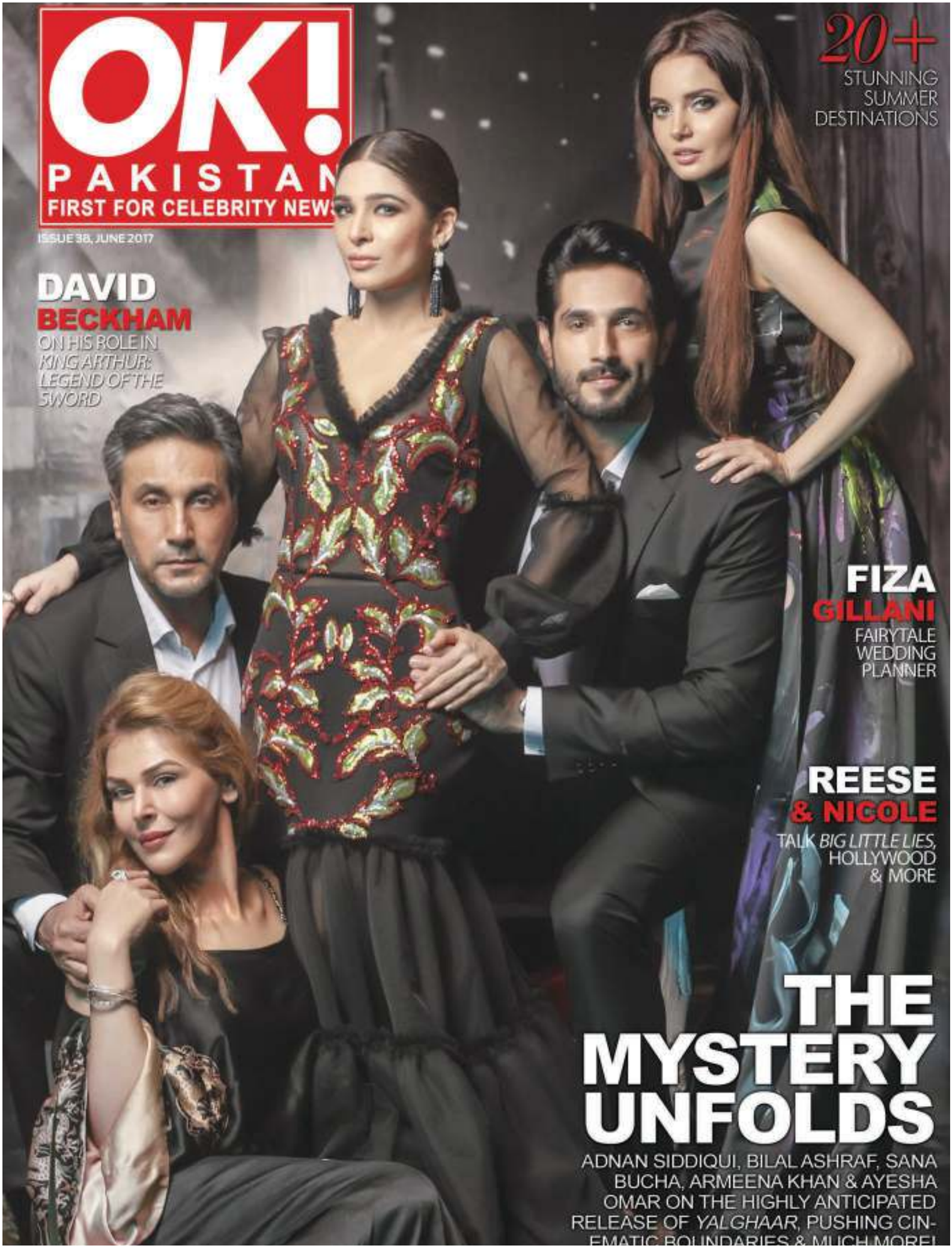

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ISSUE 38, JUNE 2017
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TALK BIG LITTLE LIES, HOLLYWOOD & MORE
THE MYSTERY UNFOLDS
ADNAN SIDDIQUI, BILAL ASHRAF, SANA BUCHA, ARMEENA KHAN & AYESHA OMAR ON THE HIGHLY ANTICIPATED RELEASE OF YALGHAAR, PUSHING CINEMATIC BOUNDARIES & MUCH MORE!



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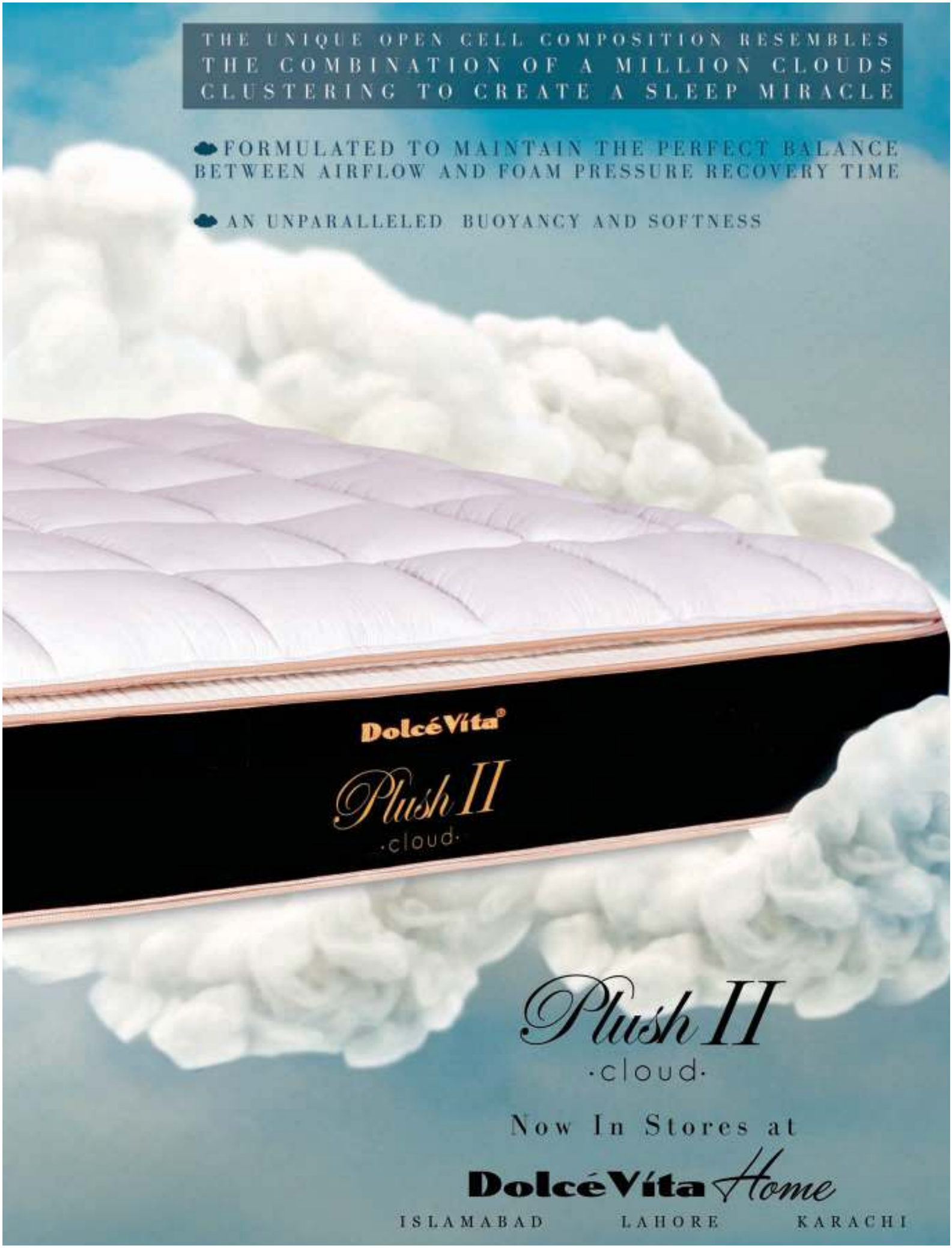

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OK! PAKISTAN

CONTENTS

ISSUE 38, JUNE 2017

Features

18 *OK*! NEWS
26 SOCIETY DIARY
56 *YALGHAAR*: THE MYSTERY UNFOLDS
The cast of hotly anticipated *Yalghaar* sit down with *OK*! Pakistan
72 DAVID BECKHAM
The footballer talks about his role in Guy Ritchie's *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword*
76 FIZA GILLANI
The event planner talks about her company, inspiration and much more
84 NICOLE KIDMAN AND REESE WITHERSPOON
The Hollywood starlets talk about their new television series, *Big Little Lies*
92 *OK*! ON THE LIST:
24 Stunning summer destinations!

Fashionista

113 BEST DRESSED
114 RED CARPET
116 EDITORIAL: HIGH TIDE
124 PAKISTAN FASHION WEEK LONDON
126 AMFAR 2017
134 FASHION EDIT: GINGHAM STYLE
136 MEN'S EDIT: PATCHES
138 JEWELLERY EDIT: ROSE GOLD
140 *OK*! SPOTLIGHT: KIRAN AMAN
144 STREETSTYLE
146 MY WONDERFUL LIFE: ARJUMAND AMIN
148 STYLE CRUSH: ANUSH AMMAR & SHAHZAD NOOR
154 *OK*! CONFIDENTIAL: NAHID KERMALI
160 TRENDING
164 BEAUTY ESSENTIALS
166 GET THE LOOK: SABEEKA IMAM
167 BEAUTY EDIT: BLACK MAGIC
168 BEAUTY BUZZ: TRIED AND TESTED
169 BEAUTY EDIT: GO BOLD
170 BEAUTY EDIT: VEG OUT

Lifestyle

172 UP CLOSE: MAIRA CHINOY
174 ART: WHAT'S ON?
176 LITERATI: *THE PARTY WORKER*
180 DINE DIVINE: THE DELICATESSEN
182 *OK*! HEALTH: YOUR NEW YOGA WORKOUT
186 *OK*! TRAVEL: LAKE MAGGIORE
188 TRAVELLER'S TALE: MAIRA PAGGANWALA
190 WORLD IN ACTION
192 ASTROLOGY & TAROT



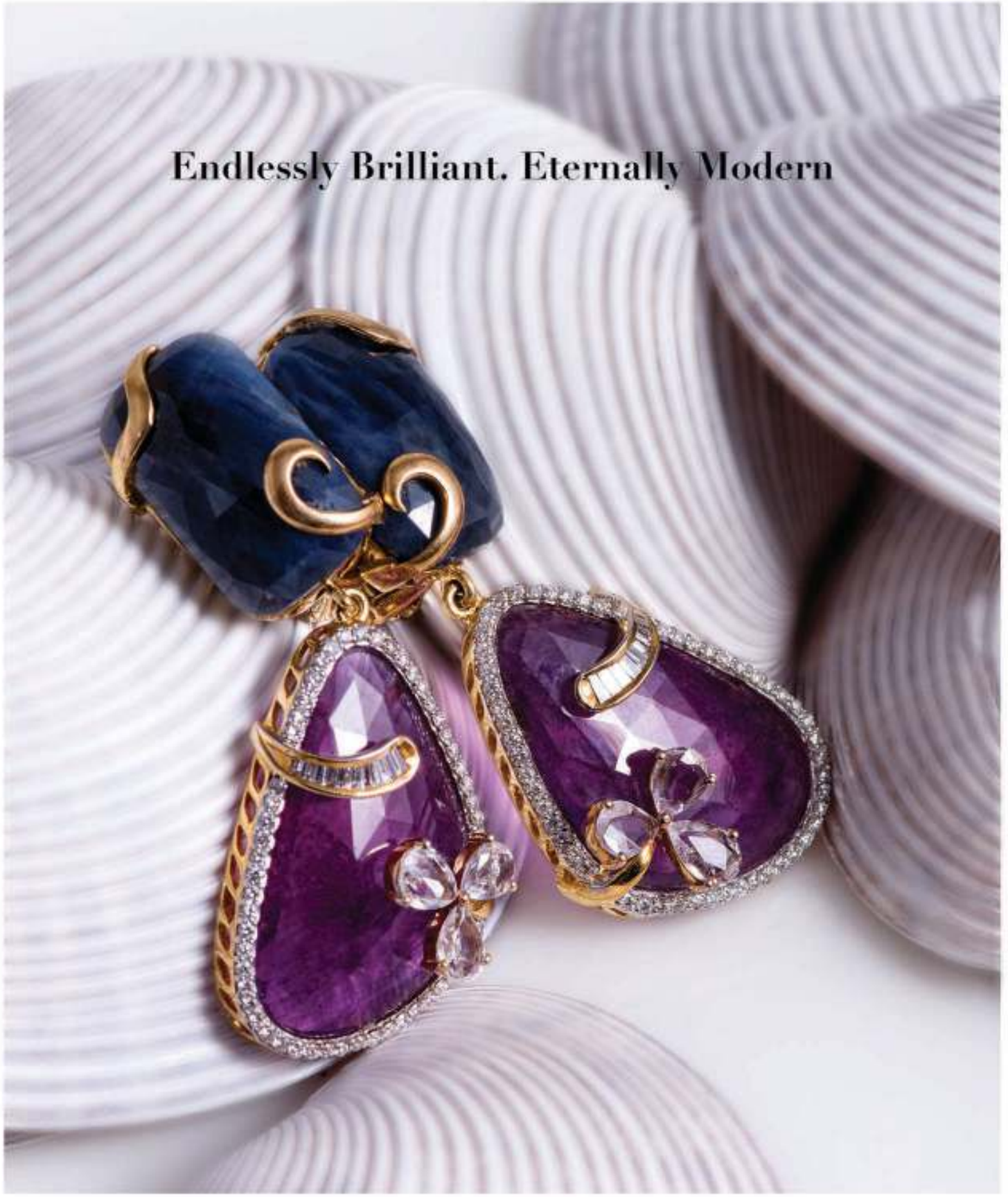








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Editor's Note



Yalghaar has been in the making for three years and is a labour of love for the stellar cast as well as the director, Dr. Hassan Waqas Rana who has gone to great lengths to ensure that the film is as close to reality as possible. Based on the true story of the military operation carried out against extremists in Peochar Valley, Swat, *Yalghaar* is a tribute to Pakistan's martyrs, the valiant soldiers and officers who sacrificed their lives for our beloved nation. The film explores the aftermath of the operation, and how the people involved were affected deeply on a personal level.

Boasting a huge ensemble cast, *Yalghaar* is easily one of the most anticipated movies of 2017 and has garnered tremendous interest in the media. *OK*! Pakistan sits down for an exclusive conversation with Adnan Siddiqui, Bilal Ashraf, Armeena Khan, Sana Bucha, and Ayesha Omar as they relive the filming process and talk about the challenges involved.

Hollywood stalwarts Reese Witherspoon and Nicole Kidman talk about their TV series, *Big Little Lies*, which is based on the best-selling book by Liane Moriarty. The story revolves around five women, and shows their lives in a very authentic way. "There were just so many aspects of it that were so relatable to the lives of women...it wasn't about them being good or bad. It's just that they showed every spectrum, every colour of women's lives," says Witherspoon, elaborating on the premise of the TV series which has resonated with the audience.

We catch up with Fiza Gillani, the creative force behind Papermint Events, who has made a niche for herself as one of the most sought after event planners in the country.

We hope you will enjoy reading the special Eid Supplement that accompanies this issue. From designer collections to beauty essentials to accessories to sweet and savoury treats, this is our edit of the best out of the vast array of choices available on the market.

Wishing everyone a blessed Ramazan and a very happy Eid with family and loved ones!

Sara

Sara Amir Turab
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Editor's Picks



Candace Cameron Bure's new book



Zircon & Sapphire Earrings by Ali Javeri Jewellers

Vinod Khanna, Rishi Kapoor & Sridevi starrer, Chandni





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Pippa Middleton Weds James Matthews



Younger sister of Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge wed financier James Matthews in Berkshire, near her parents' home. Prince George was a page boy, Princess Charlotte an adorable flower girl, and the Duchess of Cambridge was a maid of honour of sorts, as 33-year-old Pippa Middleton married her billionaire hedge fund manager man, 41-year-old James Matthews.

With the British weather on their side, the couple exchanged vows at the 12th century St Mark's church in Berkshire, following up with a bubbly reception at Englefield House, before the big night's celebrations in a huge glass marquee erected in Pippa's parents' grounds. And reality TV met royalty as James's brother Spencer, a former star of UK reality TV show, *Made In Chelsea*, hung out with Princes William and Harry, while Harry's *Suits* star girlfriend, Meghan Markle was there for the reception, after Harry drove back to Kensington Palace to pick her up after the service.



With Pippa wearing a gown made by British designer, Giles Deacon, sister Kate opted to wear Alexander McQueen – the fashion house who designed her wedding dress – with the colour of her dress matching the sashes of the flower girls' Pepa and Co. dresses. And although Kate was keen to keep a low profile on the day, the Duchess was spied giving three-year-old George a telling off, after he reportedly stepped on auntie Pippa's dress, causing the little Prince to have a bit of a meltdown. However, George soon cheered up and had plenty of fun with the other tots in the wedding party, who included flower girls Countess Philippa Hoyos, Lily French, Avia Horner and Princess Charlotte, and his fellow pageboys Casimir Tatos, Edward Sebire and William Ward.

After the ceremony, the happy couple jumped into a classic E-Type Jaguar and headed for Michael and Carole Middleton's home, where a giant glass 'portapalace' had been flown in from Belgium and put up in the garden.

At the evening reception guests tucked into canapés of mini haggis, foie gras, steak, langoustines and prawns then enjoyed Scottish lamb for mains, before hitting the dance floor with tunes provided by a live band, who belted out covers of hit songs by the likes of The white Stripes and Eric Prydz. And the newlyweds had their own version of a flyby, when a Spitfire from the Boultbee Flight Academy jetted overhead to impress guests. For their honeymoon, Pippa and James opted for the ultimate in eco-luxury, jetting off to The Brando in Tetiaroa, French Polynesia – the island which used to belong to Hollywood star, Marlon Brando.



Armeena Khan Joins A Very Select List Of Nominees At The Eastern Eye: Arts, Theatre & Culture Awards



Canadian/Pakistani actress Armeena Khan joins a very select list of nominees at The Eastern Eye: Arts, Theatre & Culture Awards for the category of *Eastern Eye Award for Film: Best Actress* for her role as Meena in the film *Janaan*. Other nominees include Indira Varma for her performance in a drama series and Sanam Saeed for her role in *Rahm*.

Indeed, The Eastern Eye Arts, Theatre & Culture Awards are organised by the Asian Media & Marketing Group, the publishers of Eastern Eye and *Garavi Gujarat* news weekly. *Eastern Eye* is Britain's Asian weekly newspaper with national coverage. Regarded as the authentic voice of British Asians in the UK, covering politics, business, the arts, Bollywood and sport.

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Party At The Palace





As they mark the 20th anniversary of their mother's death, William and Harry last week hosted a celebration at Buckingham Palace to honour the children and families of fallen members of the British Armed Forces. Telling the crowd, "Today was organised to celebrate you guys. We're here to remind you that we as a family, and as a nation will never, ever forget the sacrifices that all of you here have made," Harry also told the families, "I can assure you that Buckingham Palace gardens have not seen this much fun, ever." Taking part in the festivities, Kate and Harry got competitive with the giant slingshot, while the royal trio also took time to chat with the party-goers. And to the delight of the kids (and adults!) the day ended with the RAF Falcons parachuting into the garden.



Pakistan Fashion Week, London

The High Commission for Pakistan in collaboration with Riwayat organised a two-day Pakistan Fashion Week 2017 at Lancaster Palace in London. The showcase featured 36 of Pakistan's emerging and established designers. The show was part of a series of events planned by the High Commission to celebrate the 70th independence anniversary of Pakistan through 2017. Amongst the designers that participated included Sana Safinaz, Shamaeel Ansari, Maheen Khan and Faiza Samee.

Creative Director at Riwayat, Adnan Ansari said: "It was a privilege to work so closely with the High Commission to deliver this hugely successful event. Their commitment to deliver a truly inspiring event matched with Riwayat's expertise and the ability to deliver was a powerful force. We are so proud of our Pakistan and so proud to present its best face on a huge platform in London."







Sale of Sadequain's Crucifixion sets record Rs. 16 million at Bonhams, London

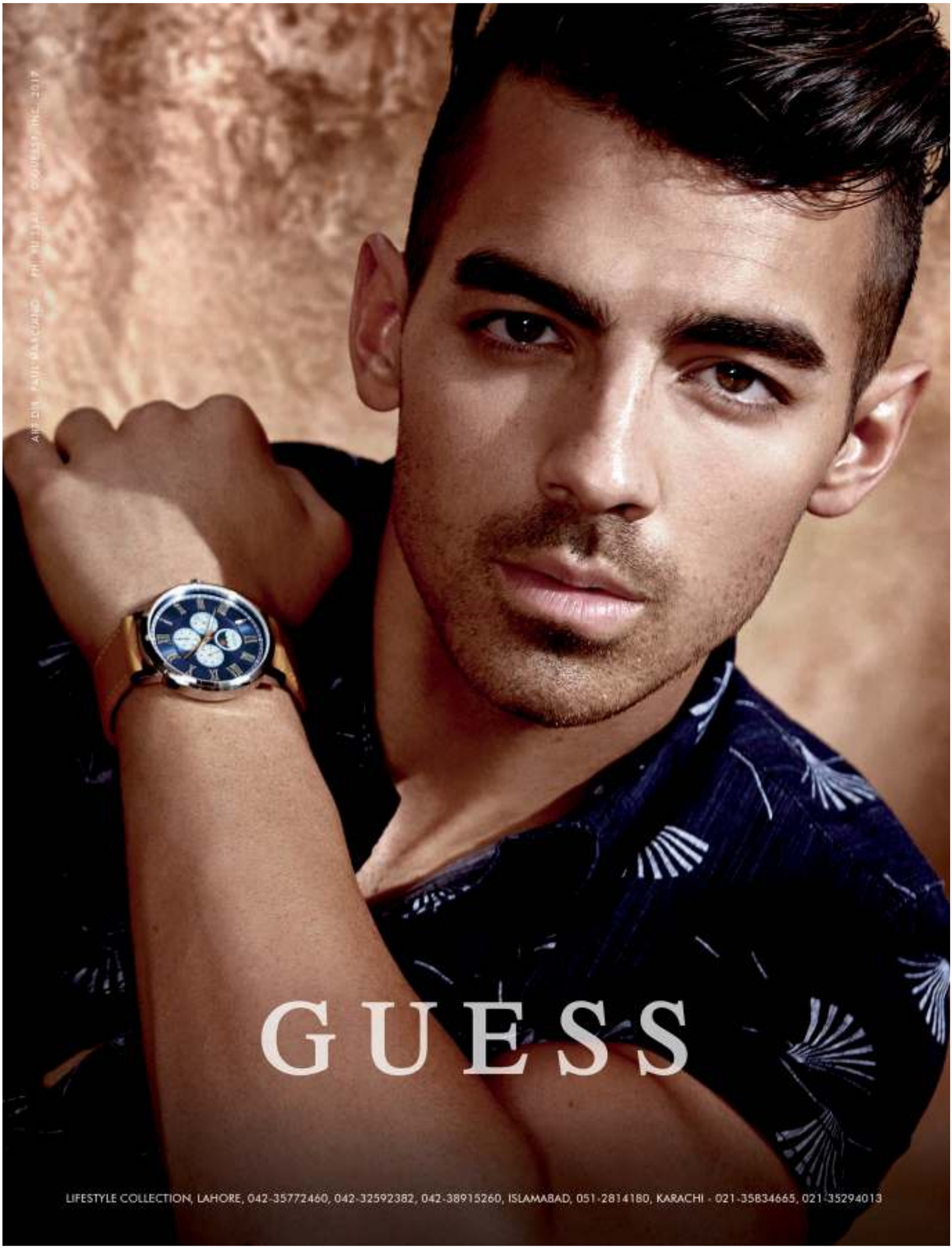


Ubiquitous Pakistani artist and calligrapher Sadequain sent waves though the art world as an unknown bidder paid a record price for one of his works, *Crucifixion*.

Tahmina Ghaffar, Specialist of Modern and Contemporary South Asian Art at Bonhams speaking to a local Pakistani media outlet stated: "As proud supporters of Pakistani art for numerous years, Bonhams is delighted with the results achieved at our first Art of Pakistan sale. The enthusiastic bidding in the room, on the phone and online for the top lots demonstrates the increasing demand for, and recognition of, Pakistani art by serious collectors. The Sadequain sold for £118,750; this is a world record price for the artist in Pounds."

In order to mark the 70th anniversary of Pakistan's independence, Bonham's dedicated the entire auction of that evening to the sale of solely Pakistani works.

Other prolific Pakistani artists whose works were included at the auction comprised Ustad Allah Bux, Eqbal Mehdi, A.Q. Arif, Abdur Rahman Chughtai, Waseem Ahmed, Shazia Sikander, Kiran Saeed, Attiya Shaukat, Mudassar Manzoor, Sadequain, Anwar Jalal Shemza, Anna Molka Ahmed, Ahmed Parvez, Ali Imam, Bashir Mirza, Mansoor Rahi, Hajra Zuberi, Lubna Latif Agha, Mansur Aye, Tassaduq Sohail and Ismail Gulgee.


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Hollywood Ladies Go Riviera Glam











The 70th annual Cannes Film Festival was as glamorous as ever as the A-list flocked to the south of France last week. A host of models and Hollywood stars graced the red carpet during the opening ceremony of the festival at the Palais des Festivals. Stepping out for the star-studded evening, *Gone Girl* actress Emily Ratajkowski wore a nude satin slip dress by Twinset, which featured a daring slit up to her thigh. As she headed into the event, Emily –who wore her hair up– was spotted greeting model Bella Hadid on the red carpet with a kiss. The pair appeared to have coordinated their styles with model Bella, 20, wearing a pink silk dress by Alexandre Vauthier, which was also slashed to the thigh. The two friends later partied together on board a luxury yacht after changing into matching ensembles of jeans and off-the-shoulder tops. They were also joined by model Hailey Baldwin and the trio struck a pose together. On Friday, Bella graced the red carpet again for the *Okja* screening and looked stunning in a red quilted dress. Model-turned-actress Cara Delevingne was also in town attending some of the hottest events of the 11-day festival. The first port of call for Cara was the Magnum x Moschino party where she was pictured hanging out with fellow model Lily Donaldson. Other friends catching up at the event included actresses Susan Sarandon and Julianne Moore. The pair greeted each other on the red carpet of the opening ceremony – which featured the debut of French film *Ismael's Ghosts* – with a hug as they passed each other going into the screening. Susan, 70, showed the younger stars how to work the red carpet, arriving in a figure-hugging green velvet gown by Alberta Ferretti and a pair of sunglasses. Meanwhile, *Still Alice* star Julianne wore an intricate red Givenchy Couture fishtail dress, which she complemented with some diamond earrings. The 56-year-old star was in the Côte d'Azur for the premiere of her new film *Wonderstruck*, in which she stars alongside Michelle Williams. At the launch of the film the following day, Julianne opted for a more relaxed look in a flowing green Sonia Rykiel dress and was joined by Michelle, who wore a Louis Vuitton mini dress. Also at the celebrity-packed event was Lily-Rose Depp, the daughter of Johnny Depp and Vanessa Paradis. The model and actress, who turns 18 this week, opted for a Grecian-style white Chanel dress embellished with gold leaves. Festival jury member and *Miss Sloane* star Jessica Chastain was also present as she prepared to help judge this year's competition entries. Wearing a satin-stitched embroidered dress by Alexander McQueen, the 40-year-old got ready to take on her important duties, choosing fellow actors based on their previous work and respect from their peers. It wasn't just the ladies making an impression at the festival, however. Fellow jury member Will Smith also put in an appearance on the red carpet after being met by rapturous applause from the fans who had gathered outside the venue. Opening up about his responsibilities on the panel, Will revealed he would be taking his role very seriously. The *Suicide Squad* star, 48, admitted: 'When I first got the call, I was really excited. I was probably 14-years-old the last time I watched three movies in one day. Three movies a day is a lot!' He added: 'I'm going to be in bed every night, and I'm taking it very seriously. I will be wide awake, focused to do my best.' Will also joked about former juror Kirsten Dunst wearing 28 outfits during last year's festival, saying: 'I'll be going for 32! ' Uma Thurman, Naomie Harris and Rihanna were also at the annual festival. The *Rude Boy* singer was in Cannes to launch her jewellery collaboration with Chopard, *Rihanna Loves Chopard*. On Thursday night she attended the *Okja* screening – and teamed her floor-length white gown with a pair of sunglasses! Kendall Jenner was also out on Friday night and looked stunning in a diamond-encrusted silver dress by Ralph & Russo at the Chopard party. Uma Thurman went for old-school Hollywood glamour.

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Pakistani Designers Showcase At Beirut Fashion Week

Apart of a Bridals PK Show in Beirut, a selection of Pakistani designers, namely Nomi Ansari, Tena Durrani, Deepak Perwani, Fahad Hussayn and Nida Azwer showcased in the Middle East the past month.



Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy wins the prestigious Knight International Journalism Award 2017

Two-Time Academy Award Winner Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy has won the prestigious Knight International Journalism Award 2017 for her reporting across the world for the past two decades. Announced by the International Center for Journalists [ICFJ] in Washington, D.C, the award recognizes her outstanding efforts to chronicle the human toll of extremism that have made a major impact.

"At great personal risk, Obaid-Chinoy and al-Masri faced terrorism head on, getting behind the scenes to chronicle untold abuses," said ICFJ President, Joyce Barnathan.

"These reporters exemplify journalism excellence, telling stories that advance change and revealing truths that would not be uncovered, but for their efforts," said Jennifer Preston, Knight Foundation Vice President for Journalism who also announced the winners of the Knight International Journalism Award 2017.

"It is a great honour for me to be awarded the Knight International Journalism Award. I began writing for newspapers in Pakistan when I was 14 years old and produced my first documentary film at the age of 21. Throughout my career I have strived to investigate stories that make people deeply uncomfortable, in the hope that they will spark conversations that will eventually lead to changes in attitudes." said Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy on winning the Knight International Journalism Award.

The Knight International Journalism Award by the ICFJ recognizes media professionals who demonstrate a passionate commitment to excellent reporting that makes a difference in the lives of people around the world. Past recipients include pioneering correspondents who have exposed government corruption, war crimes and other important stories. For 2017, the recipients are Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy, whose work and efforts in highlighting the loophole on the practice of honour killing in Pakistan led to a legislative change in Pakistan, and Karam al-Masri, a Syrian photojournalist and videographer who persisted in covering the siege of Aleppo through a near-blackout of news from the city. The award is supported by John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which funds ICFJ's Knight International Journalism Fellowships. The fellowships promote a global culture of news innovation.

The winners will be honoured on November 9 2017 at ICFJ's Awards Dinner in Washington, DC which will hosted by CNN Political Anchor, Wolf Blitzer



TEXT: OK! REPORT BY LAURA HILLS, FAIZA VIRANI; PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY



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Guinot Age Cellular Machine Launch by Peng

Peng Qureshi recently launched the Guinot Age Cellular Machine, which serves as the perfect answer to women of all ages who are concerned about their skin's beauty and its youthful appearance. Peng introduced the revolutionary machine, which gives immediate results, is painless, and most of all, affordable.


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AUTHORIZED RETAILERS

AbouTime
Emporium Mall, Johar Town, Lhr
Packages Mall, Walton Road – Lhr

Al- Fatah Mall
Y-Block Phase II DHA, Lhr
Hussain Chowk, Lhr
The Centaurus Mall, Isb
Kohinoor City Jaranwala Road, Fsd

Dreams
Raja Sahib Liberty, Lhr
Muhammad Ali Society, Khi

Qaddafi Right Time
Liberty Market, Lhr

Shams Store
Super Market F-8 Isb

Nizam Watch House
The Centaurus Mall, Isb
Khan Markaz Jinnah Super, Isb

United Watch
Saddar, Khi

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KARACHI

Bellagio by Sadaf

After gaining prominence in London, Bellagio by Sadaf – a luxury boutique salon with cutting edge technology, officially opened its doors in the heart of Karachi. The grand launch included a full salon tour, where attendees were pampered by the friendly experts and witnessed a live application of chrome nails and hairdos on models.


SADAF ARSHAD & MARIAM TAHIR


AIJAZ ASLAM


SALIMA FEERASTA


MARIUM KARIMI & FARESHTEH ASLAM


SANA JAVED & MASHAL KHAN


HYRA MUHAMMAD


FEROZE KHAN


MEHWISH NADEEM


ZAINAB MOBIN



XERA HUSAYN


MR. ARSHAD


AIZA KHAN


AIMEN ISLAM & SONIA ASHRAF


SANEELA & ANUSHA BAWANY



SEIKO

DEDICATION TO PERFECTION

Lahore - AbouTime, Packages Mall I AbouTime, Emporium Mall I Al Fatah, DHA I Rafiq Watch, Liberty I Ahmed Traders, Liberty I Time Fort, Mall Road
Faisalabad - Al-Fatah, Jaranwala Road, Islamabad - Al-Fatah, The Centaurus Mall,
Karachi - United Watch, Zaibunissa Street Saddar I Dreams, Main Muhammad Ali Society

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KARACHI

Karachi Social

Karachi was recently abuzz with people talking about the launch of the city's latest eatery, Karachi Social Restaurant and Lounge. Foodies from all over the country attended the launch.



NAUSHEEN SHAH, FRIEHA ALTAF & HUMAIMA MALICK


FARHEEN

NABIA & KHURAM KHAN


AMIR ANIS & ZHALAY SARHADI


AB LAKHANI


ASMA



ALAINA ROY


SHAFQAT AMANAT ALI


TAPU JAVERI


ZURAIN IMAM


HYRA MUHAMMAD


SAARA HIRJI


TARA UZRA DAWOOD


AHSAN R. SHAMI & NAUSHABA BROHI


JUNAID KHAN


SUMERA MOHSIN



TATMAIN UL QULB



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Packages Mall
Walton Road, Lhr
042-38915848

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AboutTime


SARFRAZ, UMER, OMAIR & DINO


AMNA NIAZI


ALI HAMZA & NAFISA

KARACHI

FM 91 Brunch

FM 91 hosted a brunch with their RJs Sophie, Munib, Dino, Ahmer and Iman at Mews in Karachi to welcome Khalid Malik on board.

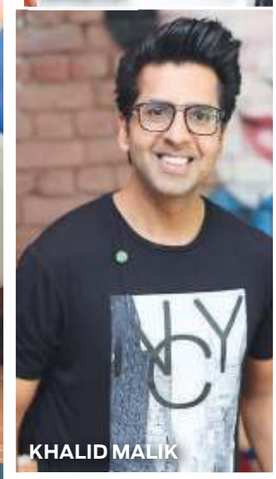

SELINA RASHID KHAN


SHAZYA

AMBER LIAQAT


RUBIA MOGHEES


ALEENA MALIK


KHALID MALIK


ADEN & REHAN


IZZA.


MUNIB & SHAAN LASHARI


SOPHIYA ANJAM


UMAIR MIRZA


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SORAIYA ILAHI, BINA GHUMRO & SAMIA AHMED


SABEEN LALLJEE & NISHA GHUMRO


NAFEES LAMAN


HIRA MEHANTI

KARACHI

Oh Boy!

Nimrah Ghumro's friends and family hosted a baby shower in her honour to welcome her precious baby boy.


ALI RAZA & NIMRAH GHUMRO


KIRAN HAQ


SANA


BILQUEES ASHRAF, BINA GHUMRO & NAHEED JUMANI


ZOYAA


HAJRA ALAMGIR




SHUMAILA ASAD

SAMIA MUFTI


SAHIBA & BINA


AMINA GHUMRO


ZOBIA FAROOQ


ZARMINA

KARACHI

Tauseef & Mal's Iftaar

Tauseef and Mulghalar Hasan hosted the hottest Iftaar of the year at their residence, which was attended by family and friends who had a fabulous time.


ALI SULTAN & FAROOQ JAVED


SABS ANSARI & MARIA WASTI



HARRIS SIDDIQUI


OMRAN SHAFIQUE & SALAR FAROOKI


ANUSHAY ASHRAF & YUSAF JOEY PARACHA


SONYA KHAN & SANAM AGHA


IRFAN ISMAIL


ALI ZUBERI & KANDEEL JUMANI



JAVED LAKHA


DEEPAK PERWANI

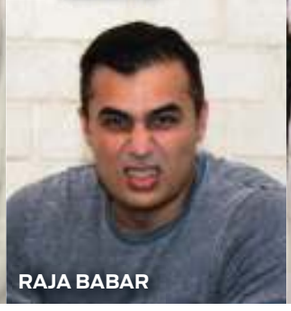

MARIA AZEEM


WAJAHAT MALIK


NAUSHEEN SHAH


MULGHALAR HASSAN & TOOBA SIDDIQUI & SANA BUCHA


MUSTAFA MUMTAZ


RAJA BABAR


KIRAN JAVED


TAUSIF SALEEM


ANEES & REEMA


DR. FARZEEN MALIK


KUKI


ADEN & REHAN

LAHORE

Al-Fatah Home Flagship Store

The launch of Al-Fatah Home Showroom Flagship store was held at the Al-Fatah store in Gulberg. It was a well-attended event graced by people from all walks of life who looked forward to the new addition at everyone's favourite place to shop.


