumont.com](http://thebeaumont.com)

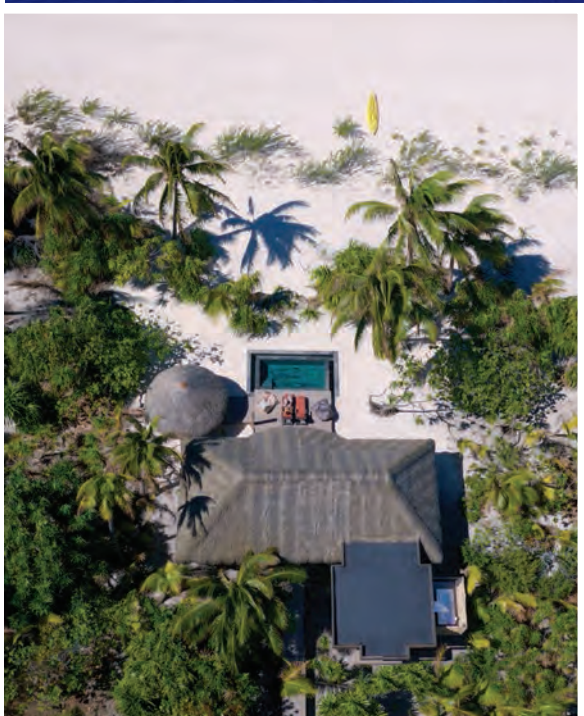
Art by John Walsom



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# TRAVEL *IN STYLE*

HOT SPOT *in May*



## TETIAROA, FRENCH POLYNESIA

Both environmentally-friendly and luxurious, French Polynesia is the new Maldives

*why* Once the vacation spot of Tahitian royalty, the atoll of Tetiaroa sits in the secluded paradise of French Polynesia, surrounded by the turquoise-blue expanse of the South Pacific. The two-mile wide island was famously owned by Marlon Brando, who used Tetiaroa as his own private retreat and was passionate about preserving its natural beauty and cultural richness. Just 30 miles north of Tahiti, May marks the start of the dry winter period; with average temperatures of 28°C, it's the best time for enjoying walking, surfing and spotting the fantastic wildlife.

*stay* The much-anticipated opening of The Brando is finally here. Propped atop the bone-white sand, each of the 35 secluded villas has its own reserved beach area and plunge pool. With access provided by private plane, the highly-exclusive-all-inclusive resort features restaurants showcasing both Polynesian and French cuisine, a Polynesian spa, a lagoon-view bar and its own organic garden: the godfather of private-island luxury.

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



## SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER

Go back to school with a smile as the latest hotel from The Nobis Group opens its doors in Stockholm. Welcome to Miss Clara, a 92-room hotel, housed in the former Ateneum School for Girls building on the bustling Sveavägen Boulevard. Built in 1910 to plans by architecture firms Hagström & Ekman, it is rated as one of Stockholm's finest Art Nouveau buildings, with each room looking out onto the "main stage".

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



## ART OF THE MATTER

As the world-famous Art Basel returns to Hong Kong this month, where better to rest your sleepy head than The Mandarin Oriental, the show's official hotel?

To celebrate the partnership, it will be offering guests an exclusive package which includes unlimited access to the fair. What's more, the Michelin-starred Mandarin grill and bar will be cooking up an art-inspired menu including graphically-inspired chocolates and cocktails.

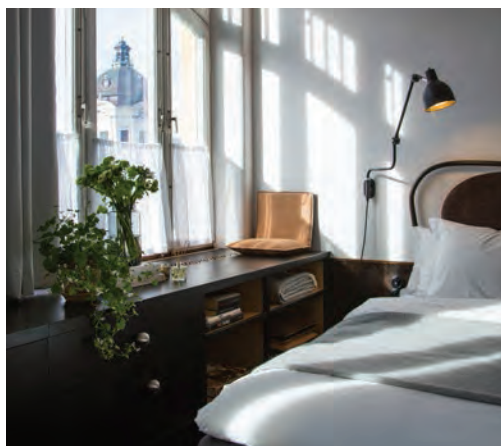
[mandarinoriental.com](http://mandarinoriental.com)



## HELLO TUMI

From lacquered olive hard-side cases to duffel bags with neon accents, Tumi is bringing its stylish assortment of luggage to Regent Street with the opening of its flagship store on 1 May. Famed for the diversity of its offering, the brand has a 30-year history of catering for discerning travellers. The current spotlight is on its gold suitcases: two winners who spot one hidden in the capital will win a two-week, expenses-paid trip of a lifetime for two, in celebration of the store opening.

