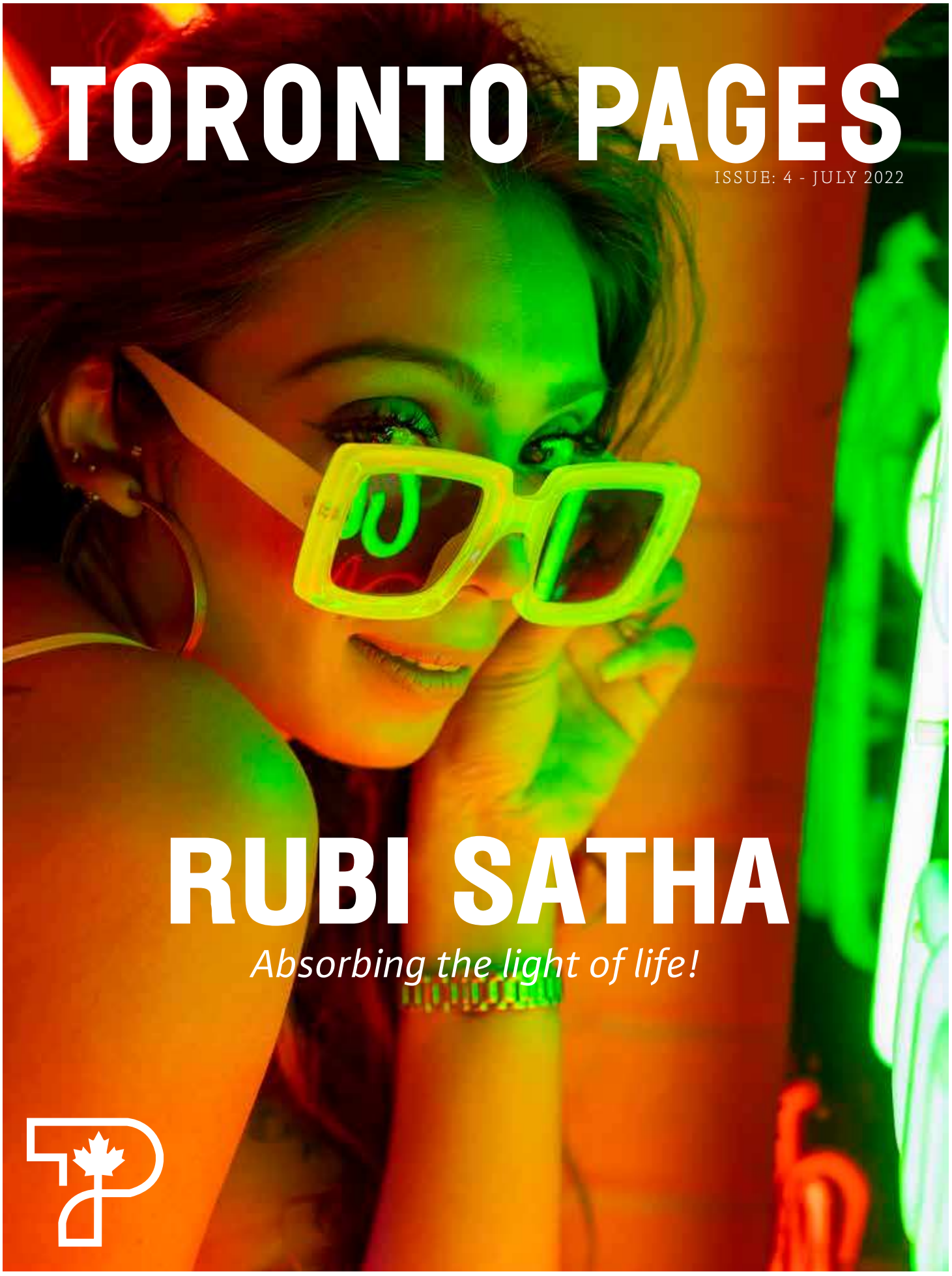


TORONTO PAGES

ISSUE: 4 - JULY 2022

RUBI SATHA

Absorbing the light of life!

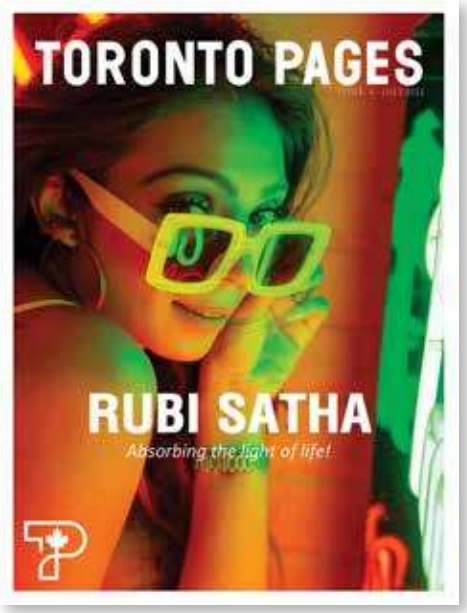
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OUTFITTERS



mishooutfitters


mishoo
OUTFITTERS
shoo
UTTERS

On the cover



ON THE COVER: **RUBI SATHA** (@bambiportfolio)
INTERVIEWED BY: **JAMEEL ARIF** (@jameelarif)
PHOTOGRAPHER: **G.** (@bad_girl_photography)

Meet the team

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Jose Berrocoso
Latifa AlHazza

SALES TEAM
Altaf Hussain

A Letter From the Editor

July is such a wonderful month with great weather for outdoors.

This year, the summer has been great with lots of outdoor activities coming back after a long break.

The airports has been packed with passengers getting back on travelling. We have some great suggestions for your summer travel in this issue by our travel editors.

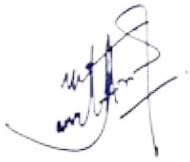
We also interviewed the founder of XFIXXI BIKES in this issue. I am sure you will love it.

Our fashion pages also has some great new inspirations for you.

We are excited as we are working on our next issue as we have a lot to cover and bring some great new content for our readers.

Stay in touch and keep us posted on what you would like to see in this magazine.

Till next issue.



JAMEEL ARIF
Chief Editor

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WORLD BEE DAY:

GUERLAIN RUNS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR BEE PROTECTION

THE BEE – SENTINEL OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND GUARDIAN OF FUTURE GENERATIONS



Its goal remains the same: to gather €1 million within three days to strengthen its "Guerlain for Bees Conservation Programme". So many natural treasures and resources depend on the skilful handiwork of bees. For the House of Guerlain, making a commitment towards their protection means endeavouring to pass on the wonders of Nature to future generations, while safeguarding their future.

IMAGINE A WORLD WITHOUT BEES

If bees were no longer to exist, most fruits, flowers and seeds would disappear forever, taking with them an infinite number of irreplaceable colours, flavours and smells. Across the world, intensive farming, vanishing habitats, climate change and so forth are drastically impacting the health of bees, both wild and domestic.As exceptional pollinators, bees are "essential to our food safety, nutrition and environment*". It is crucial for us to protect them, but this alone is not enough. We must also raise awareness around the importance of bee conservation for the world of today and tomorrow. This is why Guerlain is committed to teaching children about the cause of bees, thanks to its Bee School. Its programme Women for Bees, in partnership with UNESCO, also aims to train new women beekeepers at UNESCO's biosphere reserves.

IMAGINE IF THERE WERE NO MORE SWEETBUZZING FROM THOSE SOMETIMES CALLED "SENTINELS OF THE ENVIRONMENT".

POLLINATION: A PACT SIGNED BETWEEN BEES AND FLOWERS

Bees forage from flower to flower, transferring pollen during each trip to fertilise the plant. Pollinated flowers yield most fruits, including apples, pears, almonds and blueberries.Good pollination leads to an abundance of better-quality, pro-perly formed fruit. These pollinated plants also play a vital role in ensuring that ecosystems function properly, since they provide food, habi-tats and resources for countless other species.

GUERLAIN FOR BEES: MAKE A COMMITMENT WITH US

FOLLOWING A SUCCESSFUL FIRST EDITION IN 2021 RESULTING IN THREE NEW PARTNERSHIPS, NOW MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, GUERLAIN IS STEPPING UP ITS COMMITMENT TO THE BEE, THIS HOUSE SYMBOL AND INFINITE SOURCE OF INSPIRATION.

From World Bee Day on 20th May to the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May, Guerlain is again calling for a commitment from its communities and the global population at large. All funds raised will be used to support the "Guerlain For Bees Conservation Programme".

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

BUY IN STORE OR AT GUERLAIN.COM20% of sales* will be donated to the Programme, including sales of the limited-edition Huile-en-Eau Abeille Royale, which has been dressed up for the occasion by Tomáš Libertíny.

REPOSTFROMGUERLAIN'S INSTAGRAM€20 donated for every repost of the visual created by Tomáš Libertíny including the hashtags #GuerlainForBees and #WorldBeeDay

goop

Layering Skin Care For Summer

Layering skin care in hot weather involves strategy—the key is choosing textures that sink easily into skin—but the payoff is fresh, glowing, healthy-looking skin all season long. Here's goop's step-by-step guide for layering skin care for the hot and sticky months ahead.