AMIRAH IRFAN & AMNA


MAHA HASSAN

ANNY SHOAEB


MARYAM MAMDOT


KAMRAN SHEIKH


SARA GANDAPUR


SARAH SARFARAZ


MUHAMMAD


ZAINAB ABBAS

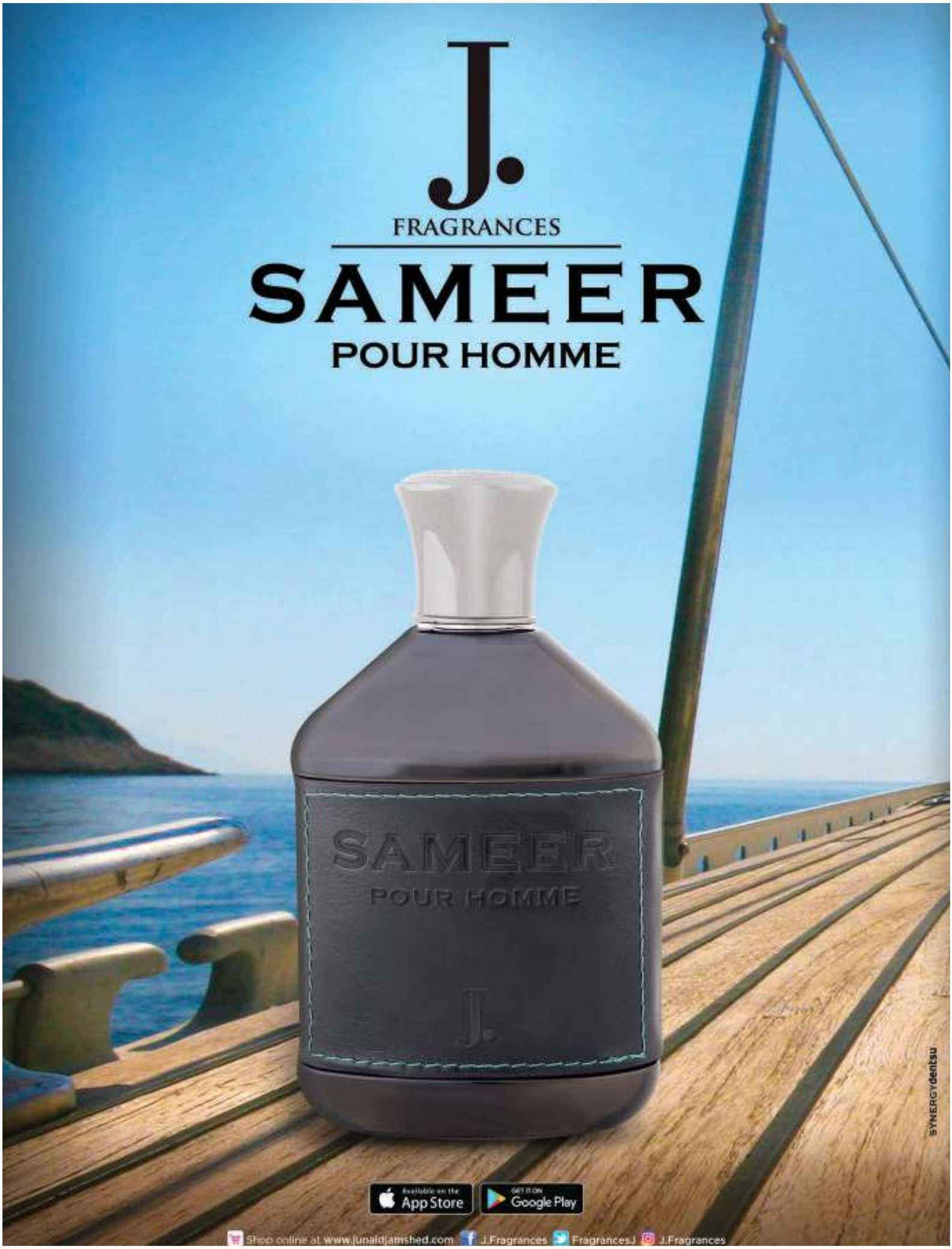

MAHAM AMJAD


SADAF & YOUSAF


SAAD QURESHI


SONU


MYDA


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FRAGRANCES
SAMEER
POUR HOMME
SAMEER
POUR HOMME
J.
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FragrancesJ
J.Fragrances
SYNERGYdentsu


JEHANZEB AMIN, KHADIJAH SHAH, KULSOOM NABEEL & NABEEL ABDULLAH


AMNA BABER


MOMINA SIBTAIN & ANUSHEH SHAHID

LAHORE

Sapphire's Concept Store

Sapphire hosted an exclusive event to mark the grand opening of its latest Concept Store accompanied by the inaugural launch of Sapphire Home at Lahore's Packages Mall.


NATASHA SALEEM & ADNAN MALIK


MEHAK ELLAHI


KULSOOM NABEEL


ALIZEH PASHA


ALINA SHAHID


KHUBAN OMER


UMAIR MIRZA


MARIAM MUSHTAQ


MAHAM LASHARI


ALI XEESHAN


ZARA PEERZADA & ANAM MALIK


NIMRA KHOKHAR


SUMRINA KHAN


SELINA RASHID


SHIREEN REHMAN & NATASHA SALEEM
AMMARA KHAN
AMBER LIAQAT
MAHVISH & AMNA MONNOO
SIBTAIN HAJI & YOUSAF SHAHBAZ
RABIA BUTT & SARAH GANDAPUR
AMINA ALI
TANYA KAMAL
MISHAL ASAD
ADEN REHAN
HASNAIN LEHRI
NAJIA, BUSHRA & RIDA
SUMBUL ADIL
MARYA JAVED
MOHAMMAD MOIZ
MAHGUL & AMIR RASHID
AMNA NIAZI


ANUSHAYE & NEHA


SAAD KURESHI


AMNA FAISAL


ANAM & MUDASSIR

LAHORE

Dolce Vita's Restoration Living

Dolce Vita Home recently launched their Restoration Living Premium Collection, inspired by new age charms as well as the classical era.


ZAHRA NAVEED & FATIMA BUTT


AAZER


NATTY


SALIMA HASHMI


MARYAM RANA


MOIZ


SABAHAT KHAN & SABEEN ALI


MAHAM & HASSAN


SIDRA AKRAM


YUMNA & ADEN


RUBIA MOGHEES



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NOOR JAHAN & ANUSH AMMAR


AIMEN HIKMAT


AIMEN KHAN


MARIUM KHAWAJA

LAHORE

Crimson celebrates 'Scintilla'

Crimson recently hosted an evening of canapés and drinks with Chef Shanawaz at Amus to celebrate the launch of its stunning Eid collection, Scintilla.


MEHREEN ZAFAR & SARA CHEEMA


SHANZAY SHEIKH


MAEEN REHMAN


AMBER LIAQAT


ANAM AKRAM & THE CRIMSON TEAM


AMINA SIBTAIN


ANOUSHAY ASAD

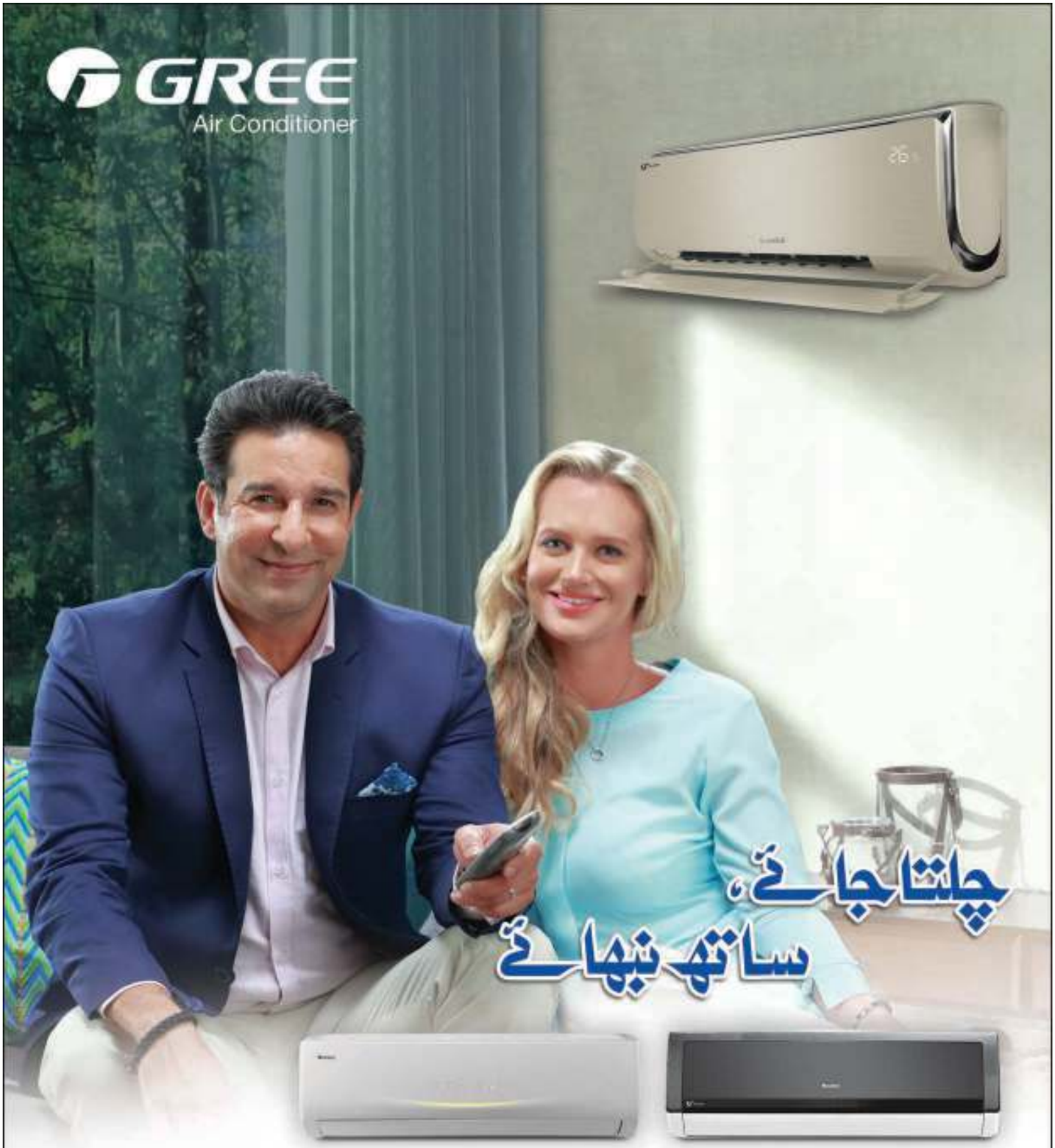

AMINA SHARIQ SHAFI


ANNA JAWAD


ADEN & REHAN


MEHAK RIZVI


MALEEHA SALMAN



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KARACHI

Bank Alfalah Collector's Edition

Bank Alfalah hosted a unique art exhibition to mark the opening of their Premier Lounge. Collector's Edition showcased rare artworks by modern masters that belong to private collections.


AMIN GULGEE & ZARMEENE SHAH


KAMAL AZFAR


NADEEM MALIK


FARIA SHAHID


MEHREEN & MOHSIN


SANA


SANAM, ZARMEENE & YASMEEN


FRIEHA ALTAF


MEHREEN


BINA BUTT & SHANEE


SAIRAH


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RUBYA CHAUDHRY


FAROOQ AMIN AND MR. TARIQ


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SHAZIA ASHRAF

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MOHSIN, ALYZEH & ABUBAKAR


MARYAM KHAWAJA

LAHORE

Mohsin Naveed Ranjha's Flagship store launch

Talented designer Mohsin Naveed Ranjha recently launched his flagship store off MM Alam road in Lahore. The event was a huge success and was graced by fashionistas and high society ladies.


SANA & SARA SARFRAZ


MYDA MALIK

ALISHA KHAN


FARAH


YUMNA REHMAN


SADAF FAWAD


NOORAY BHATTI

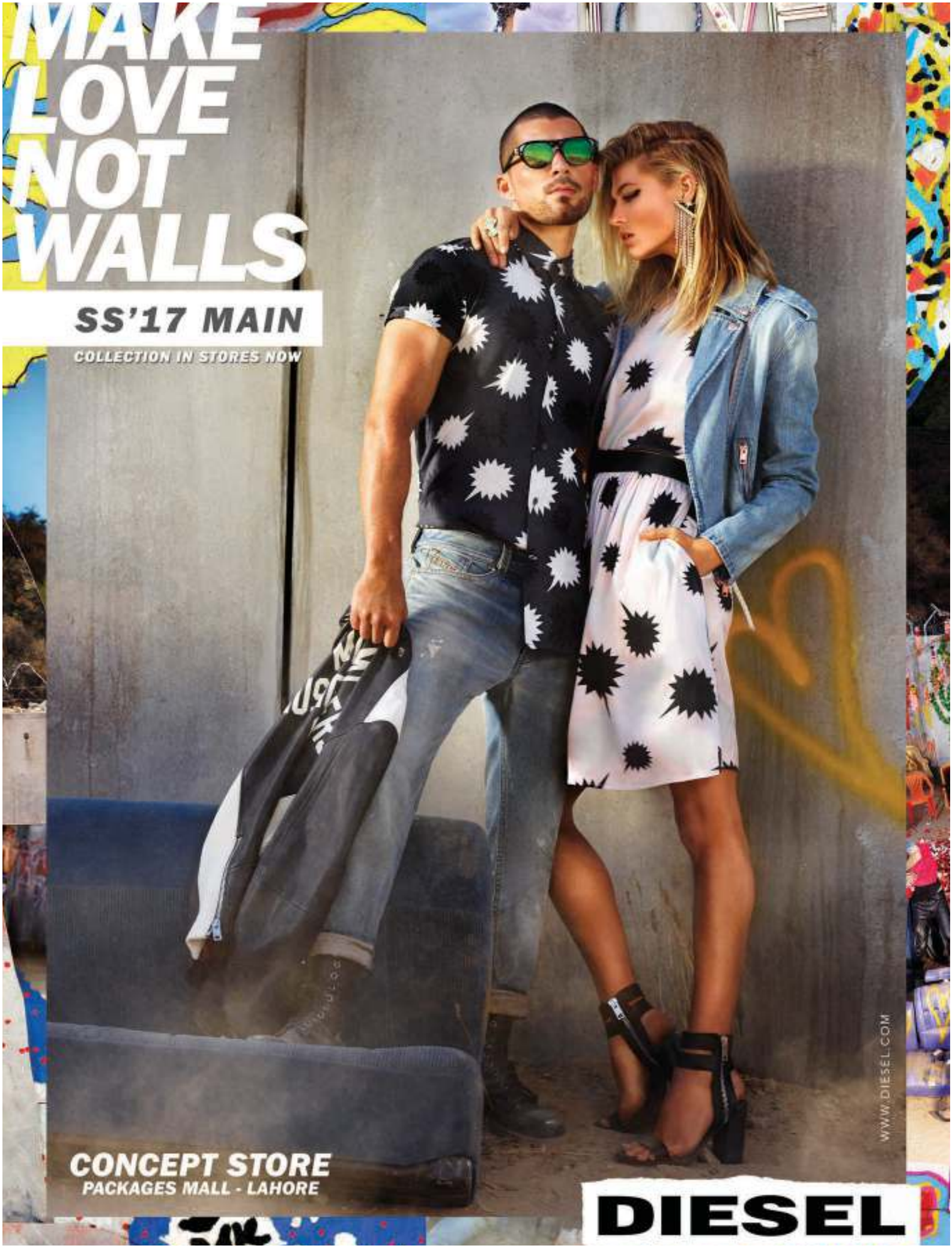

NOOR JAHAN AZAIN


MEHREEN SAEED


DANEESE ALI


NEHA MANIKA

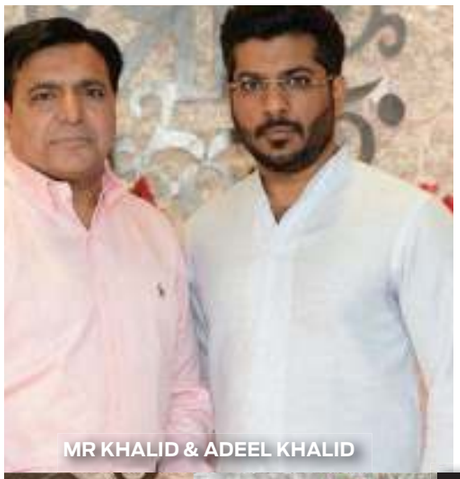

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LAHORE

Rang Rasiya Festive Collection

Adeel Khalid launched the festive collection of Rang Rasiya with an exclusive preview at PFDC Mall One in Gulberg. The collection was well-appreciated and all designs were sold out within the first hour.


MR KHALID & ADEEL KHALID


AMBER, RUBIA & NOSHEEN


AMNA WAAHAJ


LARAIB ZAHRA


ALYZEH GABOL


ZONIA ANWAAR


SADIA JAVED


SANA MALIK


SAMIA MUNIR


NEHA MANEKA


MAISOON ZAMIR


ZEEST & RUSHNA


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ANAM ANIS


ALINA SHAHID


ZAINAB HAMID & AMAN SHEIKH


TAHIRA IQBAL & YUMNA REHMAN

LAHORE

Saadia Asad's Noor Luxe Exhibition

Saadia Asad's Noor Luxe exhibition was recently held at Tuscany Courtyard in Lahore. The event was well attended by fashionistas and society ladies.


AMBER LIAQAT


MADIHA SHAHID


UMAIR MIRZA


SHEHRBANO


ZAHRA NAVEED


SANA MALIK

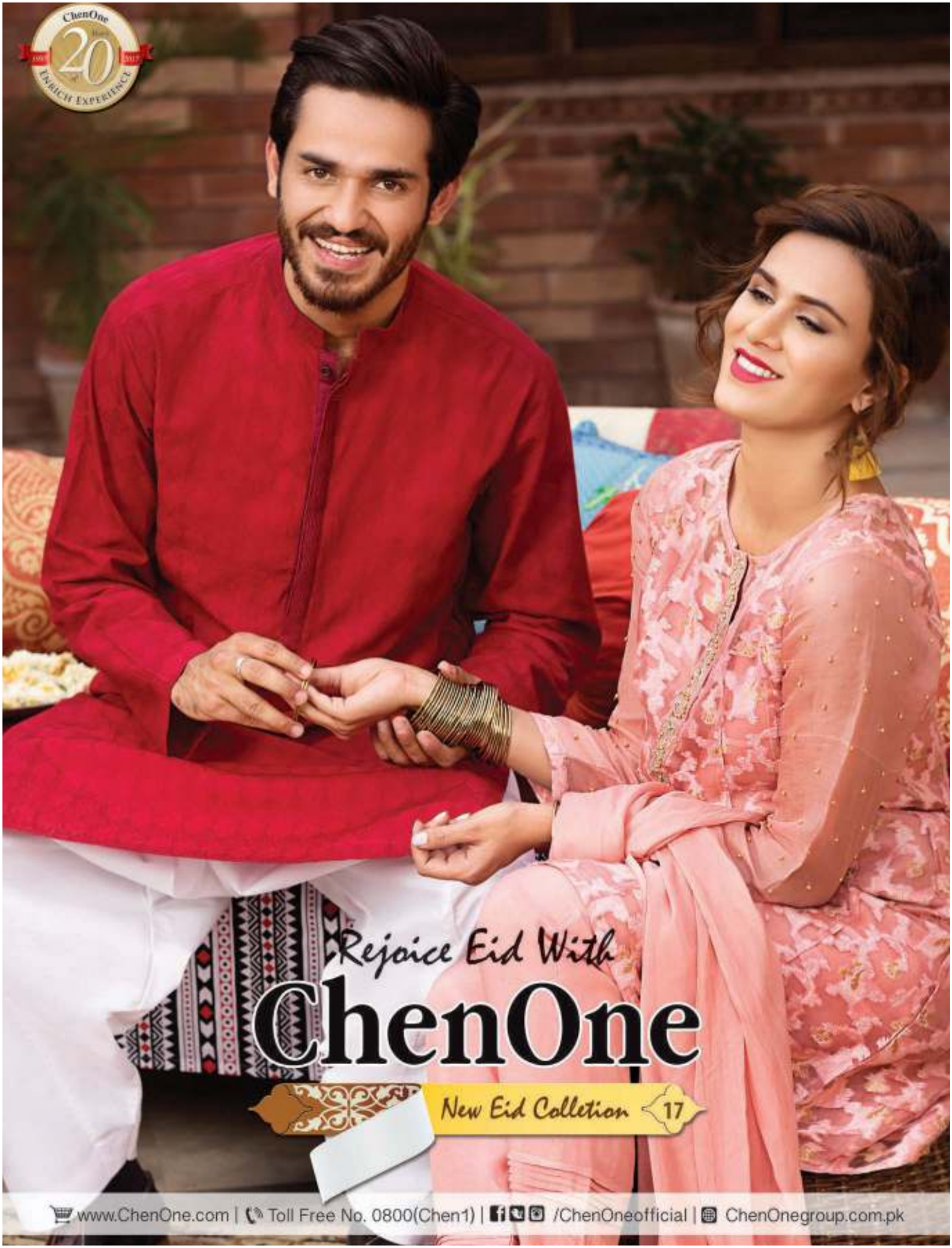

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SADIA, TARIQ, MOIZ & HIRA


HIRA ASIM


MASOOMA ADNAN


ANAM RAHEEL

LAHORE

Sadia Tariq's Prêt Launch

Sadia Tariq recently launched her prêt Spring/Summer Eid collection at PFDC in Lahore's Mall One, Gulberg.


SADIA JAVED & BINTE




NEHA MANEKA


SEEMI FARID


SARA GANDAPUR

AMNA SHAHAB


MALAAIKA KHAN


SHAHREZ & HIRA




SHIRMEEN ASIF


SHANZAY SHEIKH

ZOHA BAJWA


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RIHANNA


JULIANNE MOORE


BELLA HADID


SARA SAMPAIO

FRANCE

Chopard Space Party

As per Cannes tradition, Chopard held a Chopard SPACE Party, hosted by co-president Caroline Scheufele and Rihanna, at Port Canto in Cannes, France. The star-studded guests showed up in their Riviera finest, with Chopard jewels to match!


ARIZONA MUSE


ISABELLE HUPPERT


ANDREJA PEJIC


KENDALL JENNER


ADRIANA LIMA


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ISABELI FONTANA


EVA HERZIGOVA



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Punjab Optics, Wapda Town, Lhr | **Dreams**, Al Fatah Mall | **Ahmed Traders**, Liberty

Islamabad - **Al Fatah,** The Centaurus Mall | **Nizam Watch**, The Centaurus Mall | **Nizam Watch**, Jinnah Super

Karachi - **Dreams**, Muhammad Ali Society | **Time Zone**, The Ocean Mall | **Time Zone**, Dolmen Mall Hydery | **Limton Watch**, Saddar | **United Watch**, Saddar

Rawalpindi - **Nizam Watch**, Saddar

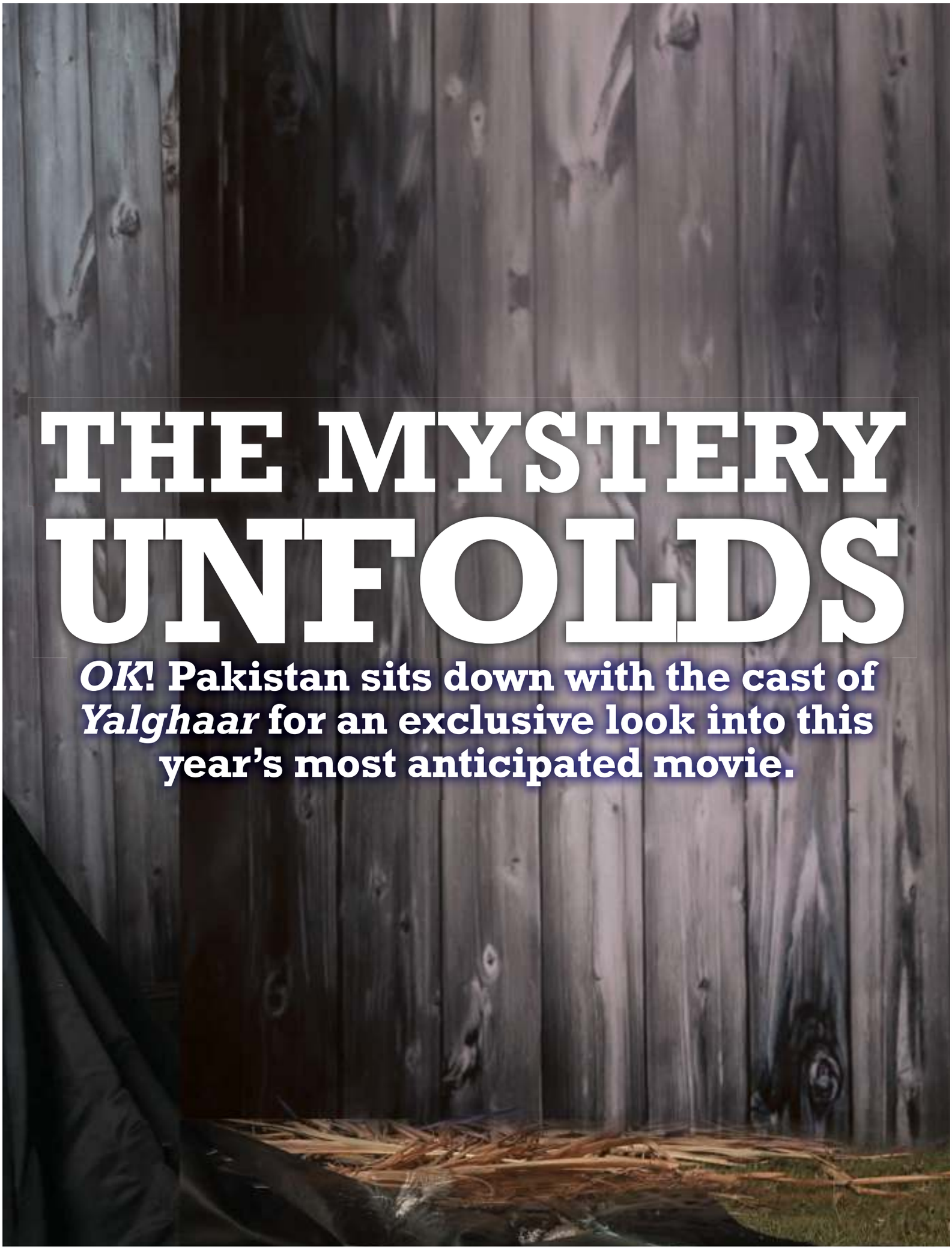
Faisalabad - **Al Fatah**, Kohinoor City Jaranwala Road | **7-Star**, 19-D Ground

Hyderabad - **Kent Opti**, Doctors Lane Saddar

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THE MYSTERY UNFOLDS

_OK!_ Pakistan sits down with the cast of _Yalghaar_ for an exclusive look into this year's most anticipated movie.

Shot over a period of three years in Northern Pakistan, the action-packed film steeped in patriotism, tests the boundaries of civilian-military portrayal, being based loosely on a real-life operation carried out in Swat's Peochar Valley. Already breaking records due to its large budget and realistic stunt sequences, the film slated for release this Eid-ul-Fitr is generating plenty industry buzz. *OK*! Pakistan sits down with the talented cast as they relive the filming process and talk about challenging their own boundaries as artists and individuals. Here's more on the action-packed feature!



What is the premise of your new movie?

Adnan Siddiqui: The film is about unity, living for a cause, re-defining orthodox romance and most importantly, our country!

Bilal Ashraf: *Yalghaar* is an action-packed war film about the Peochar Swat operation. It shows how the lives of our brave soldiers and their families are affected just so we can live our lives peacefully.

Ayesha Omar: *Yalghaar* is not your regular war movie at all. Contrary to what people think, the entire plot revolves around a real life situation, it's happening in real-time, and is based on true events that happen in the course of 72 hours and more. The story revolves around religious extremism, basically a girl who is kidnapped from Swat by the Taliban, and how she is rescued by our forces and how they overthrow the stronghold of the Taliban in that particular region. It tells the story of how it affects the lives of all those involved in this operation, the army personnel, Commandos, the SSG's, people whose lives are involved in this process, their families, what's happening in their personal lives. The story is knit in a really interesting way, there are so many characters in the movie and all of them are equally important. I don't think you feel at any particular point that a character is redundant.

Armeena Khan: The film is about the Swat Operations. Part of Swat was under Taliban rule and the Pakistan army launched an entire operation to take back the occupied areas. The film not only captures the events that took place, but it looks at the personal lives of those involved in the operations; their sacrifices, passions, reasoning and relationships. The film is intelligent and thought-provoking. The audience will not leave disappointed. It has everything for everyone.

Sana Bucha: Contrary to what many believe, *Yalghaar* is not just another war film. Yes, it is loosely knit around the real-life Operation Peochar which was conducted in Swat back in 2009. But that's not all it is about. It is about giving a face to some of the martyred soldiers who, for us, only serve as a body count. The nameless, faceless soldiers who give up their lives to safeguard the country. But like all good stories this one gives you the other perspective too. The counter-narrative if you must. I play the role of an embedded journalist who challenges the powers-that-be of the military, putting forth uncomfortable, but pertinent questions nevertheless, which arise in the mind of anyone who is a democratist at heart or is skeptical of the general civilian-military imbalance in our country.

What role do you play in it?

AS: I play the role of Lieutenant Colonel Imran who is not only a soldier but a romantic husband - breaking the stereotype of a hard-liner or an unexpressive army man. Imran adores his wife and loves poetry but is willing to give up his life for the country he so dearly loves.

BA: I play the role of Captain Bilal, who is an SSG (Special Service Group) commando of the Pakistan army

AO: I play a very difficult character in this movie actually, one of the most difficult characters anybody can play, or I've ever played. It's the role of Zarmeena, who is this young girl from Swat, whose father is very progressive thinking, who belongs to this liberal, educated school of thought of people living in that area. And he's always wanted his daughter to get an education, follow her dreams and to basically live life, be happy and love. She's a happy-go-lucky, inspiring girl who has completed her studies and come back to get married to the man of her dreams, who she's grown up with, who she's in love with. Suddenly everything is taken away from her. She has to go through the most horrifying scenarios that anybody can imagine, but she comes out strong and doesn't give in.

Sana, This is your debut film, how does this new venture feel?

SB: I have been asked this question repeatedly in the recent past. And honestly, I am now thinking about it more and freaking out a little. I am, ►



> “This is a huge, huge film, based on real events and real people. I don’t think I’ve played a girl this strong, who’s gone through such a horrific situation in life. And then still coming out strong and not giving in! I’ve learnt a lot from this character. It’s taught me that life is a lot bigger than we think it is.”
>
> - Ayesha Omar

AYESHA OMAR LOOKING CLASSIC CHIC IN AN AAVA ONE-SHOULDERED GOWN WITH JEWELLERY BY MAHRUKH AKULY



SANA LOOKING CLASSIC CHIC IN A CAPED JUMPSUIT BY SHEHLA CHATOOR

to a certain extent, a movie buff and realise it's impossible to sit up and take notice of every side character who happens to suddenly show up on the big screen. I am extremely fortunate to have landed a significant role in my first film - a role which was tailor-made for me, did not really challenge my acting skills (I don't know if I even have any), gave me enough screen time, a lucky break for a first-timer and of course the honour of being paired with Shaan. Is it a performance worthy of an Oscar? Quite frankly, no. Is it convincing? I believe, yes. Will it help me survive amongst the veteran actors of our time? We will really have to wait and see. So yes, I'm nervous and a little unsure of where *Yalghaar* may take me but simultaneously, I'm also excited to see what will follow.

You play a reporter, so you're playing a character channeling your real life to an extent. How was that experience?

SB: I was in Swat as a journalist back in 2009. I had already attended many press briefings at the GHQ (General headquarters) and maintained a certain military contact. I had seen blood, death, tears and homelessness. I had also witnessed an ongoing shootout and seen a hanging dead body in Khooni Chawk - morbid stuff as a journalist. Everything was real. And truth is so much stranger and stronger than fiction. On the sets of *Yalghaar*, however, it was a lot less terror and a more controlled yet cosmetic setting. We had to worry about getting the blood stains right, messing up of hair to manage as much realism as possible as well as make-up touch ups. I'm not trying to trivialise film making, but honestly real life cannot be compared to reel-life.

What are your thoughts about your roles and the film?

AS: I have always enjoyed working with scripts which allow me to show my love and gratitude for this country to whom I owe my life, my everything. So, my thoughts and feelings are all positive!

BA: I think it's a dream role that director, producer and writer Hassan Rana offered me. I love action and couldn't have asked for a better role.

AO: The character is of great importance, the plot revolves around it. The character was tailor-made for someone who wants to experiment, push boundaries and limits. This character really shook me up, urging me to go beyond my limitations physically and emotionally, and I just cannot thank Hassan Rana enough for believing in me and letting me play this character.

SB: War movies generally have a biased viewpoint. Hence the question of military-funding and diktat. *Yalghaar* however, may help erase that. It is not a film looking at our military with rose-tinted glasses; it is a film about young and middle-aged boys who happen to be more than just a body in uniform. Yes, they happen to serve in the military but that's not only who they are. They are poets, romanticists, heartbroken lovers, sons, fathers-to-be, brothers, best friends and someone's only one. *Yalghaar* also gives the villain a more generic face than just the Taliban image we have for reference. From my vantage point, I can tell you that *Yalghaar* may boast patriotism, but will make a great watch for all types of cinema-goers.

How challenging was the filming process?

AS: It has been quite a challenging experience certainly; we have been shooting for this film for over a period of three years. The character required a lot of fitness, which enforced running routines, healthy diet routines (which I already apply in real life). I don't remember holding even a pistol in real life and suddenly I had to hold a real AK 47. The story doesn't end here, we had to run and jump with it; which made me realise how difficult it is for our soldiers to be wearing all that gear and carrying all that weight everyday. Bravo, Pakistan Army!

BA: It was extremely challenging for me as I was also working as a visual effects director and producer. My work was both behind and in front of the camera too. Keeping fit and doing all my stunts was the biggest challenge for me.

AO: It was very, very challenging, and took almost three years to finish this film, because it was shot in so many different locations and so many actors had to come together to make this; their dates, their schedules, different sequences - it was hard to put together. Also, we were shooting in locations that were highly sensitive, security areas. Access to the location would be blocked, so we had to shoot in really challenging locations - mountainous, hilly areas, in extreme heat, extreme cold. I had to shoot a sequence that was shot inside a cave that was constructed in Karachi, I had to be in it for six days, it was so close to reality. So just to be in my natural element completely, just the process the character goes through, to be in that zone physically and emotionally was really tough.

AK: There were a lot of challenges but since it has been four years, I have nothing but the positive highlights saved in my memory. I remember I enjoyed shooting in the scenic Northern parts of Pakistan, it was my first time there. I loved playing card games (*chor, sipahi)* late at night with the cast and crew, then waking up to delicious omelettes made by Adnan Siddiqui for all of us in the mornings. I remember climbing rocks to get to difficult locations for our song shots and then being scared at night as it was so dark. I will cherish these memories forever as this was an amazingly fun team and I enjoyed every moment spent with them.

SB: *Yalghaar* was three years in the making. I believe the challenge to keep the whole cast together for that long is challenge enough. However, given the fact that this film has bagged all the big actors and considering their dates, alternate projects and then putting them in combat zones only after security clearance comes through and army base camps are made available, while all the while the production team and director continue to manage egos and weather conditions (both internal and external) and meet expenses, was no mean feat. Moreover, the colour-grading and special effects of the film were conducted at top-notch UK-based facilities so that couldn't have been easy either. The director/producer of this film has been a one-man-team throughout and I'm proud to see him achieve this. Nothing short of a miracle.

How evocative is the storyline? Did you find yourself immersed in the story of terrorism and army action in Swat Valley?

AS: As I said before, this is a story about unity and love for the county, the script has all the right hooks in place to keep anyone interested long enough to know the climax! I have seen our fellow citizens being displaced from Swat Valley and then at the same time people coming together to re-build the city; the real-life stories alone give you enough perspective on a war that has shadowed our country!

BA: Yes, extremely. As mentioned above, it takes you straight into the lives of our soldiers and their families who are affected daily and what impact that has on our lives.

AO: The storyline is extremely evocative, initially when I started filming in the first year-and-a-half, I felt very immersed with the actors and the crew. ▶

Rapid fire Sana Bucha

Name three people you couldn't bear to be without if deserted on an island.
Just three? No way! I don't operate without my bunch of seven besties, my hubby Khurram, Asim Jofa, Sonya Khan, Mulghalar Hassan, Tooba Siddiqui, Saba Ansari and Umar Sayeed.

Favourite book?
Just one? Gosh - for me books have a life altering impact! If I had to choose I'd still be torn between *The End of the Affair* by Graham Greene and *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho.

Favourite movie?
I don't want to pick a side but it has to be *Godfather*.