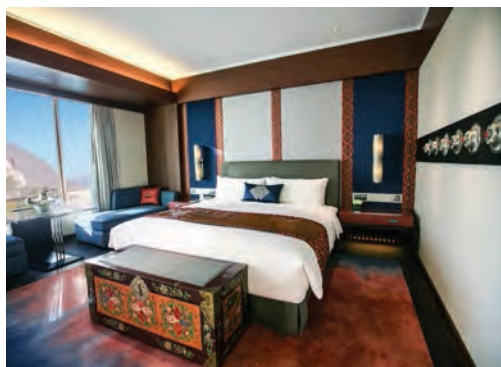
Regent Street, W1, [uk.tumi.com](http://uk.tumi.com)



## THE HILLS ARE ALIVE

In the heart of the Himalayan Mountains, the famous Shangri-La Hotel group takes its renowned hospitality to the highest region on Earth, opening a 289-room retreat in Tibet. Set on a plateau soaring 3,650 metres above sea level, this is a hotel like no other, encircled by some of the world's most dramatic scenery. From the floating cloud installation to the 6.5m bell-like chandelier, the hotel showcases ancient Tibetan symbols alongside contemporary design. An oxygen lounge helps to boost acclimatisation.

[shangri-la.com](http://shangri-la.com)



## RESTORE AND REJUVINATE

SHORT HAUL:  
*Sardinia*

As bikini season fast approaches, the Forte Village Resort in southern Sardinia hosts a series of specialist fitness retreats, run by London personal trainer Matt Roberts and his expert team. Aiming to increase fitness and boost metabolism, it provides a mix of daily exercise sessions, balanced meals and sports massages. Set amid 55 acres of sub-tropical gardens, with a leading Thalassotherapy spa and beach nearby, a week of exercise doesn't look too bad after all.

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



LONG HAUL:  
*Mauritius*

Nestled away in lush tropical gardens is the newly opened Westin Turtle Bay Resort and Spa. Surrounded by sugarcane fields, the resort has been designed with its guests' wellbeing in mind; every element of your stay is designed to be a rejuvenating experience. The aptly-named Heavenly spa offers an array of treatments, and with two swimming pools, a state-of-the-art gym and a superfoods menu, there's never been a better excuse to detox.

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





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# The ITALIAN JOB

Set sail on the Mediterranean  
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There's nothing quite like the buzz of London. But a change of scenery can be equally energising. So why not let Celebrity Cruises take you far, far away from the ordinary – on a seven-night Italian Renaissance cruise to seven refreshingly different destinations?

The multi-award-winning cruise line can transport you to a choice of over 270 destinations across seven continents. Its unique blend of award-winning cuisine, first-class accommodation and impeccable, intuitive service is something they like to call Modern Luxury<sup>SM</sup>. And this short seven-night escape will introduce you to it beautifully.

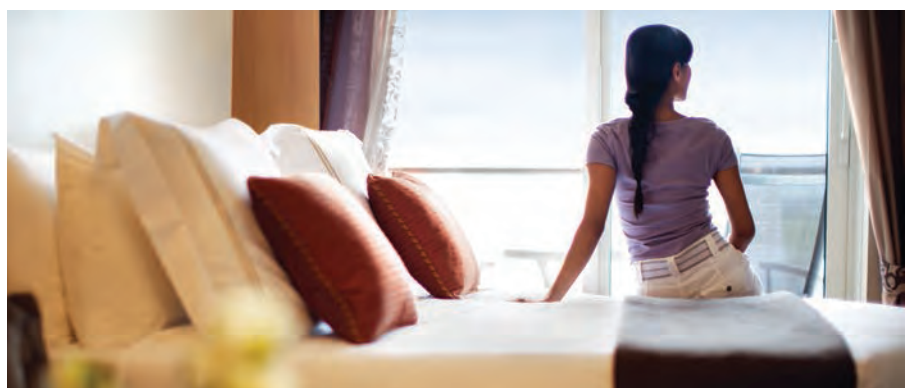
You set sail from Barcelona, Catalonia's cosmopolitan capital, for glamorous Cannes. Here, your first exclusive shore excursion of the week awaits. You'll join a local guide for an enriching exploration of Old Monaco, where you'll climb the city's colourful terraced steps before arriving at Monte Carlo's iconic Grand Casino.



Back on board, you've plenty of time to rejuvenate mind, body and soul at the world-famous Canyon Ranch SpaClub<sup>®</sup>. When it's time to retire for the night – after an evening of fine dining and a live concert at the Lawn Club – there's nowhere more blissful to unwind than your suite, where a personal butler will indulge your every whim.

Genoa, with its charming pastel-coloured buildings is next, followed by Rome, where a visit to a traditional farmhouse for an Italian feast turns into a gastronomic adventure. You'll visit Kotor in Montenegro on the sixth day, Zadar on the seventh and finally Venice on day eight – before returning to London, fabulously refreshed and revitalised. ■

**Seven-night Italian Renaissance cruise, Sky Suite from £3,439pp – find out more at [celebritycruises.co.uk/vantage](http://celebritycruises.co.uk/vantage), call 0844 571 7367 or contact your travel agent**





# SUMMER *HEIGHTS*

A two-Michelin-star restaurant, impeccable service and a world-renowned spa; *Daniella Isaacs* settles into mountain life in Italy's Dolomites at the family-run Rosa Alpina Hotel





It feels somewhat unusual to head to Alta Badia, otherwise known as ‘The Queen of The Alps’ after the final snowcaps have melted and without an ‘après ski’ hot toddie in sight. Instead, I’ve chosen to travel high up into the steeping hills of the Italian Dolomites (almost 2,000m above sea level) at the start of its summer season to immerse myself into mountain life while the sun is shining and the flowers are in full bloom.