BEFORE LAYERING

No matter the skin type, cleansing and exfoliating make a huge difference in the way skin looks and feels and also in the way treatment products perform.



GOOPGLOW Cloudberry Exfoliating Jelly Cleanser



GOOPGLOW Flower Acids Resurfacing Toner



GOOPGLOW 20% Vitamin C + Hyaluronic Acid Glow Serum

STEP 1

VITAMIN C

Especially great in summer for fighting free radicals from UV rays and other environmental factors while brightening, clarifying, smoothing, and refining the texture of skin. Goop's maximizes potency with a two-part system that mixes 20% vitamin C powder with a hyaluronic acid serum.



STEP 2

SPRITZ

Because they're water-based, spritzes clear the way for treatment ingredients to go deeper into the skin. Pick your favourite!

STEP 3

SERUM

With your skin damp from the spritz, a treatment serum sinks right in to address issues like breakouts, dull skin, and more. Choose one that's targeted for specific benefits and powerful results!

STEP 4

MOISTURIZE (IF YOU NEED IT)

Most skin types benefit from extra hydration even when it's humid out; look for lighter textures to smooth, refresh, and plump your skin.

STEP 5

MINERAL SUNSCREEN

Because mineral sunscreen sits on top of skin to create a physical barrier from the sun, make it your last step!

BEACHY-KEEN
the pure shores making waves



www.designhotels.com



JOSÉ BERROCOSO
TRAVEL EXPERT
joseberrocoso

As temperatures start to climb, days become longer and peak sunshine approaches in the Western Hemisphere, it's only natural that the mind starts to dream of coastal sojourns. Luckily, the possibilities are endless. From the allure of the Greek isles and Croatia's scenic seaside spots, to a communal playground on the Caribbean coast of Mexico, Design Hotels presents a host of beachside hideaways where wiling away the days, drink in hand, isn't just a temptation, it's a requirement.





With its unrivalled views of the Aegean Sea from sun-dappled terraces and a name that alludes to the ocean—Kyma is Greek for 'wave'—Myconian Kyma is a perfect launchpad from which to explore Mykonos' southern coast. Rooted in its community and known for its long-standing ties to local farmers and fishermen, the hotel is also able to offer guests an authentic taste of the sea at NOA, a Greek restaurant that serves views of the ocean alongside Mediterranean cuisine and traditional Greek mezethes. On the same island, sister property Myconian Avaton overlooks Elia, Mykonos' longest beach, presenting guests with direct access to aquamarine waters, fine sand, and hidden coves. Here, under a parasol and private lounger reserved exclusively by the hotel, guests can soak up the sun and the idyllic landscape for a real experience of paradise.
Over in Halkidiki, Ekies All Senses Resort offers a similar vibe of barefoot luxury from its location on Vourvourou Bay in Sithonia, where a neighbourhood of islets takes beach hopping to a new dimension. Closer to home, Vourvourou beach is literal steps away from the hotel's mix of rooms, suites and villas for an unrivalled level of immediacy to daily waterfront jaunts.



The crystal blue waters and white sand of the Mediterranean Sea is only a stone's throw away from Almyra in Paphos, where standout design makes the sea appear as a natural continuation of the property's own pools. Al fresco dining at Ouzeri, the hotel's seafront taverna, brings diners even one step closer to the water with local cuisine served under flowering pergolas on the sand.

At Praia Verde Boutique Hotel in Portugal's Castro Marim, the elements come together in an unexpected way in a locale that straddles both forest and beach for a dramatic enactment of where land meets sea. Around 10km away the beautiful Fábrica Beach—a renowned highlight of the Algarve—adds another box to check on a list of must-sees for those wanting to explore the coastline. Further north in the off-radar historical city of Santiago do Cacém, Santiago Hotel Cooking & Nature combines close proximity to the Alentejo coast with top dining offerings and a gorgeous natural setting. On the rare occasions when they're not embracing the cooling waves of the sea, guests are invited to take part in the hotel's many cooking lessons and culinary experiences for full immersion in the flavors of the region.







All of the Cote D'Azur's finest elements come together at Five Seas Hotel Cannes, where the glittering seaside landscape of the French Riviera is in touching distance, along with Plage du Festival—Cannes' oldest private beach, which is officially partnered with the hotel. Closer to home, Five Seas' own rooftop infinity pool is joined by sumptuous white daybeds, live music, and pop-up brasseries for an equally thrilling beach alternative.

A communal playground it may be, but the simple attributes of sun, sea, and sand still reign supreme at the Papaya Playa Project, Tulum's see-and-be-seen hangout and home to a beachside luxury that features cabañas, swinging hammocks, and visiting DJs. Bordered by the jungle, the hotel now includes the newly reborn Beach Club where music curation by guest artists, original cocktails, and a breezy vibe all come together for the perfect Tulum experience. In Rovinj, Croatia, the concept at Hotel Lone places a similar emphasis on the unique natural landscape, with an unexpected positioning that places it between an ancient forest and the Adriatic Sea. Integrating views of the water with a design that reflects the color palette of the region's beaches by way of white-beige stone, the property is just steps away from Mulini Beach, with its vistas of Lone Bay.









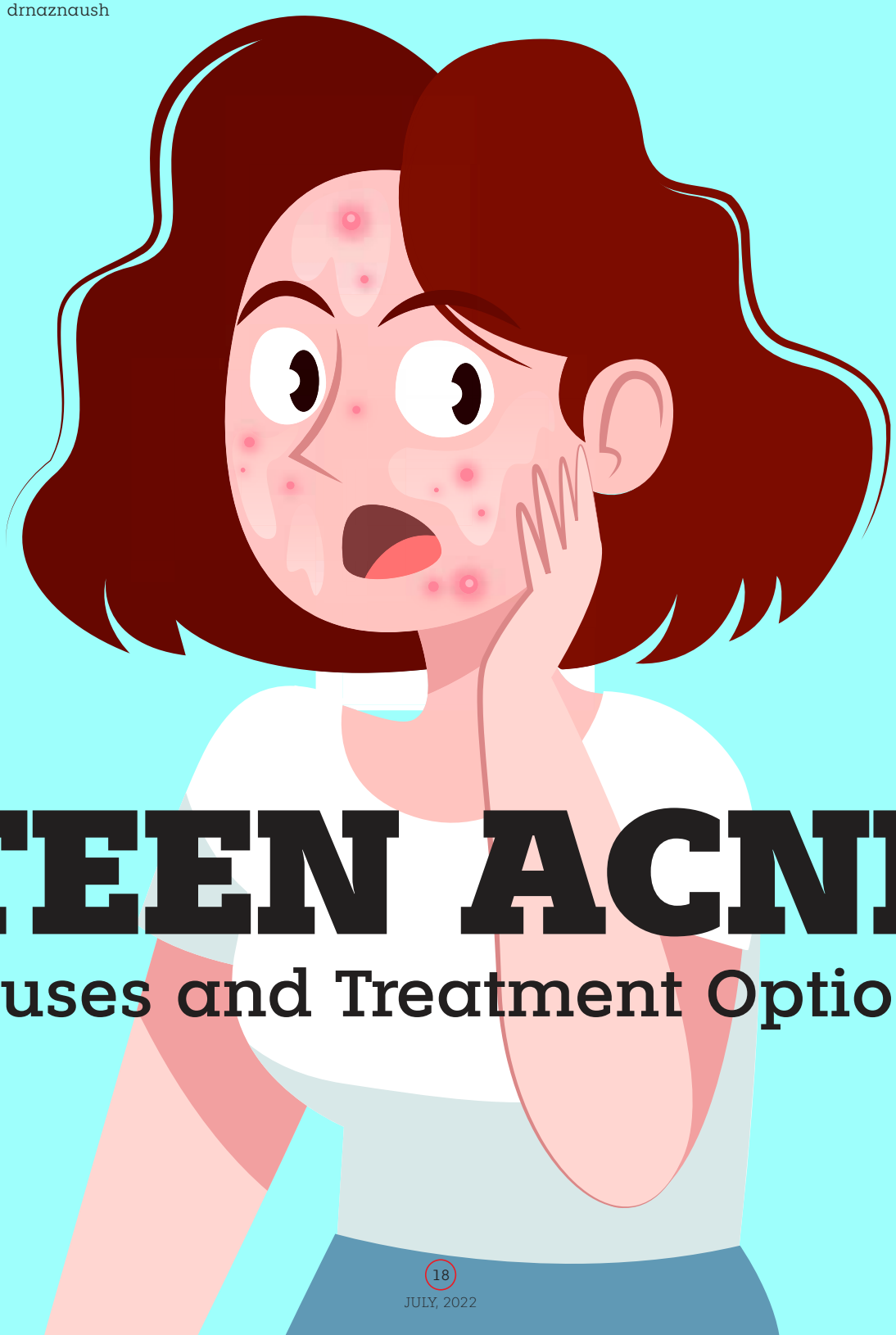
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DR. NAZIA NAUSHEEN
drnaznaush



TEEN ACNE

Causes and Treatment Options

Teenagers are faced with a myriad of challenges while growing up, one of which is acne. The primary cause of teen acne is hormonal fluctuations associated with puberty. These hormones stimulate the oil glands in the pores to make more oil, which along with the dead skin cells can clog the pores making a favorable atmosphere for bacterial proliferation. The bacterial growth then stimulates the body to mount an immune response creating redness, inflammation and pus formation causing the dreaded pimple.