On your wish list?
To just be happy...*dil se*!

What's the one thing most people don't know about you?
That I can, but won't cook!

Celebrity crush?
George Clooney.

Favourite Pakistani designer/s?
Umar Sayeed, Shehla Chatoor.

Signature scent/Favourite perfume?
Oud Isphahan by Christian Dior.

Favourite person living or dead/someone you admire?
My favourite person ever is my Dad! He betters me. Inspires me. Pushes me to do great things. Encourages me to hope and love. Sacrifices his time to help me become a happier, more courageous, well-rounded person. That kind of love is sacred, admirable and inspiring.

Favourite destination?
Florence, Italy.

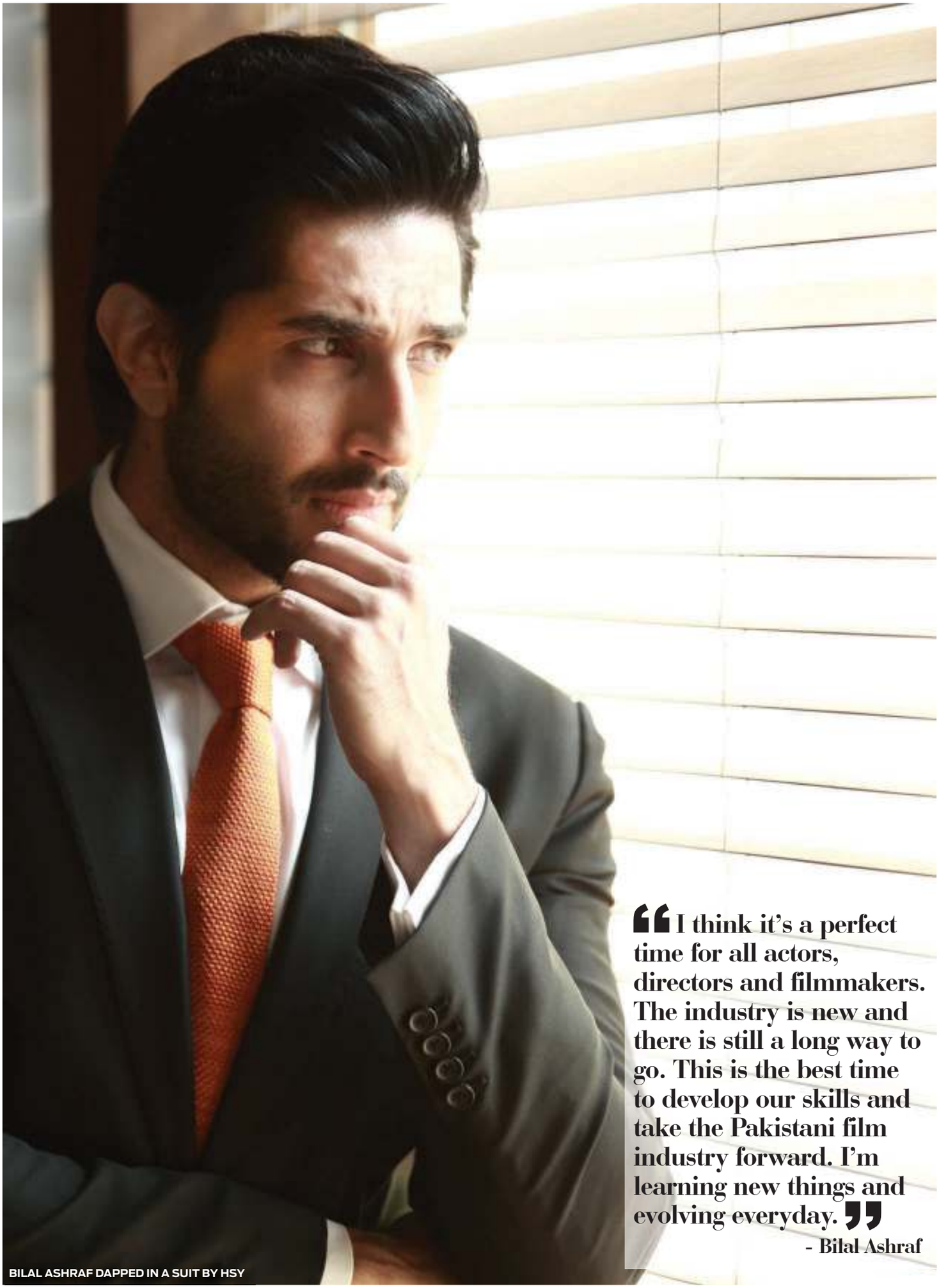
If you could move to any city in the world where would you go?
London.

Most overused phrase?
"Have I gained weight?"

Personal motto?
To overcome what I could be, and focus on what I should be.

Superhero power you'd like to have?
To be able to have the power to read and control the minds of others. Professor Charles Xavier from *X-men*.

What does feminism mean to you?
The term feminism is so overrated. And confused. Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength. If it means fighting for a right this world won't give us for free or protesting the way the society undermines us then yes, I am a feminist.



> “I think it’s a perfect time for all actors, directors and filmmakers. The industry is new and there is still a long way to go. This is the best time to develop our skills and take the Pakistani film industry forward. I’m learning new things and evolving everyday.”
>
> - Bilal Ashraf

BILAL ASHRAF DAPPED IN A SUIT BY HSY

I myself am very close to Hassan Rana and his wife, we stayed in his house for a lot of the filming. The characters were very close. For the story of terrorism, we would talk to all the army officers who have been through this entire experience, their emotional journey, I would talk to people who have actually been under Taliban rule. It was horrifying yet amazing being a part of it all. Knowing you are telling a story that could inspire and influence a lot of people into fighting for what you believe in. It's not just about overthrowing Taliban rule, it's about not letting evil win.

You are working with a large ensemble of characters, how was the experience working together?

AS: Very exciting! When you work with such a big cast you know that you won't be getting a lot of screen time but that doesn't matter when everyone involved is a fine actor and showcasing their abilities makes the product look even bigger!

BA: Simply breathtaking. It's like working with the giants of cinema and television. Rubbing shoulders with the finest and learning from the very best in the business.

AO: We all had different sequences with different actors and the top actors of the country of course, so there was a lot to learn, it brought us closer together. It connected us in ways I can't explain. You evolve as a person when you're working with people in intense situations. So it was a great experience. It was tough but it really really changed me as a person.

AK: Most of my scenes were with Bilal as I am playing his love interest. It is always fun working with him since we have shared screen space in *Janaan* also, so it came easy. My interaction with the other characters in the film is fairly limited. I have, of course, worked with Humayun and Adnan Siddiqui on other projects. On set, there was always good energy and the team members were always supportive of each other. Overall, it was a positive experience.

SB: It was actually wonderful. I came from the television world of news where everything is taken very seriously. Where your performance is gauged every day and competition tends to be dirty business. I don't think I understood the laid-back attitude at first. I didn't believe work could be fun! Thanks to all my stars, assistant directors and production managers who helped me really chill out as a person. Shaan, my co-star who is an institution in acting and the pinnacle of stardom, really helped me with difficult scenes and I believe that he does his part so well that even an amateur actor like me can end up looking above average. Humayun Saeed really takes his acting very seriously and I saw him zone out a few minutes before he started shooting; made me realise acting is actually hard work. Bilal Ashraf, practically my brother - we have grown up together - was like the brother shelter. I don't even know if he realises what his having my back at all times means to me. The girls - Armeena, Uzma, Ayesha, Alizeh - were great fun. From diet secrets to who is great for Botox - we bonded at practically everything. Last but not least, Javeria Hassan Rana - our executive producer - I believe it's safe to say in her I found a friend for life.

Any anecdotes you can share with us on and off-screen?

AS: There was a sequence where I had to fire my weapon, with real bullets. In the spur of the moment, I decided to switch the weapon from a single shot mode to fully automatic mode without taking in account the jerk that was involved. Once ▶





ARMEENA IS BREATHTAKING IN A VOLUMINOUS ZAID FAROUKI GOWN WITH JEWELLERY BY MAHRUKH AKULY. BILAL ASHRAF LOOKING DAPPER IN A SUIT BY HSY



Rapid fire Bilal Ashraf & Armeena Khan

Favourite book?
Bilal Ashraf: *The Yellow Wallpaper*.
Armeena Khan: *Wuthering Heights*.

Favourite movie?
BA: *Scent Of A Woman*.
AK: *Amélie*.

On your wish list?
BA: Brazil.
AK: The Maldives.

What's the one thing, most people don't know about you?
BA: I like doing interiors.

Celebrity crush?
BA: Monica Bellucci.
AK: Ryan Gosling.

Favourite Pakistani designer?
BA: HSY.
AK: Too many to list.

Signature scent/Favourite perfume?
BA: Aventus by Creed.
AK: Again, too many to list.

Favourite person living or dead/ someone you admire
BA: My Dad.
AK: Jackie Kennedy (her composure and style).

Favourite destination
BA: London.
AK: Home.

If you could move to any city in the world where would you go?
BA: London.
AK: Back home to Toronto.

Most overused phrase?
BA: "I am sorry."
AK: "Listen, it WILL get done! Chill."

Personal motto?
BA: Failure is not an option.
AK: Always be genuine.

Superhero power you'd like to have
BA: Mind control.
AK: Reading minds.

Name three people you couldn't bear to be without if deserted on an island.
AK: My siblings (that's three) my parents (that's two). Sorry, I know I cheated on this one.

What's the one thing most people don't know about you?
AK: That I have a degree in business and that I run my own business.

What does feminism mean to you?
AK: Equality.



AYESHA OMAR STANDS TALL IN A TEXTURED LACE AND EMBROIDERED DRESS BY MICHAEL CINCO

Rapid fire Ayesha Omar

Name three people you couldn't bear to be without if deserted on an island.
I can't be without anybody and be with anybody. I have no issues with anybody. However, endlessly on an island, I would want my husband or boyfriend, my mum and one of my childhood friends.

Favourite book?
The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy, *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky.

Favourite movie?
Perfume, *Life is Beautiful*, *Malèna* and recently, *Lion*.

On your wish list?
To visit Iceland, to heal my collarbone and go bungee jumping, skydiving, diving in the Great Barrier Reef, to go explore different parts of the world.

What's the one thing, most people don't know about you?
I eat a lot and I am a very lazy person.

Celebrity crush?
Bradley Cooper, Jason Statham, Ryan Gosling, Ranbir Kapoor, Aamir Khan, Tom Cruise and Gerard Butler.

Favourite Pakistani designer/s?
Shehla Chatoor, Tena Durrani, Nomi Ansari, Studio S, Feeha Jamshed, Emaan of Body Focus, Umar Sayeed and Elan's Bridals.

Signature scent/Favourite perfume?
Paradiso by Roberto Cavalli and Modern Muse by Estee Lauder.

Favourite person living or dead/someone you admire?
My mom. Abdul Sattar Edhi. Quaid-e-Azam. Michael Jackson.

Favourite destination?
Cape Town, Istanbul and Europe.

If you could move to any city in the world where would you go?
London, New York or Karachi.

Most overused phrase?
"No way, dude", "You're kidding", "Are you mad?"

Personal motto?
Where there's a will, there's a way. Be careful of what you think, because what you think, happens. Be kind to yourself.

Superhero power you'd like to have?
Healing, from any kind of disease or injury.

What does feminism mean to you?
Having equal rights for men and women, because human beings are created equal by God.

I pressed the trigger and the jerk made me loose control, the rifle went on the left; had the rifle been aiming on the right, we probably would have lost our director and the film!

BA: I guess the craziest thing I did was fire a live RPG (rocket propelled grenade), firing an M4 assault riffle 10 inches away from my director's right ear who was at the camera taking the shot, jumping off a 17-foot roof and landing on just hay - no mattresses and no rigs. Off-screen, probably training with the special forces and living with them for six months.

AK: You guys will have to just wait and see. We will be releasing behind the scenes videos real soon.

SB: There was this one time when Shaan and I were on set together. It was one of those intense, serious scenes where it was more about eye contact and looking grim. There was this one line that he was supposed to say which he then elaborated on as a joke. And then there was no stopping. We burst into fits of laughter and went on record multiple times until we were laughing so much we had tears in our eyes! Sorry, Doc! He enjoyed the laughs for a bit but then the momentum was lost. Ultimately however, I think the scene turned out to be one of our finest scenes together. Then there was this one other time when we were shooting in freezing temperatures in Mangla and I was wearing something totally impractical for winters due to some continuity issues. I tried to remain warm in front of the bonfires just before the shot and when I did get to it, my teeth started to chatter. I thought I would die of pneumonia! During the same spell there was one scene where we had to show these explosions - the explosions were to be conducted with real gunpowder. And I found out that there is this man who has been doing this for decades for all kinds of stunts in films. His name was Billa, also known as the 'blast *wala*.' So there we are, waiting for this explosives guy to show up and temperature is minus 7. So we call him and he says that he has been stopped at the checkpost. We're wondering why and then he says: "I told the officers that all I have are 50 bombs in my trunk. I'm here to just do a few explosions." We are shooting in a military cantonment area and we're wondering why a man has been stopped at the check-post for carrying explosives in his vehicle. Needless to say, we laughed for a while at our own silliness and the man's innocence. The fact that *Yalghaar* is a serious film, all the anecdotes I remember are the funny ones. We really did have a blast shooting *Yalghaar*!

How was the experience working with the director Hassan Rana?

AS: "Giggles", "The Mr. Know-it-all" is certainly a fascinating character! Immersed in the screenplay and script, he kept pushing for the best possible results! Rana Saab is a fine director, a bit on the harsher side but all in good spirits! I can very well imagine the pressure of guiding and accommodating such a script along with such a cast!

BA: I have to say that it was an amazing experience. He is like a mentor and truly helped me evolve as an actor. The trust he has in his actors and the hard work he puts in is something I haven't seen before. He would train me, train with me and teach me everything that I needed to know. He truly pushed my limits and that's what made me achieve the impossible.

AO: Dr. Hassan Waqas Rana or "Doc" is one of the coolest, most loving, and knowledgeable people I have ever known in my life. His patience, his way of dealing with everything, his confidence in what he's doing, his confidence in the people he's working with is just unmatchable. The way he inspires and motivates people, the way he makes people believe in themselves, makes you just want to give it your best. My biggest fear was that I won't live up to his expectations, or his vision of my character, or his vision of the film. It was tough that way but he's loving, he's like family. He's an elder brother, a teacher. He understood what I was going through in my life at that time, and he made sure it wouldn't get in the way and that I would use that to portray the character I was playing. Working with him was a huge learning experience. His wife is supportive and caring, and so is his entire family who we lived with. He is amazing, and what he's created and is going to be putting forward - there is no one like him!



AK: Dr. Hassan Rana is a treat to work with. He is literally the jack-of-all-trades; from flying helicopters to operating professional film cameras whilst hanging off bridges to composing music - you name it! I think he's a visionary and knows exactly where he's going. Another thing to his credit is that Dr. Rana believes in giving new people chances and that is why you will see so many new faces in the film alongside the established ones. Hassan Rana is a true leader and knows how to drive his team. This is why you may never see so many superstars from Pakistan together in one film again as ONLY "Doc" could have pulled this ►

off! He has my utmost respect and I will always cherish the wonderful moments spent working with this multi-talented human being!

SB: Dr Hassan Waqas Rana, or Doc, as we call him is a great person. Unlike others I have encountered over my decade-long experience, he is not a sleaze. It was so refreshing to work with someone who refers to u as "Sir-*ji*" and really makes you feel like a person, not just a woman. He is not dictatorial or strict in his ways; he listens and is extremely patient. I mean I lost my nerve many times but never saw him lose his calm or good humour. Professionally we may not see eye-to-eye, but over time I have realised that passion and professionalism are not the same thing. You don't have to have one to be the other. Doc is passionate and focused, with a laid-back attitude to boot. He doesn't have to raise the whip, but he gets things done. It was an absolute pleasure to work with him in my very first stint. He is the reason I believe that I'm here now, an actor. Something I hadn't even given any thought to so I can say he is very persuasive too. If I make it, it's on him. If I don't, well, then there's always a next time.

This is a big budget film, did you feel the pressure on set and behind the camera?

AS: The pressure is largely on the director and the producer, we (the cast) were mere performers. I have a philosophy before starting any project, I try to step into the character's shoes and perform my best. The only pressure I feel is to live up to the character's expectations, the rest is all in God's hands!

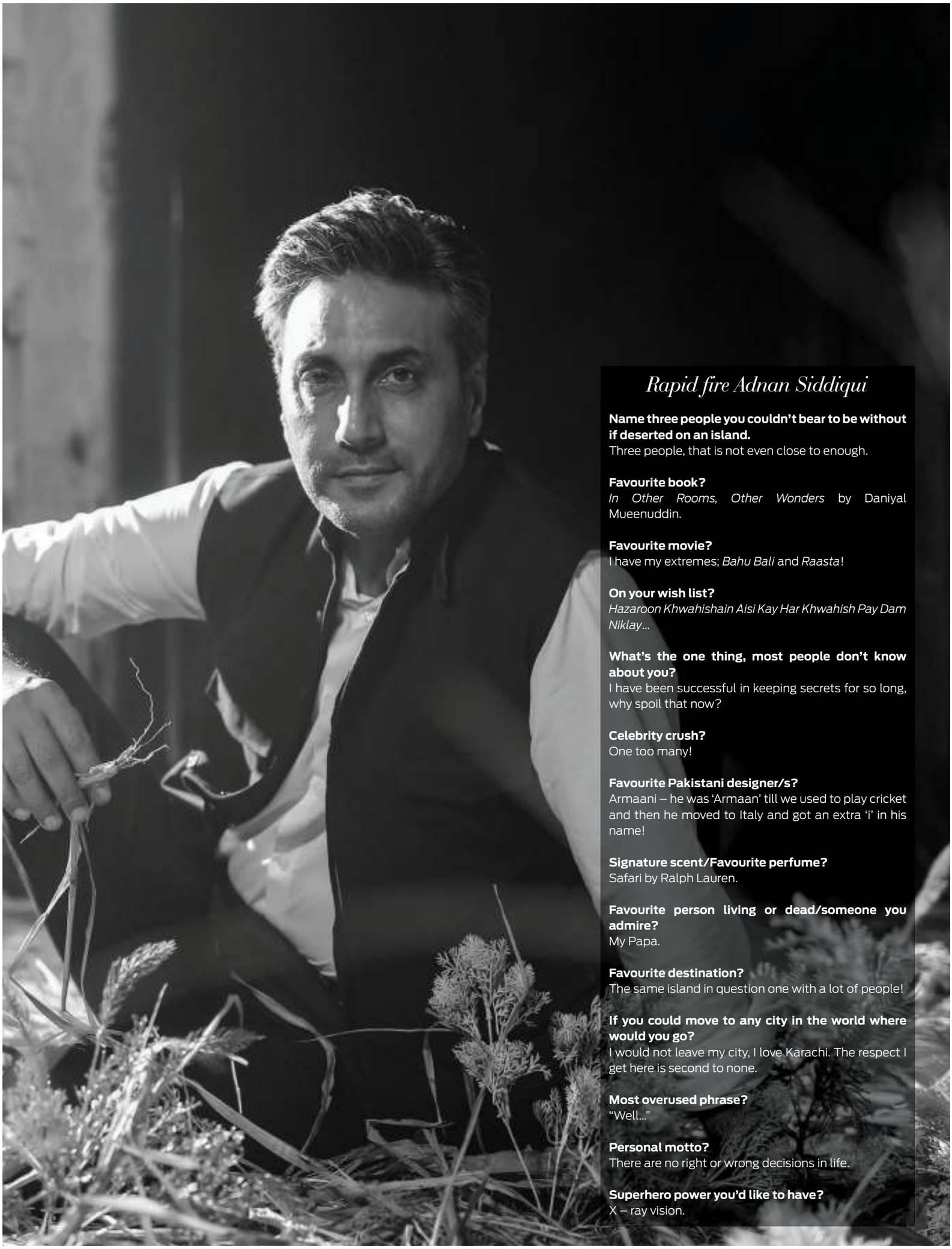
BA: Sometimes I did but because I was involved in the production process all things weren't that hard. Things did get stressful but I think that is part of any project big or small.

AO: Lots and lots of pressure on set and behind the camera, the biggest challenge was living up to the standard of the director, and then doing justice to the characters we were playing because they were real life people, they weren't fictitious. So we really had to go beyond every limit to just portray those characters, their journeys and their stories, that pressure was huge. Then there's the question of living up to your own standards and vision of that character. Along with the perception of all the actors you're working with, of the director, how he envisions everything, so you have a lot of standards to live up to. And I was working with such big names, their performances are immaculate, so I was already very scared and nervous. It was tough - emotionally uplifting yet nerve-wracking.

AK: Whenever I walk onto the sets of a new project, I simply unlearn everything. This allows me to re-educate myself from a new point of view. I learn so much with each and every experience. Hassan Rana has penned each and every character in the film with a lot of passion and depth. So the pressure was to accurately portray my character according to his vision. He was happy with my performance. Hopefully, the audience will love "Jero" as much as I have enjoyed playing it.

SB: I have some knowledge of good cameras - the power of the Phantom and the beauty of the Alexa (filmmaking equipment). So yes, the equipment was expensive and cost Doc an arm and a leg. The most pressure of a big-budget film is on the one who invests in it and also on the one who directs it. In this case, it's Dr. Hassan Waqas Rana's neck on the line. With such a big-budget plus a top-heavy cast makes the association with it, and the expectations emanating from it - huge. Obviously, one wishes to not be part of a big-budget film that doesn't ▶





Rapid fire Adnan Siddiqui

Name three people you couldn't bear to be without if deserted on an island.
Three people, that is not even close to enough.

Favourite book?
In Other Rooms, Other Wonders by Daniyal Mueenuddin.

Favourite movie?
I have my extremes; *Bahu Bali* and *Raasta*!

On your wish list?
Hazaroon Khwahishain Aisi Kay Har Khwahish Pay Dam Niklay...

What's the one thing, most people don't know about you?
I have been successful in keeping secrets for so long, why spoil that now?

Celebrity crush?
One too many!

Favourite Pakistani designer/s?
Armaani – he was 'Armaan' till we used to play cricket and then he moved to Italy and got an extra 'i' in his name!

Signature scent/Favourite perfume?
Safari by Ralph Lauren.

Favourite person living or dead/someone you admire?
My Papa.

Favourite destination?
The same island in question one with a lot of people!

If you could move to any city in the world where would you go?
I would not leave my city, I love Karachi. The respect I get here is second to none.

Most overused phrase?
"Well..."

Personal motto?
There are no right or wrong decisions in life.

Superhero power you'd like to have?
X – ray vision.



do well in terms of box office revenue. Hence, the pressure is on. But I'm not one to shy away from pressure now, am I?

Have you played a role as such before?

AS: I have done a serial before where I play being a part of the Pakistan Army but never a project of such magnitude!

BA: No, I have not. Action is definitely my forte`.

AO: I don't think I've played a role as intense as this before. This is a huge, huge film, based on real events and real people. I don't think I've played a girl this strong, who's gone through such a horrific situation in life. And then still coming out strong and not giving in. I've learnt a lot from this character. It's taught me that life is a lot bigger than we think it is.

How is this different then, from other roles you have played?

AS: I got to play a person who would give his life for the country as compared to the conventional roles I get to play on television of a divorced man who marries twice and lives his life juggling family issues; I am sure everyone would love the switch!

BA: Well, all the other roles I have played or am playing are not at all action-oriented. Here I am playing a pure action hero.

AO: I found it very tough to break away from this mould, the whole country knows me as Khoobsurat and I do have a certain image, so breaking away from that, unlearning things, making myself believable. As actors we don't often get opportunities to play characters that are larger-than-life, but in this movie I think the character that I played gave me that margin.

What did you do to prepare yourself for it?

AS: Lots and lots of training.

BA: I brought myself down to nine per cent body fat. I was on boiled food for two years. I was training twice a day, six days a week. It needed a lot of dedication and commitment. I got several injuries and practically couldn't live without my physiotherapist.

AO: We had a lot of workshops, we had an acting coach in the beginning, Sara Siddiqui, but that really helped me, not just to play the character but everything I did in my life after that, because she kind of tapped into certain emotional areas and parts of my life, situations that I've gone through, any trauma I've been through as a child, she kind of made me tap into that and channel that into playing this character. Doc himself had so many sessions with me, I was so unsure and under-confident at times, he would motivate me, make me feel like I could do anything. His belief in us as actors was so strong that we started believing in ourselves also. I had created a playlist of music that would evoke the particular emotional state I had created for playing this character and I would summon it as needed.

AK: I instantly connected with "Jero" on many levels. I sat down with Dr. Rana and underwent reading sessions and character-building every day till he felt that I had nailed my part. Then there is the physical aspect, I had to make sure that I looked the part, so exercise, clean eating etc were all part and parcel of my preparations. And we also worked on my Punjabi; there is a little treat for the audience so please do go and watch the film to find out.

SB: As a television journalist I was conscious of how I looked, but was far more worried about being content savvy. I knew I was going to be compared to all the veteran journalists who have given this industry their decades of experience. I tried to work more on my content than just my looks. The big screen, however made me grow extremely more conscious of how I looked, how much I weighed and what I wore. I'm glad I had television as the platform to prove that I did possess brains. Now it was more of maintaining that and making sure that I looked good too.

Did you perform your own stunts?

AS: From jumping, running and the extravagant shooting sequences, you will find me doing it all. As I said, I like to sleep in the character's aura and a part of that is living and breathing the character! If Lieutenant Colonel Imran is required to do any exuberant stunts, Adnan Siddiqui is his guy.

BA: Yes, I did. Everything from jumping off rooftops to firing weapons was all real and done by myself.

How do you feel yourself evolving as an actor in Pakistan?

AS: The Pakistani industry is growing day by day, with new faces, new topics, new directions coming into play. Every day is a new script, new practice affecting the overall look of the industry. The fans and viewers will be in a better position to answer this question about me after giving 28 years of my life to this industry.

BA: I think it's a perfect time for all actors, directors and filmmakers. The industry is new and there is still a long way to go. This is the best time to develop our skills and take the Pakistani film industry forward. I'm learning new things and evolving everyday.

> **"I have seen our fellow citizens being displaced from Swat Valley and then at the same time people coming together to re-build the city; the real-life stories alone give you enough perspective on a war that has shadowed our country!"**
>
> **- Adnan Siddiqui**

AO: Evolving as a person comes first, then evolving as an actor. We have all this serious content being developed now, people being quite aware of themselves as actors, there is evolution but I feel there is a lot of pressure to look good, to act a certain way, to be beautiful and pretty as opposed to real. I really want to break away from that mould, because sometimes people perceive me as this glamorous person who is always trying to look pretty and glamorous. That's not someone I want to be known as an actor, and I am trying to evolve with my performances. I've done two films which have been very physically and emotionally demanding.

AK: It has been a journey. Every time a project airs, I analyse it. I look at where I could have performed better (I am my worst critic). This allows me to grow and evolve with each project as I push myself a little further each time. The day you become happy with your performance is the day you start to stagnate. You can celebrate small feats but never be over-confident and this is the key to growing as an actor.

SB: Pakistan has an abundance of great actors. From Nadeem *saab* to Nauman Ijaz, Bushra Ansari, the late Khalida Riasat and now Saba Qamar, Sanya Saeed and Samiya Mumtaz, are all actors par excellence. I don't believe I can compete with them ever. I believe I may have something different to offer. But it's too soon to talk about evolving. To evolve, one has to be born. My birth as an actor, at this stage, may be premature.

If you weren't in showbiz what would you be doing?

AS: Interesting! Let me be straight, I would have been surviving well! I started my career as a banker, followed by advertising and finally stepped into acting. I am a go-getter who loves challenges.

BA: I would probably be an architect.

AO: I would be painting and singing, or I would be a nutritionist.

AK: I run my own property business in the U.K, so technically that is my day job.

SB. I have been off the television screen for almost three years now. With the odd commercials and one-off cameos I haven't been on screen that much. I have started writing a book and am working on two films as a producer. I have yet to finish both.

What has been the most challenging role of your career to date?

AS: I consider every role as a new challenge. I take my work very seriously and always give it my best, regardless of the project/script's magnitude.

BA: As Captain Bilal in *Yalghaar*.



AYESHA OMAR IN A SHOW-STOPPING EMBROIDERED GOWN BY AAVVA WITH JEWELLERY BY MAHRUKH AKULY; SANA BUCHA IN A REGAL BLACK SILK DRESS BY SHEHLA CHATOOR; ARMEENA STUNS IN A CASCADING ZAID FAROUKI GOWN WITH JEWELLERY BY MAHRUKH AKULY; BILAL ASHRAF IS DAPPER IN A SUIT BY HSY; ADNAN SIDDIQUI IS DASHING IN A SUIT BY ISMAIL FARID

AO: Zarmeena in *Yalghaar* and Bubbly in *Rehbra*.

Is live television more challenging or acting?

AK: I feel live television is hard as there is zero room for error. You need to be witty, engaging and capable of answering difficult questions on the spot. Acting on the other hand is just as challenging. You need to live, eat and breathe the character day and night. Your face is going out to millions and you have to achieve perfection. After all, celluloid is forever and the audience is very unforgiving.

SB: I don't believe I have "acted" just yet hence the comparison wouldn't be fair. I have been challenged and aced live television. Acting-wise I'm just beginning.

What are your goals for the upcoming year?

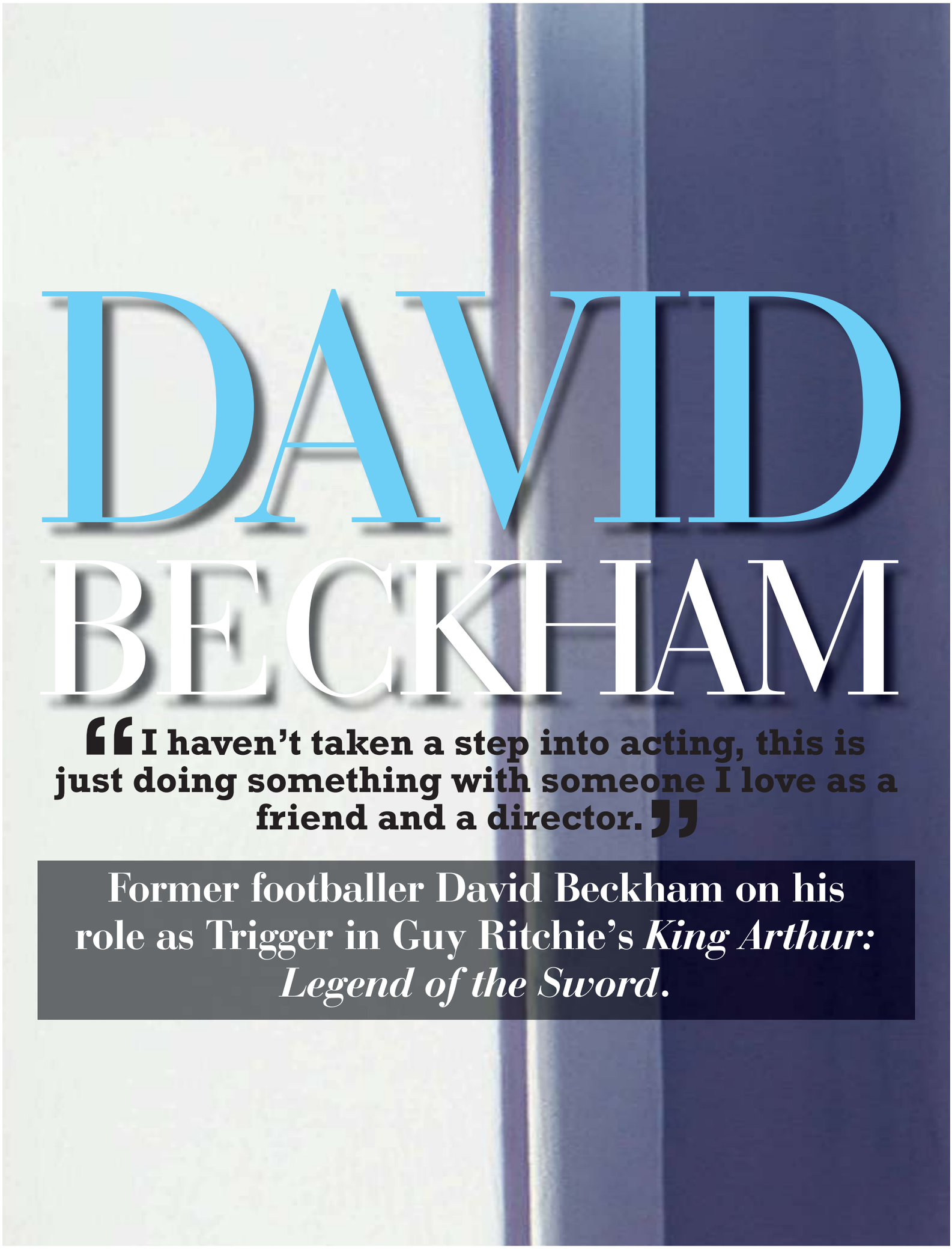
AS: I have always lived my life on the drift; I don't expect things, I don't plan things; I wait, I conquer and then I thank the Almighty!

BA: To gear up for my other massive release, *Rangreza*.

AO: I have two reality shows lined up, and another film that I can't discuss yet. My other goal is to undergo a major surgery that will require three-month downtime, so to take care of my health basically.

SB: To start production of one of my films and come end of the year, publish my own book. OK!

FEATURE: FAIZA VIRANI
SET DESIGN: TAHA MEMON
STYLING: RAO ALI KHAN
PHOTOGRAPHS: HASEEB SIDDIQUI



DAVID BECKHAM

"I haven't taken a step into acting, this is just doing something with someone I love as a friend and a director."

Former footballer David Beckham on his role as Trigger in Guy Ritchie's *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword*.





CHARLIE HUNNAM, GUY RITCHIE AND DAVID BECKHAM ARRIVING FOR THE *KING ARTHUR* EUROPEAN PREMIERE HELD IN LONDON

So, you play Trigger... did you choose the name?
David Beckham: I didn't choose the name. I didn't actually know his name until Guy mentioned it to me, that was surprising.

What's the attraction for acting?
DB: I haven't taken a step into acting, this is just doing something with someone I love as a friend and a director. He said just to come down and have a little bit of fun. It's not a new career, it's not something I'm looking to go into but working with Guy Ritchie and working with Charlie Hunnam was just a real laugh and something that was incredible to be a part of.

What was the experience like on set?
DB: I was so nervous and like you say, I've been a sportsman for the last 22 years so to then be on the set and have Guy say -- because the first time around when I did Man from U.N.C.L.E. he said it's going to be small and I'll make you look a little bit ugly so I said great, that's perfect. That was a nice little role and then he said to me "with this, you're going to have a few more lines" so I was like "OK" so then he put me right in the middle of about 150 people shouting and hollering at Charlie so it was a little bit daunting! But Charlie was amazing, amazing to work with and he gave me a few guidelines and being guided by Guy as well -- that was an important thing.





A STILL FROM KING *ARTHUR*

What was Guy like as a boss?
DB: Scary. But like I said, he's a friend and to do something like this with a friend, you know he's going to look after you and take care of you so it ►

> *I've always liked a challenge but usually when I take on a challenge it's to do with sports and usually I know in the end I'm going to be OK but with this one it was a challenge where actually I didn't know I would be OK. So it was nice to put myself out there.*





STILL FROM KING *ARTHUR*



was a great experience.

It sounds like Guy really brings some team spirit to the film?

DB: Well I think that's what you get with Guy, in his cast it's always his friends and people he has worked with over the years and it's always a great vibe on set and I think that's why he's so successful as a person and a director because he's not just a great person but he's also a great person to work with. When you are on set it's very relaxed, it's a community and it's just friends hanging out.

Were you nervous?

DB: Oh my God, yes of course. I was in make-up for about two and a half hours and then I literally stepped on to the set and he called action, it was very nerve-wracking but it was a great experience.

