



The Millenary Post



THE ALPHA OF OMEGA

The story of how technology re-invigorated Omega and led them to create the world's first Master Chronometer

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DUST TO DIAMOND

The Millenary speaks to Tom Eshelby, Residential Director of Land Securities on the completion of Kings Gate and how the district is designed to become the beating heart of the city's future

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MODERN ROMANTISM

The Frills and Thrills of Fearless Girlhood

MARQUISE



BLACK OPS/BLACK TIE

The spectre of sartorial faux pas might finally be lifted thanks to these increasingly superlative exemplars of extreme timekeeping

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WORLD'S
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MECHANICAL
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ROMANTIC UNDERPINNINGS

The way to incorporate lace, translucency, foulards and flowers into your three-piece without looking emasculated

PAIR THEM WITH

By Cheryl Ann Chia

There is a huge Alessandro Michele aftermath taking place since he debuted pussy-bow wearing boys, effectively dissolving the boundaries of gender dichotomy. A sign of progressive attitudes, menswear is experiencing a moment of eureka – what can be considered a quiet revolution with the preponderance of swashbuckling details that assiduously do away with staid divides. Yet for the traditional dresser new to the gymnastics of gender-bending, there is certainly a way to enjoy a whiff of effeminate bohemia without getting in over your head. Start by bringing in one element at a time into your classic three-piece and let that fusion of the old and the new, the masculine and the feminine create a compelling statement.

The most noteworthy expressions were the ones seen at **Burberry** where Christopher Bailey decided to 'straitlace' men and provided a clever amalgam of British dandyism and contemporary androgyny: he kept his silhouettes svelte, concerned and familiar but this rigid masculinity starts to loosen up upon proximity under those precisely cut jackets where he traded classic cotton shirts and ties for lace. At **Etro**, the same potent recipe transpired with the use of fabrics like crepe de Chine on easy V-neck tops and chiffon shirts while billowy, flyaway silk shirts in Crayola brights proved to be the most gripping underpinning at Berluti. Then of course, there's **Gucci**, where romantic frilly peter-pan collars, dandy ruffles and flower neck bows – gobsmacking at first, then it grows on you – become some of the season's most defining flourishes.



AMADEO FLEURIER BRAVEHEART.
BOVET



GUCCI



BERLUTI



ROBERTO CAVALLI



BURBERRY



ETRO

FROM SUBTLE TO SHOW-STOPPING

Impeccably elegant slip-ons that will take you places

By Cheryl Ann Chia



GIUSEPPE ZANOTTI SUEDE SLIPPERS

A funky pair of desert beige suede slippers for one who desires a whiff of Seventies' California enhanced with ethnic patterns, micro-studs, colourful crystals and a playful pair of tassels.



BURBERRY TASSEL LOAFER

Footwear that achieves that elusive equivoque of relaxed and refined are few and far between like Burberry's suede loafers with colour contrast tassels.



GUCCI HORSEBIT LOAFER

Contemporary laidback elegance arrives in the form of Gucci's latest Horsebit loafer, a decidedly modern interpretation of the house's long-time fundament designed to be worn like a dream - with the heel folded down.



STUBBS & WOOTTON CELEBRATE BLACK

If one longs for more boundary-pushing, he can certainly embrace this stunning pair of Stubbs & Wootton slippers embroidered in champagne flutes to set a suitably celebratory tone.



LOUIS VUITTON AFTERSHOW SLIPPER

Detailed with rich quilted lining, grosgrain ribbon edging and the maison's now-iconic VV patch, this handsome pair of velvet slippers is perfect for the gentleman who prefers to take characterful strides.



RUBINACCI LEATHER-TRIMMED SUEDE LOAFERS

Characterised by the Neopolitan label's classic elegance, this princely pair of jewel-toned shoes detailed with black leather piping and bow are for men of fine habits.



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Caliber A&S1475: manufacture movement / skeletonised / rhodium treated nickel-silver with Haute Horlogerie finishing: manually chamfered bridges with polished edges, Côtes de Genève, circular sun-finished wheels, 31,600 arrows / hand-wound / power reserve over 70 h. Functions: watch indicator on three levels resulting in a powerful 3D effect / seconds dial on the bottom / 60-second minutes on a sapphire crystal dial in the middle level / double power reserve indicator via graduated dots printed under the top sapphire crystal. Case: 18-carat red gold / diameter 44.8 mm. www.arnoldandson.com

Inspired by John and John Roger Arnold's regulators with the iconic skeleton (which you can see through with a magnifying glass) England, 1826-1842



THE TROPHY JACKET

An irresistible heritage staple that delivers both comfort and character

By Cheryl Ann Chia

Unlike the ubiquitous bombers, there is a uniquely raw toxicity to the new season's souvenir jacket. They come with an aura attached to them as though they've already had a life – a quality that is made even more desirable by the current obsession with individualism. Traditionally identified by its vivid embroidery of eastern motifs such as Japanese or Chinese dragons, tigers, birds or cherry blossoms, the souvenir jacket encapsulates a variety of Spring trends from said far east ornamentation to sportswear accents to youth counter-culture. Fascinated by Japan's absorption of the language of American sportswear, Kim Jones presented florid satin souvenir jackets furnished with cranes and birds of paradise while Dolce & Gabbana's was a play on Sicily meets the Orient, offering a parade of peacocks, dragons and swallows darting through bamboo forest on a series of silk bombers. A handful of other designers were programmatically on the very same wavelength, providing just that touch of heritage while capturing, in the same package, the coolness of passing youth.



HERMÈS



PRINGLE OF SCOTLAND



SAINT LAURENT



LOUIS VUITTON



DOLCE & GABBANA



DRIES VAN NOTEN



VALENTINO

PAIR THEM WITH



ROYAL OAK PERPETUAL CALENDAR YELLOW GOLD, AUDEMARS PIGUET

TREAD 2 Godiva



THE WATCH ATELIER

111, Jalan Maarof, Bangsar Park, 59000, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



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OF NOVICES AND ARTISANS

Attending the Lange Akademie is not going to earn you the "F. A. Lange Scholarship & Watchmaking Excellence Award" but it will inculcate an appreciation of people who do

By Jonathan Ho

It's an old adage but never has there been a truism which states succinctly and elegantly the importance of heritage and all the emotionality which results from knowledge of a brand's provenance.