The healthy skin care regimen for teens is aimed at decreasing oil, exfoliating the skin, moisturizing and decreasing inflammation and bacteria.

Recommended daily facial care for teen acne:

Gently wash your face twice a day. In the morning wash with a gentle non-soap cleanser and then apply a moisturizer that says non-comedogenic. Also use a sunblock with a minimum SPF of 30.

At bedtime wash with a cleanser containing 2.5% benzoyl peroxide and apply moisturizer.

Spot treatment: apply 2% salicylic/glycolic acid containing cream/serum on acne spots at bedtime.

Other medical interventions may be helpful, such as chemical peels, acne facials and laser treatments. Assessing internal factors is also key to improvement and your doctor may prescribe an antibiotic course for your acne. With the combination of topical and in-office treatments, teen acne can be managed and long-term effects may be avoided.

When treating teen acne it is important to consider medical intervention as early as possible to prevent worsening and permanent scarring. If scarring has already occurred then laser treatments are extremely beneficial at minimizing the depth and severity of scarring.



Discover NEW Bonacure Clean performance

These revamped ranges bring the best of both – the power of Bonacure's Advanced Technology you love (previously BC BONACURE) in a new professional clean formula.

Introducing the next generation of Advanced Technology from Schwarzkopf Professional: the NEW Vegan Care Complex.

The NEW Vegan Care Complex is an innovation at the heart of every Bonacure product. This technology is the combination of Vegan Keratin (the vegetable alternative to the classical non-vegan hydrolysed Keratin) – this has an inner action that restores strength and elasticity within the Cortex, and Cell Equalizer Technology – with an outer action that aligns and seals the Cuticle.

Bonacure Clean Performance has four colour-coded ranges, each with high-performing skincare-inspired ingredients





Repair Rescue for damaged hair with Arginine to instantly reverse 3 years of damage in just one application



Moisture Kick for normal to dry hair with Glycerol to provide a moisturised hair feeling for up to 48 hours



Colour Freeze for coloured hair with pH 4.5 to rebalance the hair structure to an optimal pH level and protect hair colour with close to zero fade



Time Restore for mature and fragile hair with Q10+ to help protect the hair against the visible signs of ageing and instantly create softness and shine**

it's summer

Photographer: **Alex Miro** (@alex_miro_photography)
Model: **Katarina Nedeljkovic** (@katarina.vic)











GADGETS REPORT

MARSHALL ACTON III SPEAKER



While it is best known for its towering amps on stage, Marshall has also been building an array of Bluetooth speakers over the years. Now it has launched its third edition of the Acton, Stanmore and Woburn speakers.
The Acton is the cheapest of the three new speakers from Marshall. Like the Stanmore and Woburn, the Acton is made using a sustainable design of 70% recycled plastic and vegan materials.
Through the use of Placement Compensation technology, this speaker optimises the equalisation (EQ) based on its surroundings. This means it will adapt and correct for nearby reflective surfaces which could affect the sound quality.

FURBO



Ever wonder what your dogs do while you're at work? With Furbo Dog Camera, you'll get real-time updates about what your pups get up to when they're alone. The device—a white gadget with a 360-degree camera—connects to phones, so you can monitor your pets via livestream. (If you load up the machine with treats before leaving the house, you can even use the Furbo app to toss your pet food from work.) After two years of working from home, leaving our pet for an entire day involves some separation anxiety for both parties. Furbo helps ease the transition. ($210, furbo.com)

NOTHING PHONE 1



The brand Nothing (best known for headphones so far) has had the world of tech enthusiasts patiently waiting for the reveal of their new smartphone. They promised something a little bit different, and they delivered on that.
The back of the device is transparent, allowing you to see the inner-workings of the device. On top of that, it features a number of LED lights that the company has called 'Glyphs'.
These lights flash in different ways to inform you of incoming calls, texts, social media notifications and plenty of other alerts on your device.
Elsewhere, the team at Nothing have fit in a sold battery, strong camera performance and a good display.

THERABODY WAVE ROLLER





The Therabody Wave Roller takes the traditional model of a foam roller and throws a bunch of tech into it. Through the use of vibration therapy and a wave-style texture, this roller helps to work out all of your aches and pains.
It comes with an app that can guide you through a rolling routine, five customisable vibration frequencies and can be used anywhere on the body that needs working out.

MACBOOK PRO WITH M2 CHIP



Does Apple's new MacBook Pro reinvent the wheel? No. Does it feature ground-breaking new features and a revolutionary design...? Also no. What Apple's new MacBook Pro does is ramp up specs and improve on an already popular design.
It continues to feature the touch bar (very much a love or hate feature), it offers more RAM allocation, the charging is faster and the Pro now features Spatial Audio.
However, the biggest change here is the processor, now featuring Apple's M2 processor chip. This makes the 2022 MacBook Pro an incredibly powerful computer. Finally, we have an Apple laptop that can keep up with gaming alongside the demands of professional editing and creative software.

HYPERX CLOUD ALPHA



The HyperX Cloud Alpha are a pair of gaming headphones that offer one thing above all: a fantastic battery life. HyperX claims that these headphones offer 300 hours of battery life. That means you can use these headphones for just over 12 days straight without a charge, although we would really recommend a break in there somewhere!
Other than how long they'll last, these headphones also feature a powerful crisp sound and a truly excellent microphone quality.

EAMES ROCKING CHAIR



Charles and Ray Eames adapted molding techniques developed during World War II to produce their classic shell chair's simple, gracious form. In 2001, Herman Miller reintroduced the original Eames Molded Plastic Chair (1950) in a durable, 100 percent recyclable polypropylene with a subtle matte texture. This modern shell rocking chair is supported by a wire frame and hardwood rockers.

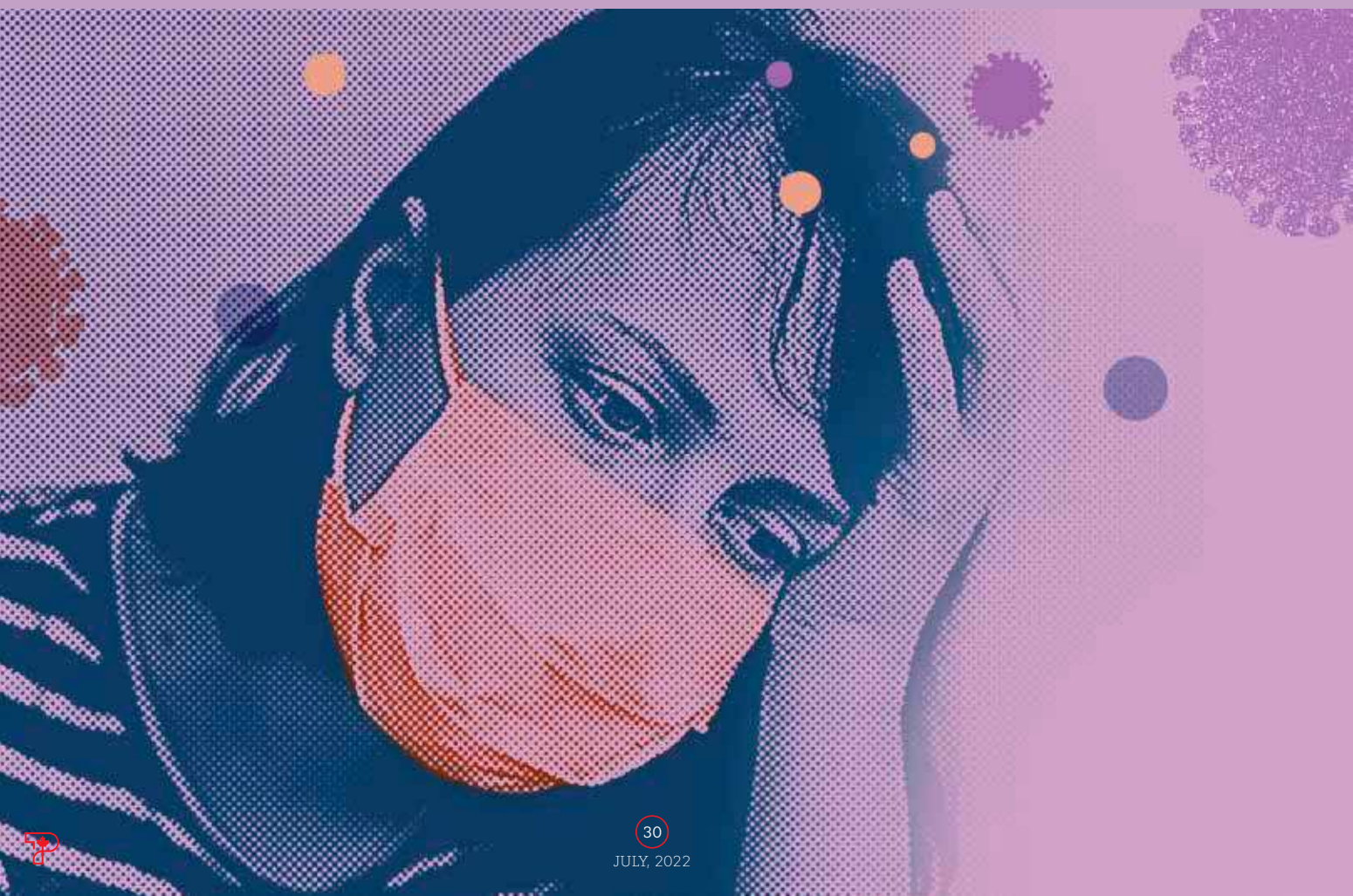


GILL SHERRY
gillsherryauthor

COVID'S BITTER AFTERTASTE

I suppose it had to happen sooner or later.