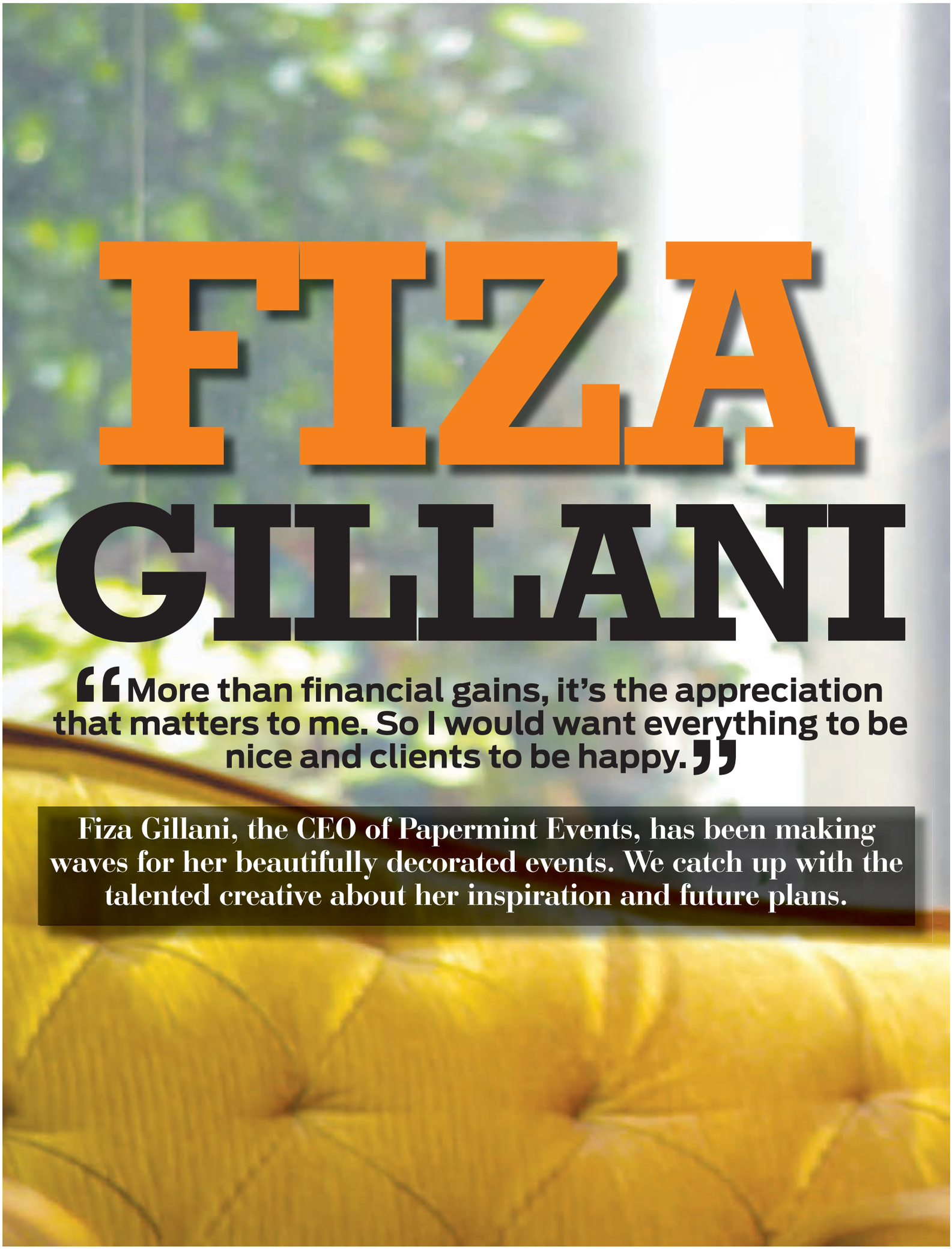
It's good to push yourself though...

DB: It is. You know I've always liked a challenge but usually when I take on a challenge it's to do with sports and usually I know in the end I'm going to be OK but with this one it was a challenge where actually I didn't know I would be OK. So it was nice to put myself out there but you know, like I said it was a great experience and working with friends was incredible. OK!

INTERVIEW: AGATHA HART/FAMOUS
PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY, WENN



DAVID BECKHAM & VICTORIA BECKHAM ATTEND THE BRITISH FASHION AWARDS 2015 AT LONDON COLISEUM



FIZA GILLANI

"More than financial gains, it's the appreciation that matters to me. So I would want everything to be nice and clients to be happy."

Fiza Gillani, the CEO of Papermint Events, has been making waves for her beautifully decorated events. We catch up with the talented creative about her inspiration and future plans.



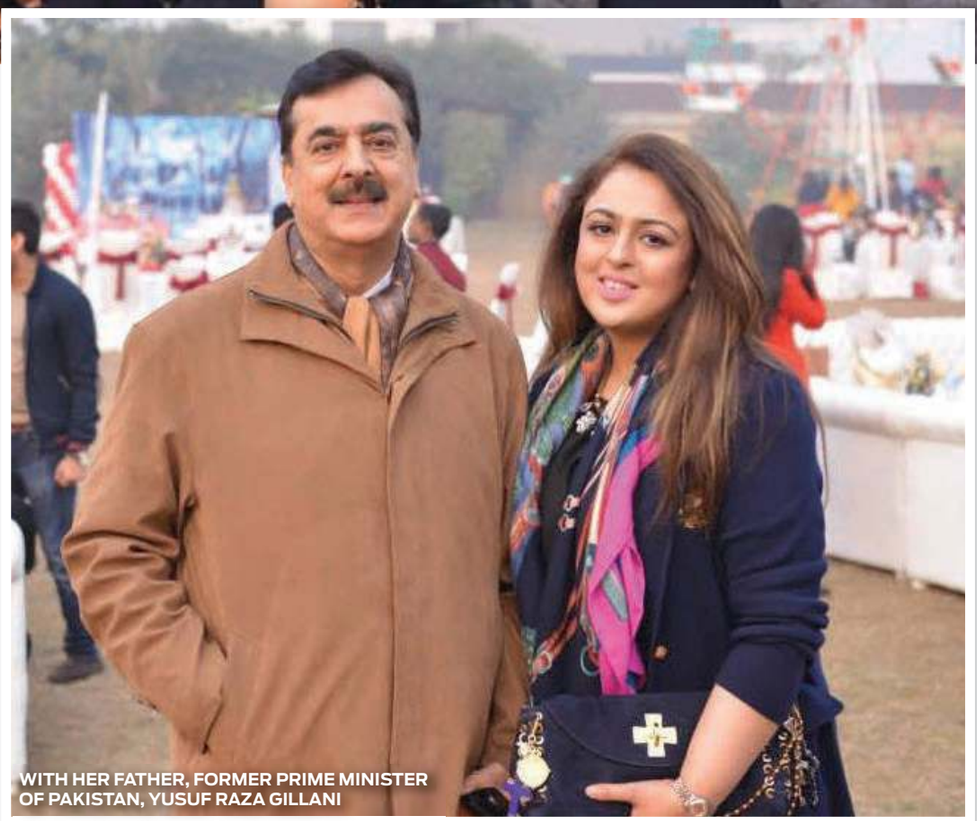


FIZA GILLANI WITH HER BROTHERS AT AN EVENT IN LAHORE

Working under the banner of 'Papermint Events', Fiza Gillani is one of the most sought-after wedding event designers of the country. She flies high, carrying a magic wand and sprinkling gold dust onto her events. Before she was off to Florence and Santorini to attend Karen Tran's Master Floral Classes, *OK*! Pakistan had the opportunity to catch up with Fiza Gillani and touch upon her love for English Literature, her brief stint of social work, and her larger than life wedding decors in Lahore. Not to say that her client would not enjoy the finest of details in even an intimate garden party; Fiza goes all into detail, whether it's a traditional *milad* set up or even an Oscar-themed party, she gives it her cent percent. Genes do play a huge part here, as 'dedication' is the key trait she has inherited from her father, former Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gillani, and infused into her work.

What was your first event?

Fiza Gillani: We had done this event, a fundraising gala at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital. Within two days, from a bare ground, to a marquee all set for the fundraiser, and Ali Zafar playing, it was one of my first big scale events. Also, I had done some events for the wedding of Azain Ashar with Noor Jehan. I did their wedding invitations, from the cards, *bidh* boxes, gift boxes, flower decor etc.



WITH HER FATHER, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF PAKISTAN, YUSUF RAZA GILLANI

You belong to the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), so how did it feel doing Imran Khan's hospital event?

FG: We have always been Shaukat Khanum donors. So Imran Khan is a different thing and Shaukat Khanum is a different thing.

So what did you have in mind when you started your company?

FG: Basically I had initially started off as an event planner, which is a person who is not just an event manager, but a planner. I liked planning ▶



“In Lahore, people can be unprofessional. If I’ve made a commitment with a client then I have to get the ball rolling. Dealing with workers, *karighars* and sometimes their *nakhras*, can be challenging.”

PHOTOGRAPH: UMBREEN IBRAHIM

> **“I was doing social work and I still do social work. I was never into politics as such, nor do I have any plans. I have taken after my father in the way that he is dedicated to his work. I definitely take that from him!”**

the whole thing for the client. Just like you give out a house on turnkey, I would like to look after all aspects, the invitations, the photography, the giveaways, the bride's trousseau, the entire event, its setup and decor, videographers, make-up artists and caterers. People usually don't have this concept, because they'd like to take a lot of matters in their hands.

Which has been your biggest event?
FG: I would not say any one event, because I put my 100 per cent in every event I do. Every event is fun in its own way. Though it is a little exhausting, to say the least.

When you're doing events, what is your main focus?
FG: I think my main priority is the decor, as well as the comfort of the guests. I believe that no matter how nice your décor is, if your guests are not comfortable then they would not care how nice your event looks. To appreciate the visual, they need to be comfortable first.

For the guests' comfort, you must be having a warehouse full of furniture?
FG: Yes, we do. But for variety, and on need-be basis, we even vendor it out.

Who's your inspiration?
FG: On a personal level, my mom. She pushed me into this, because she saw this potential in me. I did my aunt's wedding when I was 16. I had done her whole décor with *rangoliz* and flowers and *chunri*. So from there she saw this potential in me and encouraged me to start my own company.
Work wise, my inspiration is Monet. I like the way he paints gardens and flowers and the way he takes the surroundings into consideration and how they affect the mood. When you're working, your surrounding is extremely important, because it influences your work. It has to complement the theme and really sink in.

How do you deal with stressful or chaotic work environments?
FG: It is chaotic at times. One comes to a standpoint. That is when you need time off to relax. Once I'm relaxed, anything can be inspiring for me. I once got an inspiration from a card. I had drawn my invite. It was the colours. My son was ▶




Zahra's 1st Birt



> “I like to think out-of-the-box. Even on my own *mehndi* many years ago when the norm was to only wear yellow, I wore light pink and silver. It was so unique.”

like, ‘how can you draw inspiration from a card?’. But it was the colours of the card basically that inspired me and got my creative juices flowing.

How much of a florist are you?
FG: That depends on the budget of the people, and the colour scheme we’re working with. Some colours that aren’t available in real flowers and would need to be imported may cross the client’s budget. Working with real flowers can get expensive but I do not like to use all artificial flowers. The maximum I would want is 50 per cent. Fresh flowers have their own beauty. It adds life to the event.

Given our culture, do you enjoy being traditional in your customs, or do you think out of the box?
FG: Depends on what the client wants because that comes first. People who come to us usually have already ordered their clothes. I do not want the décor to clash with or eclipse the bride’s clothes. When it’s her wedding day, I would not want my décor to look nicer than the bride. The décor should complement my client. As for the *mehndi*, I would want to do different things. It all comes down to what the bride wants. I like to think out-of-the-box. Even on my own *mehndi* many years ago when the norm was to only wear yellow, I wore light pink and silver. It was so unique.

Who all looks after your business?
FG: I had asked my cousin’s wife, Aqeedat to join me in this. Since I am the designer, when it comes to numbers and accounts, I go crazy. I needed someone trustworthy,



ENJOYING A FAMILY EVENT WITH HER SON, MOHAMMAD ASFANDYAR AND HER BROTHER, QASIM GILLANI

and so she handles the finances and I handle the design.

What were your greatest challenges?
FG: In a way every event is a challenge. Every person has their own likes and dislikes. I wouldn't say that even my own family events are easy, because my mother is a difficult client to please. More than the financial gains it's the appreciation that matters to me. So I would want everything to be nice and clients to be happy. Hence every event is a challenge for me.

How has it been like working with people in Lahore?
FG: In Lahore, people can be unprofessional. If I've made a commitment with a client then I have to get the ball rolling. And dealing with workers, and sometimes their *nakhras*, can be challenging. Punctuality is a huge issue here. If the workers get laid back then I get anxious.

Who's been your rock through all of this?
FG: My mother! She's always been there for me, she's always been there to support me in every way. Even the name came from her. In 2005 I had just started my gift wrapping company off MM Alam Road. I was importing stuff from America. It was the first time I had introduced this concept; all co-ordinated gift wrapping, tissue paper and ribbon matched with one theme, and there were several different themes. That is what I had introduced. After that my son needed my time. I rolled back a year later and closed it. But the name remained alive.

Did you know there was a company called Peppermint Parties that might confuse people?
FG: I didn't know there was a Peppermint Parties. From the time between I closed my gift wrapping shop, until two years ago when I started my events, so many companies sprang up. Honestly, I don't enjoy doing a lot of birthdays. When people call us thinking we're Peppermint Parties, I actually clarify and send the business back to them. But, when wedding clients started calling them by mistake, they actually began doing wedding decor.

What's your speciality?
FG: What I would like to do more of is weddings. I like to make elaborate events. I like to glamorise and make events glitzy - for example, making golden glitter floors.

Which are the most popular bridal designers that you come across?
FG: A lot of my clients are either coming from Faraz Manan, Elan or Ali Xeeshan. And for make-up, I tend to recommend Amina Raja, Alle'nora, Mariam Khawaja and Ather Shahzad.

What was your area of study?
FG: I studied English Literature in detail as well as Art and Design as a subject.

How would you describe your personal style?
FG: Casually, I would like to dress up comfortably because I am always on the go. In the Summer, I like to dress light. For the first time finally, I know what each season is like. I have experienced each season because of my work outdoors and also because I have travelled so much for my work. Bottom line is, the dressing has to be very comfortable. Otherwise when I go fancy, I have a fetish for shoes and bags. In formals I love wearing Faraz Manan.



What are your favourite brands?
FG: In shoes especially, I love Louis Vuitton, Jimmy Choo and Manolo Blahnik.

Do you also do interiors?
FG: I like to do interior decorations. I had stepped in to do it for friends. Currently, I am doing my uncle's house and we've recently done a baby's room in Faisalabad. But it's more like an extension of my work, upon people's request. Honestly, I don't get enough time off from my events now. So I structure my schedule, depending on what my priority is. Interiors are full time and so are my events. But my area of interest is events.

Have you taken after your father at all?
FG: I was doing social work and I still do social work. I was never into politics as such, nor do I have any plans. I have taken after him in the sense that he's dedicated to his work. I definitely take that from him - the dedication! OK!

FEATURE: AMIRA ZAIDI
PHOTOGRAPHS: ALI AGHA, COURTESY FIZA GILLANI

REESE & NICOLE

"I am – where I want to be with people I really like. I don't want to be working on things with people that I'm not happy to be there. I want to be contributing and working with people that I like and love, and this is – this was the perfect combination."

- Nicole Kidman

Nicole Kidman and Reese Witherspoon on motherhood, storytelling and their new television series, *Big Little Lies*.







LAURA DERN, REESE WITHERSPOON, NICOLE KIDMAN, SHAILENE WOODLEY & ZOE KRAVITZ ATTEND ELLE'S ANNUAL WOMEN IN TELEVISION CELEBRATION 2017 IN CALIFORNIA

Hollywood stalwarts Reese Witherspoon and Nicole Kidman have teamed up to produce a brand new TV series *Big Little Lies*, which focuses on the lives of five women. Also starring Shailene Woodley, Laura Dern and Zoë Kravitz, based on the best-selling book by Liane Moriarty, it explores family, friendships and facades with truth, humour and lots of heart. Written by David E. Kelley and directed by Jean-Marc Vallée, *Big Little Lies* is set in a community of complicated, challenging and loving families in Monterey, California. Alexander Skarsgard and Adam Scott also star in the series produced by Witherspoon and Kidman.

OK! caught up with the star duo at the recent Television Critics Association Winter press tour to talk about what audiences can expect from their TV passion project.

Firstly, do you know these women? Women who are sort of these helicopter moms?

Reese Witherspoon: Well, I think what was great about reading the novel for the first time, Liane Moriarity's novel, is I saw myself in different stages of motherhood all through my life. So I was a mom when I was 22, like Jane; and then I was a mom who was 40, like Madeline. I've been divorced, I've been remarried. There were just so many aspects of it that were so relatable to the lives of women, and the really amazing part was actually digging deep into the lives of women. It wasn't about them being good or bad. It's just that they showed every spectrum, every colour of women's lives. And I thought that was a really unique opportunity to have so many incredible parts for women in one piece of material.

Nicole Kidman: Yeah. I was lucky because when I read the book, I really related to all of the women in the book, and I've met many women that feel the same way when they read the book. And I think when you see the series, I wouldn't call them 'helicopter parents', 'helicopter mothers'. I mean, some of them are very attentive. Others are – I mean, there's just such an array of emotions in this piece, and that's what we were excited to show. We were excited to show the lives of these women in a very authentic way, and, yet, entertaining.

Can you talk about the style? Did you guys have any say in the style of your characters, what they wore?

RW: Yeah, certainly. You always think about your character and what they would wear.

NK: Yeah. I mean, we worked with Jean-Marc Vallée, in terms of finding it – because when you have five women, you're trying to find how they dress, and how they present themselves to the world. When you know psychologically what they're feeling, then that plays out on how you dress a lot of times, and, in particular, for my character, Celeste, there was a way in which we wanted to present her, because she has sort of barriers that she has to put up for protection because of things that are going on in her life, yet she wants to be, I suppose, very presentable, but neutral, if that makes sense.



In terms of where you are in your careers now, can you speak a little bit on what qualities of women or attitudes or quirks that women have that you enjoy exploring in your work now?

RW: The constant sort of question for me is how am I discovering something about a woman on film that I've never seen before? And how ▶



“Reading the novel for the first time, I saw myself in different stages of motherhood all through my life. So I was a mom when I was 22, like Jane; and then I was a mom who was 40, like Madeline... There were just so many aspects of it that were so relatable to the lives of women.”

- Reese Witherspoon

NICOLE KIDMAN AT THE 89TH ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS IN HOLLYWOOD



REESE WITHERSPOON & JIM TOTH ATTEND LACMA 2015 ART+FILM GALA IN CALIFORNIA

am I creating something that hasn't been done before? And with this piece, I feel like it was such a unique opportunity to have women of every age, every colour talking about motherhood. And that is sort of a common denominator. Motherhood is the great equaliser. Parenthood is a great equaliser, and socioeconomically, it sort of brings these five disparate women together in a way that they clash, but they also understand and discover each other you know, as similar spirits by the end of the series. And I think – that's what I'm always looking for, something new, and something challenging.

It's pretty clear that most of these characters really deeply love their kids and would do almost anything for their kids, yet often they are not turning out to be doing good for their kids at all, and overdoing it a lot. You've observed a lot of people in your life. Is there this tendency to over-parent? Were you maybe under-parented more as a kid than people do nowadays, and so on?

RW: It's definitely interesting, because I've had kids at 22, 27, and then at 37, and there is a wild difference, I think. Having kids really young, I think you have a different – 'Oh, they're going to be fine. I don't worry about it at all.' And then as you get older you're like, 'Oh, am I taking them to the ballet? ' Like, things that, you know, when you get past survival, I think that's part of what is so interesting about the piece and about motherhood, and it's like – it's about what you think you're creating for your children, and when it's really just sort of an artifice. And I think that's what the show deals with a lot, the artificial sort of presentation of parenthood, versus real parenthood. All of us have a great journey to become deeper, better parents by the end of it as well.

NK: Yes. You learn as you go along. But I do have to say, my daughter, Sunday, said to me this morning that I was over protective, so you must have been a fly on the wall.

We see the differences in the five women but do you think the character that you play for each of you sees herself and her predicament?

NK: I mean, I can speak for my character, Celeste. No. That's part of the arc of the performance, is discovering deep, deep truths, and having to confront them and place them. It's very, very difficult at times. And that was a real balance, an unravelling actually, because it was an unravelling of the relationship. I am not sure if everyone has seen all seven – the seven hours, because I do – I implore people

> **"For 25 years, I have been the only woman on set, so I had no other women to talk to. They call it like the Smurfette Syndrome where she's got 100 Smurfs around, but she's the only girl."**
>
> **- Reese Witherspoon**

to see the full seven hours, because you will see the strength of what he's done, and also the camaraderie, because it's an important part of it. As much as there is conflict between us, when you see the full seven hours, there are pieces about women helping each other and supporting each other, which was very important to Reese and I.

Reese, is your character self-aware?

RW: She is aware she is the most dynamic person in the room. I think she's hyperaware of a lot of things, and deeply upset. I always – when I started playing this character, I was like, 'I'm not sure I can play this character'. And David and Jean-Marc and Nicole were like, 'What are you talking about? You're perfect for this character.' Really? I don't know if I find that sort of offensive. Bossy know-it-all, busybody. But then she becomes aware through the process, and as you get further into the series, you start to realise the reason that she is so controlling and so high strung, and so tightly wound, is really because she's concealing something very difficult for her to hold. And when she finally let's it go in the end of this series, she can finally see her truth and become more of a – I don't know – a little more mellow, I guess.

Why did you go to Jean-Marc? What was the process behind that?

RW: Well, I just want to say, briefly, about Jean-Marc, because it's hard for him to talk about how incredibly genius and amazing he is, but I've never worked with a director who felt the performances, who will sit and cry with you about what your character is feeling, is there with you. He is not separate. He is not watching you. He is part of the performance, and he doesn't see race, he doesn't see gender. He's just the most compassionate human, who also loves the visual beauty and the music, which is extraordinary, and pushes the narrative forward with its sort of mystery. So I've had the privilege to work with him twice, and the true story is he was signed up to do one or two, and then we all attacked him and begged him to do more, because it just became clear, it was in ▶



REESE WITHERSPOON ATTENDS THE 88TH ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS AT HOLLYWOOD & HIGHLAND CENTER IN CALIFORNIA



NICOLE KIDMAN & REESE WITHERSPOON ATTEND HBO'S OFFICIAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS AFTER PARTY AT CIRCA 55 RESTAURANT IN CALIFORNIA

him. These characters were part of something – a story he needed to tell, which is real.

NK: And he is an auteur. So to have somebody else step in and try to mimic his style and his voice, it wouldn't have worked, so we were very lucky.

RW: Very lucky.

It seems like this has been a very comfortable, very happy merging for the two of you. Can you talk about that a bit?

RW: Certainly.

NK: Yeah. It was – I mean, we're very, very close friends and we're able to talk about anything. A lot of the conversation is personal and then we would do work, which is a great way, and we're – I love that it's about women coming together and making something happen very quickly with friendship being the core of it. We have fun and we – we're both at a stage in our lives – I am – where I want to be with people I really like. I don't want to be working on things with people that I'm not happy to be there. I want to be contributing and working with people that I like and love, and this is – this was the perfect combination.

RW: Yeah. It's a unique opportunity, first of all, working with these two beautiful, amazing, incredibly talented young women as well. It was such – I couldn't believe you both signed on. I called Nicole...

NK: No. We were like 'What?'

RW: 'I can't believe it. We just got Shailene Woodley.' 'Zoë Kravitz is really going to do it? Are you kidding me?' So we were really excited. You know, the beautiful thing about the way Jean-Marc works, it's not like you sit and rehearse and rehearse. He doesn't like a lot of rehearsal. He encourages us to have dinner and talk about our lives and become real friends and actually share each others' experience so that when you get to the actual scene on the day, there's an understanding of each other that's so much deeper than character. It's like we see each other as humans, and whatever they're going through. I follow them all the time. We connect all the time. But we are on this journey as women. And it's so interesting too because Nicole and I were reflecting about this during the shooting. For 25 years, I have been the only woman on set, so I had no other women to talk to. They call it like the Smurfette Syndrome where she's got 100 Smurfs around, but she's the only girl. And who gave birth to all these Smurfs anyway? [laughs] We're Smurfettes. But honestly, it's so refreshing to get to spend time with women. And there would be times where I couldn't break my character. I would call Nicole and go 'What do you think I should do with this scene? I can't play this.' Or I would sit with Laura Dern in a car and go 'My character – I just can't say those words. What would you say if you had to say this?' And honestly, we just like nurtured each other's performance. We would send each other articles and say 'Did you see this?' It was really a collective performance of all of us. I really feel more strongly than anything I've ever done that this is the greatest ensemble experience I've ever had.

NK: Hear, hear!

Talking to you as producers on this, you say the project is about women coming together and making things happen. That's what you do as producers, yet so many projects. Why are you passionate about women's projects, putting them forward?

RW: Certainly. I'm passionate because things have to change. We have to start seeing women as they really are on film, we have to, and not just in movie theaters on a tiny budget. We need to see real women's experience, whether it involves domestic violence, whether it involves sexual assault, whether it involves motherhood or romance or infidelity or divorce. We need to see these things because we as human beings need to – we learn from art. And what can you do if you never see it reflected? I feel like, you know, the constant, you know, women of incredible

> **“I love story telling. I love stories and I love the way in which we connect through stories. I mean, I have seen films, read books, seen pieces of art that – when I had been in very, very bad places – have lifted me.”**
>
> **- Nicole Kidman**

talent playing wives and girlfriends with thankless parts. I just had enough and it's a unique privilege to be able to come to other women with a piece of material that I feel deeply proud of and excited for to see their performances. And I mean, I get choked up when she talks about her performance because it's truly gorgeous. I think it's – these are the kinds of things that shift consciousness. So that's where my passion lies.

Nicole, your passion for producing?
NK: My passion for producing?

Would you talk about that?
NK: I love story telling. I love stories and I love the way in which we connect through stories. I mean, I have seen films, read books, seen pieces of art that – when I had been in very, very bad places – have lifted me. I have seen – I mean, for me as a child, my whole life was books and I would get lost in books and they were my fantasy and that's where I could go and a lot of times those were the things that saved me. So I'm interested in story telling. I love being an artist in this world now and connecting through art. And this – this piece for me was – yeah, it was the stories of women that I know and it was a way in which we could go to other women and say 'Here's a great role. There's five great roles here. They're all complicated. They all deserve to be told, and are you interested?' And that is rare. It's very, very rare to find five roles in one piece that we'd all jump at the chance to play any of them.

Nicole, as an Australian, the book is set in Australia, and is by an Australian author. What was it like navigating that shift of the book from Australia to Monterey?
NK: Yeah. I mean, the story lines are universal. But the thing that Jean-Marc felt very passionately about was that we needed water. It needed to be a town that had water. And when you see it, you see that that's almost like a character in the piece now. And Jean-Marc's connection to nature and the way in which he tells stories through that, we couldn't – I mean, at one point we were looking at setting it in – where was it? In Laguna? And you were like 'No, no, no. This has to be Monterey because I need the ocean.'



NICOLE KIDMAN & KEITH URBAN ATTEND THE 23RD ANNUAL SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS AT THE SHRINE AUDITORIUM IN CALIFORNIA

Finally, what is the appeal of speaking David Kelley's words? I know it's based on a book, but what does he bring to this?
NK: For me, my story line is very complicated and nuanced. From the minute I read it, it was so beautifully written. It was very, very easy to play and I have – I think one of the scenes is almost eight minutes, isn't it? So there's one scene that is eight minutes that John-Marc pretty much doesn't cut. He uses a two-shot with Alexander and I. And the dialogue, not one word is changed. It was – it's exquisitely written, so it was a joy when things just come. And sometimes as an actor you're struggling to make things work. That was never the case for me with this. It just kind of flowed out. So thank you, David. OK!

INTERVIEW: LUCY ALLEN/HOTFEATURES
PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY

WANDERLUST

As summer rolls in, we have picked out the perfect destinations for you to decamp to. Spanning beaches, cosmopolitan cities and historic locales, our list covers all that would make for a covetable and memorable trip!



Phuket, Thailand

Relax in the turquoise waters and sandy beaches of Phuket beach, arguably Thailand's most popular holiday destination for tourists. With an incredible monsoon climate and plenty of activities such as kayaking, snorkelling and exploring the exotic marine life, Phuket offers guests the perfect combination of relaxation and entertainment. A highlight is a day spent at Khao Phing Kan and Ko Ta Pu, more popularly known as James Bond Island, since they provided a backdrop for *The Man with the Golden Gun*. For a more traditional experience, fly north and spend a couple of days sightseeing golden palaces and intricate ancient relics in Bangkok, or devour Thai street food at the Night Bazar in Chiang Mai.



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

A city which celebrates its rich history and culture, Malaysia's Kuala Lumpur is an ideal destination for a summer family holiday. Visit the Petronas Towers to get a bird's eye view of the city, which is the country's modern capital, famous for its bustling markets and colourful shopping districts. Spend an afternoon wandering through the enchanting Batu Caves or explore the breathtaking Kek Lok Si Buddhist temple. Or, if you have more than a long weekend, escape the city all-together and surround yourself with turquoise waters and lush parks of Langkawi Island.

Santorini, Greece

Surrounded by the blissful midnight blue sea, idyllic whitewashed buildings and beautiful sunset views, Santorini in Greece is a picturesque island paradise in which to bask in the Mediterranean sunshine. Head on over to the capital of Athens, after a lazy week on the island, for wild nightlife and days spent venturing through breathtaking historical sites, such as the hilltop Acropolis and the captivating Temple of Olympian Zeus.





Tbilisi, Georgia

Shaped by rugged mountains, picturesque valleys and unspoilt beauty, Georgia is a beautiful summer destination in Europe. Come across friendly villagers residing in quaint countryside towns or take a morning trek through the stunning Mount Kazbek. Go on a mountain adventure in Gudauri – a skiing area which is lush and green in the summer – or stroll through the vibrant markets and charming streets of Tbilisi and taste authentic cuisines for an incredible Georgian experience.

Singapore

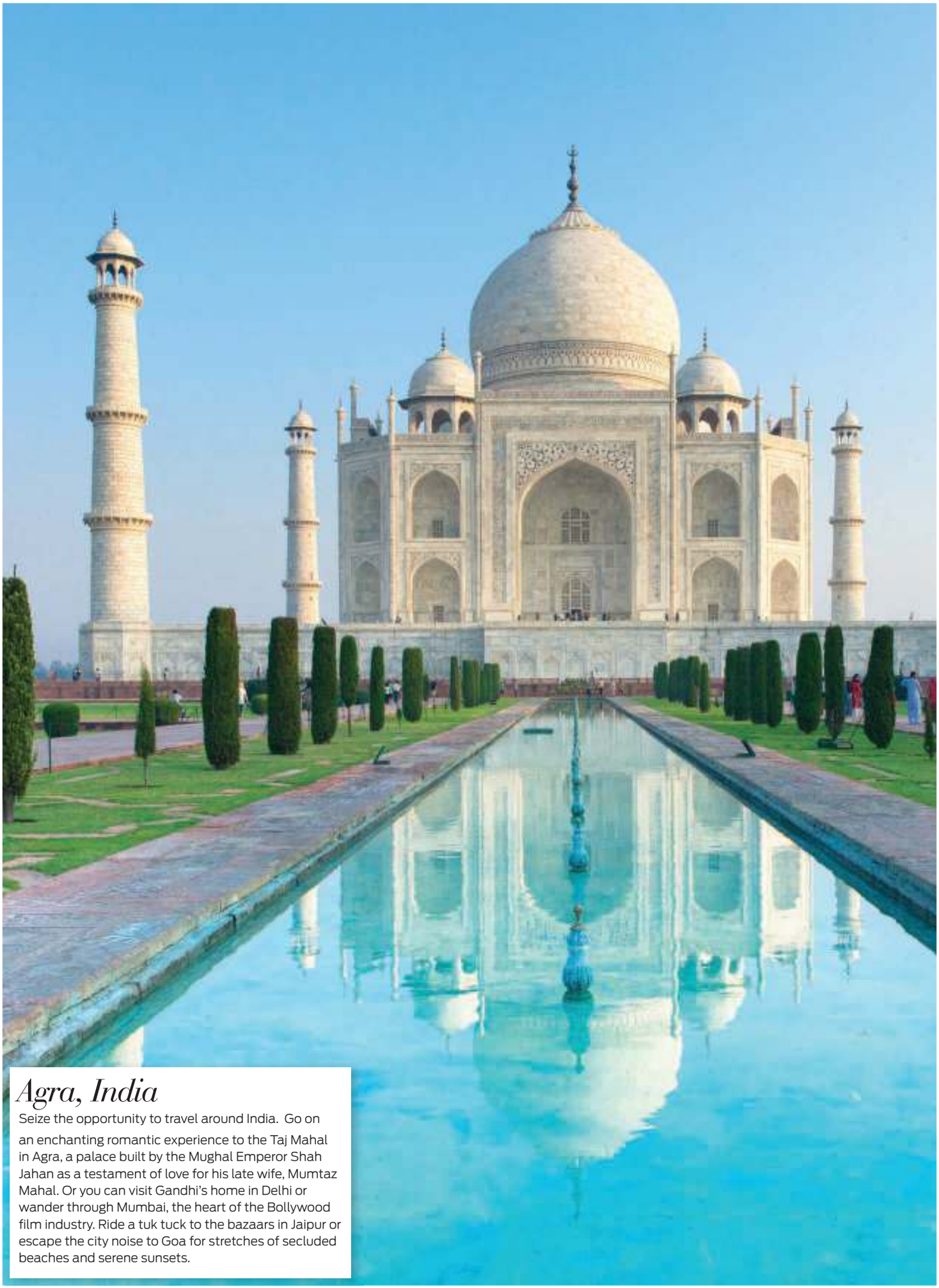
From high end shopping, the finest eateries and luxurious lifestyle, Singapore is a destination that offers family-friendly attractions and a unique cultural exposure. Pay a visit to the Marina Bay Sands where travellers can enjoy abundant activities such as museums, shopping malls and sky parks which offer a spectacular view of the city skyline at night. Enjoy high-tea at the Singapore Flyer and later admire the beauty of Bay East Garden. The botanic green spaces are worth a visit, as is spending the day with rainforest animals at Singapore Zoo.





London, United Kingdom

Known for its numerous cultural attractions and historic landmarks, the United Kingdom is an ideal destination to visit during the summertime. England offers plenty of tourist activities and entertainment, so after ticking off major sights, such as the Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the London Eye in the cosmopolitan capital, make your way out of the city by train to the picturesque Lake District. Or, for a change in scenery, head south to the stunning beaches of Cornwall and Dorset, or further north to Scotland for a stunning country retreat in the Highlands, with a stop in lively Edinburgh.



Agra, India

Seize the opportunity to travel around India. Go on an enchanting romantic experience to the Taj Mahal in Agra, a palace built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as a testament of love for his late wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Or you can visit Gandhi's home in Delhi or wander through Mumbai, the heart of the Bollywood film industry. Ride a tuk tuck to the bazaars in Jaipur or escape the city noise to Goa for stretches of secluded beaches and serene sunsets.



Male, Maldives

With crystal clear waters, perfect blue skies and secluded small islands, Maldives is the ultimate dream destination for honeymooners and couples. Located in the Indian Ocean, the Maldives offer guests a tranquil getaway with its laid-back lifestyle and peaceful surroundings. The seaplane journey to get to the islands is an experience of its own as it boasts of stunning views and landscapes of the atolls. Stay put lounging on the beach or explore the exotic marine life while snorkelling.

Cape Town, South Africa

From adventurous safaris in the jungle to spectacular sceneries and city nightlife, 'Rainbow Nation' South Africa offers holidaymakers the best of both worlds. Sit at the trendy cafes in Johannesburg or travel to the Cape Winelands for an experience of indulgence in the gorgeous vineyard boutique hotels. Bathe in the coastal beaches of Durban or get up close to wild animals like giraffes and lions at the Kruger National Safari Park. Enjoy a hike to the Peak of Table Mountain for truly jaw-dropping views of Cape Town.





Colombo, Sri Lanka

Colombo offers visitors a blend of old and new, rural and modern; from traditional attractions and market places to stunning beaches and lush green gardens. Explore the chic boutiques or tuck into authentic Sri Lankan rice and curry dishes. The diverse landscapes present options for various activities, such as visiting the hilly tea plantation of Nuwara Eliya or bathing in the beautiful Unawatuna and Bentota sandy beaches. Admire the views from Adam's peak or witness the enchanting parade of elephants and dancers in the exotic town of Kandy.