The objective is twofold: the client gains greater appreciation of the smallest detail and in that understanding, make(s) an educated decision into the critical choice of acquiring a potential generational heirloom. With A. Lange & Sohne, the importance of the Lange Akademie cannot be understated. As a commercial entity, the Saxon manufacture's classical appearance forces the connoisseur to seek illumination of what makes a Lange, Lange, in quasi-invisible details. In essence, one is forced to seek God in the details.

Sans loupe, one isn't readily able to comprehend the foundational excellence which marks the maison beyond the avant garde elegance of asymmetrical dials. Even then, the manufacture is more than its blockbuster Lange 1 series, thus recognition of the technical and aesthetic difference even in areas of the movement unseen by civilian owners becomes paramount when all the Instagram generation requires is a carefully curated shot of a timepiece set to the most exotic photo filter of the week.

The Akademie is a chance to go beyond the presentation and the academics of A. Lange's history and competence; instead, it's interaction with master watchmakers and engineers and the chance to stand at a workbench, hold the myriad of tools and then fail terribly at putting even the most basic of components together. In my case, the one of two jewels on a pallet fork, promptly removed and then lost to the ether as a result of excessive pressure on the pincers.

For collectors of the esteemed brand, the Lange Akademie is itself a series of four courses involving everything from setting up a balance-spring to engraving their iconic

YOU CAN'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'VE BEEN.

german silver balance-cock. The experience is necessary to absorb not just the spirit of the manufacture but in essence, the context of how the brand exists in an environment of great calamity (Soviet controlled Glashutte region) and then recovers to achieve grail status in a relatively short span of time.

Directed by Joanna Lange, the Akademie is more than some addled sales pitch to convince you of the brand's legitimacy, here, the guest-intern bears witness to the steps of creation. An aspirational experience finding equation

similar I would imagine to assuming the role of St Gabriel and watching the Lord work during the moment of creation. From fabrication to assembly and finally decoration and adjustment, never has there better been a shorthand explanation of the mastery of craft as demonstrated by the Saxony Manufacture – each misplaced cut on German silver, each accidental nick and each mis-timed breath from the "students" all point to the artisanal roots of Dresden and point to our place as wearers and buyers rather than the honorific of Artisan-watchmaker.



FLIGHTS OF FANCY

Three iconic aviation-inspired timepieces of exquisite heritage and design

ZENITH TYPE 20 EXTRA SPECIAL

There's a reason the bronze and the namesake age it heralded serves as emphatic philosophical and material proof of humanity's evolution. Early urban civilisation was largely defined by our ability to fashion copper, tin and arsenic into copper for a variety of life-changing tools and life-ending weapons.

Thus, when the heritage of flight is combined with an easily oxidised metal as bronze, the emotional connection with its unique visual patina and the knowledge that you are essentially wearing an artpiece from three critical eras in mankind's story becomes extra special; particularly when one realises that this particular Zenith Type 20 comes driven with a manufacture calibre 679 "Elite" automatic movement.

Sans date, the Type 20 Extra Special enjoys the symmetry and purity of a true pilot's watch and at 45mm, a pedigree of watchmaking harkening to the time of pocket watches. Ultra legible SuperLumiNova on the face and the gorgeous Zenith plane line engraving on the titanium caseback adds panache for its maverick owner.



LONGINES HERITAGE 1935

Inspired by the wristwatch made for the Czech Air Force in the thirties, the lovingly nicknamed "Majetek" was hot property (pardon the pun) with the small circle of military watch collectors. At 41mm, it was a big watch by 1935 standards and its cushion shape case made it one of the most distinctive pilot's watches ever made.

The new Longines Heritage 1935 largely replicates the aesthetic with a small boost in proportions by 1 mm to the more contemporary 42mm. Loving attention to detail becomes more evident under a loupe when you discover that even the fonts on the dial are recreated in the same manner as the original – giving you that grainy vintage effect. Where the predecessor was hand-wound, the re-issue is driven by an automatic-winding ETA 2895. That said, the date function is a practical if nagging visual detail but has yet to deter collectors from the premise of a well made, affordable vintage military watch.



INSIDER'S PICK: HAMILTON KHAKI FIELD PIONEER AUTO

Hamilton's perpetual pervasiveness on pop culture radar is the result of two key elements – strong value proposition and its undeniable presence on the silver screen. From the acclaimed sci-fi flick *The Martian* to the beloved *Taken* trilogy, Hamilton is the everyman's watch and the Khaki Field Pioneer Auto is the definitive exemplar of how gorgeous heritage, great quality and good performance from a reliable movement makes watches from the brand such a compelling argument.

Available in 42 and 45mm editions, the deep chocolate brown dial, large onion style crown, aged SuperLumiNova numerals and vintage style pointers makes the timepiece especially appealing.



GET SMARTER

TAG Heuer "Connected" smart-watch has an even smarter premise

By Jonathan Ho



Back in 2014, I once opined that TAG Heuer had already made a Swiss smartwatch. Designed in 2002 by Jorg Hysek, I had considered the TAG Heuer Kirium Formula 1, worn ably by Colin Farrell as a spy-trainee in *The Recruit* as a vision for watchmaking technology grounded in acknowledgement of the past with an eye to the future. I had predicted that skeumorphic design or the application of aesthetic elements which serve a function in vintage design, keeps us emotionally connected (no-pun intended) to mechanical watches it was intended (at least at first) to replace.

When TAG Heuer, Intel Corporation and Google finally announced their connected watch this week (9 November 2015), the trio of Jean-Claude Biver, CEO of TAG Heuer, Brian Kranich, CEO of Intel Corp and David Singleton, VP of Engineering for Android; I discovered, I was only half right because TAG Heuer did a whole lot better.

While they eschewed the analog hand pointer interface I had hypothesised for my concept, TAG Heuer developed three specific digital watch dials replete with iconic design codes of their Carrera collection watch faces: the chronograph dial, the 3-hand and GMT in a series of three colours (black, deep blue or pearl white), each faithfully reproducing the appearance and functionality of a real dial from hands, index, counters, date window, minute track, right down to the shadows under the hands. The kicker: it displays time via digital hands and indexes even when the watch is in energy-saving mode.