I was actually quite proud of the fact that I'd managed to avoid the dreaded Covid. Proud to the point of smug, if I'm honest. Despite the easing and subsequent lifting of restrictions, I still wore a face mask on public transport, still sanitized my hands at every opportunity, still used contactless payments instead of cash. But despite these defences, the pesky virus still managed to infiltrate my previously untainted home.



The precautions I took to stave off the contagious disease were, it seems, in vain. I could take every precaution possible when away from home but if the virus was already making itself comfortable on my sofa, there was only going to be one winner. Little did I know as I fastidiously washed my hands, it was skulking around in the shower tray, lurking in the laundry basket, and plotting its attack as it hid under the shiny new leaves of my favourite potted plant.

I'm pretty certain it had hitched a ride with my husband who, having recently paid his respects to a dearly departed friend, returned home with more than just a heartrending Order of Service. Granted, it could easily have been the train carriage, the hotel room or any number of other sources, but the countless handshakes of condolence and sympathetic hugs that took place at the funeral seemed the most likely explanation for the unwelcome breach.

Needless to say, upon testing positive he was banished to the spare room, after which we moved around the house as though playing a game of chess, each waiting for the other to make their move before taking the next, carefully considered step. We circled the dinner table so many times we became giddy! Invisible lines divided our territory. A single red line divided our test results.

Meal times became a challenge. After leaving his plate outside his cell (sorry, bedroom) I would rap my knuckles on the door before running back to the kitchen as fast as I could. Anything to prevent those invisible but deadly infectious particles chasing me along the hallway. Clearly, I didn't run fast enough.

I guess I should be thankful. Compared to many, my symptoms were minor. That said, it still felt as though a pack of razor blades had set up camp in my throat, my entire body ached, and everything I ate or drank tasted inexplicably of salt. I also had a smoker's cough (despite never having smoked in my life) and just when I thought I'd overcome it, it reminded me who was boss by jabbing me with its sinister tentacles, forcing me to endure another day with zero energy and a salty diet.

Thankfully, I missed out on only three social occasions during my self-isolation. With wedding season fast approaching and some of our nearest and dearest due to exchange nuptials, it could have been so much worse. Still, I couldn't help but feel aggrieved that I'd been forced to miss three eagerly anticipated events, particularly as I'd already endured almost two years of non-existent socialising.

My frustration, however, was short-lived. There's nothing quite like a bout of illness, no matter how long or short, for prompting a period of reflection. I realised, of course, that I had nothing to complain about. When so many others had lost their lives or their income, my irritating cough was irrelevant. When people had been hospitalised for months, were unable to say a final farewell to their loved ones, or were still dealing with the devastating effects of the pandemic, my own few days of inconvenience paled into insignificance. After all, I was still able to don my frock and fascinator in time to hear the long-awaited declarations of 'I do'.

Taking time to reflect is something many of us have done since coronavirus reared its ugly head. It upheld that 'life is too short' attitude that we often referred to but rarely did anything about. It led people to set up that small business they'd always dreamed of, to write that novel they'd been plotting for years, to book that holiday in Bali, Mauritius or New Zealand. So many life-changing decisions were made.

From my own point of view, I was able to reflect on how lucky I had been to survive the pandemic unscathed. My symptoms were slight and short-lived, my taste buds soon losing their salty tang. My loved ones were all still safe and well and I was able to work from home throughout each lockdown.

I wondered how different things might have been had I not been vaccinated and was grateful to live in a society with access to medicines, food, clean water and housing: the things we all take for granted but which so many are forced to live without.

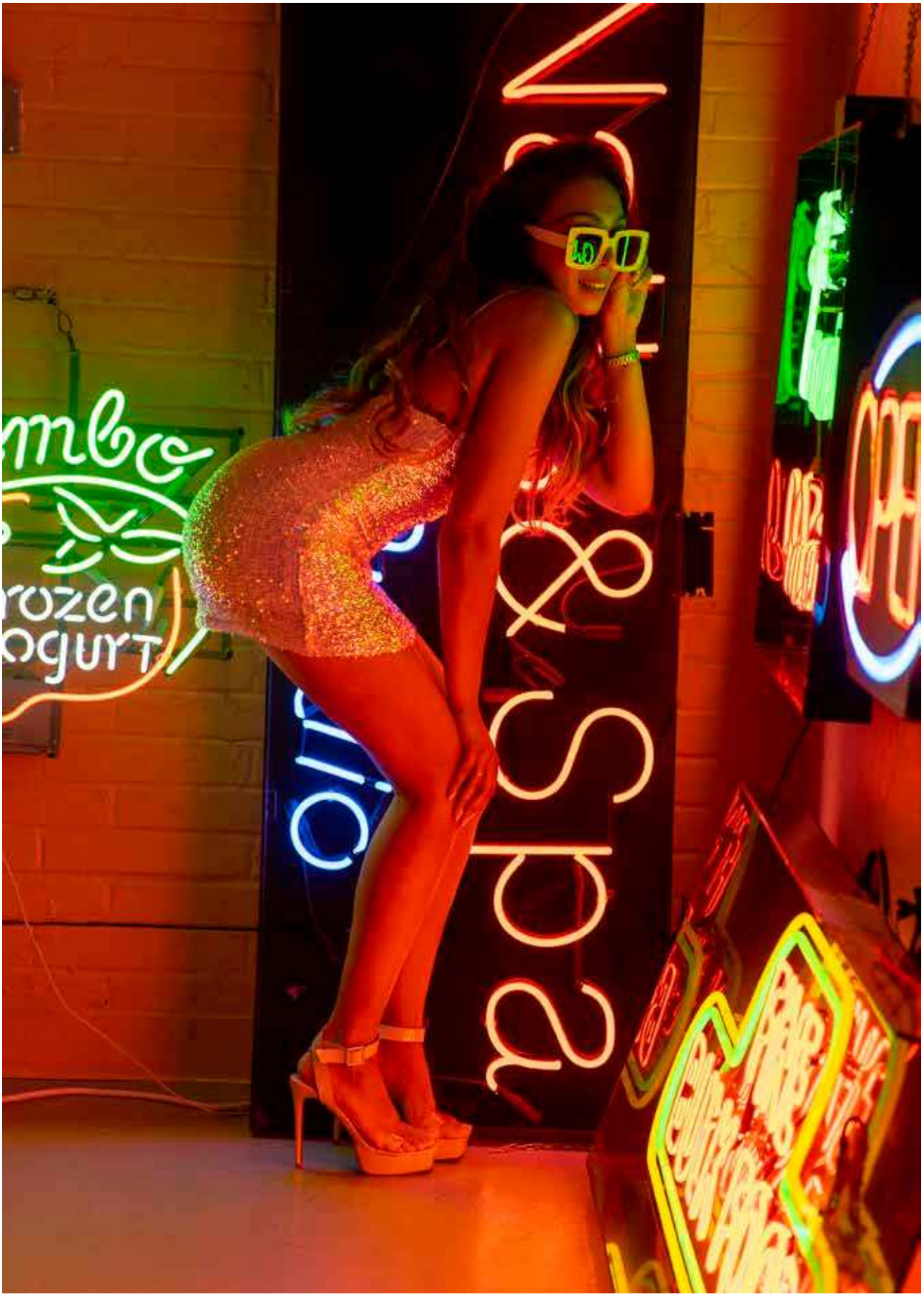
But it also made me realise that although we no longer have to sit through the depressing daily coronavirus update on the TV, the disease is still spreading itself far and wide. The world may have decided to carry on regardless but this nasty little virus is here to stay. And whilst the obligation to take tests, report a positive result and self-isolate for ten, seven or however many days has been removed, the Covid bug is multiplying at an alarming rate. In fact, just six weeks after my own bout of the dastardly disease, my sister found herself with a bad cough and a positive test. She, too, had a wedding to attend. Unfortunately for her, she didn't recover in time to enjoy the celebrations. Far from being salty, her Covid aftertaste was very bitter indeed.

At the time of writing, I still have two weddings to look forward to, both of which have been postponed more than once, both of which I would be gutted to miss. Confetti at the ready, I'm doing everything possible to remain free of the Covid curse. Fingers crossed.

Absorbing the light of life!