Island Hopping, Croatia

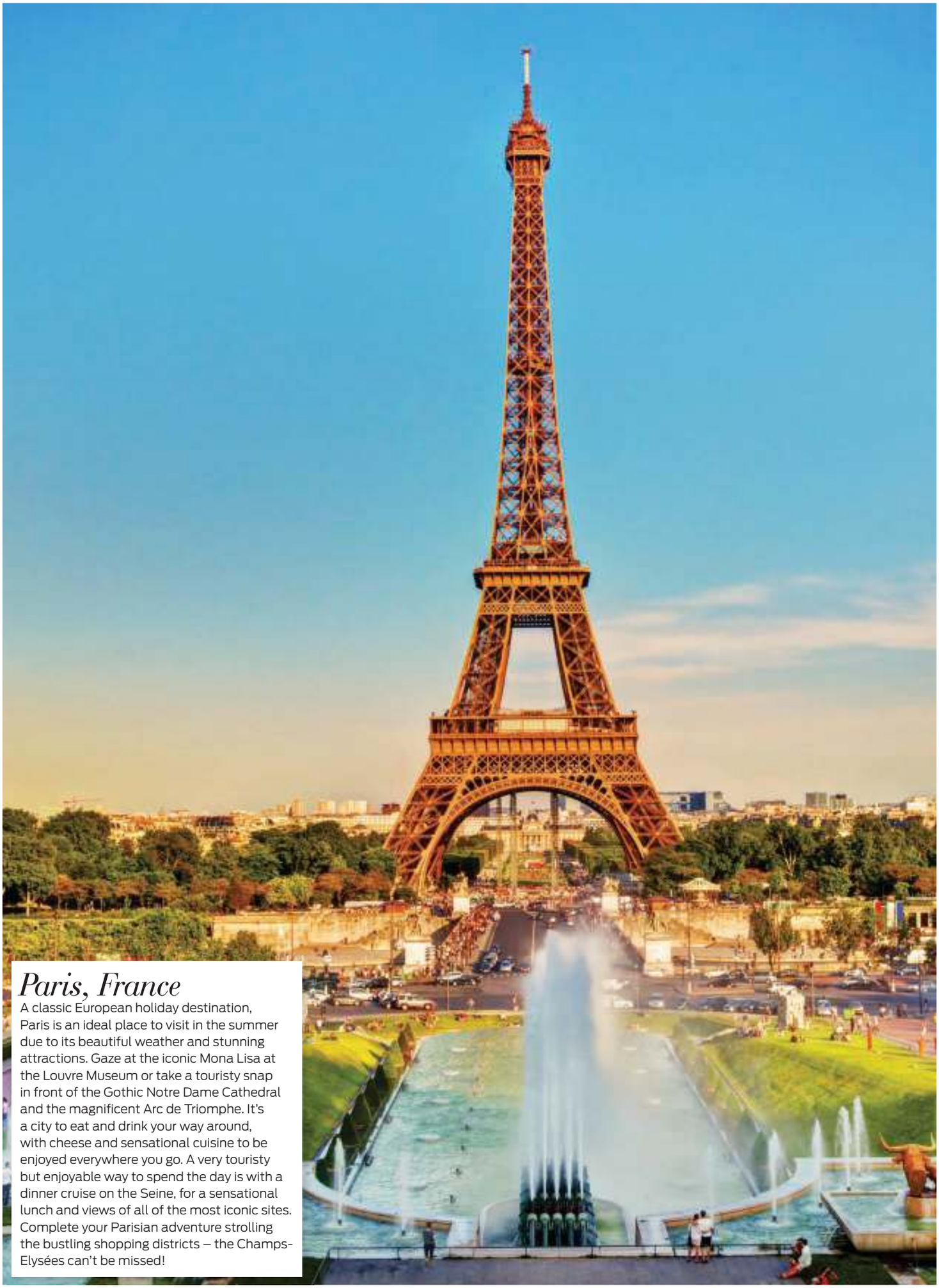
Stroll through the historical streets of Zagreb or admire the gorgeous waterfalls and natural scenery at Krka National Park. Get acquainted with the charming villages of Korcula or go sightseeing around the beautiful laid-back harbor of Rovinj. While you're in the country, make sure to go down to Dubrovnik – a scenic must for all *Game of Thrones* fans – then make your way to Split and take a boat to Hvar for some island hopping down the Dalmatian Coast – Brac and Vis are highlights.





Bali, Indonesia

Boasting amazing surfing, exotic forests, and a delicious food scene, Bali is the perfect getaway for holidaymakers looking to ditch noisy city life. The island's architecture is worth admiring too – make sure you check out Tanah Lot Temple surrounded by the tranquil blue sea. Immerse in the local culture and witness an enchanting fire dance during sunset at the Uluwatu Temple or wander through the endless lush green spaces of rice fields in Ubud. Venture into the forests at the Elephant Safari Park or catch the sunrise at Mount Batur in Kintamani.



Paris, France

A classic European holiday destination, Paris is an ideal place to visit in the summer due to its beautiful weather and stunning attractions. Gaze at the iconic Mona Lisa at the Louvre Museum or take a touristy snap in front of the Gothic Notre Dame Cathedral and the magnificent Arc de Triomphe. It's a city to eat and drink your way around, with cheese and sensational cuisine to be enjoyed everywhere you go. A very touristy but enjoyable way to spend the day is with a dinner cruise on the Seine, for a sensational lunch and views of all of the most iconic sites. Complete your Parisian adventure strolling the bustling shopping districts – the Champs-Elysées can't be missed!



Stockholm, Sweden

Sweden is a must-visit country in Europe for its laid-back lifestyle and intriguing historical attractions. Stockholm boasts a beautiful waterfront, as one third of its area is made up of water, providing an ideal opportunity to admire the crystal clear coastline and more. Head over to Gothenburg to admire the neoclassical architecture picturesque canals, or spend your Swedish summer in Southern area of Skane for beautiful landscapes made up of quaint villages, castles and rolling plains.

Salalah, Oman

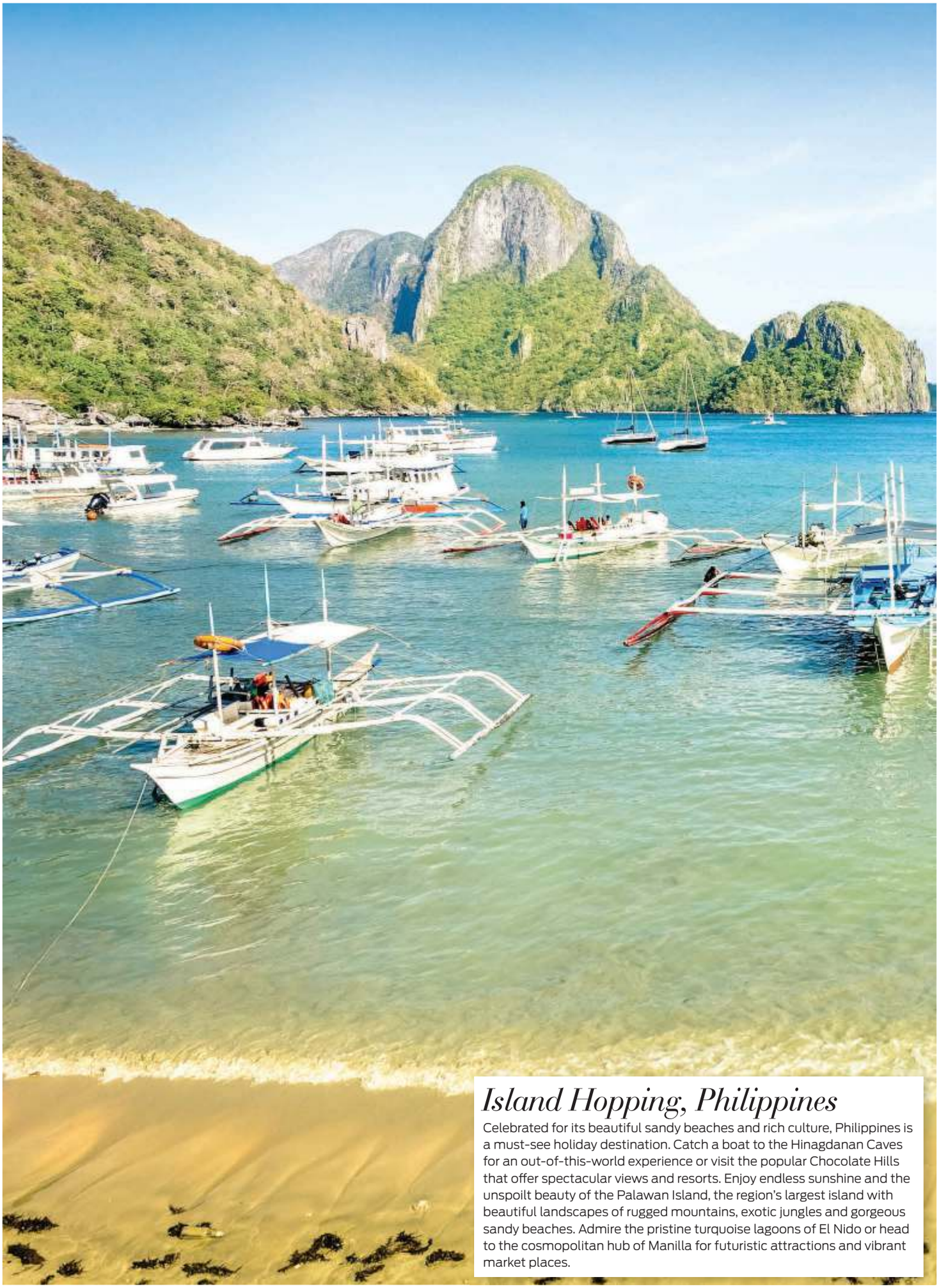
Escape the summer heat with a trip to close-by Salalah. The city in the south of Oman is hit by a summer Khareef, a monsoon season, which means that the whole region is lush and green and a good 10 degrees cooler than the UAE. You won't be outside sunbathing, but you can lap up rainy days by the sea, long hikes in the Wadi Darbat and spend an afternoon wandering around Al Husn Souq. The stormy weather also makes it very popular for surfers during the summer months. If you go later in the summer, in September, you'll find that the weather is considerably cooler, with calmer seas perfect for dolphin watching.





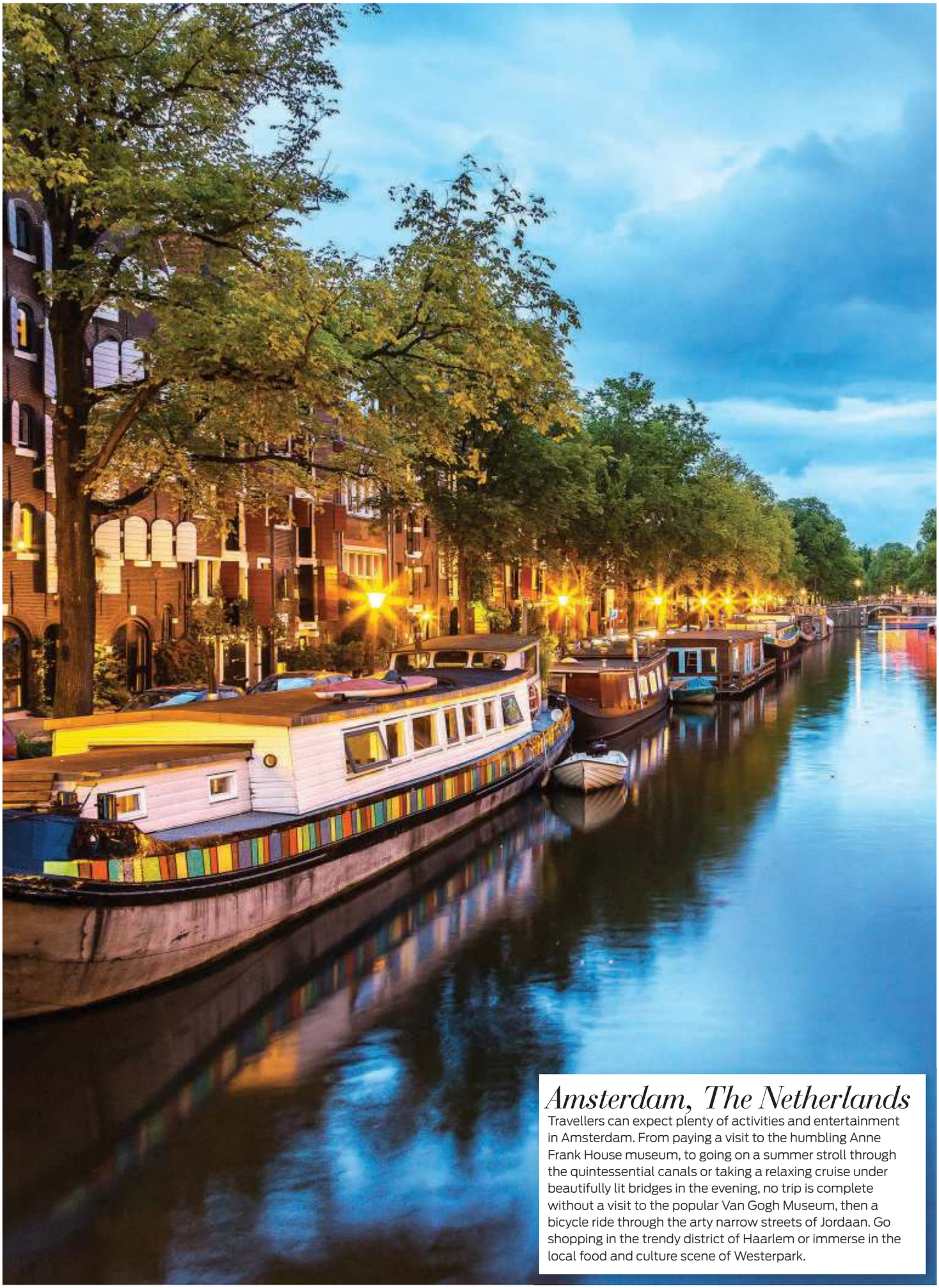
Barcelona, Spain

Home to ancient emperors and centuries of rich history, people flock to Cyprus thanks toAll of Spain is celebrated for its picturesque cities and stunning landscape, so naturally it's a popular holiday destination. In the north of the country, the buzzing city life and shopping in Barcelona and Gaudi's La Sagrada Familia Cathedral – a famous work in progress – is a must-see, along with Park Güell and the bustling La Rambla, a tree-lined street that runs thorough the heart of the city. If you have time to explore the country further, take an internal flight or train to Granada in the south, and admire the beautiful Moorish architecture of the Alhambra palaces. From there, you're less than an hour away from some of the most popular beaches on the Costa Del Sol.



Island Hopping, Philippines

Celebrated for its beautiful sandy beaches and rich culture, Philippines is a must-see holiday destination. Catch a boat to the Hinagdanan Caves for an out-of-this-world experience or visit the popular Chocolate Hills that offer spectacular views and resorts. Enjoy endless sunshine and the unspoilt beauty of the Palawan Island, the region's largest island with beautiful landscapes of rugged mountains, exotic jungles and gorgeous sandy beaches. Admire the pristine turquoise lagoons of El Nido or head to the cosmopolitan hub of Manilla for futuristic attractions and vibrant market places.



Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Travellers can expect plenty of activities and entertainment in Amsterdam. From paying a visit to the humbling Anne Frank House museum, to going on a summer stroll through the quintessential canals or taking a relaxing cruise under beautifully lit bridges in the evening, no trip is complete without a visit to the popular Van Gogh Museum, then a bicycle ride through the arty narrow streets of Jordaan. Go shopping in the trendy district of Haarlem or immerse in the local food and culture scene of Westerpark.

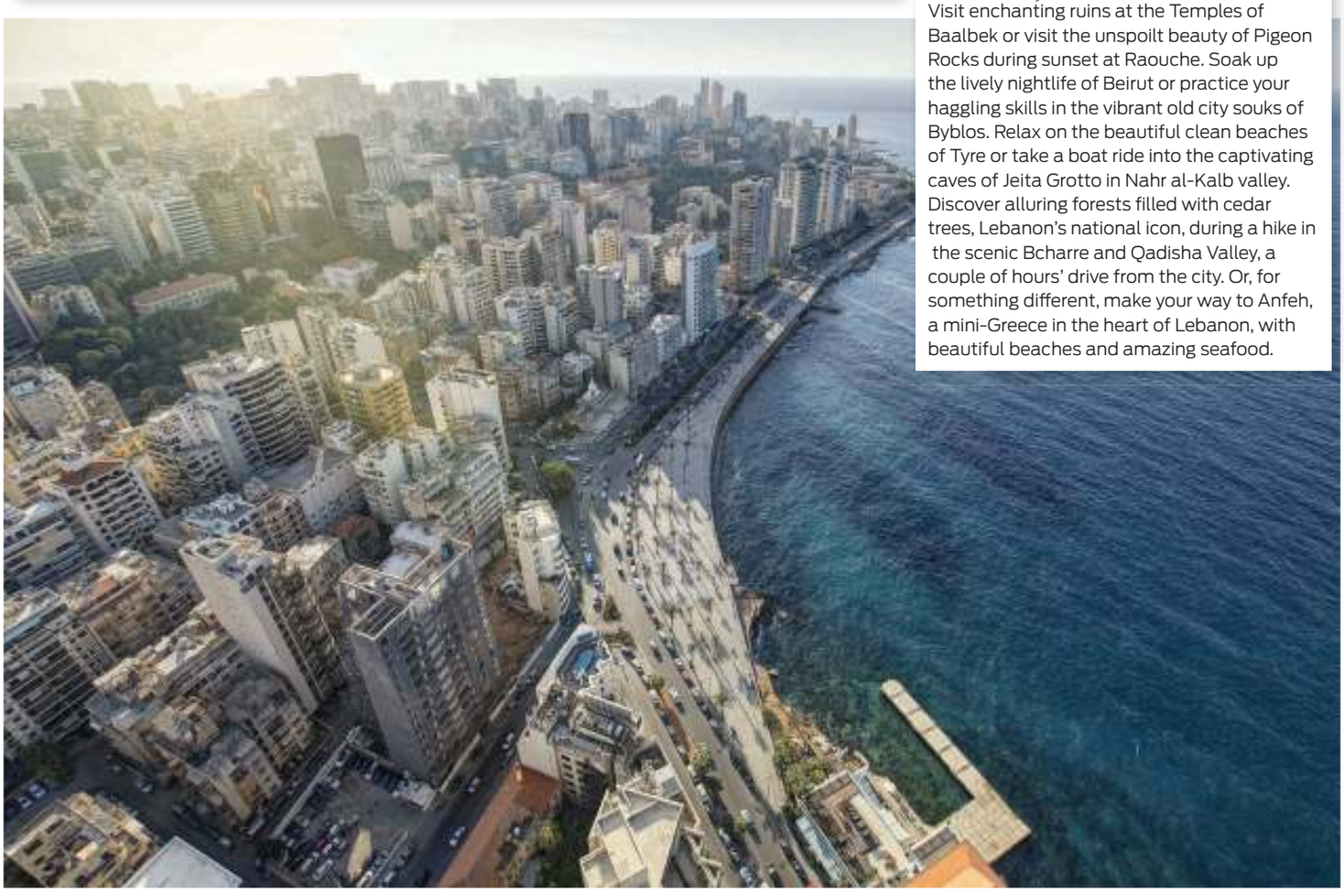


Oslo, Norway

The capital city, Oslo offers a vibrant metropolitan experience, while the photogenic city of Bergen is considered as one of the most beautiful gems of Europe. Set amidst captivating Norwegian fjords and mountain sides, the must-see waterfront district regularly hosts vibrant festivals and exhibitions throughout the year. Capture the finest views of Geirangerfjord or witness the enchanting phenomenon of the Aurora Lights in Northern Norway.

Beirut, Lebanon

Visit enchanting ruins at the Temples of Baalbek or visit the unspoilt beauty of Pigeon Rocks during sunset at Raouche. Soak up the lively nightlife of Beirut or practice your haggling skills in the vibrant old city souks of Byblos. Relax on the beautiful clean beaches of Tyre or take a boat ride into the captivating caves of Jeita Grotto in Nahr al-Kalb valley. Discover alluring forests filled with cedar trees, Lebanon's national icon, during a hike in the scenic Bcharre and Qadisha Valley, a couple of hours' drive from the city. Or, for something different, make your way to Anfeh, a mini-Greece in the heart of Lebanon, with beautiful beaches and amazing seafood.





Larnaca, Cyprus

Home to ancient emperors and centuries of rich history, people flock to Cyprus thanks to its pristine beaches, endless summers and lush greenery. For travellers seeking a summer holiday with a blend of sightseeing and a relaxed island life, from experiencing the lively nightlife of Ayia Napa to exploring the Roman ruins in the coastal town of Paphos, explore the quaint villages and Byzantine churches at Troodos Massif and admire the tranquil scenery at Aphrodite's Rock for a packed Cyprus holiday schedule.



Amman, Jordan

Spend the summer vacationing in Jordan as the country is rich in history and popular tourist attractions. Watch the sun set over the ancient ruins in Petra, housing rock-cut treasuries and rose-hued temples, and make sure you take a dip in the Dead Sea for an extraordinary floating experience. Spend a night in a Bedouin guest camps at the enchanting Wadi Rum or explore the vibrant, bustling city life in the Jordanian capital of Amman.

Cairo, Egypt

No trip is complete without visiting the pyramid at Giza, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Then make your way to the Egyptian museum, which contains artifacts vividly retracing 5,000 years of history. For some shopping, make your way to Khan el-Khalili, a very lively souk, ideal for picking up a few souvenirs. No trip is complete without tucking into some koshari, a staple street food and carb-fest, made up of layers of rice, macaroni and lentils, with tomato, chickpeas and crispy fried onions.



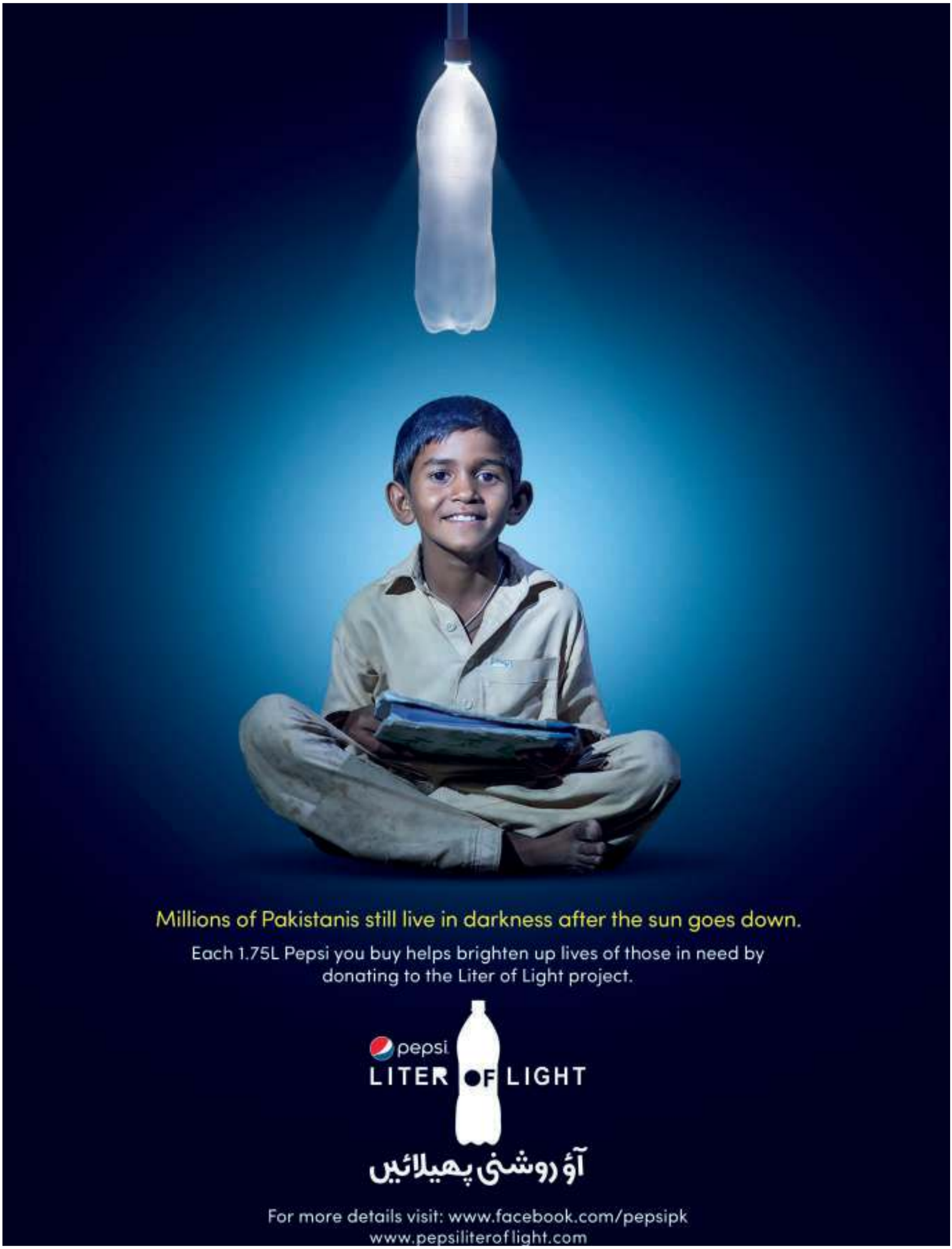


Rome, Italy

A summer spent eating your way around Italy is a summer well spent! Fly into Rome to soak up all of the cultural sites, like the Colosseum or visit the Vatican City. You can then travel north and visit the galleries and museums in Florence, the Tuscan vineyards or metropolitan Milan and of course, Lake Como. Alternatively, journey south to the stunning coastal towns of Positano, Sorrento and Amalfi.

TEXT: OK! MIDDLE EAST FARAH ANDREWS, SYEDA HAIDER; PHOTOGRAPHS: SHUTTERSTOCK

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Wah Cantt.
Ahmadnagar

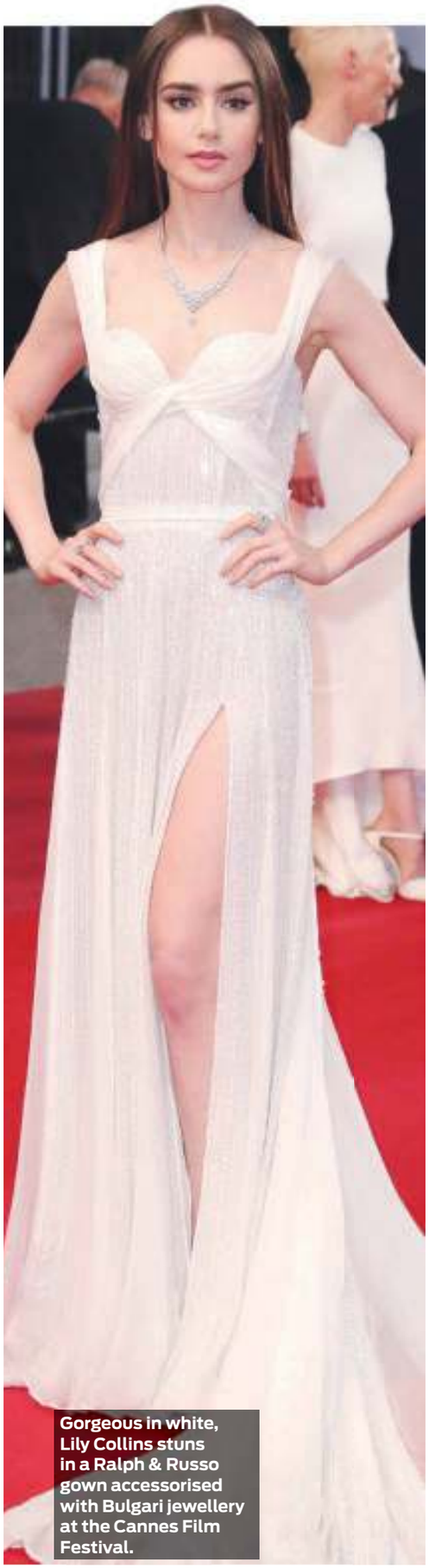
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OK! *Best* DRESSED



Gorgeous in white, Lily Collins stuns in a Ralph & Russo gown accessorised with Bulgari jewellery at the Cannes Film Festival.



Sonam Kapoor dazzles in a glistening gold Elie Saab gown at the Cannes Film Festival.



Kendall Jenner makes jaws drop in Giambattista Valli haute couture Spring/Summer 2017 and Chopard jewellery at the Cannes Film Festival.

OK! Red CARPET



Emily Ratajkowski makes a statement in a Peter Dundas lace jumpsuit at the Cannes Film Festival.



Bella Hadid channels old Hollywood glamour in an Alexandre Vauthier gown and Bulgari jewellery at the Cannes Film Festival.

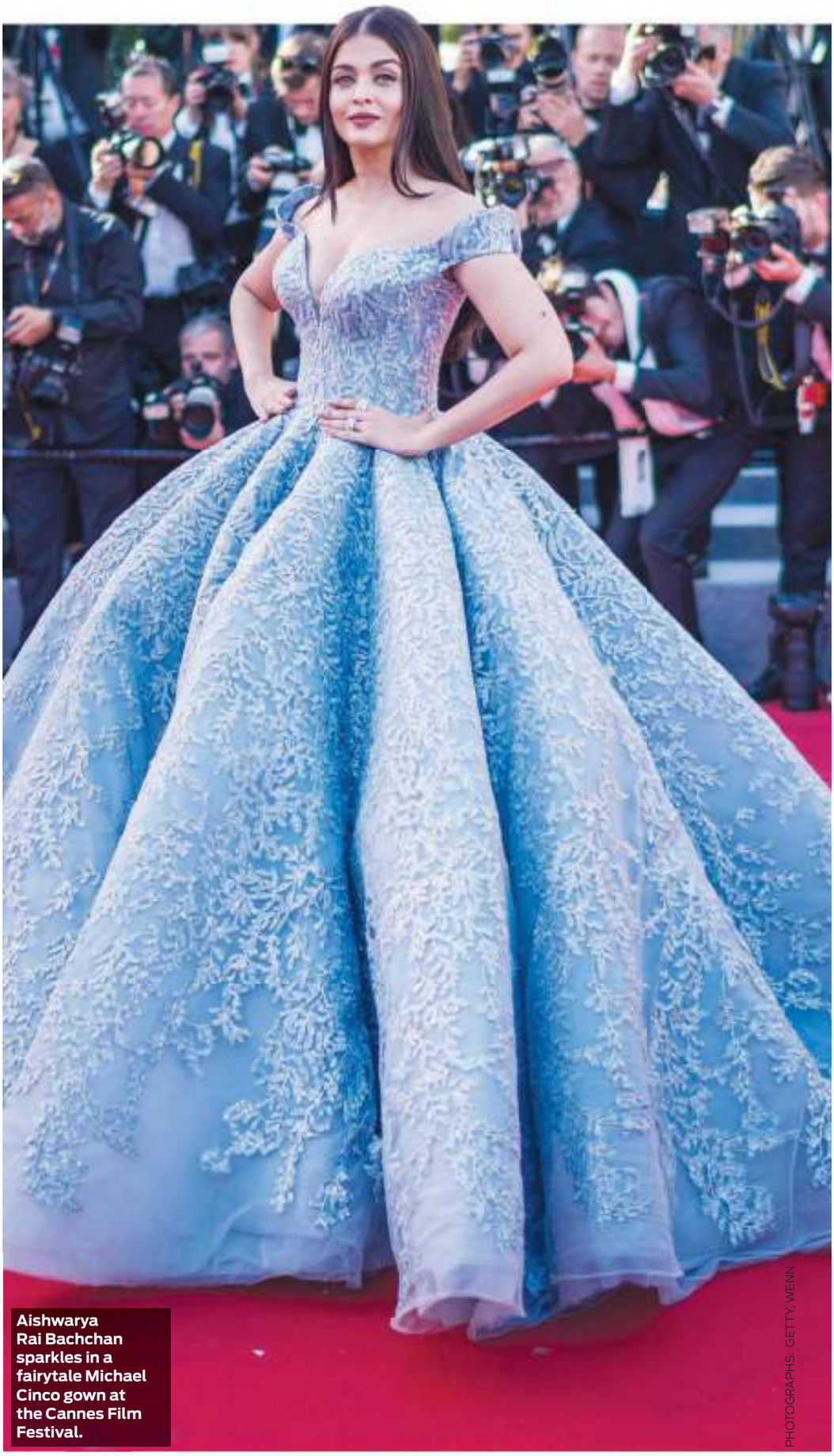


Reigning in ruffles, Sara Sampaio looks über chic in Francesco Scognamiglio at the Cannes Film Festival.

ROCKSTARS



Deepika Padukone dons a Brandon Maxwell gown with a thigh-high slit at the Cannes Film Festival.

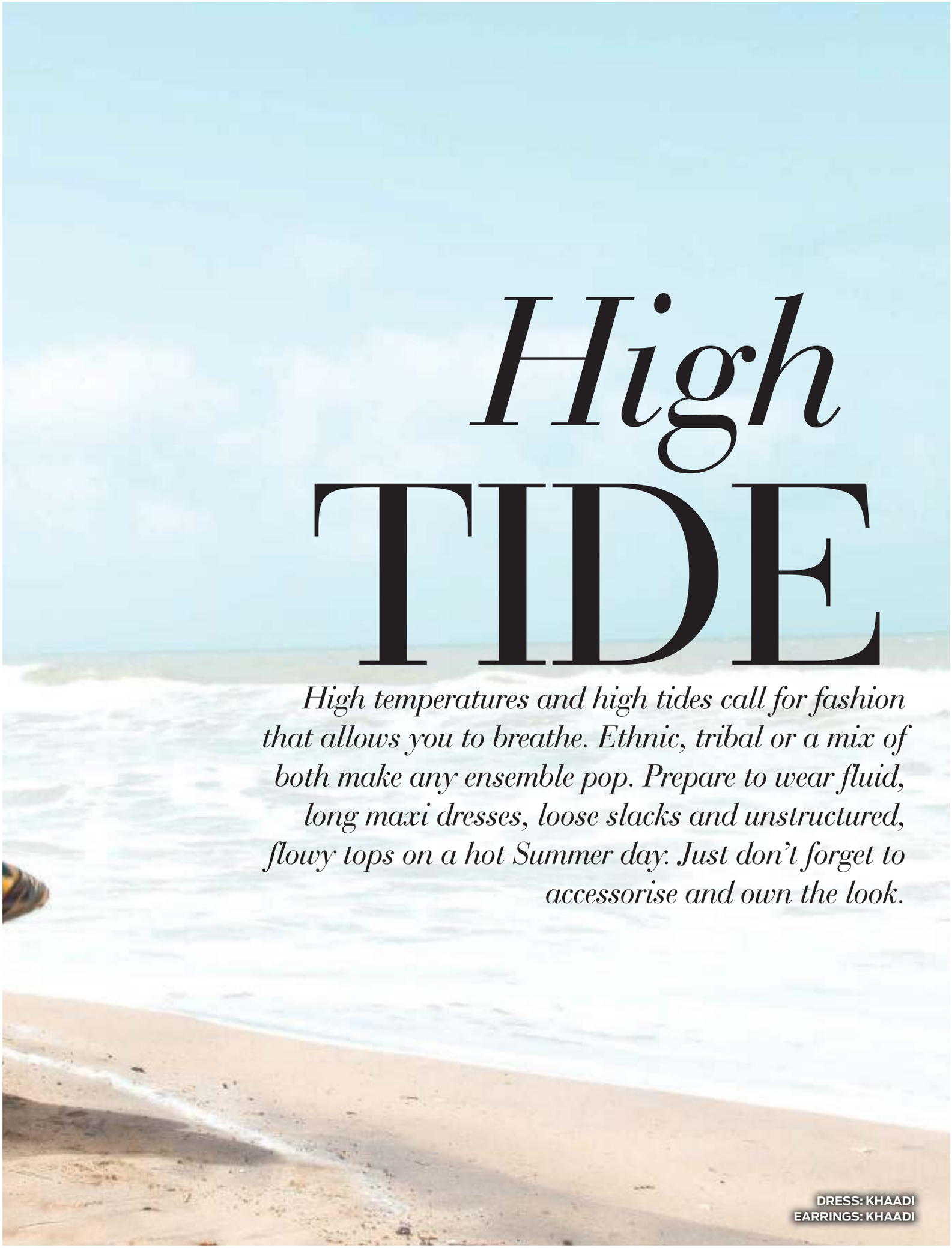


Aishwarya Rai Bachchan sparkles in a fairytale Michael Cinco gown at the Cannes Film Festival.

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY, WENN



CONCEPT, ART DIRECTION, STYLING: ALIZEH PASHA
FASHION ASSISTANCE: MEHR KASIM & YASMEEN KHAN
PHOTOGRAPHY: GIBRAN A. JAMSHED
MODEL: AREEBA HABIB
HAIR & MAKE-UP: N-PRO (NABILA SALON)



High TIDE

High temperatures and high tides call for fashion that allows you to breathe. Ethnic, tribal or a mix of both make any ensemble pop. Prepare to wear fluid, long maxi dresses, loose slacks and unstructured, flowy tops on a hot Summer day. Just don't forget to accessorise and own the look.

DRESS: KHAADI
EARRINGS: KHAADI



DRESS: ALI XEESHAN
EARRINGS: REMA LUXE



ALL JEWELLERY: STYLIST'S OWN
BIKINI TOP: VICTORIA'S SECRET
PANTS: ALI XEESHAN
JACKET: PEPE JEANS LONDON



SKIRT & TOP: INAAYA
EARRINGS: H&M
ANKLET: ACCESSORIZE



BIKINI TOP: VICTORIA'S SECRET
TOP & PANTS: INAAYA
ANKLET: ACCESSORIZE
NECKLACE & BRACELET: STYLIST'S OWN


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AGHA NOOR


AISHA IMRAN


AMINAH BADAR


CHEENA CHAPRA

PAKISTAN FASHION WEEK LONDON


DIVA BY SANA RASHID


MAHEEN KHAN


MARIA B.


MOAZZAM ABBASI


NOOR BY SAADIA ASAD


SADAF AMIR


SANA SAFINAZ


SHAMAEEL ANSARI

The 11th edition of Pakistan Fashion Week London took place at the historic Lancaster House in May, with a showcase by over 40 of Pakistan's leading designers and emerging talent.


SHAZIA KIYANI


SHIRIN HASSAN


SONIA MAHAJAN


UMAR SAYEED

PHOTOGRAPHS: SHAHID MALIK



AmfAR 2017

One of 2017's most star-studded events, the amfAR Gala held in Cannes to support The Foundation for AIDS Research celebrated it's 24th annual black-tie event with throngs of beautiful celebs, models and the likes. Raising more than $20 million in one night for an important cause, gorgeousness and generosity danced hand in hand in their finest. Here are some of our favourite looks.



PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY, WENN


SHEILA


CHATOOR






Sharig


sheila

GINGHAM STYLE



H&M
Large Earrings,
PKR 1,200





Gucci
Embellished Acetate Sunglasses,
PKR 110,000





Christopher Kane
Gingham Midi Skirt,
PKR 84,000

Christopher Kane
Gingham Shoulder Bag,
PKR 94,000

Alexandre Birman
Clarita Cotton & Canvas Sandals,
PKR 49,000





Donni Charm
Donni Poppy,
PKR 8,500



Joshua Sanders
Gingham Cotton & Leather Slides,
PKR 32,000





Rosie Assoulin
Large Octagon Sunglasses,
PKR 49,000

Edie Parker
Wolf Cotton & Glittered Acrylic Box Clutch,
PKR 169,000





MSGM
Gingham Sleeveless Dress,
PKR 60,000



Miu Miu
Vichy Poplin Shoulder Bag,
PKR 136,000

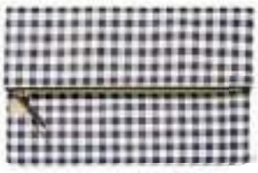




Equipment
Brett Maxi Dress,
PKR 43,000

River Island
Gingham Skinny Scarf,
PKR 1,900

Clare V
Supreme Leather Clutch,
PKR 23,000



Solid & Striped
One-Piece Swimsuit,
PKR 16,000





MSGM
Ruffle Mini Skirt,
PKR 35,000



Oscar De La Renta
Tiered Beaded Tassel Clip Earrings,
PKR 45,000

Zara
Floral Print Gingham Skirt,
PKR 6,900



Zara
Frilled Gingham Top,
PKR 3,500





River Island
Print Backless loafers,
PKR 4,300

Simone Rocha
Asymmetric Printed Silk Wrap Skirt,
PKR 150,000



Prada
Cat-Eye Sunglasses, PKR 45,000



Miu Miu
Gingham Cotton, Crystal & Faux Pearl Necklace, PKR 31,000



Rosie Assoulin
Iris Seersucker Top, PKR 139,000



H&M
Earrings with Tassels, PKR 1,200



Edie Parker
Lily Wicker Tote, PKR 99,000





Magnetic Midnight
Pompom Crown, PKR 65,000



House Of Holland
Ruffled Mini Skirt, PKR 23,000



Tome
Gingham Jacquard Top, PKR 52,000



Mansur Gavriel
Mini Volume Clutch, PKR 44,000

Not just a print for your picnic blankets anymore, gingham is Spring/Summer '17's most coveted trend. Dating back to Dorothy's dress from Oz to remembering Audrey Hepburn in gingham trousers, this nostalgic print is back and IT for the season. Do style this overtly prim print with sneakers, slouchy tees & funky accessories for a more modern feel.



Rosetta Getty
Cotton Blouse, PKR 59,000



Mango
Ruffle Printed Blouse, PKR 5,990



Mango
Embroidered Cotton Blouse, PKR 5,990



House Of Holland
Jersey & Poplin Sweatshirt, PKR 39,000



Miu Miu
Lace-Up Leather Pumps, PKR 69,000



Peter Pilotto
One-Shoulder Cotton-Blend Top, PKR 95,000





Oscar De La Renta
Rose Gold-Plated Clip Earrings, PKR 26,000



Maison Michel
Calie Cotton Headband, PKR 25,000



Tome
Ruffled Jacquard Skirt, PKR 119,000



J. CREW
Foster Canvas Ballet Flats, PKR 14,000

River Island
Cold Shoulder Puff Sleeve Top, PKR 4,500



STOCKISTS: ALEXANDRE BIRMAN, CHRISTOPHER KANE, CLARE V, EDIE PARKER, EQUIPMENT, HOUSE OF HOLLAND, JOSHUA SANDERS, MAISON MICHEL, OSCAR DE LA RENTA, PETER PILOTTO, ROSIE ASSOULIN, SIMONE ROCHA, TOME www.netaporter.com; GUCCI www.gucci.com; MIU MIU www.miumiu.com; PRADA www.prada.com; J. CREW www.jcrew.com; DONNI CHARM, MAGNETIC MIDNIGHT, MANSUR GAVRIEL, MSGM, ROSETTA GETTY, SOLD & STRIPED www.modaoperandi.com; H&M www.hm.com; MANGO www.mango.com; RIVER ISLAND www.riverisland.com; ZARA www.zara.com; *prices are approximate*



PATCHES

Express your personality by adding unique patches that make a statement or finding denim, t-shirts and jackets that already have cool, pre-made patches on them. Women have been wearing this trend for sometime and now it's trending for men too!



NAVY SCHOTT
Reversible Bomber Jacket,
PKR 18,500



MAISON MARGIELA
Lace–Up Ankle Boots,
PKR 77,300



KENZO
Embroidered Patch Denim Jacket,
PKR 41,800

GOLD/TOYO ENTERPRISE
Wind Protex Bomber Jacket,
PKR 60,000



DSQUARED2
Tidy Biker Acid Wash Jeans,
PKR 45,200



DSQUARED 2
Embroidered Patch Shorts,
PKR 72,000



GUCCI
Embellished Leather Brogue Boots,
PKR 131,000



DR. MARTINS
1460 Smooth Boots,
PKR 13,500





SAINT LAURENT
City Multi Patch Applique Canvas Backpack,
PKR 65,400



HISTORY REPEATS
Contrast Patch Jeans,
PKR 44,400



SAINT LAURENT
Embellished Wallet,
PKR 34,500

PAUL SMITH JEANS
Embroidered Patch Sweatshirt,
PKR 15,500





MARCELO BURLON COUNTY OF MILAN
Roldan Bomber Jacket,
PKR 99,500

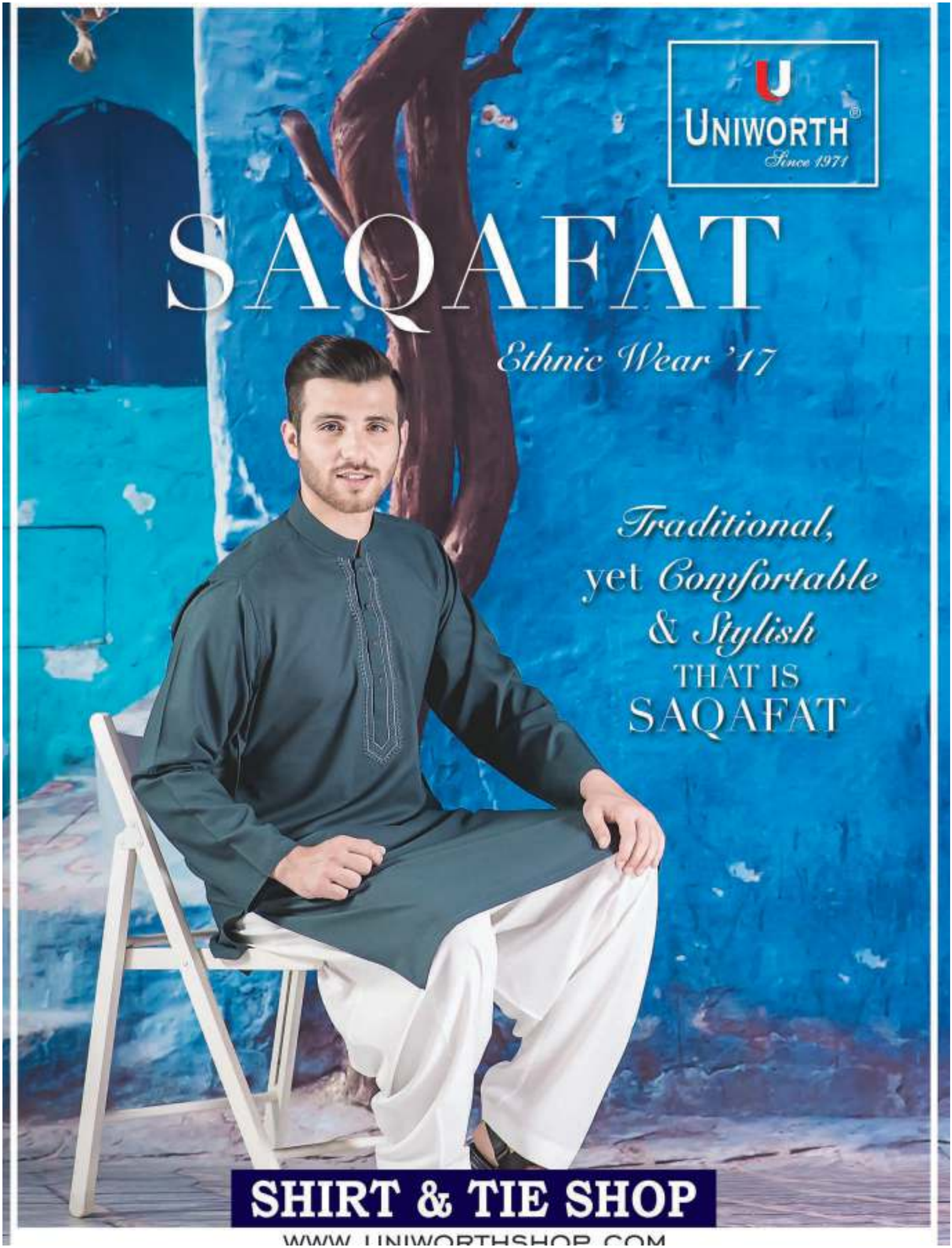


PHILIPP PLEIN
Embroidered Jeans,
PKR 64,100

PRADA
Aviator Style Metal Acetate Sunglasses,
PKR 31,600



STOCKIST: GUCCI www.matchesfashion.com; DSQUARED2, GOLD/TOYO ENTERPRISE, PHILIPP PLEIN, MARCELO BURLON COUNTY OF MILAN, MAISON MARGIELA, SAINT LAURENT, KENZO, PAUL SMITH JEANS www.farfetch.com; NAVY SCHOTT, www.riverisland.com; PRADA, HISTORY REPEATS www.farfetch.com; DR. MARTINS www.drmartens.com; *prices are approximate*


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ROSE GOLD

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CARTIER
Paris Nouvelle Vague Necklace

TIFFANY & CO.
T Wrap Ring

DE GRISOGONO
Sole Collection Earrings

DE GRISOGONO
Vortice Earrings

OCTIUM
Rose Gold Sun Brooch

ROLEX
Cosmograph Daytona Everose Watch

ANITA KO
Double-Fan Diamond Earrings

DIONEA ORCINI
Rose Gold Earrings

JAEGER LECOULTRE
Rose Gold Watch

DIOR
Cocotte Ring

CHOPARD
Ubellites Earrings

HEARTS ON FIRE
Diamond Necklace in Rose Gold

L'DEZEN BY PAYAL SHAH
Aladdin Diamond Drop Earrings

JACOB & CO.
Rose Gold Choker

POMELLATO
Arabesque Chandelier Earrings

H.STERN
Morganite Earrings in Rose Gold

LOUIS VUITTON
Color Blossom Rose Gold Ring

BRUMANI
Panache Collection Earrings

CHAUMET
Hortensia Necklace

CARLA AMORIM
Ibirapuera Earrings

KAVANT & SHARART
Wave Earrings

VAN CLEEF & ARPELS
Cadenas Pavée Saphirs Roses Watch

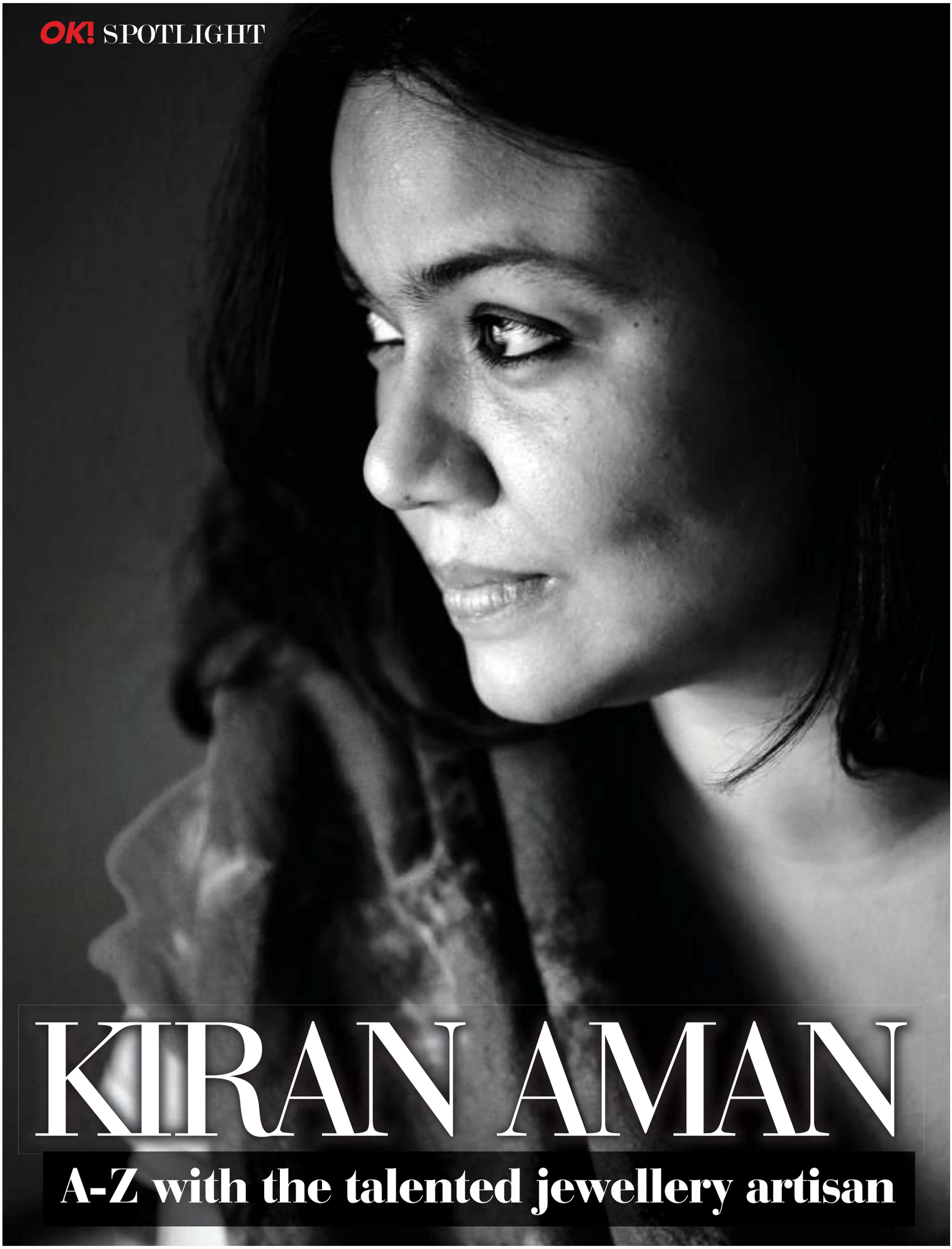
BRUMANI
Earrings with Diamonds & Multi-Coloured Sapphires

PATEK PHILIPPE
Rose Gold Watch with Annual Calendar

STOCKISTS: ANITA KO www.anitako.com; BRUMANI www.brumani.com; CARLA AMORIM www.carlaamorim.com.br; CARTIER www.cartier.com; CHAUMET www.chaumet.com; CHOPARD www.chopard.com; DE GRISOGONO www.degrisogono.com; DIONEA ORCINI www.dioneaorcini.com; DIOR www.dior.com; H.STERN www.hstern.net; HEARTS ON FIRE www.heartsonfire.com; JACOB & CO. www.jacobandco.com; JAEGER LECOULTRE www.jaeger-lecoultre.com; KAVANT & SHARART www.kavantandsharart.com; L'DEZEN BY PAYAL SHAH www.ldezen.com; LOUIS VUITTON www.louisvuitton.com; OCTIUM www.octiumjewellery.com; PATEK PHILIPPE www.patek.com; POMELLATO www.pomellato.com; ROLEX www.rolex.com; TIFFANY & CO. www.tiffany.com; VAN CLEEF & ARPELS www.vancleefarpels.com



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KIRAN AMAN

A-Z with the talented jewellery artisan



Mastering the art of jewellery making is by no means a small feat. But for Kiran Aman of Kiran Fine Jewellery (KFJ), it is a unique form of self-expression that allows her to give voice to the artist within. Fueled by a desire to fuse her inimitable style into timeless works of art, Kiran leaves no stone unturned to ensure finesse in her craft, from inception to completion. *OK*! Pakistan recently caught up with the devoted artisan to discuss her passion for jewellery, fashion and more.

How did you get into jewellery design?
Kiran Aman: It all began for me when I realised I wanted to make pieces that people would wear, and that would be symbolic of their personalities as opposed to pieces that were just design-based and that looked pretty.

How would you describe your journey as a designer?
KA: So far, it's been a tough one – but equally exciting. This is because people in Pakistan are not used to conceptually designed jewellery, which is why I only make about 20-30 pieces and cater to a niche market. I'm actually quite happy to say that I've made a small following for myself.

How have your creations changed since your inception?
KA: The only change I have made is that I have introduced a few design-based pieces, which aren't purely conceptional.

Tell us about your love affair with jewellery.
KA: I don't have a personal love affair with jewellery. In fact, I have designed so much of it that I have fallen out of love with jewellery itself. Instead, I have fallen in love with the concept of designing it.

How would you describe your design ethos? What's the story behind your collections?
KA: My design ethos is primarily a story behind a collection – usually something I, myself have gone through which I translate as the underlying theme of a particular collection.

> **"My design ethos is primarily a story behind a collection – usually something I, myself have gone through which I translate as the underlying theme of a particular collection."**

As for the stories behind my various collections – each collection is different in terms of the philosophy.

What makes your collections unique?
KA: My collections are unique because I am more about texturing gold versus moulding it.

What are you favourite materials to work with?
KA: Gold.

How important is colour to your design process?
KA: Not very important.

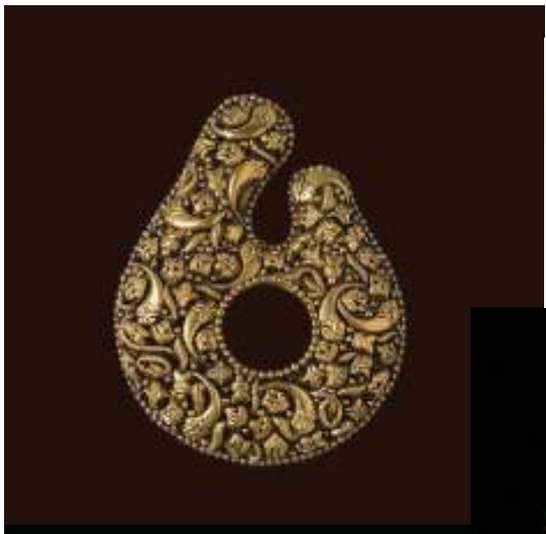
What are you inspired by when designing?
KA: Experiences.

Would you ever consider bridal jewellery?
KA: I have done a few bridal sets, but it's not something that necessarily floats my boat.

What kind of woman do you envisage wearing your designs?
KA: A woman who is selective in her likes and dislikes, and one who isn't competitive in nature.

How do you like to wear your favourite pieces?
KA: I like to wear just one piece of jewellery. Simplicity is key for me.

Are you working on any new designs or collaborations at the moment?
KA: I just did two collaborations with Adnan Pardesy for PFDC Sunsilk Fashion Week and one for the HUM Showcase. Both these collections fall under the sister brand of Kiran Fine Jewellery (KFJ) called Kino by KFJ.
One collection was titled *Alchemy of Time*, which consisted of statement earrings made of wood, which were painted black. The second collection ▶





> “Design is all about being innovative and not following trends. I make more earring pieces because that comes to me more naturally.”







was titled *Continuum*, which consisted of gold-plated silver pieces.

You did a campaign where you featured women from various walks of life – can you tell us about that?
KA: I ran a digital Women's Day campaign last year titled *#JustWoman*. This campaign mainly entailed women as creators and nurturers; it explored a woman's natural and intrinsic womanhood additionally celebrating their individuality.

What is your favourite piece from your archive?
KA: There are far too many to mention. I actually have one favourite piece from every collection I've made – and I have 15 collections.

You've had a few brand ambassadors – who's your favourite and why?
KA: I wouldn't call them brand ambassadors as such. They are women who choose to wear KFJ – Mahirah Khan, Sanam Saeed, and Meesha Shafi being the foremost. They are KFJ women – they dress in a minimalistic manner, which is in tune with the very aesthetic of KFJ.

What are you working on now? Any new designs you can hint at?
KA: Nothing at the moment, seeing as I just released two new collections mentioned earlier.

What have been the biggest lessons you've learned since launching your jewellery brand?
KA: I like the way things have gone. There haven't been any lessons learned, really. I have kept it at a small pace and have maintained my exclusivity.

Where would you like to take your collection? What are your future plans?
KA: I have no plans as such at the moment. Eventually I would like the brand to outlive me. I want it to grow and become a big company, sell it, but remain the head designer.

What advice would you give to someone interested in getting into the jewellery design business?
KA: Try not to follow trends. Design is all about being innovative and not following trends. I make more earring pieces because that comes to me more naturally. So in that respect, and I know this is a total cliché, I would say follow your heart and be true to yourself.

What was the last piece of jewellery you bought?
KA: I kept a piece for myself from my *Synchronicity* collection. It is a pair of baalis, very similar to the ones Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy wore to the Oscars.

If you could only wear one piece of jewellery for the rest of your life, what would it be?
KA: The diamond ring I have been wearing on the index finger of my right-hand since 2004.

Who is your favourite designer?
KA: Cartier.

Name two style icons you admire — one living, one dead.
KA: Priyanka Chopra, Jackie Kennedy, and Madonna.

If you could only wear one designer forever, who would it be?
KA: For jewellery I'd wear KFJ; clothing-wise I'd wear Misha Lakhani.

Three wardrobe essentials every woman should own?
KA: Sunglasses, one statement ring, and a funky bag.

A jewel that defines a woman's spirit?
KA: The kind of ring she wears, and which finger she wears it on.

Luxury to me is...
KA: Convenience.

If I wasn't a jewellery designer, I would be a...
KA: Publisher – which I am.

Your most precious piece of jewellery?
KA: The ring on my index finger.

What gadget can you not live without?
KA: I can live without all gadgets, but I can't live without people.

Your favourite destination?
KA: Italy. OK!

INTERVIEW: MEHR KASSIM
PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY KIRAN AMAN

WJW

WASEEM
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#OKStreetstyle

OK! Pakistan hand picks its favourite Ramadan styles!



@_AKAGRAM PROVES THAT FLORALS ARE BACK WITH A BANG! J'ADIOR CLUTCH IS #TDF TOO!



BLOGGER @_NAS_AM IS MODEST FASHION AT ITS FINEST. FLORAL SEPARATES ARE MAJOR THIS SEASON.



BEAUTY @MIRIAM ABADI LOOKS EFFORTLESS IN A STRUCTURED TOP AND DENIMS.



@REEMA.WALI LOOKS FABULUXE, THAT PRADA CLUTCH IS ON POINT.



ACE DESIGNER, @SARASHAHIDI PROVES THAT HAPPY GIRLS ARE INDEED THE PRETTIEST, ALTHOUGH THE IMPECCABLE STYLE FACTOR CERTAINLY PUTS THINGS UP A NOTCH.



@SHANZAYSHEIKH IS #OOTD GOALS!



@SHIREENMITWALLI IS A VISION IN THIS GORGEOUS TAFFETA DRESS!



SEHR OF @STUDIOSDESIGNS LOOKS ELEGANT IN HER OWN CREATION.



@ZURIADOR SHAKING THINGS UP THIS SUMMER. ADORE THIS TOP FROM THEIR NEWEST COLLECTION.

TEXT: ALYZEH RAHIM SHIRAZI



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MY WONDERFUL LIFE

Lahore-based fashionista and socialite Arjumand Amin shares it all with *OK*! Pakistan

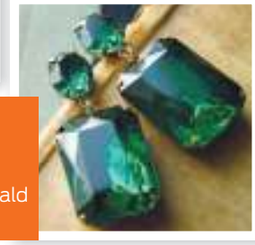


Favourite getaway?
London.

Favourite style icons?
Grace Kelly and Kate Moss.







Last extravagant buy?
A pair of emerald earrings.



Favourite Scent?
Le Labo Santal 33.

Favourite indulgence?
Fine cuisine.

Can't live without...?
These days my daily dose of Netflix.



Guilty pleasure?
A big plate of French fries.



Ideal weekend?
Watching films and series by the Wachowskis.

Favourite book?
God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy.

Celebrity encounters?
Simon Cowell, Nicholas cage, John Cusack, Aishwarya and Abhishek Bachchan and of course Saif Ali Khan.





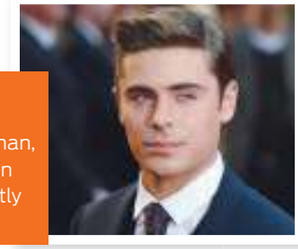
What are you most passionate about?
Beautiful things – including clothes, interiors, jewellery.



Favourite restaurant?
Trattoria 13 Gobbi, Firenze.

Three must-haves in your bag?
Credit cards, mints and hairclips.

Celebrity crush?
Paul Newman, James Dean and currently Zac Efron.





Dior

Favourite past-time?
Badminton theses days.



Favourite designers?
Chloé, Vera Wang and Dior.



Fitness regime?
Gym three times a week.

Beauty extravagance?
All kinds of hair treatments.

All-time favourite movie?
Cinema Paradiso and *Gone with the Wind*.


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realjewellers@hotmail.com www.realjewellers.pk





ANUSH AMMAR

Anush Ammar's unforgettable wedding splattered all over the glossies may have been the most documented wedding on social media in the history of our nation. Apart from that though, did you know that she graduated from Stanford University, is smart as hell and has used her business savvy to launch a very successful e-commerce website Fabbit and now an online magazine, *Mode*. Her knack for toting the most fashionable items in the market and her business acumen has landed her on our fashion radar this month.

GET THE LOOK



H&M
Lyocell Jacket,
PKR 5,000



MANGO
Pearl Pendant Necklace,
PKR 2,000



RIVER ISLAND
White Snake Choker,
PKR 920



FRAME
Supima Cotton Jersey T-Shirt,
PKR 11,200



JILL SANDER
Cropped Pants,
PKR 43,200



HERMÈS
Blue Atoll Togo Kelly,
PKR 1,600,000



CHARLOTTE OLYMPIA
Gladys Suede Platform Pumps,
PKR 69,000



TIFFANY & CO.
Paloma's Sugar Stacks Ring,
PKR 43,500



J.W. ANDERSON
Sphere Rose-Gold-plated Drop Earnings,
PKR 32,300

STOCKISTS: J.W.ANDERSON, FRAME, CHARLOTTE OLYMPIA www.net-a-porter.com; RIVERISLAND www.riverisland.com; JILL SANDER www.farfetch.com; MANGO www.shop.mango.com; H&M www.hm.com; HERMÈS www.portero.com; TIFFANY&CO. www.tiffany.com; *prices are approximate*



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SHAHZAD NOOR

Sizzling the ramp with his charming looks, Shahzad Noor makes every outfit look dapper. Handsome, hardworking and with a sensible selection of projects, his commitment to his work along with his fashion choices have landed him on our fashion radar this month!

GET THE LOOK



POLO RALPH LAUREN
Slim Fit Chino Trousers, PKR 11,800



FRATELLI ROSSETTI
Liverpool Leather Oxford Shoes, PKR 49,000



ASPESI
Button-Up Shirt, PKR 14,300

OFF–WHITE
Ripped Jeans, PKR 70,000





PRADA
Printed Silk Pocket Square, PKR 17,500

MANGO
Cotton Blend Blazer, PKR 18,000





OMEGA
Sea Master Deep Black, Price Upon Request

STOCKIST: POLO RALPH LAUREN, FRATELLI ROSSETTI www.matchesfashion.com; OMEGA www.omegawatches.com; MANGO www.mango.com; PRADA www.mrporter.com; ASPESI, OFF-WHITE www.farfetch.com; *prices are approximate*



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Aboutime

Behind the Scenes of SHEHLA CHATOOR'S Latest Lawn Campaign















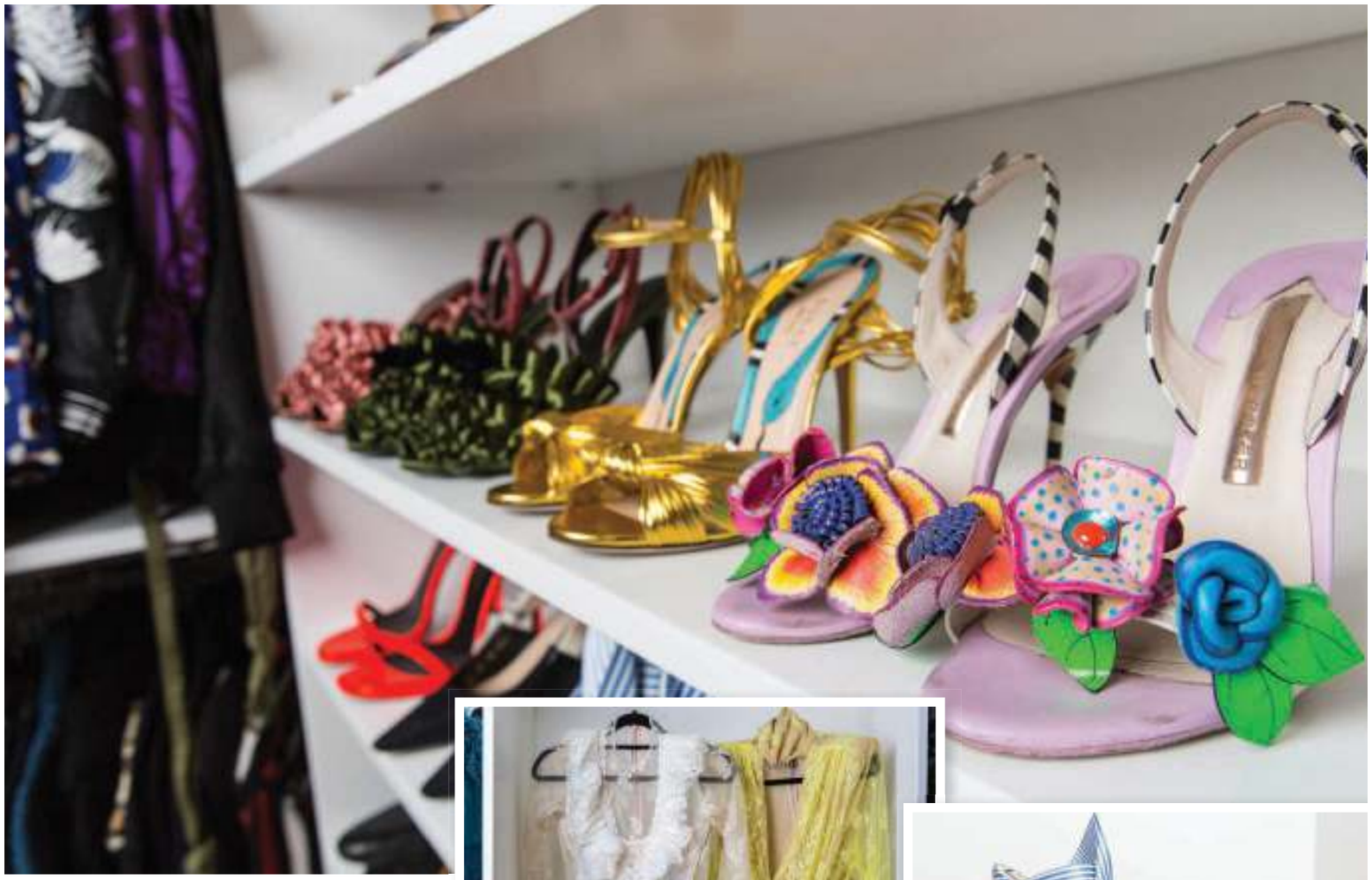






NAHID KERMALI

The fabulous Dubai-based women's wear buyer discusses work, fashion and more with *OK!* Pakistan









Nahid Kermali, Senior Women's Designer Ready-to-Wear Buyer for Harvey Nichols Dubai, Bloomingdale's Dubai, Bloomingdale's Kuwait and now Ounass, is Dubai's resident fashionista sporting the latest looks straight off the runway. Although hers is a multi-faceted job, her main responsibility is telling the women of Dubai and Qatar what's hot, trending and necessary to have in their closets each season. Nahid makes sure each location has its own point of view and something that differentiates it from the other. Giving *OK*! Pakistan an exclusive look into her residence and impeccable closet, she talks favourite fashion houses, upcoming trends, must-have beauty products and much more!

What made you want to choose this field even though you studied business?

Nahid Kermali: Fashion has always been a big part of my life. As a teenager, I would spend a lot of time researching fashion trends and enjoyed creating and styling looks using the clothes and accessories available in my closet. I have always wanted to be a buyer because it not only allows me to be creative, but it also forces me to use the analytical side of my brain. I am also someone who doesn't crave the spotlight. I enjoy playing a large role in what women in the region are wearing from behind the scenes. Buying offers exactly that! It gives me the opportunity to see all of the new and exciting brands and collections before anyone else while still using my strong analytical skills.

How many times do you travel and to which cities for buying?

NK: I travel roughly seven months of the year to New York, Paris and Milan.

What are your favourite fashion houses and cities to visit?

NK: My favourite fashion house to visit is Gucci. The Gucci showroom is like a city – you also never know what to expect when you go there, as the collection is so vast and different each season. Even on a rainy day, the bold colours and prints in the showroom are uplifting.



My favourite city to visit is Paris. I feel very at home in Paris!

When you go for buying what places do you frequent?

NK: Restaurants! I am a huge foodie and love to eat. My favourite city to eat in is New York. New York offers so many different types of cuisines. The atmosphere is also very laid back and casual. ►



Rapid Fire

Heels or flats?
100% heels.

If shoes could talk, what would yours say?
Stop running!

Most recent fashion purchase?
Yeezy season 4 plexi mules.

Craziest purchase?
All of my Vetements purchases.

Five current obsessions?
1. Everything Dior
2. Checks/plaid
3. Velvet
4. Robes
5. Pyjama sets

Name a trend that you are dying to try?
I am dying to try the Balenciaga thigh high sock boots in purple!

I never go anywhere without...
1. Lipstick
2. A watch
3. IPhone charger
4. IPhone













What do you love most about your job?

NK: I love that my job is never the same. I never know what to expect as the collections are always changing, designers are always evolving and I am always adding new brands to the portfolios in order to create excitement and newness.

One major component of Ounass, our new e-commerce site that launched in December, is the capsule collections. I have really enjoyed this process as I get to play an active role and work directly with the creative teams from each brand to help design exclusive capsules, which are catered specifically to our market and woman.

Describe your style.

NK: There is no one way to describe my style – it is constantly changing. I immediately react to trends as soon as I see them in the showrooms and on the runways. It doesn't take me time to get used to a trend and I try my best to immediately implement new trends in my wardrobe.

My style even changes based on the cities I am in. In Dubai, I tend to be more glam, in New York grungy, in Paris chic and in Milan bold.

During the Winter, I am drawn to darker colours and let my interesting choice in outerwear carry the outfit. In the Summer, I love wearing prints and colours.

I also love mixing and matching colors, prints, and fabrics. Often times my choice in clothing is very laid back. I love to pair a fancy top/jacket/blazer with relaxed denim. I am most comfortable in my Levi's.

What do you wear to work? What do you



> “There is no one way to describe my style – it is constantly changing. I immediately react to trends as soon as I see them in the showrooms and on the runways.”

recommend people wear to work?
NK: It of course depends on one's work environment, but I dress extremely trendy for work. Work is where I am able to wear all of my favourite clothes/new purchases. I experiment with my outfits at work!

What do you wear on buying trips? Favourite shoes, bags, coats? Comfort or style?
NK: I love mixing and matching different pieces whilst on buying trips. As I have limited amount of room in my suitcase, I often times repeat an item but mix and match it with a denim jean or interesting pant or skirt in order to completely change the look. During the Winter, I can't live without my Gianvito Rossi thigh high suede boots. I love changing up my outerwear and have quite an extensive jacket collection. During the Summer you will always see me in an open toe sandal.

Favourite Dubai-based designers...
NK: All Things Mochi and Bouguessa.

Favourite international designers?
NK: Johanna Ortiz, Dries Van Noten, Off-White, Ellery, Monse and Alexander Wang.

I collect...
NK: Clothes and Shoes!

Where do you buy these fashion finds?
NK: I love the shopping in Dubai! We have all of the best international brands right here in Dubai. Unlike New York and Paris, you can find everything in just a few shops. Even though I am constantly traveling, I buy most things from Harvey Nichols Dubai and Ounass.com.

And how do you make it your own?
NK: For more casual/laid back looks, I love to layer. For evening looks, I truly believe less is more. I let one statement piece such as an interesting shoe or a special piece of jewellery carry the outfit.

Favourite spas around the world?
NK: I travel to Antwerp for Dries Van Noten buying and stay in the cutest boutique hotel called Hotel Julien. I love the spa in Hotel Julien.