This attention to skeumorphism is a key foundation in eventual adoption for many watch idiot savants. The La Chaux-de-Fonds manufacture even extends this focus on detail to ensuring that the dial and hands remain even while partner applications display pertinent information within the three counters of the chronograph dial thus keeping the illusion and suspension of disbelief: in other words, complete digital integration.

The second foundation, lies in case design, the 46mm case with back and lugs made from grade 2 titanium bequeaths the connected watch with a physicality and tactile component never before seen in other smartwatches. More importantly, the light impact resistant architecture is fully consistent with the elegance, characteristics and level of finish expected of a traditional timepiece, further enhancing the emotional and physical realism of your typical well-made Swiss watch.

Even the crown at 3 houses controls in addition (or in spite of) the sapphire crystal touchscreen.

IP67 water resistant and endowed with an Intel Atom processor Z34XX and running Android Wear, there's little doubt that the TAG Heuer Connected watch is "smart" – equipped with the myriad of mods and cons from audio streaming to bluetooth and WiFi, the Connected Watch runs enduringly for an entire day on a full charge. But what makes the watch even smarter is the underpinning philosophy behind it.

Having interviewed Mr. Biver, he admitted that the biggest conundrum a Swiss watchmaker faces is dealing with the mutual exclusive philosophies of an "eternal" work of mechanical artistry and the "ephemeral" execution of software and quickly-obsolete microchips. At the time, publication of his words would have made Biver look like your average CEO looking to hop on the smartwatch bandwagon but in this context, his genius is evident: at the end of the connected watch's two year warranty period, customers have the option to exchange their TAG Heuer Connected watch for a mechanical Swiss Made Carrera with similar design exclusively developed and reserved for the owners for only a top up price at USD 1500, Euro 1350, CHF 1400 and GBP 1100.

TAG Heuer Connected Watch retails at USD 1500, Euro 1350, CHF 1400 and GBP 1100.

"WE ARE INCREDIBLY PROUD TO BE UNVEILING THE FIRST CONNECTED WATCH, BRINGING MORE THAN 150 YEARS OF HISTORY FIRMLY INTO THE FUTURE. THE TAG HEUER CONNECTED WATCH GIVES YOU THE MEANS NOT ONLY TO CONNECT TO THE FUTURE, BUT ALSO TO CONNECT TO ETERNITY."

ACQUISITIONS

A whiff of the underground

By Cheryl Ann Chia



GUCCI EMBOSSED BELT WITH FELINE BUCKLE
Every hell-raiser needs one; a badass belt buckle.



GUCCI DEER LEATHER CAP
Round off your look with this timeless accessory finely crafted in deer leather with braided detailing.

PAUL SMITH 'FREE SPIRIT' PRINT SCARF



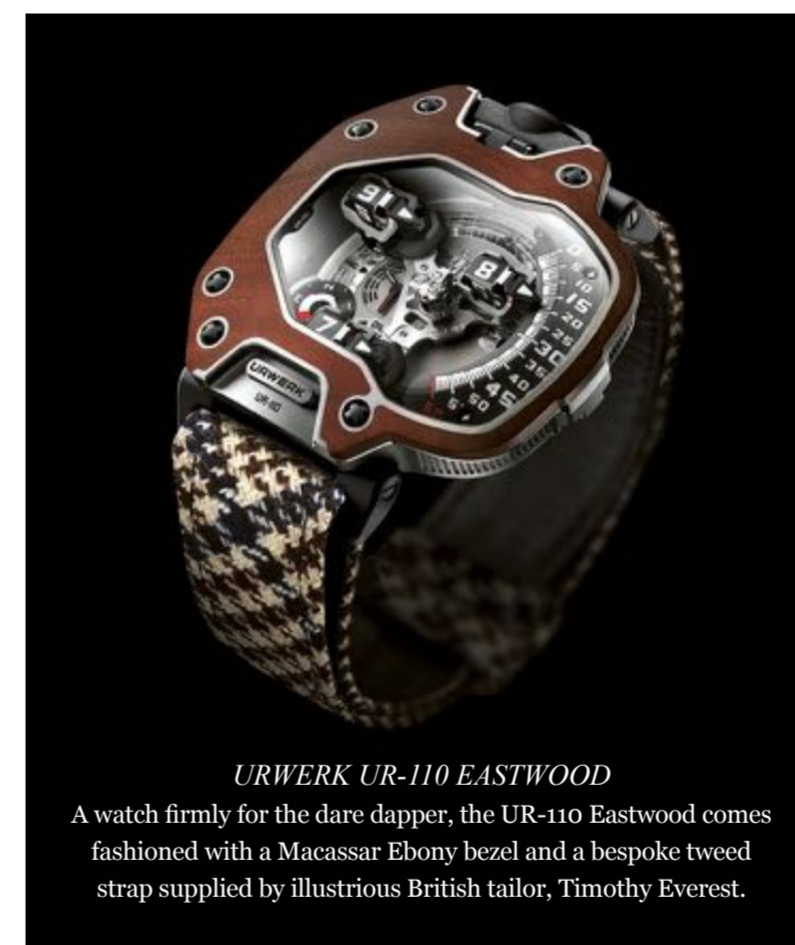
Be it loosely draped around the neck or worn bandana-style under hard-wearing jackets, this will add stylish verve to your ensemble.



BLEU DE CHAUFFE X BLITZ ÉCLAIR BAG
Crafted in organic leather, signed and dated by the artisan, the Éclair motorcycle saddlebag comes with multiple pockets, removable and fast tethering strap and back strengthening, ideal for road trips.



DIOR HOMME SUNGLASSES
Wear this handsome pair of shades to cut the glare with everything from casual separates to sleek city tailoring.



URWERK UR-110 EASTWOOD
A watch firmly for the dare dapper, the UR-110 Eastwood comes fashioned with a Macassar Ebony bezel and a bespoke tweed strap supplied by illustrious British tailor, Timothy Everest.



STEPHEN KENN TRAVEL COCKTAIL KIT
Bring the party with you. This leather, canvas, and elastic webbing kit comes with 9 bottles, a mixing spoon, a detailed instruction book and cocktail recipes created by some of the world's most vaunted bartenders.



BALMAIN BIKER JACKET
A symbol for the open road and an emblem of the outlaw.