Photographer: **G.** (@bad_girl_photography)
Model: **Rubi** (@bambiportfolio)




mbo
rozen
ogurt


mbo
rozen
ogurt
Studio
OPEN

A ROOM WITH A VIEW



JOSÉ BERROCOSO
TRAVEL EXPERT
joseberrocoso

RECONNECT WITH NATURE IN THE LUSH NEW ZEALAND MOUNTAINS

Looking to avoid the bustle? Azur Lodge's nine secluded villas are designed for privacy and serenity. The property features nine idential 800 square-foot villas, all offering unobstructed views of the mountain ranges and Lake Wakatipu. Each villa features open plan living in the midst of New Zealand's natural environment, incorporating a lounge, dining area and private sun deck. Take a hike along Lake Wakatipu's shoreline or a embark on a dramatic flightseeing trip. Set out on a four-wheel-drive adventure down Skipper's Canyon Road, go white-water rafting down the Shotover River, or jet-boating along the Dart River. Head to Coronet Peak or the Remarkables in winter to take on New Zealand's best skiing, join a stargazing tour, or explore the 75 wineries in Gibbston Valley.


www.inkaterra.com

WRITING MOVIE WRONGS
moviewrongs.com

Jurassic World Dominion

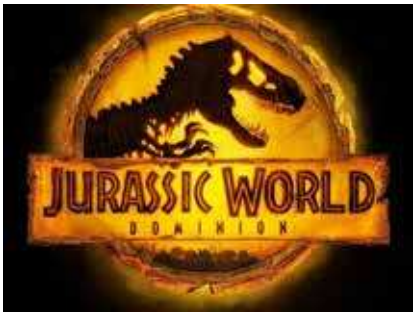


JIM WEST
jimwestauthor

Directed by **Colin Trevorrow**
Written by **Colin Trevorrow, Emily Carmichael,** and **Derek Connolly**

It was 1993, when the world of dinosaurs were brought to life on the big screen by the great director, Steven Spielberg in Jurassic Park. Based on a novel by Michael Crichton, this film would smash box office records and launch a franchise consisting of now six films, video games, toys, and a Jurassic Park themed ride at Universal Studios. Worth billions of dollars this franchise will most definitely not go extinct like its main characters anytime soon.

This film we bring two groups of film franchises together. The Jurassic World group of Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard is now meeting up with the folks that started it all in Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum. Bringing the old and the new together is an eventual step in the series, and the way they handled it all was actually pretty well. Giving every character their moments to shine and develop. Kudos to the two writer's for that heavy balancing act. Especially when competing for screen time amongst actions sequences and of course the dinosaurs. The film kicks off four years after the events of the previous film where dinosaurs have left the island and are all across the globe. The montage of news stories and online video clips makes for a perfect transition to catch up the viewer on life today with dinosaurs. The plot involves a girl that is the cloned daughter of one of the men who created the cloned dinosaurs. She is wanted by many groups for various reasons, which at first are not too clear. The plot also involves a company called Biosyn Genetics who leads the research on dinosaurs for medical advancements and houses dinosaurs at a government approved dinosaur preserve in Italy's Dolomite Mountains. That's just the first five minutes of the film.





Here comes the spoilers.

A young Michael meets his adoptive brother Milo who both suffer form We get introduced to some neat landscapes of horses and dinosaurs running wild. We see predator dinosaurs which track prey when targeted by a laser. Dinosaur black markets was another neat scene. These scenes are great to help setup action sequences. The secondary plot involving locust decimating crops across America is where the film brings in our old crew with Dr. Ellie Sattler (Dern), Dr. Alan Grant (Neill), and Dr. Ian Malcolm (Goldblum). They meet the CEO of Biosyn Genetics, Dr. Lewis Dodgson. He is essentially the main villain of Jurassic Park and the books. Yet here he isn't played to any real level of villainy. He just sort of acts very hyper and then frustrated. Never yells. Doesn't display any menacing actions or feelings at all. In fact any film with good versus evil typically leans the heaviest on how great the villain is. In this film it is just not much of a villain. That perhaps is the biggest let down of the film. No solid villain to fear. Henchmen... check. Evil laboratory and schemes....check. Just no real motivation to do the things he does. On top of that the scenes, where you expect him to go stark raving mad he simply doesn't. Such a shame. This is a character that deserved a meltdown given the series of events from his perspective.

Horribly constructed villain aside, we get treated to some solid action sequences, lots of dinosaurs fighting dinosaurs, and finally a subtle love story that finally brings two characters together after all these years. Such a jam packed film to see, but this film simply lacks a real villain. A villain to make you squirm in your seat. Make the hairs on the back of your neck stand up. Your stomach churn. Make you turn your face away at the horror of the madness or evil they inhibit. This film will no doubt be considered a success at the box office, but as for a film worth re-watching again and again...not so much. Get the villain right and you give you heroes a real challenge and fight to the end.

Thanks for reading Writing Movie 'WRONGS'.

xfixxibikes

xfixxi.ca

XFIXXI BIKES

The Canadian-owned family business run by and for bike enthusiasts

XFIXXI BIKES INC, or XFIXXI for short, is a Canadian-owned family business run by and for bike enthusiasts. It started in 2015, supplying single gear bikes and parts in different brands. After years of hard work and careful selection, they solidified their own brand, XFIXXI, for the purpose of providing customers with high-quality Fixie Bikes, and sharing their favourite hobby with fellow cyclists.

This month we sit with Alvin, the founder and learnt more about their business and passion for cycles. We discovered that Alvin, started out as a bike engineer at home. As his enthusiasm for bikes and cycling grew over time, he transformed himself into a bike designer. With the assistance of many bike designers and professional riders, Alvin designed the first XFIXXI bike, the Premierè. Premierè is designed to meet the daily needs of metropolitan Canadians. A well-balanced, lightweight and durable aluminium frame, with hundreds of interchangeable parts and colourful combinations, XFIXXI's Premierè is the first Canadian-designed, Canadian-family-owned fixie bike in Canada.

Alvin has never stopped designing and building, and there are newer, stunning and mind-blowing bikes to come. A few Prototypes are already running in the GTA.

Read our exclusive interview with Alvin below which is really inspiring and interesting.


GRAB-A-RAG
XFUSION



Hi, can you please introduce yourselves to our readers.
Hello, my name is Alvin, I have been a bike enthusiast since I was young. I've owned many different bikes in my life, such as BMX, MTB, Road Bikes, Single Speeds and Fixies, and became a bike engineer for almost 10 years. Out of all these types of bikes, my favourite must be the fixie. I love the simplicity of it, and it is perfect for many causal occasions. It is also a very good training bike that greatly improves my strength for road biking.

How did you get interested in bikes?
I love everything with wheels, especially bikes. I used to take apart my bicycles to investigate how every mechanical part related to the performance. I tried many ways to modify my bikes to have a better appearance and improve the performance of it. When I was 18, I worked for a family-owned bicycle store in downtown. During that time, I discovered more about bike tuning and repair technique. That made me improve my bicycle knowledge and engineering skill to the next level.

When and why did you decide to get into the business of bikes?
I never dreamed that my hobby and career can possibly be related. I investigated many business sectors, but nothing ended up working for me. Fortunately, enough, a friend of mine who is a bicycles and ATV wholesaler, hooked me up to take over some of their single speed bicycle that they wanted to clear out. They were mostly refurbished or return items. Since the price he offered was reasonable, and I didn't mind repairing and reengineering them, I took over the lot and ended up selling almost 100 bikes in a short period of time. After that instant, I decided to turn into the bike business.

What is the local bicycling culture like?
Canadians love outdoor activities, many of weekend riders stay active by riding their road bikes, hybrids, fat bikes or MTBs for recreational purpose, and we have daily riders using their simple single gear or fixie to commute in the heart of Toronto. It is far more convenient than driving in the crowded area. Canadians simply can't live without bikes.