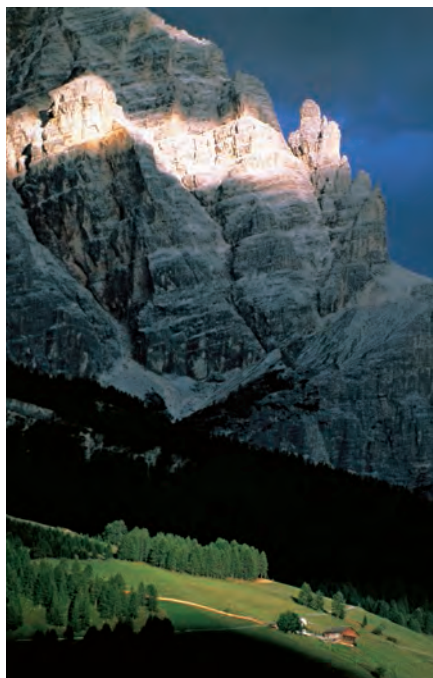
Alta Badia is remote by any standards. To reach the tiny village by car, there is just one ascending narrow road from Brunico (the nearest tiny town) and once you’ve reached the bijou village, the striking vista of verdant land and jagged pillars of limestone seem to be the only sight for miles. It really feels like one of Europe’s secret gems protected by the castle walls of the mountains. Alta Badia is secluded enough to justify having its own language, Ladin; one of the oldest languages in the world, originating from Latin and dating back to the first century AD.

Nobody here just speaks Ladin though. Few are just bilingual and Hugo Pizzinini, the manager of Rosa Alpina, proves this as he switches languages seamlessly. He talks to the receptionist in Italian, waves good evening to some familiar guests in French and talks to me with a perfected English accent as if we were old friends. It is that sense of familiarity that gives Rosa Alpina its charm; you can’t help but feel like part of the family.

That is because at the heart of Rosa Alpina is a tight-knit family business. Pizzinini’s grandfather bought the house and the land in the 1940s. He quickly installed the village’s first telephone, first ski-lift and a room to house the post office (which still remains). His father then continued to add rooms, refurbish and add the impeccably run Steiner Spa, and now Hugo and his equally charming wife Ursula immerse themselves into the running of the hotel with their two kids in tow.

Hugo is passionate about inspiring his guests to get accustomed to the bucolic life which surrounds the hotel. His exercise of choice is mountain biking and seeing as the mountains are littered with scenic cycling paths, it is easy to see why. If the mere thought of exercise fails to enthrall you, then rest assured that the outdoor activities turn out to be slightly more gluttonous than initially assumed. The various walking and cycling routes lead to perfectly placed rifugis (mountain huts) which work as ‘pop-up’ sites for a whole host of sought-after Michelin-starred chefs from within the Dolomites. It’s all part of the “In Vetta con Gusto” – Peaks of

Gastronomy – initiative that makes hiking in the Dolomites irresistible. The result is a foodie’s dream come true. Choose from South Tyrolian classics including asparagus wrapped in hand-cured speck, homemade tortellini stuffed with buffalo ricotta and for those with a sweet persuasion, apple strudel seems to be the staple dish at every pausing



#### NEED TO KNOW

Rosa Alpina is available from €325 per night based on two adults sharing a Superior Double room. Rates include breakfast, taxes and services and exclude tourist tax.

**For further information and reservations please call Rosa Alpina on + 39 0471 849 500, email [info@rosalpina.it](mailto:info@rosalpina.it) or visit [rosalpina.it](http://rosalpina.it)**

point across the mountains. Who knew exercising could be so indulgent?

Passion for food is a birthright for the residents of Alta Badia. South Tyrol is home to around 17 Michelin-starred restaurants, which is somewhat impressive for an area which is smaller than the size of North Devon.

So if you’d rather rest your heels and enjoy a long leisurely lunch, then there are plenty of options to sate your gastronomic cravings. Hugo recommends his cousin’s hotel Ciasa Salares for a spot of traditional Ladin cuisine. This restaurant prides itself on simplicity. A plate of speck accompanied by wild horseradish and puccia (the native bread) alongside a large glass of the local tiple proves why the area is a culinary melting pot.

Once Hugo is satisfied that you have had enough time to recuperate in the mountain air, follow his advice and book a table at St Hubertus, the hotel’s two Michelin-star restaurant.

Norbert Niederkofler is the mastermind behind this sensationally run kitchen. Along with Hugo (they’ve been close family friends for many years) they have developed a menu which prides itself on celebrating produce that comes fresh from the mountains; even the small aperitifs which kickstart proceedings warrant gasps from around the table. Every mouthful is brimming with fresh flavours; from thrice-cooked truffle to vibrant purple shots of beetroot juice and resin from the pine trees. Each course could pass as a piece of art; vintage plates which date back to the early days of Rosa Alpina are beautifully adorned with sweet and sour ‘ancient vegetables’, dressed with a blood-orange vinaigrette which is poured out of a miniature watering can. Norbert’s menu proves that life in the mountains is worth making a fuss over.