HARLEY-DAVIDSON ELECTRA GLIDE ULTRA CLASSIC
A two-wheeled bona fide armed with an impressive infotainment system, one-touch saddlebags, enabling better airflow around the rider, more passing power and with the looks to thrill.



SAINT LAURENT SURF SNEAKERS
This irresistibly rugged, lived-in pair of treads will make a fine companion to your off-duty adventures.

SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vertu's new Signature Touch is the high performance smartphone for the next generation

By Jonathan Ho

While Vertu phones are usually lusted after for their opulent, artisanal qualities, the new Signature Touch is bound to make an impact beyond the ynonym for "haute luxury". Requiring hundreds of hours of assembly and finishing much like your watches, Vertu's commitment to aesthetic and material perfection now encompasses the computing aspects. Operating on Android 5.1, the 5.2-inch LCD displays 1080 pixels using a 130 carat scratch-proof and crack

resistant sapphire crystal. Boasting a powerful 21 megapixel camera with exceptional shutter speed and light sensitive sensors, the images captured are breathtaking. Paired with Dolby Digital plus virtual surround sound technology, the Signature Touch will deliver an entertainment experience beyond what your top-end phones can deliver today; it does this all wrapped in either semi-aniline calf, lizard and alligator leather framed with titanium and pure gold.

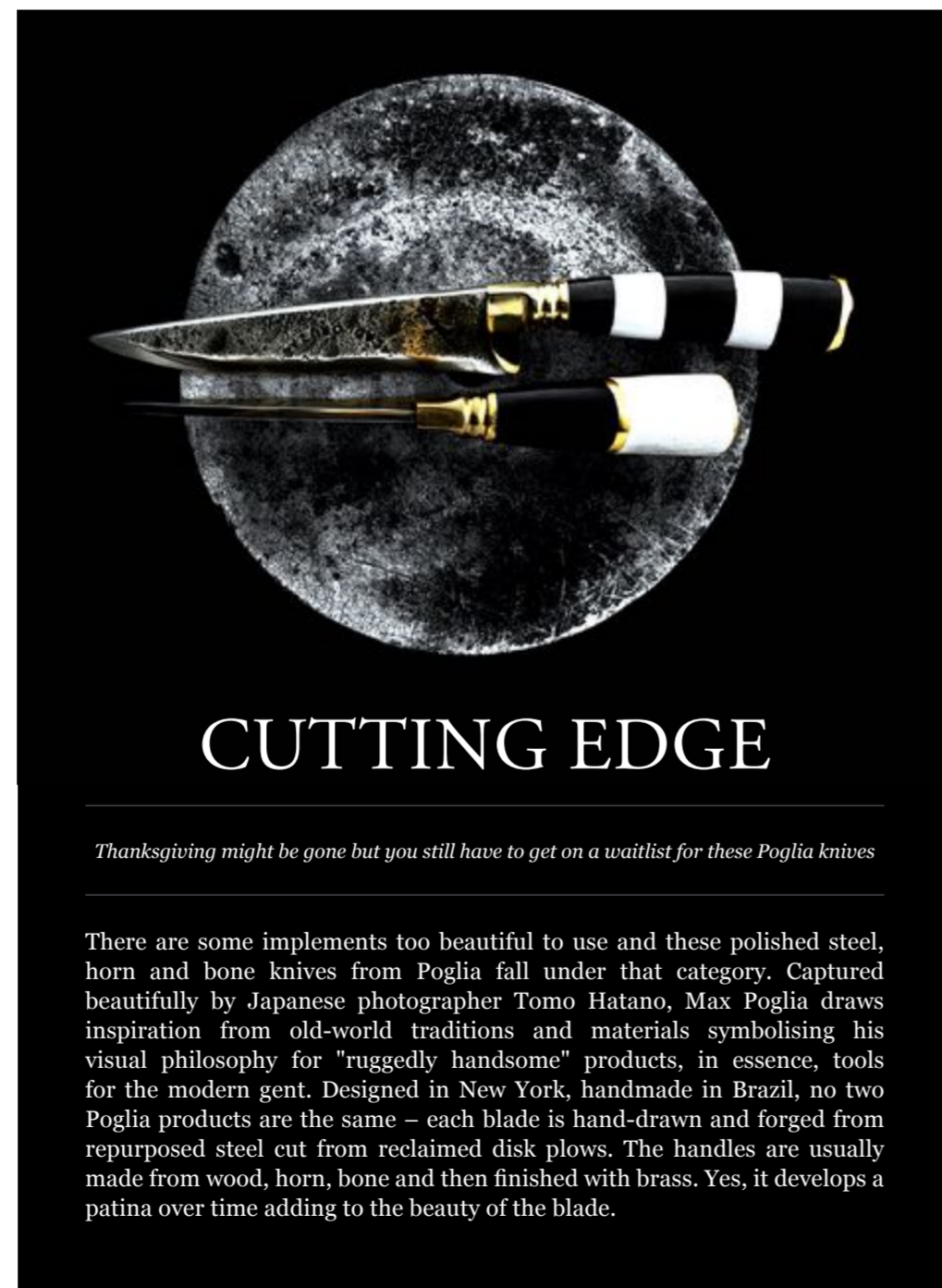


DRESS FOR GREATNESS

If the recent film Creed has your blood pumping for pugilist exercise routines, Shinola might have the perfect apparel for you



Inspired by one of the greatest boxers of our time, Detroit lifestyle purveyours Shinola joins the Muhammad Ali Center in a collaboration of epic proportions – a collection of apparel and accessories honouring The People's Champion. Just in time for the movie Creed, the latest from the brand's "Great Americans" series features a USD 2250 limited edition timepiece available in 32mm and 41mm inclusive of a set of rare photographs signed by acclaimed photojournalist Thomas Hoepker who chronicled his life in the 60s. Among other things: limited-edition boxing gloves, a Cassius Clay sweatshirt so you can re-create iconic street running scenes and a Detroit Arrow bike for your low interval aerobic days.