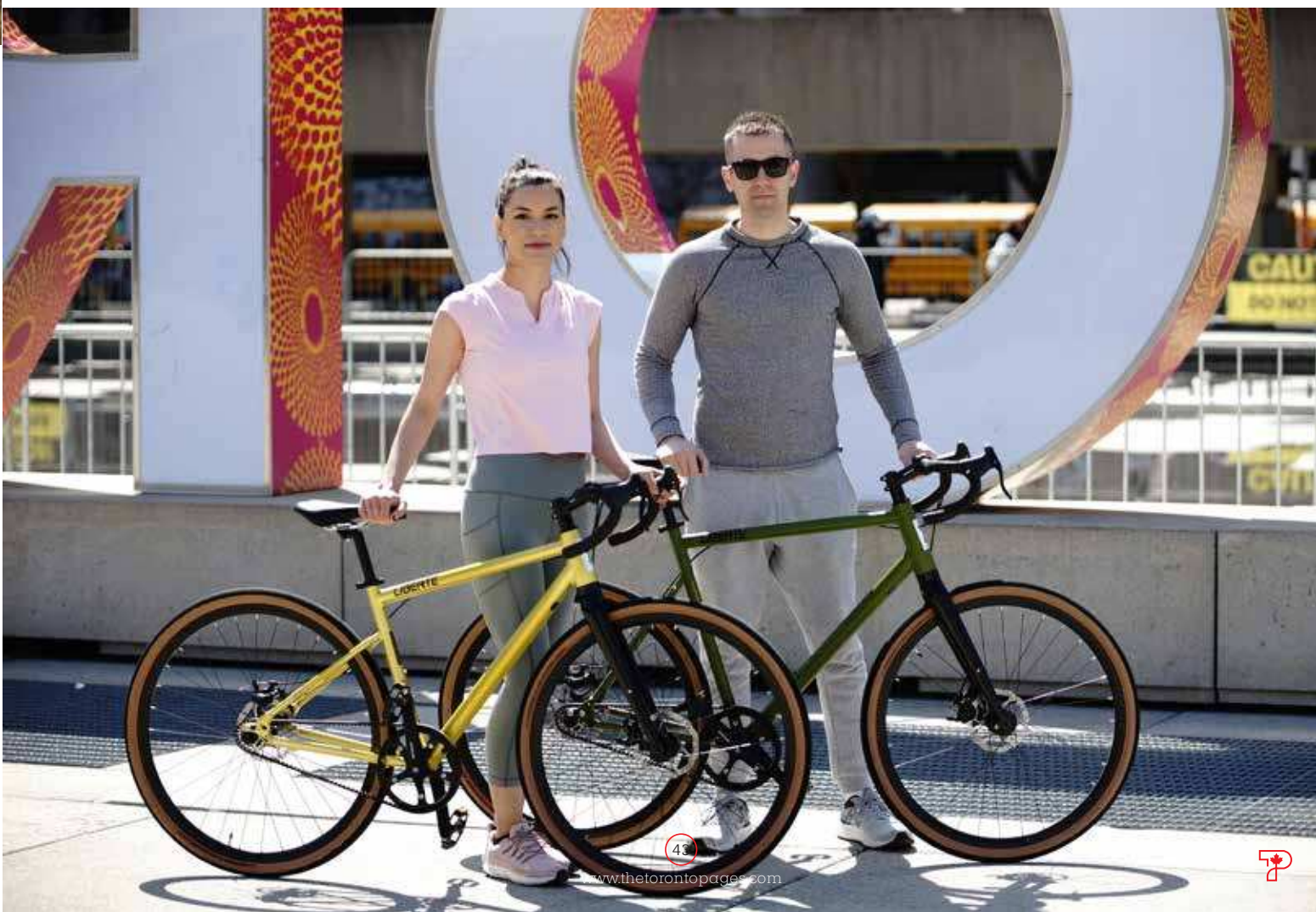
When was XFIXXI BIKES INC. launched and how did you come up with the name?
XFIXXI BIKES was established in September of 2020. I wanted our name to be related to our product category (fixies). I am also a Christian and I believe God planned this business opportunity for me, which is why I wanted the cross of Christ to be embedded in my Company name. I ended up deciding on XFIXXI with the "X" symbolizing the cross.

What are single gear bikes?
Single gear bikes are simple, durable, low maintenance and affordable. The drivetrain simply operated by a single front sprocket and a single rear sprocket, a common ratio is 46:16, which is suitable for flat road in the city. Most single speed bikes' rear wheel is laced on a flip-flop hub. It is a type of the wheel equipped with a single fixed cog on one side and a single freewheel sprocket on the other side. When the bike is set up with the freewheel called single speed setting. This configuration allows the bike to coast without peddling just like any other bikes. By flipping over the rear wheel around and using the fixed cog to eliminate the brakes, it is then called Fixie (I called it "Fixie-mode" of a single speed bike). This means that the rear wheel movement will follow the exact same speed as peddling. This riding style is more suitable for advance riders.

According to you what are the benefits of a family-owned business?
Once our business started, we realized a lot of customers prefer to support local or family-owned business because this type of business model usually has more interaction with the business owner who cares more about the service. Compared to dealing with staff members who work in big box stores, a purchase from a small business is typically more memorable. In fact, we really enjoy meeting with our customers in person to better understand their needs, and we are always more than happy to assist them to tailor made a bike that is unique and most suitable for them. Most customers that we met are super friendly as well, so we often make small talk for an hour or so. We really appreciate them as they give us good google reviews, send us referrals, and support xFixxi on their social media. A bonus of running a business like this is that we make a lot of new friends.

Any drawbacks?
Really not much of a drawback, but xFixxi became my family's discussion topic all the times. I even turned my wife to be a bike-lover.

Tell us more about your invention of the Premierè bike. What are its main features and what makes it different?
We found that most of the single speed bikes available in Canada are very similar regardless of the brand. Usually, they are steel bikes are made with a black finish frame, black wheel and identical components, it was kind of boring. Thus, we invented something that can keep the simplicity of single speed bike but with a nicer, lighter (with Aluminum) and more unique finish. That is Premierè .





How is the feeling of being the inventor of the is the first Canadian-designed, Canadian-family-owned fixie bike in Canada?

I am proud to be the inventor of the first Canadian-designed, Canadian-family-owned fixie bike in Canada. I love what I have been doing so far, so I am very grateful for all the support from my customers and my family members.

How did the pandemic affect your business?

As everyone knows, the pandemic boosted the demand for sport related items, and we certainly got the benefit of this hit. However, the downside is that the chain reaction affects the supply badly, it caused unpredictable delays for many different bike components. Besides, inflation also followed right after the pandemic softened a bit, causing many buyers to be tight on money. Fortunately, we offer a 0% interest pay-in-4 program that helped a bit.

Now, tell us about your latest revolutionary bike run on belt-drive. What was the idea behind this and how does this feature help?

Most Single speed bike riders use their bike in the city for commute or recreational purposes. During the pandemic, we had more customers inquired for an affordable bike that is good for paved road and gravel. That is how we came up with the idea of combining the ordinary single speed bike with the gravel-ready and maintenance-free bike. We are proud to be the first Canadian bike brand to produce a bike with Gates Carbon Belt, which is 4x more durable than an ordinary bike chain. This drivetrain system is the best solution for riders who don't want to take care of their bike as much. The carbon belt system is not just quiet and smooth, it also does not require for routine lubrication, thus, no greasy hand, or stained pants.

Where are you guys located and what services are offered?

We are an online store, but we have a workshop located at 62 Cornell Centre Blvd, Markham, near Markham Stouffville Hospital. During the peak season, every Spring and Summer, we spare out our own residential double garage space (like how Google started XD) for customer pick up as well as a place to see our product line in person. Besides sales, we also provide bike maintenance services and fully-assembled read-to-ride GTA deliveries. For any out of GTA orders, we provide







semi-assembled free shipping for purchases over $500. We also provide customization options upon customer request, such as swapping different styles of handlebar, wheels, or different colour tires etc.

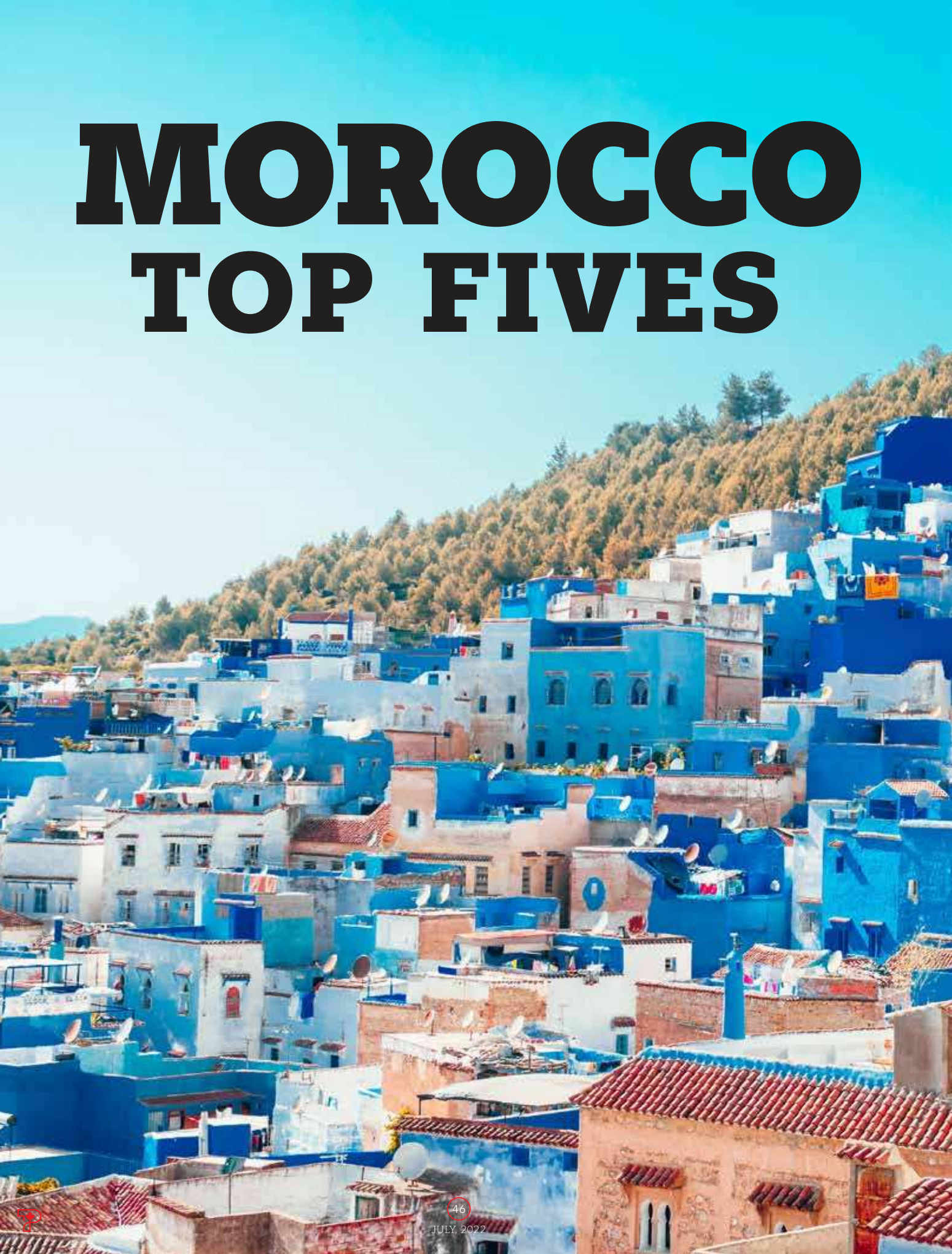
What are your expansion plans both within Canada and internationally?