After relishing the views and spectacular cuisine, it is worth sparing some time to indulge that little bit more in Rosa Alpina’s immaculately run Daniela Steiner spa. The treatments use oils and herbs sourced directly from the mountains. The after-sun facial leaves you feeling rebalanced and invigorated; a perfect recuperation after a day well spent outdoors. The spa is rapidly becoming part of the family’s global empire, with locations now in Monte Carlo and Stockholm, as well as a cosmetic line.

For all their success, the Pizzininis remain grounded in the tight-knit community of this small Dolomite village; it’s not surprising, though, considering everyone here seems to be part of one big family. And after a couple of days at Rosa Alpina, you’re likely to feel desperate to become part of the Alta Badia clan, too. ■



# LISTING

SEE BELOW FOR ESTATE AGENTS IN YOUR AREA



## ARLINGTON RESIDENTIAL

8 Wellington Road, NW8 9SP  
020 7722 3322

arlingtonresidential.co.uk



## ASTON CHASE

69 / 71 Park Road  
NW1 6XU  
020 7724 4724

astonchase.com

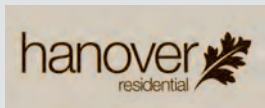


## HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL

99 St John's Wood Terrace, NW8 6PL  
020 7717 5319

21 Heath street, NW3 6TR  
020 7717 5301

hamptons.co.uk



## HANOVER RESIDENTIAL

102 St John's Wood Terrace  
NW8 6PL  
020 7722 2223

31a Thayer Street  
Marylebone, W1U 2QS  
020 3540 5990

hanover-residential.com



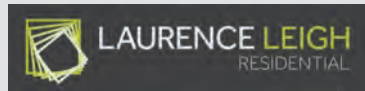
## KNIGHT FRANK

5-7 Wellington Place  
NW8 7PB  
020 7586 2777

79-81 Heath Street  
NW3 6UG  
020 7431 8686

55 Baker Street  
W1U 8EW  
020 3435 6440

knightfrank.co.uk



## LAURENCE LEIGH

020 7483 0101

laurenceleigh.com



## MARSH & PARSONS

35 Maida Vale  
W9 1TP  
020 7368 4458

marshandparsons.co.uk



## PARKHEATH

208 Haverstock Hill, NW3 2AG  
020 7431 1234

8a Canfield Gardens, NW6 3BS  
020 7625 4567

192 West End Lane, NW6 1SG  
020 7794 7111

parkheath.com



## PROPERTY DIVAS LIMITED

34a Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead  
NW3 1NH  
020 7431 8000

propertydivas.com



## SAVILLS

7 Perrin's Court, NW3 1QS  
020 7472 5000

15 St John's Wood High Street  
NW8 7NG  
020 3043 3600

savills.co.uk



020 7794 8700

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## Arlington Road, Camden NW1

### House with charming period features

A wonderful period house on one of the most sought after roads in Camden Town, benefitting from a lovely patio garden and flexible accommodation. Master bedroom (with en suite bathroom), 2 further bedrooms (1 with en suite), bedroom 4/study, reception room, kitchen, dining room, guest WC, rear garden, EPC rating E. Approximately 132 sq m (1,420 sq ft) plus vaults (141 sq ft).

Freehold

Guide price: £1,500,000

(SJW140098)

[KnightFrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood](https://www.knightfrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood)  
[stjohnswood@knightfrank.com](mailto:stjohnswood@knightfrank.com)  
**020 7586 2777**







## Cumberland Terrace, Regent's Park NW1

### Spacious stucco fronted family home

This beautiful Nash home benefits from views over Regent's Park, private parking and a small courtyard. Master bedroom with en suite bathroom and terrace, 4 further bedrooms with en suite facilities and dressing room, family bathroom, double reception room, media room, bar, kitchen/breakfast room, dining room, self contained flat with en suite and kitchen, garage. EPC rating F, Approximately 451 sq m (4,850 sq ft).

Leasehold: approximately 98 years remaining

Guide price: £7,000,000

(SJW080201)

[KnightFrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood](https://www.knightfrank.co.uk/st-johns-wood)  
[stjohnswood@knightfrank.com](mailto:stjohnswood@knightfrank.com)  
**020 7586 2777**







**THE CARRICK VILLA  
REGENT'S PARK NW1**

**LONG LEASEHOLD  
£6,750,000**

JOINT SOLE AGENT

A charming newly built detached house (311sq m/3,355sq ft) located on the north eastern peripheral of Regent's Park. The property, which is presented to a very high standard, features well planned living accommodation on the ground floor, with each room opening directly onto the delightful landscaped gardens. There is also a double garage with additional off street parking set behind a gated driveway and access to Regent's Park Outer Circle via a private passageway.

**ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES**

Principal bedroom with en-suite dressing room & bathroom, 2 further en-suite bedrooms, staff bedroom/living room with en-suite bathroom & kitchenette, fully fitted kitchen, drawing room, dining room, study, media room, utility room, 2 guest cloakrooms, terraces, landscaped garden, double garage, further secure off street parking. EPC=D.