CUTTING EDGE

Thanksgiving might be gone but you still have to get on a waitlist for these Poglea knives

There are some implements too beautiful to use and these polished steel, horn and bone knives from Poglea fall under that category. Captured beautifully by Japanese photographer Tomo Hatano, Max Poglea draws inspiration from old-world traditions and materials symbolising his visual philosophy for "ruggedly handsome" products, in essence, tools for the modern gent. Designed in New York, handmade in Brazil, no two Poglea products are the same – each blade is hand-drawn and forged from repurposed steel cut from reclaimed disk plows. The handles are usually made from wood, horn, bone and then finished with brass. Yes, it develops a patina over time adding to the beauty of the blade.

REIGNING MEN

The rainy season calls for handmade coats from Tenue de Nimes & Hancock VA



Look absolutely regal with these handmade raincoats from Amsterdam. The vulcanised cotton outer is sharply cut and waxed creating a black-taupe-esque appearance with a distinct silhouette. Belying its lightweight appearance lies a detachable khaki quilted liner within which allows easy conversion for the garment into winterwear. Available exclusively through Tenue de Nimes in Amsterdam.

GO GAGA

Bentley Bentayga is probably one of the most desirable production SUVs to date

Joining the famed Bentley Heritage Collection is the Bentayga, a culmination of craft and technical expertise from the iconic maison's headquarters in Crewe, UK. The Bentayga is a product of four years, over 1500 jobs and an £840 million investment programme and it shows. According to Wolfgang Dürheimer, CEO of Bentley Motors, "(the) Bentley Bentayga will be the benchmark against which all other SUVs are measured, defining a new segment – the luxury SUV."



THE ALPHA OF OMEGA

The story of how technology re-invigorated Omega and led them to create the world's first Master Chronometer

By Jonathan Ho



Vintage models from 1968

In the annals of horological history, some terms become synonymous with the brands who coined them for their various innovations. Mention "Fifty Fathoms" and you think Blancpain, "Breguet over-coil" and we think Breguet (heck, it's already in the name), bring up Omega and invariably, people think about "Co-Axial". Today, we celebrate Omega's recent announcement and debut of the world's first METAS certified Master Chronometer in October but over 20 years ago, George Daniels' Co-Axial was shopped across the industry for almost 20 years to Patek Philippe, Rolex, Urban Jürgensen and even Zenith.

For various reasons, all of the brands mentioned decided to pass on the new escapement even if they were intrigued by the technological premise it presented: differing from the customary Swiss lever escapement, the revolutionary assortment consisted of three components: a coaxial wheel, escape wheel and a lever with three pallet stones – a complete departure from the conventional escapement. It was Daniels' new escapement was the synthesis of his dream to eliminate sources of timekeeping error.

Yet, for all the groundbreaking improvement to chronometry and precision, many of the brands passed citing expense to retool and difficulties with series production. Save one, Omega.

For the naysayers, Daniels' vision was a complicated component, suited only for connoisseurs. But Omega saw potential and in a deal which allowed George Daniels to retain use of his invention, Omega set about preparing themselves for a great experiment – turning a "connoisseur's escapement" into a serially produced assortment.

The sliding motion in a traditional Swiss lever escapement generates a tremendous amount of friction thus requiring lubrication to function optimally. What Omega saw in the Co-Axial, was an escapement where the "locking and impulse pallets have entirely separate functions" and transmitted energy using lateral impulses, comparatively, with less contact surfaces, the reduction in friction and thus less wear, tear and lubrication was an engineering coup (from a servicing



and customer service standpoint) that Nicolas G. Hayek (and thus Omega) couldn't afford to pass up.

In the old days, Omega was one of the original Big Three, industrialising the Co-Axial was not only vital from a commercial perspective but as a statement of technical competence, it was an integral step towards pushing Omega to the forefront once more: a truly industrialised movement on the calibre of haute horlogerie. Today, the

Master Chronometer is a prime example of the cumulative efforts of Omega's thirst for advanced mechanical and material sciences; as a brand, its performance as a "billionaire" watchmaker with global reach and influence has cast the spectre of darker days behind.

**All Omega mechanical watches (from 2013 onwards) are equipped with the Co-Axial escapement with the exception of the classic Moonwatch.*





WRITING'S ON THE WRIST

At first blush Montblanc seems hellbent on establishing horological bona fides, churning out complications designed to impress other watchmakers but CEO Jerome Lambert explains it's ultimately all for the consumers.

By Jonathan Ho

When one considers the superlative Vasco de Gamma, it's almost too easy to tar the maison with some ill-considered perspective that the company is trying to bootstrap their way into the position of a major watchmaker. But the fact is that a maison largely built on a foundation of being the "Rolls Royce of pens" is in essence asking the consumer to consider that Montblanc watches are able to withstand the same scrutiny as their acetate products.

Consider also, as a business, Richemont operates in four pillars (jewellery, specialist watchmaker, others, etc) of which Montblanc stands as a lone maison, a unique position considering each of its sister brands finds itself pigeonholed, probably by corporate necessity, whereas the 109 year old manufactory stands apart as a triumvirate of artisan pen, leather and watchmaker. History remembers 1997 when they debuted their first watch but if CEO Jerome Lambert had his way, you'd remember the name to be a lifelong companion, one which lives in your pockets and on your wrist.

When you first took helm of the brand, you described Montblanc as a life-long companion, how close are you to that vision?

I want to believe that it's a long term vision and it's a point of reference which drives us. The way our clients use our in their lives provides us with strong direction in what we do and Montblanc has capably captured these dimensions. What astounds me is the creativity of the maison, all the activities are driven by inventiveness.

What were some of the challenges faced in preparation for closer integration between Villeret and Le Locle facilities?

One of the biggest challenges was that guys familiar working in one environment would experience a change of culture even if the facility was just 15 minutes away. These two worlds operating independently before and to get them to recognise the best of what each had to offer was a challenge as well. In Villeret, we kept production and the execution of grand complications untouched. The teams collaborate on the development level for now. But eventually, we hope they will be able to function together. Ultimately, it's my job to ensure our passion meets desire of our clients while keeping the brand's DNA consistent.

Was it your intention to blur the lines between manufactures focused on haute horlogerie and main production and raise the bar to show what true watchmaking is?

When you work on a grand complication, it takes at 5 to 8 years to see your product coming to life. For others, you see production in 2 - 3 years. I think it's very important for the whole team to have an ambition. Shared passion for fine watching isn't just a message for fans and clients, it's an expression of ambition.