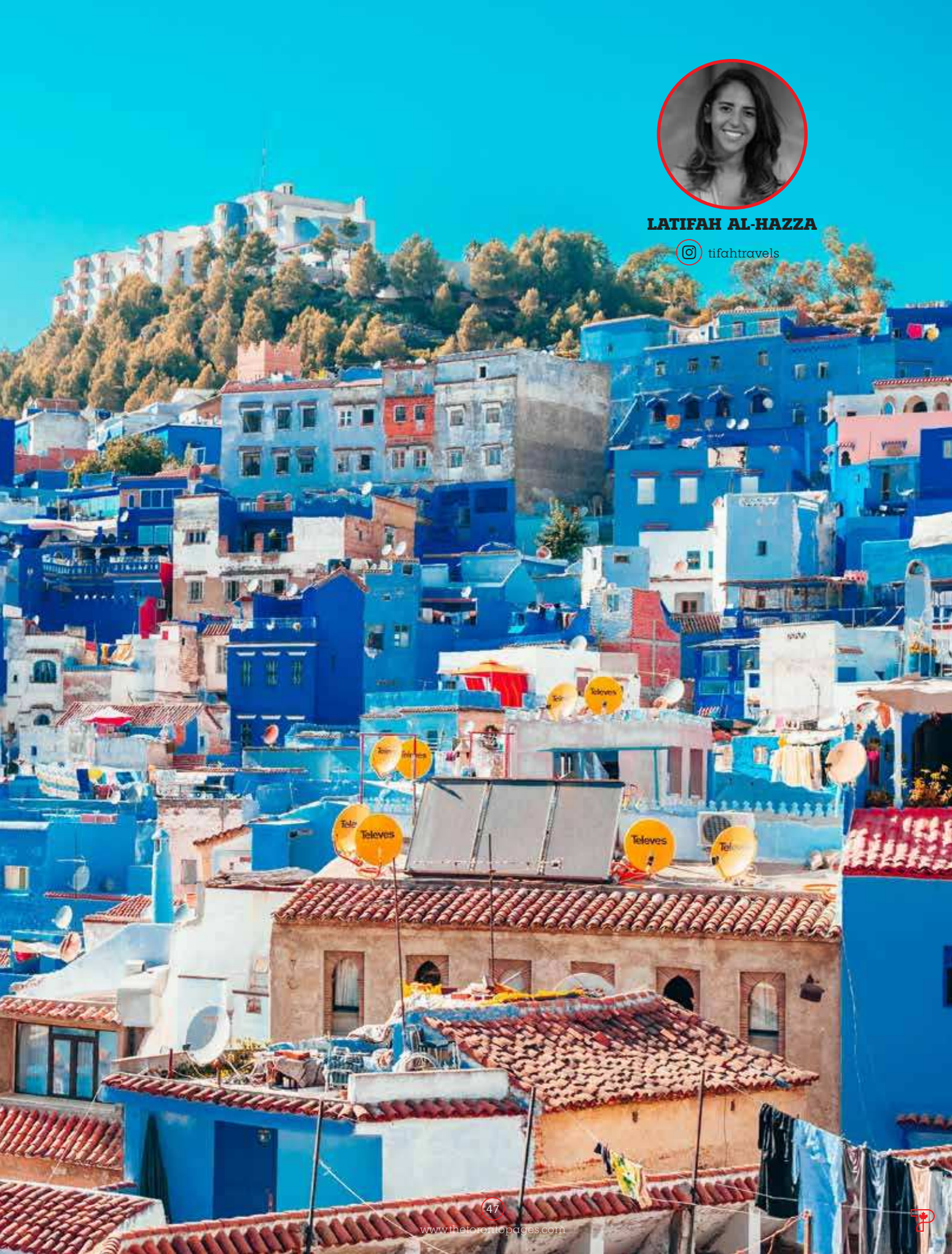
Expansion internationally is our long-term goal, for sure, but we are not in the rush to do so. We are proud of having xFixxi be one of the Canadian designed bike brands. We hope to let more Canadian riders know about us and support us before we go onto the next step. Therefore, our short-term goal is to wholesale our bikes to some potential bike stores and sport chain, who cares about the services, and can partner and grow with us.

Your message for us at TOPS (TorontoPages) magazine.

Single gear/ fixie is a great style of bike and I encourage everyone to try it out. Although fixies are commonly seen in cities like downtown Toronto, I would love to see it grow in popularity in the suburbs as well. My goal is to share my passion and hobby to fellow Canadians who share the same interest.

MOROCCO
TOP FIVES





LATIFAH AL-HAZZA

tifahtravels

TOP FIVE PLACES TO VISIT



1.Explore Jardin Majorelle

These famous botanical gardens with an iconic blue building in the center, were created over the course of 40 years by French painter Jacques Majorelle, and was co-owned by fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent and his business partner Pierre Bergé for many years. Bamboos, palm trees and cacti make can be found in the garden and a museum showcasing Yves Saint Laurent's works as well as Berber clothing can be viewed here as well.



2.Observe Jemaa el-Fnaa

Performers and storytellers take over this ancient square, while snake charmers and even old-school dentists are sometimes spotted.

3.Relax at a Hammam

There are few things as quintessentially Moroccan as a trip to the hammam – the Middle East's answer to a spa. Enjoy being scrubbed across every inch of your body. Be sure to check the timings for men and women before you go.





4.Glamping

Numerous options to "camp" luxuriously are located near Marrakesh. The glamp sights are emerged in the heart of a hilly mineral universe, just a stone's throw away from Marrakesh. Most have chic and comfortable tents that overlook the Atlas mountain. Camels, a restaurant and a swimming pool can be found at most of the sights as well.

5.Amal Cooking School

This non-profit association empowers women through culinary skills. Take a cooking or baking class at Amal to learn how to make traditional Moroccan cuisines. In addition, the program offers instructors a platform where they can enhance their capacities and learn new skills. Amal takes care of each trainee's living expenses during the whole period of the training.