What make-up and beauty products do you swear by?
NK: I swear by Tom Ford make-up and Orglow brightening and tightening mask.

What is your beauty routine?
NK: Exfoliate once a week, Vitamin C mask once a week, Orglow brightening mask once a week, Skinceuticals eye cream and a moisturiser for day and night. The one product I cannot live without is sunblock!

Favourite travel destination?
NK: Greece.

Can you share some tips on how to put together an everyday casual outfit, evening wear, and wedding wear?
NK: I love casual looks and can live in my denims. One way to spice up an every day casual look is by pairing an over-the-top shoe and bag with a t-shirt and jeans. I love lace evening wear as it is soft and subtle but still makes a bold statement at the same time. For wedding wear I am a true believer in less is more.

Favourite fashion blog and website?
NK: During busy fashion weeks I can't always make it to all of the shows. With Style.com I can get the shows directly on my phone in real time.
Fashion blog: "I Have A Problem" – Dalia Nsouli.



What are your favourite trends for the F/W17 season?
NK: My favourite trends for the F/W17 season are velvet and power suiting.
A reccurring theme throughout the F/W17 fashion weeks was woman empowerment as a result of the current political climate. Designers used the runways as a platform for political and social causes. They used bold tailoring in feminine shapes and bright colours to create an image of a strong fashionable woman. Designers such as Stella McCartney, Alexander Wang, Givenchy, Cushnie et Ochs, and Off-White did it best.
Velvet is a trend we see during most F/W seasons, however this season it was done in an exceptional way and brought a lot of opulence to the runways. Designers used velvet not only in tops and dresses but also in robes, pyjama sets, capes and suiting. Designers such as Valentino, Johanna Ortiz, Alessandra Rich and Erdem did it best.

What is the one item you can't wait to get your hands on next season?
NK: I can't wait to get my hands on the Alexander Wang checked suit. It is the perfect check and the suit is feminine but strong at the same time. I also can't wait to get my hands on the Off-White velvet track suit. OK!

INTERVIEW: ALIZEH PASHA
PHOTOGRAPHS: ALTAMASH UROOJ PHOTOGRAPHY







Statement Bling

Does innovative statement jewellery always catch your eye? If it does then you're in for a huge treat! Julie Pasquet, an incredible jewellery designer has an online store that we cannot stop raving about. The collection comprises neck pieces, bracelets, bangles, earrings, rings and accessories. What makes her collection unlike any other is the way she incorporates famous personalities like Kayne West and Kim Kardashian along with other cartoon characters and emoticons in her jewellery designs. The jewellery pieces incorporate an array of exquisite yet statement designs combined with different types of jewels. Head over to her online store at bijouxdefamille-paris.com and order your favourite piece to add another jaw-dropping accessory to your collection.



Shine With SheIn

Looking for a new one-stop shop for everything fashion? SheIn is the answer! Based in New Jersey, SheIn is all about providing trendy, chic but affordable clothing and accessory options. From clothing to shoes to jewels, the brand is incredibly on-trend and has a signature style of its own. We absolutely love their casual chic tops and statement jewellery and bags in particular. Browse through some amazing options and make sure you pick an item or two for yourself! www.shein.com









Diesel X Naomi Campbell

Retail powerhouse Diesel teams up with Ramp Queen Naomi Campbell for an amazing charitable collection for the Fashion for Relief Initiative titled *Child at Heart*. What makes this collaboration worth cherishing is the artwork incorporated in the collection designed by children. The collection which consists of t-shirts and jumpers includes different symbols and motifs of hearts and stars, reflecting the children's idea of love and peace. Nothing better than combining fashion with a noble cause, right?







Exhibit Comes To London

Mark your calendar, Londoners! The first and biggest Pakistani multi-brand trunk show The Exhibit comes to London with a bang! It has already gone nationwide and now it's about to hit the UK hard. The exhibition brings together some of the most popular fashion labels of Pakistan, including Élan, Karma, HSY, Mahgul, and Kukoon The Label along with many others. So if you're in London this June, be sure to drop by at the Bvlgari Hotel on Sunday, June 18, 2017 from 1:00 to 8:00 PM for an experience like no other! *OK*! Pakistan is the official media partner as well.

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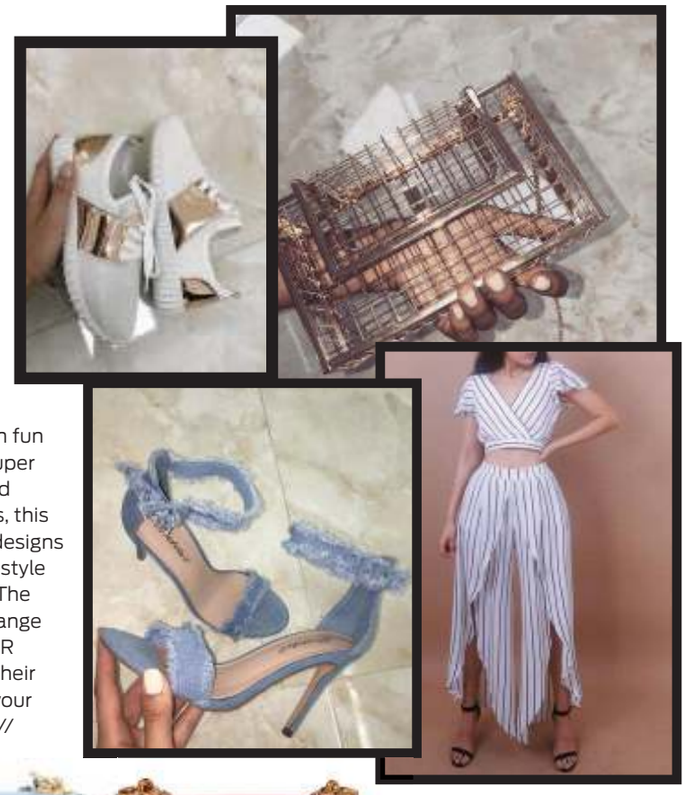


Sleeping Beauty

Who doesn't love a soft and comfortable set of PJs? We all do! Hibou Sleepwear redefines our style of sleepwear with super comfy yet trendy options to choose from. The collection features a soft neutral palette combined with a laid back style. It ranges from shorts to t-shirts to rompers, allowing you to choose from a variety of options. Go and grab your Hibou sleepwear right away and make your good night sleep a peaceful experience.

Take A Step Ahead!

Can a girl ever have enough items in her closet? We scream out a big 'NO'! Especially when you have just discovered a shoe heaven. We're talking about the amazing US-based boutique called Donnee Par Dieu. From fun and relaxing flats to super glamorous dresses and statement accessories, this place has an array of designs combined with street-style and statement vibes. The best part is the price range that falls just up to PKR 10,000. Head over to their online store and pick your favourites now! https://donneepardieu.com





Prada Army

Make your Summer season shine even brighter with a new staple addition to your closet. Prada's Zig Zag leather shoulder bag is the new 'IT' bag that's on the top of our wish-list. The bag has us swooning over its minimalistic geometric style and its beautiful range of colours to choose from. It includes an amazing zig zag pattern combined in complimentary shades with a rectangular structure and gold metal hardware. Carry it for a quick lunch out or a formal dinner – you would just never go wrong with this bag!



C For Chloé

Set your Summer style radar to all new heights with Chloé's gorgeous range of eyewear collection. They're edgy with just the right balance of street style vibes to it, making each piece statement-worthy and oh-so-fabulous. Our favourite design has to be the exclusive Carlina round frame gold toned sunglasses and Isidora aviator-style sunglasses. Rush to your nearest Chloé outlet or check their e-store to pick your favourite piece!









Raving About Ruffles

Are you bored of your Summer wardrobe? Revamp your closet with this fashion trend that ain't about to leave anytime soon. Summer 2017 has redefined the ruffles trend and given it a whole new meaning. From long ruffled sleeves by Sara Battaglia to a one-shoulder top by Johanna Ortiz to an off-the-shoulder option by J.W. Anderson, ruffles have taken over the fashion scene like no other! These 'trophy' inspired tops are perfect if you don't want to try extra hard yet want to give yourself a look that is head-turning and oh-so-chic. It's time to browse through some of these amazing options and make a ruffled top addition now!



TEXT: ALYZEH RAHIM SHIRAZI

prices are approximate

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BALMAIN X L'ORÉAL PARIS

Did you know that Olivier Rousteing, Creative Director, Balmain has teamed up with L'Oréal Paris to release a capsule collection consisting of 12 vibrant shades come September? Scream with excitement, if you want, for we sure let out a big hurrah when we discovered this little beauty secret. If it's anywhere as terrific as the BALMAIN X H&M collaboration then we're in for a treat.

SPF TO BUY NOW

Avoid pigmentation, dark spots and exposure to skin cancer by investing in a good SPF. In fact, an SPF should be in everyone's beauty arsenal all year round especially during Summer when the sun and humidity are on the rise. Charlize Theron, Anne Hathaway, Leighton Meester all swear by their and our favourite, LA ROCHE-POSAY's Anthelios 50 Mineral Sunscreen. The UVA protection and SPF 50 protect skin from sun damage and is perfect for people with oily skin.
PKR 3,250; www.laroche-posay.com



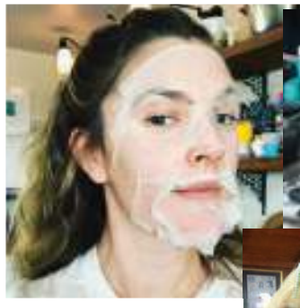
BEAUTY *Essentials*

JUICE BEAUTY COMES TO PAKISTAN





Award-winning, organic cult label, JUICE BEAUTY, has just launched in Pakistan. Brought here by the renowned CosmoGroup who currently have mega-brands like OPI, Crabtree & Evelyn, Skin Medica, Peter Thomas Roth and more under their umbrella – JUICE BEAUTY is a treat for all beauty junkies who value natural, Paraben-free, clean beauty. For the summer, try their Oil-Free Moisturizer; it's lightweight, yet hydrating consisting of powerful vitamins and anti-oxidants. And if you need further validation, Gwyneth Paltrow, often associated with flawless skin, is the Creative Director of make-up for Juice Beauty.
PKR 3,650 for 60ml; Available at Amethyst Salon









SHEET MASKS

Kate Hudson, Kate Upton, Jessica Chastain and Drew Barrymore have all been spotted using sheet masks, popularised by Korean beauty rituals, on Instagram. While the pictures may be a tad bit scary, the results from sheet masks are fantastic! After just one application, the nutrients and vitamins rapidly get absorbed into our skin and are more effective than creams and serums. Our favourite steals are the TONY MOLY Purifying I'm Real Cactus Mask Sheet and the L'AFFAIR Vitamin Mask.
PKR 450 for TONY MOLY;
PKR 450 for L'AFFAIR; Available via www.facebook.com/theskinmaskuerade



NOT THAT KINDA PINK EYE!

One glaring Spring/ Summer make-up trend seen at the Met Gala was pink hued eyes. Ranging from subtle à la Kate Bosworth to overdone à la Rihanna, Selena Gomez was also seen wearing a fuchsia hue while Taylor Hill a deep magenta-maroon-ish pink on her eyes. Choose a look, subtle or bold, for a day and night look using the BUXOM White Russian On The Rocks Eyeshadow Bar Palette to get the look.
PKR 4,000; www.sephora.com



TEXT: ALIZEH PASHA; PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY, INSTAGRAM

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GET THE LOOK

SABEEKA IMAM



Model and actress, Sabeeka Imam warms our hearts with her flawless skin and charming smile. We love her metallic eye make-up and on-trend orange lips. Here are ways to get her look this June.



1 **BECCA** Light Filter Face Primer instantly brightens dull skin and refreshes the complexion. We love that its Cool Light Technology evens out imperfections. PKR 4,400



2 **BARE MINERALS** Invisible Bronze Powder is a silky, ultra-fine baked bronzer to flatter all skin tones, and its ultra-fine, reflective pearls leave a subtle glow. PKR 2,400



3 **CLINIQUE** High Impact Curling Mascara is smudge, flake and smear resistant. It's perfect for adding oomph to your lashes. PKR 2,000



4 **KYLIE COSMETICS** Kyshadow Bronze Palette comes with nine pressed powder eyeshadows that can be used to create the perfect subtle bronze smoky eye. PKR 4,200



5 **ESTÉE LAUDER**'s Double Wear Stay-In-Place Makeup delivers flawless, 24-hour staying power and is lightweight, oil-free and perfect for Summer! PKR 4,000



6 **MAKE UP FOR EVER**'s Aqua Matic Waterproof Glide On Eye Shadow is a waterproof and smudge proof eye shadow that gives an intense and even coverage. PKR 2,200



7 The **KYLIE COSMETICS** Barely Legal Blush applied to the apples of your cheeks will give you the rosiest glow. PKR 2,000

8 **LUSCIOUS COSMETICS** Catwalk Liquid Eyeliner glides on effortlessly and comes with a precision tip applicator to ensure an easy and controlled application. PKR 775





9 Want an ultra-pigmented, liquid lipstick that will last for hours? Grab **SWEET TOUCH**'s Endless Lip Shine Electric Orange. It doesn't break the bank and does the trick. PKR 450

STOCKLIST: ESTÉE LAUDER, BARE MINERALS, BECCA, CLINIQUE www.sephora.com; KYLIE COSMETICS www.kyliecosmetics.com; MAKE UP FOR EVER www.makeupforever.com; LUSCIOUS COSMETICS www.lusciouscosmetics.pk ; SWEET TOUCH www.daraz.pk; *prices are approximate*

BLACK MAGIC

LOOK TO CHARCOAL TO DETOXIFY AND REFRESH YOUR SKIN FOR SPRING



1. SANCTUARY SPA PURIFYING CHARCOAL BUBBLE SHEET MASK, PKR 680 As the mask is applied, the charcoal formula reacts with oxygen to create microbubbles, instantly purifying skin of dirt, grime and pollution.

2. ERBORIAN BLACK CLEANSING OIL, PKR 3,265 Not only does it remove impurities, this formula of active charcoal and seven herbs whisks away excess sebum and waterproof make-up too. Skin will feel squeaky clean and silky smooth.

3. MORIHATA BINCHOTAN FACIAL PUFF, PKR 2,450 This all-natural sponge is made with Binchotan charcoal to mattify excess oil and unclog pores, while Konjac vegetable fibres cleanse and exfoliate the face. Soak the sponge and massage in circular motions for a fresh, smooth and radiant finish.

4. ASTER & BAY CHARCOAL FACE WASH, PKR 4,350 If you have oily or combination skin then this natural face wash is for you. Formulated with coconut charcoal to detoxify pores, it also contains white kaolin clay to cleanse and absorb oil plus camellia oil which nourishes the skin.

5. ORIGINS CLEAR IMPROVEMENTS ACTIVE CHARCOAL MASK TO CLEAR PORES, PKR 3,270 Formulated with active charcoal, this will give your complexion a thorough clean by drawing out pore-clogging dirt and environmental pollutants. It will instantly restore that healthy glow.

STOCKISTS: ASTER &BAY www.asterandbay.co.uk; ERBORIAN www.erborian.co.uk; MORIHATA BINCHOTAN AT www.libertylondon.com; ORIGINS WWW.ORIGINS.CO.UK; SANCTUARY SPA www.sanctuary.com; *prices are approximate*

COMPILED BY HARRIET WHEELER; PHOTOGRAPH BY MEGAN BRAMLEY

Beauty BUZZ

TRIED & TESTED

Soft & Smooth Treatment, Toni & Guy

In the Summer months, with the heat and humidity on the rise, it is hard to maintain sleek, smooth hair. A blow dry that lasts is out of the question. Hair that is not styled resembles a ball of frizz and hair that is styled is just minutes away from being unraveled. If you have dry, damaged or processed hair then you're probably plagued by frizz just like us. To avoid Summer frizz, we book ourselves an appointment at Toni & Guy Karachi's headquarters where hair experts solve our Summer hair problems by locking down a Soft Smooth treatment for us. It promises to reduce frizz, cut down blow dry time, improve hair health and strengthen fibers.

On entering the sleek, minimalist salon with state-of-the-art equipment, we are ushered to the hair styling area. The treatment begins with a hair wash so we head on over to the über luxe spa chairs to get our hair shampooed. The shampoo is massaged in gently and washed and the process repeated. This is to ensure that hair cuticles are cleaned and opened thoroughly in order to soak in the smoothing treatment.

Once our hair is washed, we are led to the hair station where our hair is blow dried and brushed to take all the tangles out. Then, section-by-section, the Soft Smooth treatment is applied to our strands from root to tip with a brush, ensuring the hair is fully coated with smoothing treatment to give silky, shiny hair that lasts up to a month. The smoothing treatment is then left on for approximately 35 minutes, during which we drink some delicious coffee and read the latest glossies.

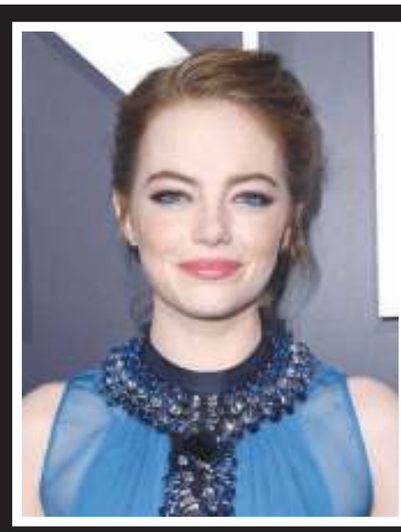
After 35 minutes, the therapist appears and leads us to the hair washbasin to rinse the treatment from our hair. Once hair is rinsed, we move back to the hair station to get our hair combed and the results start showing. Our wet hair looks silkier than usual. On a normal day, it takes approximately 30 minutes to comb our tangles out... After the treatment, it takes only 10! Our hair is then dried with a blow dryer. During the drying process, we reach out and touch our hair and it's already softer than before.

Once our hair is dry, we are told not to wash hair or tie it for another 12 hours. Not washing hair allows the treatment to further be absorbed into hair. We then examine our hair and believe that no other treatment we've tried has rendered our hair this soft and smooth. We are completely and utterly sold! Our hair is now glossy and frizz-free via an all-natural, non-harmful treatment that's safe enough to be done monthly. The treatment is perfect for the Summer months when dreaded frizz plagues our tresses, and we think you should make it a monthly ritual! OK!

Price: PKR 5,000+ depending on hair length. Contact +9221 3586 0903 for an appointment







DIY How To...

Double Line Your Cat-Eye

Are you lacking beauty inspiration? Stuck in a rut and don't know how to spruce up your look? Try this simple, but effective double liner cat-eye to amp up the ante. Celebs such as Emily Ratajkowski, Emma Stone and Olivia Wilde have been spotted sporting this super easy look and we think you can too!



Step 1: Apply an eye make-up primer.

Step 2: Apply gold or silver metallic eyeshadow all over your lid.

Step 3: Use a highlighter above your brow bone starting from below your inner eyebrow extending all the way to the end of your outer brows.

Step 4: Using a black liquid eyeliner, create a wing on your upper lash line.

Step 5: As soon as the black eyeliner dries, trace gold/green/blue or any colourful liquid eyeliner above your black line.

Step 6: Apply mascara to complete the look.



TEXT: ALIZEH PASHA; PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY


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1 NAILBERRY ACAI NAIL ELIXIR, PKR 2,590 This five-in-one nail treatment is made with natural ingredients and is free from formaldehyde, DBP, toluene and camphor. It strengthens, hydrates, protects, and even has a sheer tint to hide any nail imperfections.

2 DR HAUSCHKA FOUNDATION IN 02 ALMOND, PKR 4,080 Formulated with mineral pigments and botanical extracts such as pomegranate, macadamia nut and coconut oil to nourish skin. It applies effortlessly and evenly, leaving a natural radiant and velvet finish.

3 TARTE THE LIP SCULPTOR LIPSTICK & LIPGLOSS IN KIND, PKR 2,585 Not only is this a full-coverage lipstick, it's also a gloss that's ideal for layering as a top coat. Its vegan-friendly formula of coconut oil, maracuja and vitamin E delivers an intense pigmented shade that's super-hydrating.

4 PAI CAMELLIA & ROSE GENTLE HYDRATING CLEANSER, 3,810 There's no better way to wash away the day than with a powerful yet gentle cleanser. Its alcohol and detergent-free formula purifies the skin and leaves it feeling squeaky clean.

5 MABEL + MEG LUMILIXIR VITAMIN C SERUM AND HYALURONIC ACID, PKR 3,950 This all-natural radiance-boosting serum absorbs into the skin to help diminish the signs of aging, blemishes and uneven skin tone. It can be used alone, blended with moisturiser or mixed with your foundation.

6 GREEN PEOPLE QUINOA AND ARTICHOKE SHAMPOO, PKR 2,040 Not only does it smell divine, it also protects the hair cuticle while enhancing the shine of your hair. It's infused with quinoa for its conditioning properties and artichoke leaf extract to smooth hair strands for sleek and frizz-free locks.

7 RAHUA VOLUMINOUS CONDITIONER, PKR 3,950 This 100 per cent natural, organic, gluten-free conditioner doubles up as a styling cream to create texture and definition. It protects and nourishes hair while also adding volume and bounce.

COMPILED BY HARRIET WHEELER; PHOTOGRAPH BY MEGAN BRAMLEY

STOCKISTS: GREEN PEOPLE www.greenpeople.co.uk; DR HAUSCHKA www.drhauschka.co.uk; PAI SKINCARE www.paiskincare.com; MABLE + MEG www.mabelandmeg.com; NAILBERRY www.nailberry.co.uk; TARTE www.tartecosmetics.com; RAHUA www.rahua.com; *prices are approximate*

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UP CLOSE WITH

MAIRA CHINOY

No home is complete without a range of luxury home accessories and *OK!* Pakistan speaks to one of the country's favourite home accessories designer











Maira Chinoy, the talented interior and accessories designer set up her business upon completing a two years degree in Interior Design from Florence, Italy. Since then there's been no looking back for Maira, whose signature pieces can be spotted in the homes of renowned Pakistanis. Her latest project includes beautiful installations that have recently been set up in Karachi's new Deli restaurant. *OK*! Pakistan manages to catch hold of the brilliant designer as she talks about her journey, inspirations, tips, and more.

How did you become an accessories designer? Tell us about your journey.
Maira Chinoy: I have always enjoyed redecorating my room, making picture collages, helping my mother set up our home when we moved away. It wasn't till after university that I realised I could pursue interior and product design as a career. I completed a two years Master's Degree in Interior Design from Florence in Italy, thanks to my parents' encouragement! It was the perfect setting to expand one's imagination. Upon returning to Karachi I was itching to produce things that I couldn't find here. I wanted to provide the market with something vibrant and unique, and so I set off to making an eclectic selection of pieces including decoupage trays with images that were exciting, colourful and eye catching, along with decoration pieces and furniture with a fun twist. Each piece is limited edition and one of its kind. Being very hands on, I work on all my pieces myself, and enjoy every moment of it!

What do you love the most about being an interior designer?
MC: Being able to imagine and create beautiful things – and see them come to life.

What makes Maira Chinoy Designs so unique?
MC: My pieces are quirky, playful and fun, but they are also beautiful and classic. I play with a lot of colours and textures to create unique and interesting pieces, which are statement pieces.

Are you working on any special new projects?
MC: I recently completed three installations at the new Deli restaurant in Karachi. I'm working on a collection at the moment.

What's been the most rewarding and challenging part of running your own business?
MC: The most rewarding aspect is being able to create whatever I imagine and at my own pace. The most challenging has been that I live between Karachi, Lahore and Toronto, and am never in one place for very long – since I am hands on and work on all my pieces myself, this is sometimes disruptive.

What's your favourite piece from your archive?
MC: Tough question, but I would say my large sculptural horsehead. It has special memories attached to it.

Where do you seek design inspiration?
MC: I am inspired by nature. The world around us is so beautiful. I love animals and flowers and all things natural, you will see these reflected in my decorative pieces, as well as my furniture!

What was the last piece of homeware you bought?
MC: Paintings.

What's your top makeover tip?
MC: "Your hair is your crowning glory!"

What home accessory/accessories could you not live without?
MC: Mirrors! I feel a room is incomplete without a beautiful mirror; it gives depth to a room.

What are your favourite ways to add colour and texture to a space?
MC: Paintings and/or decorative pieces because they add that personal touch to a space and make it representative of the person.

Describe a day in the life of a home accessories designer.
MC: From the minute I wake up it's non-stop. The day starts with managing my team and watching over their work to make sure everything is on track. Then I set to work where I paint, create decoupages, test finishes on furniture, create new items, and the list goes on. It's difficult to tear away from the work but it's important to give yourself a break and freshen your mind!

If you could design anyone's house, whose would it be?
MC: Those who are willing to let me imagine, create, and design something unique and one-of-a-kind for them.

Guilty pleasure?
MC: Shoes. And chips!

One thing you don't mind splurging on?
MC: Organic, natural, chemical-free products!

One thing you can't stand?
MC: Bad smells.

You can't live without?
MC: My husband and my family.

What would we always find your bedside table?
MC: Water.

Favourite book?
MC: I've always found this question tough; there are so many!

Favourite travel destination?
MC: Capetown, South Africa. Italy.

What do you do when you aren't working?
MC: I like to hang out with friends and family.

Words to live by?
MC: Be honest. Be Kind. Be loving. Be positive. Look for the good in people and things. OK!

INTERVIEW: MEHR KASSIM
PHOTOGRAPHS: COURTESY MAIRA CHINOY

WHAT'S ON?

ART EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS AROUND THE WORLD



Robert Rauschenberg: Among Friends

Ongoing until September 17, 2017, The Museum of Modern Art, NEW YORK

Launching his career in the heyday of the 1950's, Rauschenberg was an early adaptor of Abstract Expressionism. He invented new, interdisciplinary modes of artistic practice that helped set the course for art of the present day. The first 21st-century retrospective of the artist presents work from six decades of his widely celebrated career in fresh ways, bringing together over 250 paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, photographs, and sound and video recordings.

AutoPhoto

Ongoing until October 1, 2017, Fondation Cartier Pour L'Art Contemporain, PARIS

Exploring the relationship between art, photography and the automobile, the Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain will present an exhibition exploring how the automobile has changed our landscape, our conceptions of time and space and expanded our geographic horizons. Exploring the works of photographers Jacques-Henri Lartigue, Ed Ruscha, Lee Friedlander and Jacqueline Hassink, the exhibit will include about 400 photographic prints as well as a film montage of "legendary extracts from the history of cinema."



Giacometti

Ongoing until September 10, 2017, Tate Modern, LONDON

Presenting the United Kingdom's first comprehensive retrospect on the celebrated sculptor and artist in 20 years, the exhibit seeks to reaffirm Giacometti's space within the realm of his prolific peers, Matisse, Picasso, Degas and more within the 20th century. The ambitious and wide-ranging exhibition covers over 250 works spanning five decades comprising plasters, drawings and his iconic bronze sculptures.



The Jazz Age

Ongoing until August 20, 2017, Cooper Hewitt, NEW YORK



The first major museum exhibition to focus on American taste during the creative explosion of the 1920s, *The Jazz Age* will be a multi-media experience of more than 400 examples of interior design, industrial design, decorative art, jewellery, fashion, and architecture, as well as related music and film. Concentrating on the decade's diversity and dynamism, *The Jazz Age* will define the American spirit of the period, highlighting the dynamic changes in American taste and lifestyles that prompted an outpouring of design and heralded an exhilarating new era.

Balenciaga: Shaping Fashion

Ongoing until February 18, 2018, Victoria and Albert Museum, LONDON

The newly opened exhibit will examine how Spanish couturier Cristóbal Balenciaga's exquisite craftsmanship and innovative designs shaped modern fashion. Spanning about 100 pieces created by himself, his protégés and contemporary fashion designers, the exhibit will explore his legacy and influence his technique held within the fashion world.



TEXT: FAIZA VIRANI


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Like Clockwork, IN SIN CITY...

"With us in Karachi live birds who fly from trees through the sound of bullets and bombs; perch on walls; always they gather somewhere to pray"

- Zeeshan Sahil, Twelve Poems, Birds



The oft-spoken about resilience of Karachi and its inhabitants is aptly described in the excerpt taken from Zeeshan Sahil's poem, *Birds*; a resilience hereto written about in Omar Shahid Hamid's latest novel, *The Party Worker*. In it, the author writes about the ever-turning wheel of life in the southern port city, and how its dwellers and 'guardians' continue to keep that wheel turning – no matter how battered and bruised it leaves them in the process.

Hamid, a counter-terrorism police officer and novelist, in his third book about politics and crime in Karachi, has managed to capture the true essence of the city – from the language and manner of speaking of the characters, to the local neighbourhoods, to the attitudes towards power and life which differ from political leaders to senior members of the minorities – the latter of whom are long time residents of the city, and true Karachiites at heart in this book.

The Party Worker does not seem to have an obvious protagonist, rather, as one reads on, you choose who the protagonist in this story is for you, as each chapter (named after the character, thus giving the reader a fresh point of view of circumstances) unravels new details and connections within the characters of the book.

At first thought, one would assume the character in the book named Asad Haider – a former senior member of the United Front Party (a fictional political party in the book) and trusted hitman – is the protagonist. Perhaps because the story starts with him, and begins to unfold after he survives a brazen shooting attempt at his life. However, as one reads on, you are introduced to a bevy of characters, each with their own story and twists.

There is the "Don" – the leader and founder of said party – who lives in asylum in New York and controls his party's actions from there, including, perhaps, an attack on his former close friend and party member Asad Haider. Of course there is also an opposition leader – Nawaz Chandio, whose glory days seem to be over but, as with all Pakistani politicians, he attempts to make a comeback. Chandio has an ally in the form of a football-loving Lyari-based gangster, Baba Dacait. It is unnerving to feel some compassion for a man who almost encourages kids in his neighbourhood to play football with the severed head of a man – yet, through Hamid's portrayal of Dacait, the reader will chuckle at his comments and feel some ►

MASTER

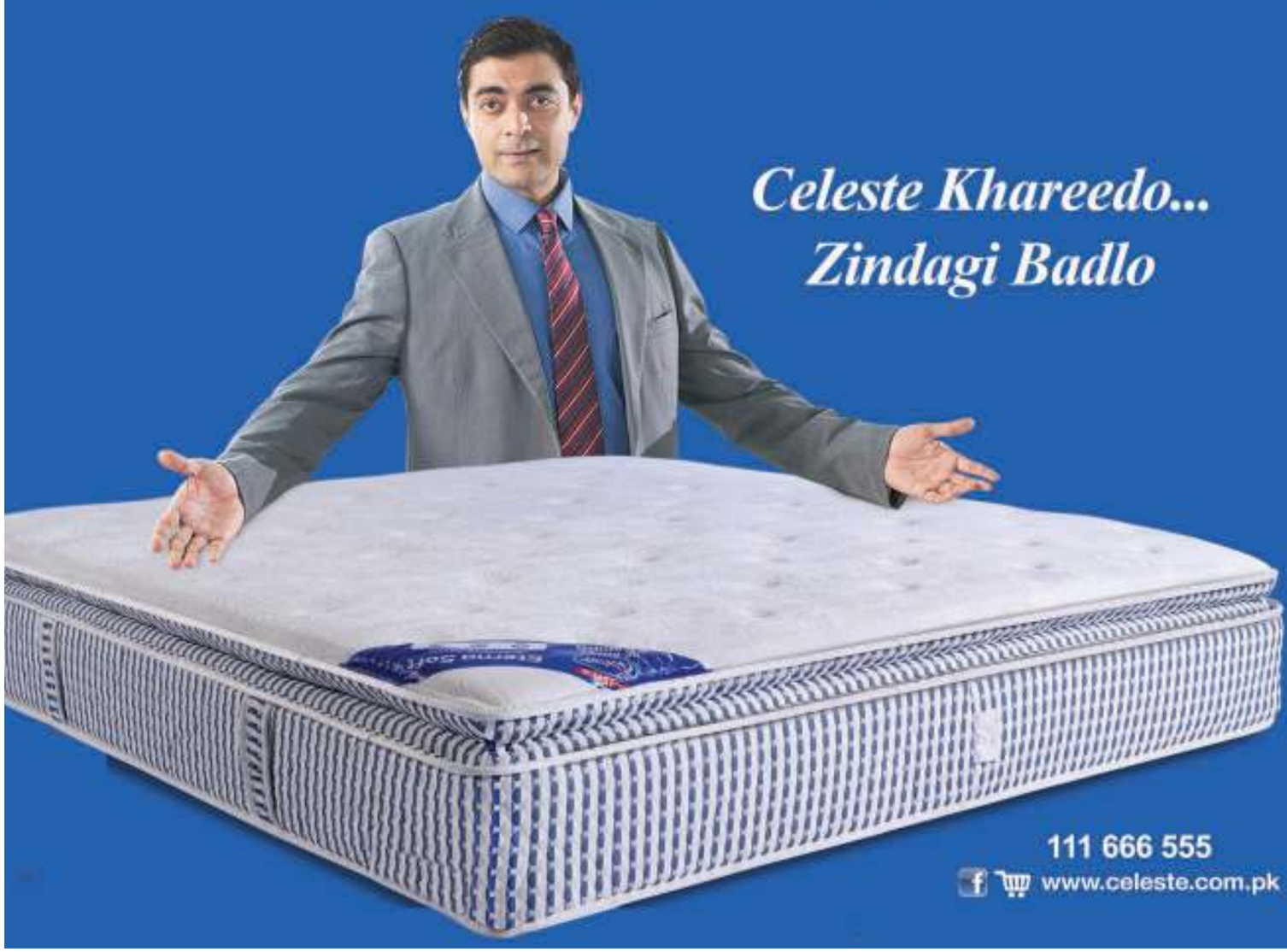
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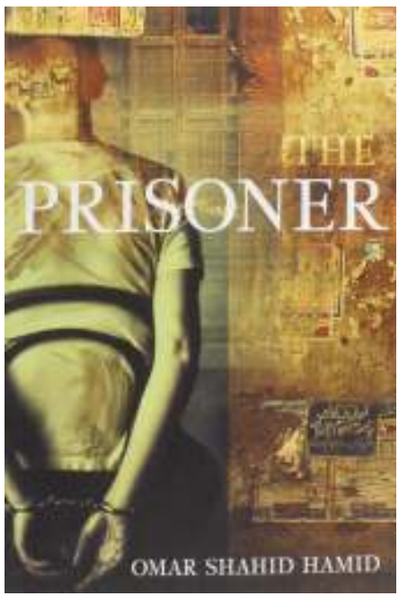
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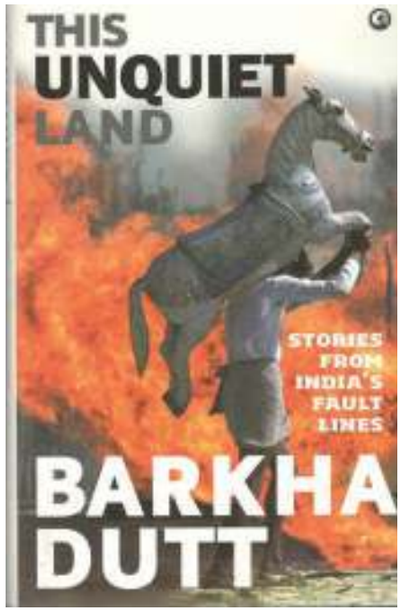


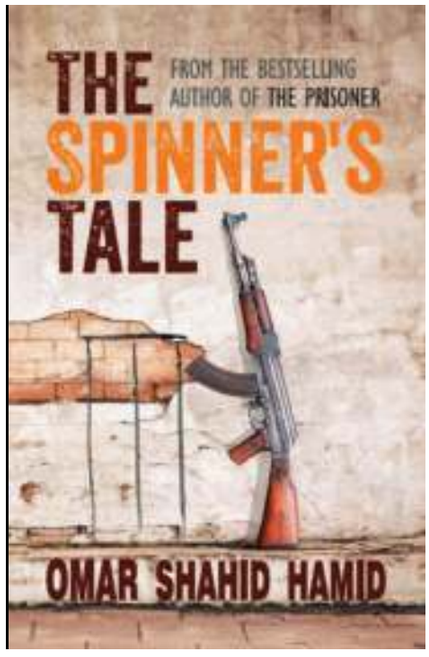
The Prisoner by Omar Shahid Hamid

Set in Karachi, the book explores the kidnapping and heinous execution of the character Jon Friedland – a journalist from the US, whose kidnappers also have sickening plans to post a video of his execution on Christmas Day. The incident causes a strain between the US and Pakistan, all the while tracing the world of Jihadis and intelligence agencies in the quest for survival. *The Prisoner* is said to be based on the kidnapping of US journalist Daniel Pearl and will be turned into a motion picture soon.

This Unquiet Land by Barkha Dutt

Indian journalist Barkha Dutt's debut novel goes into detail about the truths of India's politics, corruption, and its secrets – both good and bad. Dutt explores how India has come a long way, yet has several jarring fault lines. She talks about regressive cultural practices, villians such as rapists who get away with their crimes, terrorists, border destabilising tactics and India's version of democracy and secularism. Dutt outlines the complex society and the many instances that paint a portrait of her home country.