The heritage collection has been a success, what do you think is the reason of its success?

I believe the strong element of originality was a deciding factor. The perpetual calendar benefited from strong price positioning but the other timepieces enjoyed function and in the case of the skeleton version, keen aesthetics, uniqueness and good value make them stand out. The entire line was provided from inside out where functionality was placed first rather than deciding a design and then working inward. Form follows function.

IN VILLERET, WE KEPT PRODUCTION AND THE EXECUTION OF GRAND COMPLICATIONS UNTOUCHED. THE TEAMS COLLABORATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT LEVEL FOR NOW. BUT EVENTUALLY, WE HOPE THEY WILL BE ABLE TO FUNCTION TOGETHER. ULTIMATELY, IT'S MY JOB TO ENSURE OUR PASSION MEETS DESIRE OF OUR CLIENTS WHILE KEEPING THE BRAND'S DNA CONSISTENT.



Montblanc Heritage Chronométrie Chronograph Quantième Annuel

Some collectors feel that as CEOs go, you are the sort who leaves his mark on the brand, do you ever fear too much of your DNA influences what the maison does?

I'm not worried at all but you're right. A CEO has to be very aware of what his taste is and what is accurately the brand's; How both perspectives combine is critical. That's why 3 years ago, when Richemont proposed that I joined Montblanc I agreed; after 10 years at Jaeger LeCoultre, people were joking that the JL was short-form for Jerome Lambert and the influence was becoming obvious. The people who work for you will also become more attuned to what you want and what you expect and start calculating how to please you rather than what works for the brand. A CEO needs to be a servant for the brand and not there to express themselves through the brand, especially one with over 100 years of history.

So some of the resemblance, as in the case of the heritage series, to timepieces from other maisons is purely coincidence?

This is more of an issue with classical fine watchmaking. There's only so many permutations between a 50s era Patek and a Vacheron. The spirit and design ethos has many shared elements of Swiss fine-watchmaking. I know how to use these codes as do many others, so therefore, each classical expression will find similarities between each true watchmaking brand all in accordance to strict definitions of classic watchmaking.

Is it hard to juggle the three roles as artisan of fine pens, fine leather and fine watches?

On one hand, it's a challenge of 3 dimensions. On the other hand, it's interesting to work on complementary products with such close integration. The maison has an interesting heritage to share. From the creation of the leather straps to the birth of the movement, each item produced is meaningful to the other products within the maison so the brand is richer for it by the end of the day. ♡



Montblanc Timewalker Exotourbillon Minute Chronograph Limited Edition 100

Photography: Wong Wei Liang
Photography Assistant: Wong Mei Kee
Styling: Vernon Sim
Fashion Assistant: Christine Lim
Hair: Chester Wong, Hair Philosophy using Redken
Make-Up: TG Goh using Inglot colours
Model: Matthew C, Uprfront
Shot on location at Hotel Vagabond Singapore

Geophysic® True Second, Jaeger-LeCoultre;
Shirt, cable knit sweater, pants and tie, Alfred Dunhill

BLACK OPS/BLACK TIE

The spectre of sartorial faux pas might finally be lifted thanks to these increasingly superlative exemplars of extreme timekeeping

By Jonathan Ho

"REMEMBER THE DAYS WHEN THE SEX WAS FUN AND THE DIVING DANGEROUS?"

Jacques Yves Cousteau was a diver without peer, singlehandedly spawning an industry and awareness of the newest (relative to the 50s and 60s) frontier of exploration simultaneously raising the bar for daring-do antics. Sans social media, scuba and the world below the face of the ocean was alien as was the gear that accompanied it. The steel behemoths (again, relative to the 50s and 60s) were unrefined to civilians who had become accustomed to the elegance of Jaeger LeCoultre, Favre Leuba and Jean Lasalle (since acquired by Piaget) nevertheless the dive watch soon became a badge of honour, identifying the man whose wrist it graced as a man of adventure and mystery.

As a horological milestone, dive watches occupy a place of legend as Blancpain and Rolex raced to extreme depths as Cousteau once did; then diving became more commonplace and soon, collectors were looking for brave new worlds to conquer beyond the seas, what better place to go than the arctic ice shelf? Whether on the arms of General Petraeus in congress or a Captain of the USS Nautilus under the polar ice-caps, hyper masculine tool watches are no longer defined by their functional design, instead, they're exemplified by the men who wear them. Today sex is dangerous (still fun though) and adventure is as sexy as the timepieces built specifically for them.

*JAEGER-LECOULTRE
GEOPHYSIC TRUE SECOND*

While the International Geophysical Year began in 1882 (named International Polar Year) as a laudable international effort to explore the polar ice-caps, the escalating tensions of the Cold War eventually led to a "weaponisation" of the scientific endeavour. The world's first nuclear submarine, the USS Nautilus would navigate under the Arctic ice, signaling to the Russians that the north pole was no geographical barrier to the northern borders of the USSR. In that darkness, Jaeger-LeCoultre's Geophysic was a dream given form combining the reliability required by the Captain of an active nuclear and the elegant simplicity of a dress watch.

An explorer's watch first and foremost, the Geophysic was among the pioneers for amagnetic timekeeping. The original bearing a soft iron dial and inner case with the added benefit of a Glucydur balance for magnetic field resistance up to 600 gauss, the watch was robust the likes the world had never seen. While the Geophysic 1958 was re-issued as a limited edition in 2014, the latest model is permanent to the collection.

The 39.6mm timepiece features alternating satin-finished sides and polished lugs but beneath the aesthetics of white gold applied five minute markers and the grained dial is

an innovative high precision complication, the Calibre 770 with Gyrolab balance wheel and true seconds.

True seconds is Jaeger-LeCoultre's interpretation of dead beat seconds where the second hand ticks each second rather than sweeps as customary for most mechanical movements allowing for precision timekeeping. Where Quartz movements spend more energy keeping constant sweeping motion for the seconds hand, a mechanical calibre usually spends more energy ticking 60 times per minute and thus, the Grande Maison takes the idea of dead beat seconds and implements it in a manner befitting a veteran watchmaker, positioning a full second hairspring near the central axis thus allowing for the unique "tick" and reducing potential for amplitude loss with each jumping second. The Gyrolab balance also eschews the traditional wheel shape of the balance and embraces a "rounded H" type wheel.