**CHESTER TERRACE  
REGENT'S PARK NW1**

**L/H 132 YEARS  
£8,250,000**

SOLE AGENT

An outstanding Grade I listed Nash residence (387sq m/4,166sq ft) in need of modernisation with direct views towards Regent's Park. The property is arranged over five floors with a lift and offers well planned accommodation, featuring high ceilings and well-proportioned rooms.

**ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES**  
Drawing room, sitting room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, principal bedroom with en-suite bathroom, dressing room & study, 4 further bedrooms, 3 family bathrooms, staff bedroom with kitchen & living/dining room, cloakroom, lift to all floors, 3 storage vaults, single garage, residents parking, access to private communal gardens. EPC=D.





## MELROSE APARTMENTS SWISS COTTAGE NW3

L/H 899 YEARS

£895,000

SOLE AGENT

A well-proportioned two bedroom apartment (74sq m/796sq ft) set on the second floor of this recently constructed purpose-built portered block. Presented in excellent decorative order throughout, further benefits include secure underground parking for one car and a 24 hour concierge service. The apartment is subject to an assured short hold tenancy until August 2015 and is being sold as an ongoing concern.

### ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES

Principal bedroom with walk-through wardrobe and en-suite shower room, bedroom 2, bathroom, reception room open plan to fully fitted kitchen, secure allocated underground parking for 1 car, 24 hour concierge. EPC=C.





**CUMBERLAND TERRACE  
REGENT'S PARK NW1**

**L/H 97 YEARS  
£2,650,000**

SOLE AGENT

A rare opportunity to purchase a top (3rd) floor two bedroom (1,166sq ft/ 105sq m) apartment in a picturesque Nash Terrace with far-reaching views of Regent's Park. The property offers the potential to create an exceptional Regent's Park residence, with the benefit of 24 hour portage and a private lock-up garage, alongside two further off street parking spaces and a private store room.

**ACCOMMODATION AND AMENITIES**  
Principal bedroom with en-suite bathroom, further bedroom, dining room, reception room, kitchen, guest cloakroom, garage, off street parking for 2 cars, private store room.



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the Street*

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

**H A V E R S**







STOCK HILL N.W.3

Parkheath  
*Sold on Service*



# Parkheath

*Sold on Service*



## Hampstead NW3

*£1,100,000*

On an exclusive Hampstead road well positioned for the Village and other local amenities, a top floor apartment within a double-fronted period conversion.

993 sq ft/92 sq m  
21' reception  
2 double bedrooms  
Spacious hallway  
Kitchen and utility room

Contact Belsize Park Office  
020 7431 1234

South Hampstead  
Sales 020 7625 4567  
Lettings 020 7644 0800  
nw6@parkheath.com

West Hampstead  
Sales 020 7794 7111  
Lettings 020 7794 7111  
192@parkheath.com

Belsize Park  
Sales 020 7431 1234  
Lettings 020 7431 3104  
nw3@parkheath.com

Property Management  
Tel 020 7722 6777  
pm@parkheath.com



# Parkheath

*Sold on Service*



## Lyndale Avenue NW2

**£2,000,000**

A substantial family house on a popular residential road to the west of Hampstead Heath and Village. A detached annexe of over 500 sq ft offers further accommodation.

3,318 sq ft/308 sq m in total  
39'9 double reception  
5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms  
Self contained annexe  
70' rear garden

Contact West Hampstead Office  
020 7794 7111

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Sales 020 7625 4567  
Lettings 020 7644 0800  
nw6@parkheath.com

West Hampstead  
Sales 020 7794 7111  
Lettings 020 7794 7111  
192@parkheath.com

Belsize Park  
Sales 020 7431 1234  
Lettings 020 7431 3104  
nw3@parkheath.com

Property Management  
Tel 020 7722 6777  
pm@parkheath.com





# MARYLEBONE

LONDON NW1

AN IMMACULATELY PRESENTED, NEWLY REFURBISHED APARTMENT OF 1,252 SQ FT/116 SQ M FEATURING TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS EACH WITH A LUXURIOUS EN-SUITE SHOWER ROOM, AN IMPRESSIVE LIGHT FILLED OPEN PLAN RECEPTION ROOM WITH A LARGE KITCHEN/DINING ROOM, A GLASS PANELLED STUDY AND GUEST CLOAKROOM. HARLEY HOUSE IS A HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER BUILDING WITH 24HR SECURITY PORTERAGE AND IS LOCATED A MOMENT'S WALK FROM BOTH REGENT'S PARK AND MARYLEBONE HIGH STREET AS WELL AS BOASTING CLOSE PROXIMITY TO CENTRAL LONDON AND EXCELLENT TRANSPORT LINKS.

130 YEAR LEASE    JOINT SOLE AGENTS    GUIDE PRICE £2,250,000



THE APARTMENT HAS USE OF PRIVATE GARDENS WITH A TENNIS COURT AND BENEFITS FROM BEING ELIGIBLE FOR A CROWN ESTATE PARKING PERMIT WITH THE OPTION OF AN UNDERGROUND CAR PARKING SPACE BY SEPARATE NEGOTIATION.