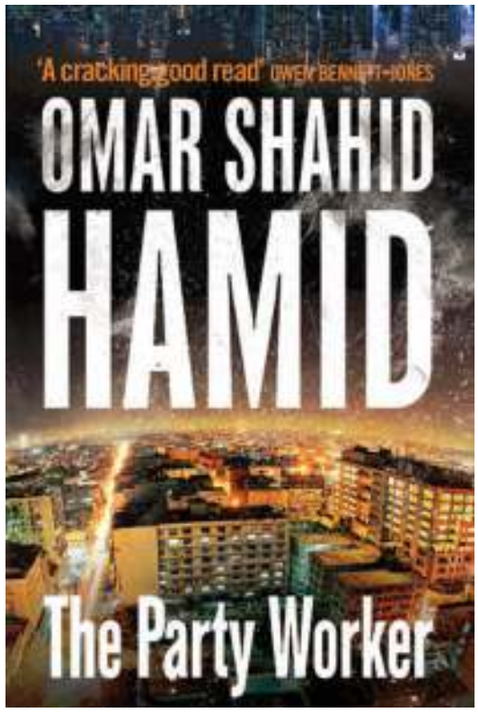
The Spinner's Tale by Omar Shahid Hamid

This book is a thriller about two friends whose lives change drastically when one of them decided to become a Jihadi militant. The militant, named Sheikh Ahmed Uzair Sufi, becomes a feared man in Pakistan yet no one would have predicted this. After his best friend leaves for college in the US, both their lives start to change – the only thing that doesn't change is their love for cricket and their love for their old school days.

compassion for him. Then there is my favourite character in the book, Byram – an old Parsi man with the vocabulary of a sailor. He loves his city but is upset and angry with the manner in which the United Front party conducts violence and strikes, not to mention what they did to his son. Of course, when talking about Karachi, how can you not have a journalist in the mix – Ismail, a journalist from an Urdu daily whose circulation isn't too far and wide, has no real thirst for a big break, until he realises he actually has the potential for it. He soon becomes part of Dacait's inner circle, and watches his destiny change before his very eyes. It makes one wonder whether perhaps Karachi is the protagonist in the story, because it seems to be the real character for which everyone is fighting for – the good, the bad, and the ugly.

There are two other detectives involved too, all the way in New York, who are significant to the book after the murder attempt on Asad Haider – they don't appear to be central characters, but they sure keep you on your toes as a reader. It's also interesting to read their point of view, as they don't know how party politics and life in Karachi function and try to put a case together thousands of miles away, by attempting to understand Karachi politics piece by piece.

Hamid has put good use of his background as a police officer, making it a familiar experience for a resident Karachiite who will be able to easily identify the characters in the book based not-so-loosely on former and current personalities within Karachi. He has carved out an outlook of how things operate today, the ties and binds within the city as well as the strings attached in foreign lands. He has carefully brought in the involvement of intelligence agencies, the media, and radicals.



It is a book filled with the nature of crime – those who inflict it and those whom it adversely affects.

While this can be described as quite the page-turner for a local reader, I wonder if I would have enjoyed it as much as I did had I not lived in Karachi, let alone Pakistan. Perhaps it is the very nature of the book that is so closely related to the history and the current political atmosphere of Karachi that kept me glued. The background of the author also made me curious enough to pick the book up in the first place. Hamid has served in the police for over 15 years, and took a sabbatical for five years following a possible Pakistani Taliban attack on his office. His father was the managing director of the then Karachi Electric Supply Corporation (KESC), who was murdered by Saulat Mirza, an alleged target killer belonging to the powerful Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM). Mirza was charged and executed in 2015 after being imprisoned for 19 years.

The Party Worker is an insightful read for anyone who wants good storytelling with a mix of murder, crime and mystery – I would recommend non-Karachi residents to give it a shot. Although, perhaps for international readers some more background of Karachi and its twisted inner workings, as well as translation of the Urdu language used in the book, would be useful (yes, even the curses). Other than that, the book is rich in strong characters, witty humour, and some pretty memorable phrases – "In the party, we have always been very good at killing our own and then crying at their funerals". If there is anyone who has understood the core of the city and its diverse inhabitants, it is Hamid, and he ensures, fiercely, that the characters, in their own way, keep the wheel of life in Karachi turning. OK!

TEXT: RAISA VAYANI

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SILVEEN NISAR
7 YEARS OLD

Silveen Nisar had no idea why her stomach hurt so badly. Her parents were very worried when Silveen, only 7 years old, doubled over in pain with a severe stomach ache and her eye and face began swelling up. They rushed her to The Kidney Centre, where she was diagnosed with 'Nephrotic Syndrome.'

Silveen is a lively and spirited child – she is a position holder in the 1st grade, loves cycling with her friends in the evenings, and watching cartoons. Her parents cannot afford the cost of Silveen's ongoing treatment - therefore she is dependent on welfare.

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THE DELICATESSEN

OK! Pakistan reviews the newly launched breakfast menu of The Delicatessen.







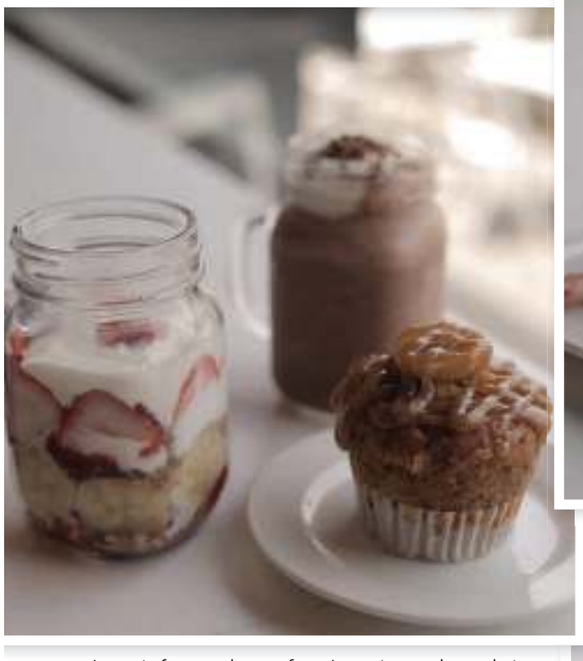
Located amidst the hustle and bustle of the popular Mall One (one can call it the newest food street of Lahore), The Delicatessen by Cosa Nostra serves a range of savoury and sweet deli items including soups, sandwiches, crepes and desserts. The brains behind this famous local eatery, Zahra Khan, just launched a new breakfast menu available throughout the week. The menu is well executed and reasonably priced and is quite a deviation from the typical breakfast items served at most eateries in Lahore; they have sandwiches and crepes and even a breakfast pizza! So whoever said pizza is not for breakfast, will definitely change their mind after visiting The Deli.

We started with the bread breakfast which had an assortment of freshly baked artisan breads, served with butter and strawberry preserve -- all made in house. It did not taste like ordinary jam. You could taste the natural sweetness of fresh strawberries. Our favourite item from the bread basket though, was the banana caramel muffin. It was gooey, moist and tasted like fresh bananas smothered in caramel sauce. We devoured it within minutes. We also ordered the butter









croissant, for our love of croissants, and much to our delight, we can finally say that we have found the best and perfectly baked croissant in Lahore. It was of the right consistency and texture, flaky and buttery with every bite.

For mains, the first dish we tried was the epic omelette sandwich, cheese omelette, pico de gallo and grilled pepper enclosed in freshly baked challah bread served with spinach and capsicum pesto dipping sauce. The pesto was made to perfection and greatly enhanced the flavour of the sandwich. It was a perfect blend of the right flavours and the right amount of spice needed for a breakfast sandwich. This item made it to the top of our list. Adding a touch of her mixed heritage to the menu, Zahra's take on shakshouka were the Sicilian baked eggs, a classic Italian meal, two eggs baked in a skillet with fresh tomatoes, spinach and yummy burrata served with toasted challah. It was saucy and infused with a rich tomato flavour, and really felt like Italy in a skillet, if we may say so!

The Deli is known for its crepes in Lahore, so the next item we tried was the crepe salmon, fluffy scrambled eggs with smoked salmon, capers, red onions in lemon herb ricotta wrapped up in their signature crepe. This tangy combination is quite a delight for the taste buds, we found it to be a bit dry but overall it was a good fusion of flavours. The breakfast pizza is a prize for all the pizza lovers, baked eggs with cherry tomatoes, spring onions and turkey bacon with a mixture of farm fresh locally sourced mozzarella, burrata, and cheddar on a crispy crust.

Coming to our favourite part and a happy end to our meal i.e., the desserts, we tried the brioche waffles, oat granola parfait and the fresh donuts. Everyone loves waffles and the brioche waffle stack is going to become your new favourite dessert. The waffles were dense, slightly chewy and crunchy with a caramelised layer, dripping with maple syrup, whipped cream, berries and bananas. This was definitely the item that one can't get enough of and will find it hard to stop till the very last bite. Once you have tried these, it will be hard to go back to the American style pancake mix waffles.

The granola parfait was well presented in a jar with layers of homemade Greek yogurt (something which is not readily available in Pakistan), granola and fruits (blueberries and strawberries). It was crunchy, fruity and the flavours were neutralized by well strained Greek yogurt. For all those granola lovers, this is your true calling. We finished off with the fresh donuts served warm in three different flavours; glazed, chocolate and strawberry preserve with custard. These are by far the freshest donuts you will ever try in Lahore.



The Deli never fails to impress us with their menu selection, taste and presentation. The breakfast menu is a must try for everyone, whether you are a breakfast person or not! OK!

TEXT: SARA OMAR MIAN
PHOTOGRAPHS: UMAR KHAN

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW YOGA WORKOUT!

With a bewildering array of disciplines on offer, OK! takes a look at the options

She may be smitten with Prince Harry, but it seems *Suits* star Meghan Markle's first love will always be yoga. Often snapped on her way to classes with a rolled-up mat under her arm, the self-confessed yoga bunny – whose mum is a yoga instructor – adores 'the boundless power that yoga can have on our psyche and overall well-being'.

After meeting her teacher Duncan Parviainen, Meghan confessed: 'Call it a yoga crush at the highest level of om, if you will. And perhaps why it resonated with me, above other moments of platonic amour, is because meeting Duncan made me fall in love not just with him, but with my yoga practice as well.'

Yoga is important to Meghan, 35, on both a mental and physical level and that's why she insists on taking weekly classes, despite sometimes being picked up for filming work at 4.15am. She explains the attraction: 'I'll do yoga a couple of times a week with Duncan. He is so positive and in my industry it's so important to surround yourself with people who are really optimistic.'



LADY GAGA

Britain's Got Talent judge Amanda Holden, 46, credits her toned tummy to her kundalini yoga practice. She says: 'I used to be a big fan of Spanx but ditched them when I started yoga, which has changed my shape.'

Devotees extol the numerous benefits of yoga, which include increased flexibility, improved stamina and better mental focus, but which type of yoga is best for you? We caught up with top yoga teacher and co-founder of Yogi2Me (www.yogi2me.com) Sarah Drai to get her verdict...

Power Yoga

BEST FOR... BUILDING STRENGTH

WHAT IS IT? Power yoga is more of a physical exercise than a spiritual practice and moves at a faster pace. It draws inspiration from Ashtanga yoga, but there is more emphasis on fitness.

CELEBRITY FANS: Lady Gaga is often snapped in power yoga poses, and David and Victoria Beckham have reportedly taken power yoga classes together.

SARAH SAYS: 'Power yoga is great for strength training and all-round physical health. A class will make you sweat and it will also leave you feeling energised for the rest of your day. This variety of yoga is suitable for everyone with a healthy and able body, but if you are injured, it should be avoided!'



DAVID & VICTORIA

Vinyasa Yoga

BEST FOR... IMPROVING MENTAL FOCUS

WHAT IS IT? Vinyasa yoga is one of the most popular forms of yoga. During a class, students will flow from one asana (pose) to the next, while paying close attention to their breathing.

CELEBRITY FAN: Meghan Markle started classes very young, but then her mother is a yoga teacher! She says: 'Yoga is my thing. My mom is a yoga instructor, and I started doing mommy-and-me yoga with her when I was seven.'

SARAH SAYS: 'Vinyasa means "moving into a special place in a ▶



MEGHAN MARKLE

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special way". The goal is to align breath and movement to reach an active meditative state or Vinyasa Krama. The physical aspects of this practice help to energise the body, strengthen the muscles and increase flexibility, and mentally it can help to focus the mind and encourage clarity.'


JESSICA ALBA

Yin Yoga

BEST FOR... RELIEVING STRESS

WHAT IS IT? Yin yoga has a heavy focus on holding seated postures in order to strengthen and improve the muscles in this area. The poses are generally held for between one and ten minutes, and will provide both a physical and an emotional feeling of release.

CELEBRITY FAN: Jessica Alba.

SARAH SAYS: 'Yin yoga is suitable for everyone, and those who engage in high-intensity sports, or those who experience high levels of stress during their day, can find relief for the body and mind through this practice. Reduced tension in the joints, as well as improved flexibility, are noticeable results of yin yoga.'

Kundalini Yoga

BEST FOR... FEELING MORE SPIRITUAL

WHAT IS IT? Anyone can practise kundalini yoga. It is not particularly difficult, physically speaking, but it can be challenging, spiritually, if you have no experience of yoga.

CELEBRITY FANS: Michelle Williams, Russell Brand and Amanda Holden, who gushed: 'My body has become strong and toned since I've been doing kundalini yoga every day, and any excess body fat has disappeared.'

SARAH SAYS: 'Kundalini yoga combines physical movements with breathing techniques, meditation and chanting. When you practise kundalini yoga you'll work towards developing a higher consciousness, and improving your physical energy. You will notice that you are better equipped to focus your mind and also to strengthen your will power.'


MICHELLE WILLIAMS

Ashtanga Yoga

BEST FOR... HONING BREATHING TECHNIQUES

WHAT IS IT? Ashtanga yoga comprises a series of set poses. This type of yoga should combine physically demanding moves with the synchronisation of the breath.


MADONNA

CELEBRITY FANS: Madonna is a fan of the practice and Sting reveals it helps him stay young, saying: 'I can now do things with my body that I wouldn't even have thought possible when I was a teenager.'

SARAH SAYS: 'Ashtanga yoga is especially beneficial for muscle growth and improving breathing techniques. It can be quite challenging and rigorous. This is because you will only move to the next posture once you have mastered the previous one. For this reason, it is more suited to those who have already mastered the basics of yoga.'

Acroyoga

BEST FOR... IMPROVING BALANCE

WHAT IS IT? AcroYoga is a combination of yoga, acrobatics and healing. It is practised in pairs, with one partner lifting and supporting the other as the asanas are held.

CELEBRITY FANS: Gisele Bundchen, Lena Dunham and Gwyneth Paltrow.

SARAH SAYS: 'AcroYoga offers lots of beginner exercises you can practise with a partner, and there is something for everyone, regardless of skill level. However, the more advanced poses require more balance and co-ordination. It is great for strength training and general fitness.'


GISELE BUNDCHEN

Iyengar Yoga

BEST FOR... IMPROVING CO-ORDINATION

WHAT IS IT? Iyengar yoga is a type of hatha yoga that concentrates on the attention to detail of the poses and controlling your breath.

CELEBRITY FAN: Nigella Lawson says: 'I am doing a rather slow form of yoga called Iyengar. As you get on in life, you value feeling well as opposed to looking well. Yoga certainly makes you feel great.'

SARAH SAYS: 'Iyengar yoga is a variety of hatha yoga that focuses on the precision of the asanas and being able to control your breathing. You will notice that your co-ordination, strength and stability improve. It is perfect for beginners.' OK!



NIGELLA LAWSON

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PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY, SHUTTERSTOCK

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ESCAPE TO THE LAKE

CHECK INTO IDYLLIC LAKE MAGGIORE, WHICH STRETCHES FROM SWITZERLAND INTO ITALY



This Spring is the perfect time to swap your fast-paced, social media-mad life for a few days of stunning Alpine views, fresh air and utter peace and tranquillity on Lake Maggiore, which extends for more than 40 miles from Switzerland into Italy.

Sheltered by majestic mountain peaks, Lake Maggiore enjoys a Mediterranean microclimate, with beautiful sub-tropical vegetation blanketed with vineyards, pine, orange and lemon trees. Lakeside life runs at a slow pace in the charming towns, where you'll discover cobbled streets, café-lined piazzas and centuries-old churches. The lake also offers plenty of watersports, or follow in George Clooney's footsteps and whizz along the mountain roads on a motorbike.

Fleeing the hustle and bustle of the capital, *OK*!'s Harriet Wheeler discovered this is the perfect place to escape city life...

WHERE CAN I STAY?

Lake Maggiore offers plenty of accommodation, from former grand palazzos and hill-side villas to lakeside hotels. *OK*! stayed at the five-star Hotel Eden Roc in Ascona, which sits on Maggiore's northern shore in Switzerland's Italian-speaking Ticino region. Our four-hour train journey from Zurich Airport to Locarno was as breathtaking as the hotel's location, as we passed through picture-postcard villages framed by snowy mountains.

Eden Roc features 95 rooms and suites that are spread over three buildings, with distinctly different decor styles. *OK*! stayed in a suite with a bold colour palette and eclectic artwork in the wing designed by leading Swiss architect Carlo Rampazzi. Another wing has a more classic feel, while the newest 16-room Marina annexe takes on a nautical style. Opening up the glass doors to a





large terrace, *OK*! enjoyed having morning coffee and soaking in the beautiful views over the private beach, the hotel's small marina and the twinkling lake beyond. During the day, guests can sunbathe by the hotel's palm-fringed outdoor pool, go paddle boarding, or enjoy a pampering session at the spa. From the hotel's landscaped grounds, guests have access to a lakeside promenade, and a ten-minute scenic walk brings you to the pretty town of Ascona. Here you'll find museums, art galleries, quayside restaurants, cafés and boutiques.

WHICH STARS WILL I SEE?

The best time to spot celebrities is at the annual International Film Festival, held in Locarno in August. More than 200 films are shown during the festival – some outdoors on the Piazza Grande – and previous attendees have included Daniel Craig, Harrison Ford, Gemma Arterton and Amy Schumer, while Kylie Minogue has handed out an award. Princess Caroline of Monaco's son Pierre Casiraghi and Italian heiress Beatrice Borromeo held their second wedding ceremony at the bride's family palazzo on one of the Borromean Islands on Lake Maggiore. The guests included members of the Monaco royal family, singer Lana Del Rey, model Eva Herzigová and Poppy Delevingne. And there's always a chance you'll see George Clooney, as he owns a magnificent home on nearby Lake Como and is often seen out on a boat or on his motorbike.

WHERE CAN I EAT?

Eden Roc has four restaurants, with La Brezza – the place to dress up for a fine dining experience. In an elegant dining room, *OK*! worked our way through a five-course feast, with the blue cheese risotto, lemon sole with spinach and capers and



lemon soufflé topped with fresh berries being our menu highlights. For a more relaxed vibe, dine at the hotel's new Marina restaurant, which has a lovely outdoor terrace where you can enjoy Mediterranean dishes and homemade pasta.

For traditional Ticinese cuisine such as polenta, risotto and gnocchi, Grottino Ticinese in Losone is just a short drive from the hotel. Here, *OK*! enjoyed mushroom risotto and fruit panna cotta at this Alpine lodge-style restaurant.

After a rather chilly morning's hiking, *OK*! stopped to refuel at Lo Stallone, a cosy mountain restaurant with an open fire. This family-run hillside eatery is famous for its polenta dishes, which are cooked in a wood-burning oven, and *OK*!'s favourite was the polenta served with figs and Gorgonzola. A match made in heaven!

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

Eden Roc has its own watersports school, so it's the perfect place to learn how to sail, surf and waterski or just to take a kayak or paddleboard out for a spin on the lake. *OK*! tried our hand at sailing and, luckily for us, our instructor had a great sense of humour. It certainly came in handy when we were at the helm and got slightly distracted by the stunning lake views and a gust of wind nearly tipped over the boat! Once back on dry land we had an Aperol spritz at the hotel's Marina terrace, celebrating the fact we managed to get back in one piece!

Every Tuesday, Ascona's lakeside market draws in the crowds who come for its handmade crafts, artwork made from Ticino granite, jewellery, leather bags and local cheese. After shopping, have an espresso on the main piazza and people watch, buy a tiramisu ice cream at Gelateria Sole or lose yourself in the maze of boutique-lined cobbled streets and quaint alleyways of the Old Town.

There are plenty of opportunities to island hop on Lake Maggiore. You can view more than 1,700 species of subtropical plants at the botanical gardens on Grande Isola, the larger of the two Brissago Islands, while Isola Bella, one of three islands owned by the wealthy Borromeo family, is also a must visit. The island is a baroque masterpiece, with a 17th century palazzo and ten tiered terraces studded with ornate fountains and statues.

If you want to see Lake Maggiore in all its natural glory, hike to the top of the Cardada Cimetta mountain. At Orselina, *OK*! boarded a cable car that whisked us up to Cardada, from where you can either hike or mountain bike along the marked trails. There's also a chair lift if you wish to go even higher! For the more adventurous, you can paraglide from the Cimetta and land back in Locarno.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

Double rooms at the five-star Hotel Eden Roc (www.edenroc.ch; +41 91 785 7171) start from £229 per person per night, based on two people sharing a room.

Swiss (www.swiss.com; 0345 601 0956) offers up to 180 weekly flights from London City, Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Dublin to Zurich from £67 one-way. To book train tickets from the airport to Locarno, visit www.swisstravelsystem.co.uk or call 00800 100 200 30. OK!

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REPORT BY HARRIET WHEELER
EDITED BY ANNABEL MACKIE
PHOTOGRAPHS: SHUTTERSTOCK

TRAVELLER'S TALE

MAIRA PAGGANWALA



Managing Editor, *OK!* Magazine, Maira Pagganwala takes us behind-the-scenes of a destination wedding in picturesque Lake Como. Here's more on her whirlwind trip!

Where did you go?
Maira Pagganwala: My husband, Qassim, and I went to Italy. We started in fashion capital Milan, moving on to beautiful Lake Como. We also managed to squeeze a day trip to Lugano!

What made you go here?
MP: We went for Anum and Murtaza Ahmed's wedding celebration, which was held in Lake Como. The festivities kicked off with a Bollywood night, which included an electric performance by RDB. The next event was a garden brunch held at the award-winning Casta Diva resort, where guests enjoyed delicious food with an absolutely stunning backdrop! The final event was a beautiful black-tie wedding, which took place at the gorgeous Villa Erba – the exact location for George Clooney's *Ocean's Twelve*!

What did you pack?
MP: A bit of everything! For everyday: Sneakers, metallic and t-shirt dresses, a trench, sunglasses. For the wedding events: an Indian sari, two gowns (I am highly indecisive!) – an emerald green Muse crop top with a bellowing skirt and a Zaheer Abbas white ruffled dress, a couple of structured blouses, jewellery, clutches and of course, heels!

What was your favourite meal?
MP: Italy was all about the amazing food! Everything we ate was pretty great, including the Japanese at Finger's Garden and authentic Italian at Osteria Del Binari, the atmosphere at Il Salumaio di Montenapoleone was just superb! That being said, I'd have to admit my favourite meal was definitely the hot, oozing, tomato and mozzarella panzerotti from Luini, which was perfection! Luini is a hole-in-the-wall take-out place, which usually has a long queue of locals outside.

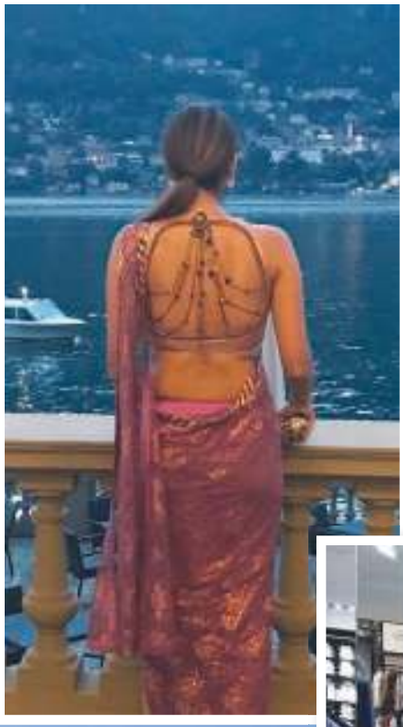
What was the biggest highlight of your trip?
MP: In Milan, I loved doing the geeky, touristy stuff! The views from the Duomo rooftop were breath-taking, spinning on the bull at Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II for good luck was hilarious, randomly spotting and excitedly posing in front of the Gucci Freaks and Geeks mural by illustrator Angela Hicks was super fun, exploring the charming hidden away vintage stores by the waterways was the perfect way to spend an evening, and of course seeing Da Vinci's *The Last Supper* in person was just surreal!
As for Lake Como, just staying at the Casta







Diva and being surrounded by so much beauty was amazing! Each of the wedding events were fabulous, from the boat rides to the venue, the amazing décor, the scrumptious food – it was all perfect! One memorable moment was definitely after the wedding brunch, when a bunch of us decided to go for a swim into the floating pool, followed by the indoor heated pool and sauna. There was a lot of laughter and such a great vibe with new friends and old.



Favourite shopping destination?

MP: As much as I love to shop, this trip, for me, was all about exploring these new cities and enjoying the wedding – shopping just didn't fit into my schedule. That being said, I did visit Corso Como in Milan. It was a super cool and quirky concept store, with an outdoor café, an indoor clothing and accessories store with a great selection of products ranging from Gucci to Vetements. Upstairs was a bookstore with hard-to-find books and collector's editions – a book lover's dream! Further upstairs was a gallery and a rooftop terrace, and the gallery much to my delight was exhibiting the World Press Photo Contest, which was nice to explore (despite a disturbing image from Pakistan!).





What are some spots for a night out?

MP: The Bvlgari Bar and the Cavalli Club were some places we went to for a night out. If you're more into the hipster, local scene, check out the buzzing bars near Osteria La Vecchia Lira.

Any travel tips you would like to share?

MP: Make a list of all the things to do and places to visit so you don't miss out on anything – I tend to research spots in advance, so I know exactly where to go and what to do. And make sure you fit in some local hot spots! OK!

TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY: MAIRA PAGGANWALA

OK! WORLD IN ACTION



GREEK CHOREOGRAPHER AND DANCER KATERINA SOLDATOU PERFORMS ABOVE THE CORINTH CANAL, AS PART OF THE GREECE HAS SOUL PROJECT IN CORINTH



PALESTINIAN GIRLS STAND INFRONT THE DOME OF THE ROCK AS THEY ATTEND THE FIRST FRIDAY PRAYERS OF THE MUSLIM HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN AT JERUSALEM'S AL-AQSA MOSQUE



THE SAILS OF THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE ARE LIT FOR THE START OF VIVID SYDNEY LIGHT FESTIVAL 2017 IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



GIANT FEMALE PANDA WU WEN DISCOVERS HER NEW ENCLOSURE DURING AN OFFICIAL UNVEILING CEREMONY AT OUWEHANDS ZOO IN RHENEN, NETHERLANDS



A MODEL WALKS THE RUNWAY AT THE GUCCI CRUISE 2018 SHOW AT PALAZZO PITTI IN FLORENCE, ITALY

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY, AFP

OK! ASTROLOGY & TAROT

Mariam Aftab puts your cards on the table

Aries
Mar 21 – Apr 20

This month is very comfortable for you. Family takes precedence over other affairs. Those constructing a new house may move in. Success is with you; so go ahead with your new plans. There is temporary separation between lovers because of workload. New projects bring profits. This is a good month for applying for a visa or making travel plans. Parents' health needs attention. Your focus remains on domestic interests. You may finish up the work you began.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Vanilla
Lucky Numbers: 3,7,9
Antidote for Evil Eye: Burn rosemary oil in the bedroom area

Taurus
Apr 21 – May 21

An old family friend renews ties. A family connection is loving and affectionate. Salesmen/marketing executives will have a tough month. Students find it difficult to concentrate on their studies. Married people will share intimate moments. Jobless people will receive two good job offers this month. Things will go smoothly for you at work. Young girls will pass through a period of depression. Working women will have a strenuous month.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Tea Tree Cedar Wood
Lucky Numbers: 1,9
Antidote for Evil Eye: Keep a red wallet for financial gain

Gemini
May 22 – Jun 21

This month there is a health problem; contact your doctor. A companion brings a potentially productive proposal. New ventures succeed. Children are a source of joy at the end of the month. Housewives may be caught in a hectic social life. This is a good month for your financial strategy. A party at home may have to be postponed. Property affairs get off with a swing, be it house or land. You will find happiness from relatives.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Pine
Lucky Numbers: 2,8
Antidote for Evil Eye: Keep a red wallet for financial gain

Cancer
Jun 22 – Jul 23

You have to be very careful this month. Money matters are highly sensitive. Do not let emotions take over. Keep impulsive immature friends at a distance. Powers of judgment and analysis are in top gear. Fatigue vanishes; you can get a lot done. This is a lucky month for businesswomen. A relative will be helpful. Old differences will resolve and family will cooperate. You should be very careful in every matter. Do not let emotional interests interfere with matters that require logical attention.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Sweet Grass
Lucky Numbers: 3,5
Antidote for Evil Eye: Keep a money plant in the office area

Leo
Jul 24 – Aug 23

This is a good month. You will be happy in the company of friends. Take life at an easy pace. Money will flow in happily. New opportunities may come your way at the end of this month. For students this month is very lucky. Long distance travel is highlighted in your spread; if going on tour the company of your family will make the trip better. Be patient with yourself and others, and take safety precautions by avoiding haste.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Rose Eucalyptus
Lucky Numbers: 7,9
Antidote for evil eye: Burn white candles in the office or living area

Virgo
Aug 24 – Sep 23

Sensitive people need careful handling this month. Romance is dull. Hobbies can be beneficial. Don't delay office work; work prospects will be good for you. Socially, you will gain popularity but a close associate will bring disturbing news. Health of a family member may create problems. Your mental abilities will be enhanced and you can begin to look forward to starting up your pet projects once again.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Rosemary
Lucky Numbers: Odd numbers
Antidote for Evil Eye: Hold a citrine and recite '*Ya Akhiro*'

Libra
Sep 24 – Oct 23

This is an important month from a work point of view. Discuss your financial situation with your mate. Avoid the colour yellow when going out for shopping. Family members may require your assistance. You may hear bad news regarding your close relative. Dealing with business partners will be very difficult. You will succeed by meeting financial obligations quickly, conserving strength and money, cooperating with colleagues and finding new sources of gain.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Lavender
Lucky Numbers: Series of 3
Antidote for Evil Eye: Keep a blue agate in your bedroom

Scorpio
Oct 24 – Nov 22

Anything that can be carried out in secrecy has more chance of success. You will get all of your affairs in order. Misunderstandings must be guarded against; avoid new businesses. Your seniors will keep an eye over your progress; move ahead slowly. Do not get frustrated. You may be determined to make your goals into reality, and you may realise that it is not as difficult as you had feared because you will be in touch with what you want.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Lemongrass
Lucky Numbers: Series of 3
Antidote for Evil Eye: Burn sandal wood incense at the entrance of your home

Sagittarius
Nov 23 – Dec 21

This is an auspicious month for investment. Do not take any hasty decisions. A property matter will come up for your consideration. This is a favourable period for finance. Businessmen will sign a profitable deal. Those fighting legal matters will receive a positive ruling in the court. A close friend may refuse to oblige you. Keep finances and friendship separate to avoid misunderstandings. Try not to let a family matter get you down.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Ylang Ylang
Lucky Numbers: Series of 2
Antidote for Evil Eye: Rotate 1 ½ kg red meat over crown *chakra* and throw to birds of prey every Monday

Capricorn
Dec 22 – Jan 21

A nagging issue at work gets resolved this month. Your patient stand will pay rich dividend. Romance is likely to be important. Do not get involved in any secret deal or alliances. Differences can be overcome with your colleagues. It is best not to cultivate new friendships this month. Old persons need urgent medical attention. Avoid family arguments this month.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Frankincense
Lucky Numbers: 1,5,9
Antidote for Evil Eye: Burn lemongrass incense in the office area

Aquarius
Jan 21 – Feb 19

Happy times are ahead. You will sign a contract after making a few compromises. This is an auspicious month for lovers. Mothers to be careful while traveling. Quick profits in the business are likely. You will feel relaxed in the company of your family. Students will do well in their exams. Your health may need proper attention. A Leo will be very helpful this month. A female member of the family may need urgent medical attention. You should try to be cooperative.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Ginger
Lucky Numbers: 1,2,3
Antidote for Evil Eye: Bathe with sea salt

Pisces
Feb 20 – Mar 20

This month is sensitive. Joint funds are discussed. Stay cool in public meetings. Complete your pending jobs. Group activities are good. Follow traffic rules while driving. Complete trust wins your parents over. Do anything to keep your family members happy. Divorcees get a chance to marry again. Communications increase in intensity and quantity and your mind may be working overtime in an effort to keep up.

Aroma Therapy Oil: Garlic
Lucky Numbers: 5,7
Antidote for Evil Eye: Rotate 7 chillies clockwise over crown *chakra* and burn on stove


WASIM AKRAM
JUNE 3, 1966


ANGELINA JOLIE
JUNE 4, 1975


PRINCE WILLIAM
JUNE 21, 1982


AINY JAFFRI
JUNE 9, 1981

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY

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*Standard Chartered Bank will match all public donations made to Seeing is Believing Programme in a dollar for dollar ratio up to PKR 30 million.
**Standard Chartered Bank will not be collecting any funds. All donations will go directly to LRBT account.

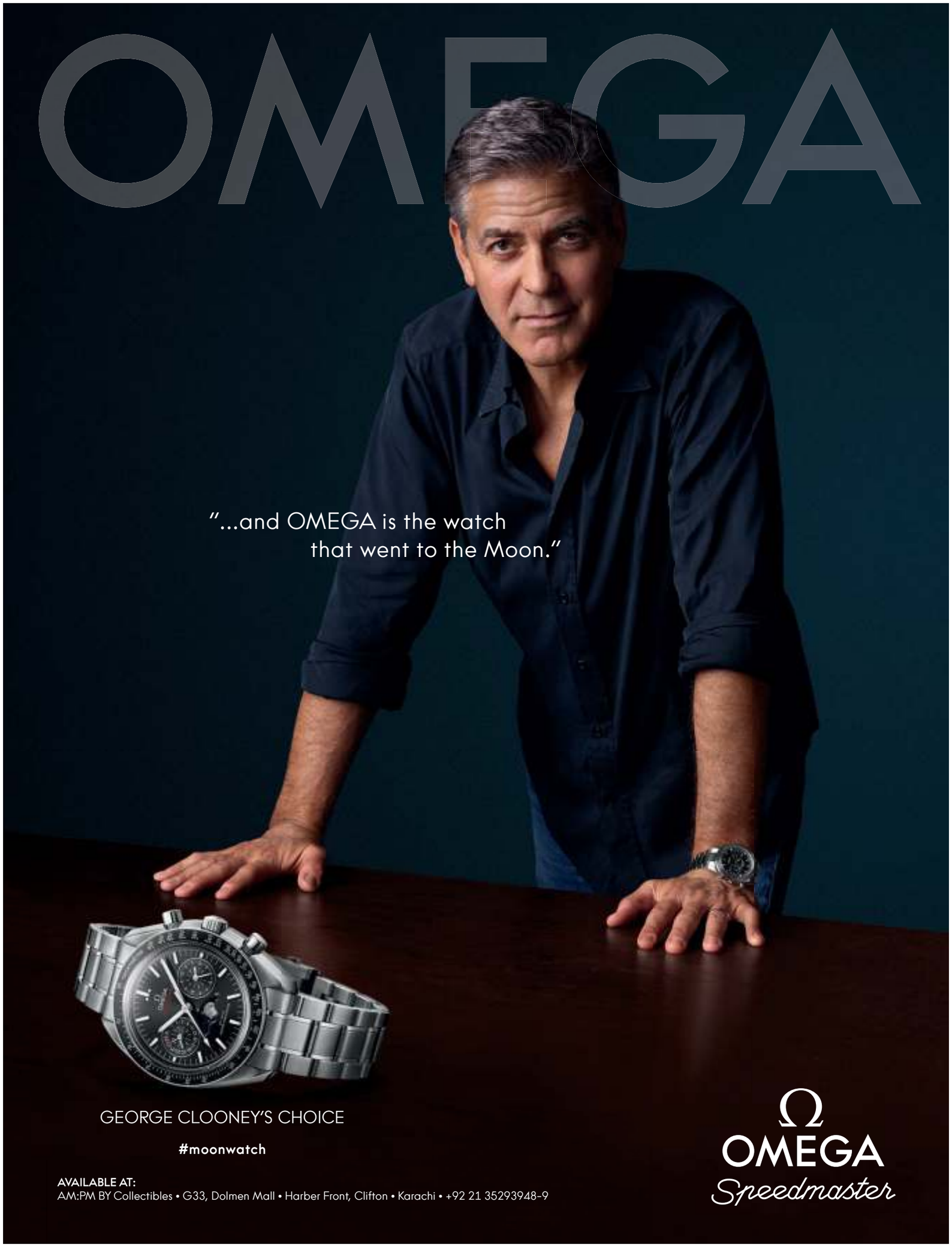
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