The resulting decreased mass leads to more efficient use of energy and as a concept design, the new balance sees commercial production exclusively in the Geophysic range which also includes the Universal Time. The iconic, Le Sentier produced assortment is visible through sapphire caseback adding to its allure. Retail for **SGD\$25,900**.



Geophysic® True Second, Jaeger-LeCoultre



Seamaster 300 "Spectre" Limited Edition, Omega;
Safari shirt, pants and belt, Bally

Seamaster 300 "Spectre" Limited Edition, Omega



*ON THE COVER:
OMEGA SEAMASTER 300 "SPECTRE"
LIMITED EDITION*

Steeped in tradition, Omega and indeed the Seamaster 300 has a deep history with underwater activities and the military needs of the British SAS. For 2015's hotly anticipated SPECTRE, the iconic timepiece based on the 1957's Seamaster 300 CK2913 returns with the keen blending of innovation and high horology. Aesthetically, the same watch case and broad arrow hands make a welcome return but subtle changes improve upon the classic design – the Omega logo is enlarged and takes position of the "12" numeral along with other understated typographical changes but the most striking aspect belongs to the rare "lollipop" central seconds hand adding that extra touch of vintage goodness. That said, the architecture of the dial is the feature most likely to merit further exploration.

At first blush, it appears to be your typical high-lume sandwich dial, instead Omega has opted for etching out the hour and minute indexes and then filling the recessed spaces with artificially aged Super LumiNova. Completing the triumvirate of new visuals, the limited edition Seamaster 300 enjoys an atypical (for a diving watch) bi-directional rotating bezel made from polished ceramic. While a diving bezel is usually uni-directional due to dive timing needs, the requirements of the LiquidMetal® 12 hour scale is necessary to keep espionage operatives knowledgeable of a secondary timezone.

The final but arguably most important detail for international men of mystery however, lies in the revolutionary new movement – the Master Co-Axial Calibre 8400 resistant to magnetic fields of up to 15,000 gauss. Eschewing the soft iron case architecture utilised by other brands, Manufacture Omega's solution involves special alloys at the essential components like the escapement assortment comprised of silicon (Si14) balance spring which allows them to employ a high theatrical sapphire caseback, displaying the arabesque Geneva waves on bridges and rotor to maximum effect. The limited edition 7,007 piece run with 60 hours power reserve is expected to retail at **SGD 9,800**.

Heritage Black Bay, Tudor;
Velvet tuxedo jacket and
tuxedo pants, Bally



Heritage Black Bay, Tudor



TUDOR HERITAGE BLACK BAY

Undoubtedly the most anticipated heritage re-issue since the Black Bay Red 79220R, this Heritage Black Bay delivers the most nostalgic return to the glory days of Tudor dive watches when they still had specific components "signed" Rolex. Even as the Wilsdorf Foundation continues to try pushing the anglophile inspired maison as an independent entity, the relationship with the classic Submariners from which Tudor took its DNA is undeniable, especially when it comes to a historical re-issue like the Black Bay.

Conceptually, the red and blue editions of the Black Bay were already competent homages to the old-school 1956 divers but the black bezel Black Bay with red triangle set beneath the pearl drives the point home, announcing the Black Bay's epic return and the herald of another bygone but much beloved (and sought after) timepiece, the 6538 Big Crown. I don't know if Rolex is ever going to re-issue a Big Crown and while CEO Jean-Frederic Dufour proved capable in recovering forgotten classic designs in Zenith's archives, rarely does Rolex look backwards (case in point: Vintage Rolex watches sent for servicing have been known to return with all new modern components), so this latest Black Bay might just be the closest we get to an original re-issue sans 904L steel.

That said, the case follows a slightly modified, enlarged 316L to match the large crown with contrast PVD crown tube cover and the Tudor-modified (decoration and adjustment) 2824 self-winding calibre within. Dial finishing truly carries the classical aesthetic thanks to the contrast of matt with gilt-typography and pink-gold indexes replete with the Tudor 'flower' rather than the modern brand 'shield'. The 41mm timepiece resistant to 200m is available on leather, steel or woven perlon strap. *Please refer to the retailer for availability and prices.*



Marine Big Date 5817ST, Breguet;
Suede shirt, Bally



BREGUET MARINE BIG DATE 5817ST

Unbeknownst to all but the most avid collectors, Breguet actually produced a dive watch in 1965. The No. 1646 was a small, 60 piece run which only surfaced in recent memory when a collector, having picked up a rarity found nothing online and then decided to have Breguet authenticate it.

50 years on, no true descendent remains but the Breguet Marine all but assumes that mantle of ocean activity in spirit. Launched in 2000, the Breguet Marine 5817 with Big Date is water resistant to 100 metres and while not a dive watch per se, it is a reminder of that brand milestone when an entity actually requested Breguet for a small private run of dive watches.

As far as tool watches go, the Marine is as gracefully appointed as it gets – Big date complication with Breguet signature dial aesthetics – black rhodium gold dial, hand-engraved rose-engine details and multi-step case construction. It was recently announced that Breguet would be transitioning to silicon parts moving away from the 'annular balance' with classic hairspring used during the last 15 years to the all new Breguet balance with silicon spring. That said, while the frequency and 65 hour power reserve remains the same, the new calibre with amagnetic balance spring is better regulated with tolerances improving from 0/+12 seconds per day to chronometric variances of -1/+5 seconds per day. The Breguet Marine retails for **SGD 22,200**.

Fifty Fathoms Bathyscaphe in Sedna Gold, Blancpain;
Ribbed knit turtleneck sweater, Bally



*BLANCPAIN FIFTY FATHOMS
BATHYSCAPHE IN SEDNA GOLD*

Amongst the most evocative names in dive watches like Submariner and Seamaster lies the legendary "Fifty Fathoms". Widely considered to be the pioneer of the modern dive watch, Blancpain, their association with famed divers like Jacques-Yves Cousteau has made the Fifty Fathoms a grail for many collectors.

Like the Seamaster 300, the Fifty Fathoms was also produced at the request of "Combat Swimmers" of the French Navy and conceptualised by the valorous war veteran Captain Robert Maloubier, finally launching in 1953 and providing the foundational blueprint for all dive watches today.