*1994 - 2014*

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HANDLING QUALITY PROPERTY





# PRIMROSE HILL

LONDON NW3

AN INTERIOR DESIGNED TOWN HOUSE (2,057 SQ FT/191 SQ M) WITH DIRECT ACCESS TO A COMMUNAL GARDEN AND OFF STREET PARKING FOR THREE CARS. COMPRISING RECEPTION ROOM OPENING ONTO A PATIO LEADING TO THE COMMUNAL GARDEN, FAMILY ROOM, DINING ROOM, KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM (WITH UNDER FLOOR HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING), PRINCIPAL BEDROOM WITH EN-SUITE BATHROOM, DRESSING ROOM AND AIR CONDITIONING, THREE/FOUR FURTHER BEDROOMS, (ONE WITH EN-SUITE SHOWER CUBICLE), FAMILY BATHROOM AND A GUEST CLOAKROOM.

FREEHOLD

SOLE AGENT

£2,595,000



LOCATED WITHIN 100 YARDS OF THE OPEN SPACES OF PRIMROSE HILL PARK AND WITHIN THE CONFINES OF A MODERN DEVELOPMENT AND PRIVATE ROAD.

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RESIDENTIAL  
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A man with light brown hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a white shirt, is sitting on a light-colored sofa. He has his hands clasped in his lap and is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a light-colored wall with decorative molding. The text 'TWENTY - TWENTY VISION' is overlaid in white, serif, all-caps font across the center of the image.

*TWENTY -  
TWENTY  
VISION*

Photography by  
Murray Russell-Langton,  
RealFocus.co.uk





## Marc Schneiderman looks back at Arlington Residential's last two decades in business

“In 1994 I took a big risk. I left the safe and comfortable environment of working for someone else and opened my own business. The financial security I had experienced over many years whilst working for someone else quickly evaporated. Now I was on my own, literally on my own, in a large empty office with one desk and a phone. The early months were very daunting and it was lonely work. I was fortunate that several previous clients I had worked with approached me and gave me the opportunity to work with them. And then the most memorable deal in Arlington Residential's 20-year history happened; our first.

It was the sale of a flat in Belsize Park. Without a printer, photocopier or computer I had to hand-write our letter of appointment and our terms of business, which the client signed and which formed the basis of the contact on our first sale. It was incredibly exciting. Our second sale was a plot of land in what was then and still is now arguably the best street in Hampstead. At the time, 20 years ago, I told the buyer that it was a unique opportunity. I feel justified in making that remark: no other opportunity has arisen to buy a plot of land and build a brand new house in that street since.

It is remarkable to think how the world of business has changed since my firm started trading. It was around 20 years ago that the internet was opened to all, setting off one of the biggest transformations in technology and altering the way we communicate. We can now reach an international audience in seconds, a factor contributing to the statistic that over 60 per cent of our sales are to overseas buyers.

The coalition government has done its best in the last few years to dampen the market. The enormous rise in stamp-duty land tax, the taxation on non-resident owners and the Liberal Democrats' proposed mansion tax are just a few of the measures that have made buying and owning London property less attractive, but so far they have caused no real damage to the buoyancy of the market. When I look back to some of our first sales I don't believe anyone could have guessed even near to the value of those properties in today's market. If 20 years ago I had asked our most property astute clients what they may have thought a five-bedroom detached house in St John's Wood that we had just sold for £3m might be worth two decades later, I doubt they would be saying £16m, which is its value today. Houses in Regent's Park, which we were selling for around £2.5m back then are now achieving in excess of £12m, and the fact that London is now the ultimate home-owning destination amongst foreign buyers has further fuelled these price increases.

London is where pretty much everybody wants to own a property. If growth in capital values seen over the last 20 years continues, then in 20 years' time, three-bedroom flats in Belsize Park will be selling for £15m and five-bedroom detached houses in St John's Wood could go for £80m. Surely not.” ■

Arlington Residential, 8 Wellington Road, NW8  
[arlingtonresidential.com](http://arlingtonresidential.com), 020 7722 3322





## London House St John's Wood, NW8

A fantastic opportunity to acquire a beautifully presented four bedroom apartment (1,773 sq ft / 165 sq m), set on the sixth floor of this much sought after and well regarded purpose built portered block. The apartment, which features bright and well proportioned accommodation further benefits from two balconies, secure underground parking for one car and 24 hour resident portage. London House is superbly located on Avenue Road, moments from the open spaces of Regents Park and Primrose Hill and all the amenities of St Johns Wood High Street, including St Johns Wood Underground Station (Jubilee Line).

Joint Sole Agent  
**£3,495,000 Share of Freehold**





## Alvanley Gardens West Hampstead, NW6

A large six bedroom detached family home (4,819 sq ft / 447 sq m) set behind electric gates providing off street parking for several cars. The house offers spacious accommodation over three floors and a private rear garden. Alvanley Gardens is situated conveniently close to the shops and amenities of both West Hampstead & Finchley Road, including Finchley Road Underground Station (Metropolitan and Jubilee Line). The Cumberland private tennis and cricket club is located opposite the house.

Sole Agent  
**£5,150,000 Freehold**



St Johns Wood Office  
102 St John's Wood Terrace, London NW8 6PL  
**020 7722 2223**  
info@hanover-residential.com  
hanover-residential.com





## HEATH DRIVE HAMPSTEAD NW3

PRICE ON APPLICATION | FREEHOLD | EPC: D | SOLE AGENT



TK International

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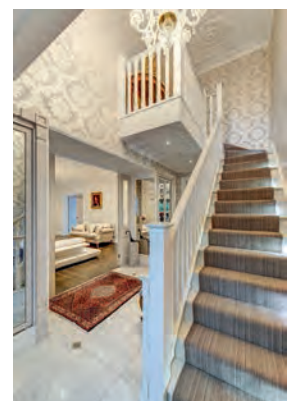
Located on this exclusive tree-lined road, a deceptively large 4,610 sq ft detached house which has been virtually rebuilt and extended over the past three years to provide an excellently appointed six/seven bedroom family home arranged over four floors and set back from the road behind a driveway for three cars and secure electronic gates.

The property offers four reception rooms - a 24' drawing room, dining room, study and home cinema/media room, as well as a 22'8 kitchen/breakfast room with beautiful custom made units and top of the range appliances.

The first floor provides a master bedroom suite which enjoys both a large en-suite dressing room and bathroom, as well as a guest suite with direct access on to a landscaped 30' terrace.

The second floor and lower ground floor both have two bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Outside, there is terracing and gardens on two levels which wrap around the house to the rear and left hand side.







## WEST HEATH DRIVE GOLDERS HILL PARK NW11

GUIDE PRICE £2,800,000 | FREEHOLD | EPC: C



An immaculate five bedroom semi detached house offering approximately 2,900 sq ft with the benefit of a 70ft West facing garden and off street parking for two cars.

The house was the subject of a full refurbishment programme in recent years and provides five double bedrooms and three bathrooms.

The ground floor has been designed to provide a dramatic open planned reception space with two sets of sliding doors leading to the garden.

There is also the opportunity to create additional accommodation by way of a new basement level, as our clients have obtained planning consent to create approximately 1,600 sq ft giving direct access to the garden.

Located within 150 metres of Golders Hill Park, the house provides easy access to both the shopping and transport facilities of Golders Green & Hampstead with the further amenities of the West End & City easily accessible.

**TK International**

**020 7794 8700**

[www.t-k.co.uk](http://www.t-k.co.uk)



# HOLLYCROFT AVENUE

HAMPSTEAD NW3

SITUATED ON THE PREFERRED WEST SIDE OF THIS POPULAR ROAD, A BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED AND GENEROUSLY PROPORTIONED (4,637 SQ FT) SIX BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED EDWARDIAN HOUSE WITH THE INTERNAL ACCOMMODATION ARRANGED OVER FOUR FLOORS PLUS THE BENEFIT OF GATED OFF STREET PARKING.



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The house is offered for sale in extremely good decorative condition and provides an excellent balance between bedroom and reception space with the choice of five dedicated entertainment areas including drawing room, dining room, family room, TV room (with a 13' roof terrace) and conservatory with direct access on to landscaped and mature 86' garden.

The master suite comprises a bedroom, a huge en-suite bathroom, conservatory/study and en-suite dressing room. There are four other children's bedrooms and two bathrooms as well as a staff suite on the garden level.

Hollycroft Avenue is one of the most desirable locations for large family houses in Hampstead located between the Village and West Heath.

PRICE ON APPLICATION  
EPC:E

FREEHOLD  
SOLE AGENT



# DALEHAM MEWS

HAMPSTEAD NW3

A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO  
PURCHASE THIS PERIOD HOUSE  
SITUATED IN THIS POPULAR  
COBBLED MEWS IN HAMPSTEAD.



This delightful mews house currently boasts a 31' x 23' garage with storage room on the ground floor, with the first floor accommodation offering a reception room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and a 20' terrace.

Currently the house offers 1,857 sq ft (173 sq m) and subject to the necessary consents there is the potential to create circa 3,000 sq ft by excavating a basement and creating an additional upper floor.

Conveniently located within close proximity to Hampstead High Street as well as the shops and transport facilities of Swiss Cottage (Jubilee Line) and Belsize Village.

£2,950,000  
EPC:E

FREEHOLD  
SOLE AGENT

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Beyond your expectations  
[www.hamptons.co.uk](http://www.hamptons.co.uk)



## Elgin Avenue, W9

Beautifully presented six bedroom Victorian terrace house situated close to the heart of Maida Vale and within close proximity to Maida Vale and Warwick Avenue underground stations (Bakerloo Line). Arranged over five stunning floors of very well designed living space.

**£6,295,000 Freehold**

- Six bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Five bathrooms
- Terraced
- Period
- Garden

**Hamptons St John's Wood Office**

Sales. 0207 586 9595 | Lettings. 020 7717 5487





## Rosecroft Avenue, NW3

A beautiful 3 bedroom 2 bathroom lateral apartment occupying the whole of the 1st floor of a Grade II listed detached house with communal gardens. High ceilings give an abundance of light and the simple layout gives a relaxing ambience, with all principle rooms accessed from a spacious entrance hall. The reception room is stunning with a fireplace and two south west facing windows overlooking the communal gardens, whilst the impressive kitchen/breakfast room is designed with a subtle split level. **EPC:E**

**£1,425,000 Leasehold**

- *Three bedrooms*
- *Two bathrooms*
- *Reception room*
- *Kitchen/breakfast room*
- *Communal gardens*





## Acacia Road NW8

## A detached stucco fronted house

A rare opportunity to acquire one of the most sought after addresses in St John's Wood.