Even if modern diver's watches are widely accepted as luxury good in contemporary terms, the new Bathyscaphe in Sedna gold exemplifies that ideal by capturing the spirit of the original model as well as integrating the latest technical innovations like a highly reliable low mass (thus less prone to shocks) non-magnetic silicon balance spring, unavailable to naval commandoes at the time.

Authentic to the traditional Bathyscaphe first launched, the recent edition incorporates the scratch-resistant unidirectional Sedna® gold bezel with ceramic insert and Ceragold® hour-markers, making it a truly robust (300m water resistance) yet luxurious gold timepiece whose proprietary Sedna® elemental composition makes it not just immensely vivid in terms of hue but hardness thanks to the addition of platinum. The watch with 120 hour power reserve retails at **SGD 39,300/MYR 90,800** (canvas strap with Deployant buckle); **SGD 37,200/MYR 85,600** (NATO strap). ♡

DUST TO DIAMOND

Amidst Victoria's swelling rebirth, *The Millenary* speaks to Tom Eshelby, Residential Director of Land Securities on the completion of Kings Gate and how the district is designed to become the beating heart of the city's future

By Cheryl Ann Chia

Despite its centrality, and being surrounded by some of London's most historic and prestigious landmarks like Belgravia, Westminster, the Buckingham Palace and St James Park, Victoria has never shared the same stature. "It always felt like the sort of place you don't want to stop and take your time," says Tom Eshelby, Residential Director of UK's leading developer Land Securities. A drab commuter and commercial hotspot filled with grey, work-worn government office blocks and transport hubs, Victoria has always been characterised by transience and activity. But that's old news.

Following the completion of luxury residence, Kings Gate, wisely situated in the hub of Victoria, change is afoot and scope for future growth has become the main driver of demand. The elegant 14-storey residential Kings Gate tower comprises 100 state-of-the-art apartments, boasting panoramic views of the city skyline as well as a flagship Jamie's Italian Restaurant located on the ground and first floors. Meanwhile, Nova comprising 170 apartments, right at the doorstep of Buckingham Palace is approaching completion in 2016 and is set to bring a host of exciting new dining experiences to Victoria. What was once an unsung district in Central London is fast becoming one of the most desirable destinations to work and even more so, live in.

How important was it to create a sense of place in Victoria?

There are only a few parts of London that has experienced this scale of change. Six years ago Victoria wasn't seen as a prestigious part of London. The architecture was wrong, the public space was wrong; there was a lack of softness and greenery. Thus, we aimed for each individual building to add merit architecturally. On one side of the road you might see some beautiful old 18th century building and you might see Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace but where there are new buildings, to Land Securities great credit, Kings Gate fits with its surrounds. Every bit matters because that's what consciously or subconsciously makes people feel like they are in a great neighborhood. We sought not to just

build bigger, more modern buildings but also transform the whole cityscape and create a lot more permeability for pedestrians to get around Victoria.

What are the greatest distinctions of Kings Gate?

I think most would be struck by the fact that they are right in the midst of all the hustle and bustle of London but once you walk into Kings Gate, it's incredibly quiet and calm. You are greeted in a nice residential lobby by the concierge and suddenly the world seems like a more peaceful place. Journey up to the fifth floor and one would find fantastic views but it's at the top that one gets to see straight across London. And the other thing I suppose most people would take away from it is that the apartments feel like they were designed for the sort of high value that they are. It's perfect and that's the point. It's an elegant building that actually contributes to the built environment.

What was the basis of the inspiration and mission for the interiors of Kings Gate?

With Kings Gate in particular, I wanted to have all of the energy and excitement that comes with being in Central London and yet once you come off of Victoria Street and into the little road where Kings Gate sits, a city oasis awaits. All of the design decisions were about creating a bit of a haven for people to live in. So you're right amongst it which is brilliant if you want to get a cab or you want to go to the shops or restaurants but within your building, it feels like a nice calm, relaxed home. Kings Gate has got a hundred apartments, it isn't super huge, but it has a certain presence to it.

How would you describe the style of design? Did the surrounding environment play a role in influencing the interiors?

There's an Italian feel about the building, a sort of softness and richness that comes through with the stone and the façade and so on. We followed through with the interiors. It's got a certain calm grandeur and a double



façade. We've put the right quality of floors and kitchens that buyers sort of demand and expect at this level. And then it's for them to come in and use that as a base and build upon and put their own stamp on it in terms of interior design. We designed them to be spacious wherever possible and the rooms are of a decent size so it feels luxurious. Luxury comes through in the space you're living in. It's not just about what your bathroom floor is made of, it's also how big that bathroom is and how it flows and so on.

What were the key aspects of the floor plan at Nova?

At Nova, we tried to keep it open plan despite its complexity. It's not the sort of foursquare, simple building. It's got lots and lots of tiny details which make all the apartments slightly different. On the whole, there were some decisions made about specifications that are inherently modern. There were quite a few apartments furnished with polished concrete floors. It looks amazing. Such a modernist building demanded that we used our imagination a bit more, allowing us to make daring decisions that complement the kind of aesthetic style.

How would you define luxury living today?

Luxury is more about the invisible side of property. Our target market is international, whether based in the UK or overseas. The one thing they all want is convenience and service. They can leave the flat, fly out of town and come home at the drop of a hat, it's all there. Also, it's about providing them with the sort of materials that they want, that they would have chosen for themselves. Putting the right quality of kitchen or make the bathroom feels like the sort of quality they are used to having in their other homes. It has to feel like it was made for them.

What do you think of the onslaught of branded luxury residences?

It's too much of a look. Luxury is not being told how your flat's going to look or how you're going to live. You don't prescribe that someone is going to live in a certain way. You suggest, you put down the base materials and leave it to them to decide. It's not really the developer's job to finish the apartment to a precise look and feel. The best job is done when you provide something that can be made to look and feel in various different ways that people want it to be. ☺



Within the penthouses, Lynch have created grand, light filled living areas with floor to ceiling height windows, private bedroom quarters and a show-stopping Georgian style staircase leading up to the outside space with traditional box hedging in the roof gardens.

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ON THE COVERS



Seamaster 300 "Spectre" Limited Edition, Omega;
 Safari shirt, pants and belt, Bally



Dress, Gucci





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