Located on the prime tree-lined Acacia Road, this detached house sits on a corner plot and is moments from St John's Wood High Street and St John's Wood Underground Station (Jubilee Line).

The house features a beautiful double reception room, kitchen and formal dining space, six bedrooms (four with en suite bathrooms), a further two bathrooms and a study. Planning consent has been granted to increase the size of the property to 6,567 sq ft, with the benefit of an elevator and a spa complex. Full details of the consented plans, computer generated images and architects drawings are available from our offices.

### ACCOMODATION

- three reception rooms ■ dining room ■ kitchen/breakfast room
- six bedrooms (four en suite) ■ shower room
- guest cloakroom ■ terrace ■ garden ■ off-street parking for two vehicles
- 3,675 sq ft (342 sq m) ■ EPC=E



FREEHOLD

JOINT SOLE AGENTS

PRICE ON APPLICATION



Savills St John's Wood  
15 St John's Wood High Street  
London NW8 7NG

020 3581 3568

[savills.co.uk](http://savills.co.uk)



**Knight Frank**

St John's Wood  
020 7586 2777

[KnightFrank.co.uk](http://KnightFrank.co.uk)



*hot property*

# GREEN DREAMS



Enough green space is not usually an easy thing to come by when you live in central London. But Maida Vale and Little Venice are home to numerous sought-after secret garden squares, close to some of London's most beautiful parks, including W9's Paddington Recreation Ground. Little Venice further boasts the beautiful ornamental space of Rembrandt Gardens which has won numerous awards.

This beautifully refurbished and well-proportioned three-bedroom apartment has wonderful vistas over the canal, situated on the third floor of a sought-after mansion block on Blomfield Road, and flooded with natural light. The stylish accommodation comprises a spacious reception room with doors leading out to a large private balcony offering stunning views over the water, a contemporary kitchen, a master bedroom with an en-suite bathroom, two further double bedrooms, a modern family bathroom and ample storage. The three-bedroom, two-bathroom property also benefits from lift access and a porter service.

Cunningham Court is located a short walk from the array of local amenities on Clifton Road and is close to transport links, including Warwick Avenue and St John's Wood.

## CUNNINGHAM COURT, W9

£1,575,000

Marsh & Parsons

Reference: CSV131664, [marshandparsons.co.uk](http://marshandparsons.co.uk)

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Hammersmith

Holland Park

Kensington

Little Venice

Marylebone

North Kensington

Notting Hill

Pimlico & Westminster

South Kensington



## Edbrooke Road W9 £2,650,000

This stunning Victorian terraced house offers well balanced accommodation including a large open plan kitchen/dining room on the raised ground floor, a formal reception room on the first floor taking full advantage of the pretty park views and a spacious TV room/ playroom on the lower ground with concertina doors opening out to a private patio garden. There are four double bedrooms, a study with a glass floor connecting to the family room below, two shower rooms and a large family bathroom. Freehold. EPC=D. **Sole Agents**

LITTLE VENICE: 020 7993 3050 [sales.lve@marshandparsons.co.uk](mailto:sales.lve@marshandparsons.co.uk)



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MARSH & PARSONS

SALES



## Shirland Mews W9 £1,150,000

This stylish mews house, designed by Conran & Partners, combines exceptional modern design with a practical use of space. The accommodation boasts a high quality finish throughout including an open plan kitchen/reception room with full height windows and an Italian designed kitchen with additional storage. The bedroom accommodation includes a large master bedroom with a superb en suite bathroom, a second double bedroom and a family bathroom. Freehold. EPC=C. **Sole Agent.**

LITTLE VENICE: 020 7993 3050 [sales.lve@marshandparsons.co.uk](mailto:sales.lve@marshandparsons.co.uk)



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(for the 2nd year running!)

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The Negotiator Awards 2013 - Silver

**Best London Estate Agency**

Sunday Times Estate Agency of the Year 2013 (Medium) - Gold  
(for the 4th year running!)



## **Baker Street NW1 £800 per week**

Finished to a high standard throughout this stunning lateral apartment is superbly located close to Regents Park. Set within a stunning terrace, the first floor apartment offers a spacious reception room with open plan kitchen, two large double bedrooms and a modern family bathroom. The property has wooden floors throughout and high ceilings offering a nice mix of traditional features with the convenience of modern living. EPC=C.

**MARYLEBONE: 020 7935 1775 [lets.mar@marshandparsons.co.uk](mailto:lets.mar@marshandparsons.co.uk)**



MARSH & PARSONS

**Estate Agent  
of the Year\***

**4 YEARS  
RUNNING**



**The Times & Sunday Times Awards**

\* Best Medium London Agent, The Times & Sunday Times Awards



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