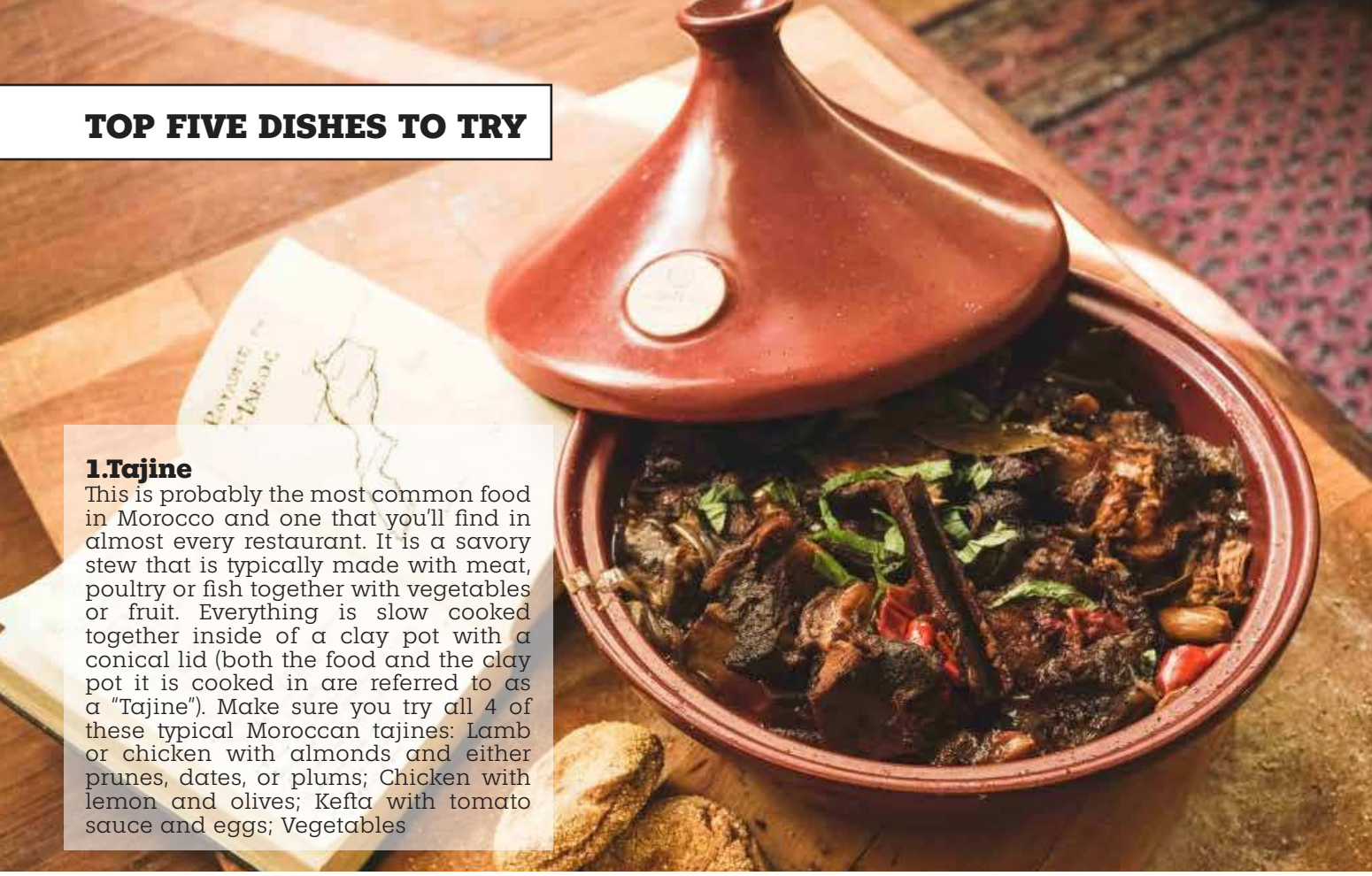


TOP FIVE ITEMS TO PURCHASE

Leather goods
Rugs
Spices
Argan Oil
Lanterns



TOP FIVE DISHES TO TRY



1.Tajine

This is probably the most common food in Morocco and one that you'll find in almost every restaurant. It is a savory stew that is typically made with meat, poultry or fish together with vegetables or fruit. Everything is slow cooked together inside of a clay pot with a conical lid (both the food and the clay pot it is cooked in are referred to as a "Tajine"). Make sure you try all 4 of these typical Moroccan tajines: Lamb or chicken with almonds and either prunes, dates, or plums; Chicken with lemon and olives; Kefta with tomato sauce and eggs; Vegetables

2.Couscous

This tasty dish consists of very small, steamed balls of crushed durum wheat semolina (resembling rice), usually served with stew spooned on top with some type of meat and vegetables.



3.Harira

This thick, creamy soup is made of chickpeas and usually contains whole chickpeas, noodles, and occasionally pasta. Traditionally it is served as a starter or used during Ramadan to break the fast.



4.Pastilla

If you like sweet and salty all in one package, this is for you! Traditionally stuffed with pigeon, this flaky pie is served piping hot and dusted with powdered sugar. But, it's more likely to be stuffed with shredded chicken than pigeon these days.

5.Stuffed Msemen

Stuffed msemen is flattened square-shaped dough kneaded together with a mixture of peppers, onion, and tomato and then grilled, rolled, and served to-go. You can find a few street food msemen vendors around the medina in Marrakesh.



TOP FIVE PLACES TO STAY

Riad Yasmine
Riad de Tarabel
Riad BE
Riad Tchaikana
Riad Dar Kawa











TOP FIVE RESTAURANTS TO DINE

Bacha Coffee House
Les Jardins Du Lotus
L'mida Marrakech
Kabana
Café des Epices









BOSS hosts a celebrity tournament

at St Andrews to celebrate the upcoming 150th Open

Friends of the brand flocked to Scotland's historic home of golf for a chance to play the famous course themselves.



On June 1, BOSS invited a group of 60 athletes, celebrities, influencers, and journalists to spend the day at St Andrews – where The 150th Open will be held later this summer. Celebrities like ScHoolboy Q, Kathryn Newton, Ross Butler, Alex Pettyfer, Alvaro Morte, Lucien Laviscount, James and Oliver Phelps, Naomi Watanabe, Naphat Siangsomboon, and Blake Gray were among those invited, as well as sports stars like Australian freerunner Dominic Di Tommaso, former rugby player Thom Evans, and Italian Paralympian Veronica Yoko Plebani. Several other talents were also in attendance, including model Jordan Barrett and social media stars Noah Beck, Nic Kaufmann, and Younes Zarou.

The event began with breakfast at the Old Course hotel, just a few feet from the 17th fairway. Attendees were then treated to a training experience with past Open champion Sandy Lyle, followed by a bite to eat at the exclusive members-only Forgan House.

In the afternoon, guests took part in a golf challenge on the Old Course that included "Longest Drive" and "Nearest to the Pin" competitions. The day culminated in a private dinner at the Rusacks hotel, followed by a prizegiving ceremony, recognizing the best competitors of the day.

The day celebrated the brand's longstanding relationship with R&A and its sixth year as official clothing partner of The Open. As part of BOSS' partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund UNICEF, the event raised money that will go towards helping vulnerable children around the world.







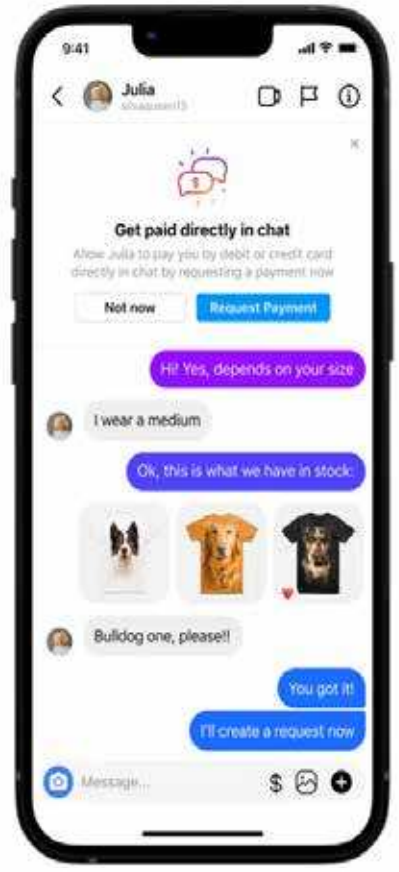
The brand also introduces a new BOSS x The Open capsule to mark the event. Styles put an elevated spin on golf performance and feature a 150 motif in celebration of the championship's historic anniversary. The capsule will be available online and in selected stores from June 1 onwards. For The 150th Open itself, BOSS athletes Patrick Cantlay, Thomas Detry, Matthias Schwab, and Henrik Stenson (who won The 145th Open at Royal Troon in 2016) will be dressed in the brand's Premium Golf Collection as they all vie for the esteemed Claret Jug.

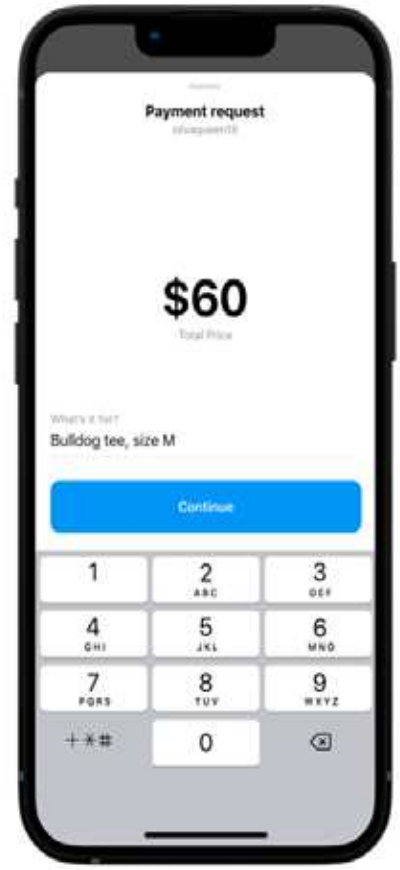
The event was a defining moment for BOSS, propelling it forward on its journey to become a top 100 brand. In line with the company's CLAIM 5 strategy and following its successful brand refresh and Dubai debut, the event introduced the game of golf to a new generation - showing that you can #BeYourOwnBOSS in sport too.











Instagram makes posts shoppable for smaller retailers and brands

PAUL SKELDON

Instagram continues its parent company Meta's push into ecommerce with the addition of shoppable posts in the site for smaller retailers.

From today, consumers using the photo sharing app can message the business they are looking to shop from, add any customisations as required by their device and then simply place an order in the chat.

They can also use the same chat stream to ask questions and track orders, says the company.

The social media giant is also looking to use its Meta Pay payment service to complete purchases, cementing the company's role across the discovery, sale and payment parts of the retail journey.

The company is looking to leverage the 1 billion or so people that interact with brands and retailers across its apps each day.

Using the new features, small businesses will be able to chat with customers in real-time, create payment requests with item descriptions and prices and request and collect payments.

Instagram and Facebook – both owned by Meta – made an initially foray into ecommerce back in 2020 with the launch of Shops. This, says Meta, will build on this for SMEs and brands.

Estée Lauder is in talks to acquire Tom Ford brand - report

Cosmetics giant Estée Lauder Cos Inc is reportedly in talks to acquire ultra-luxury brand Tom Ford. If it does, it could be a $3 billion deal, the Wall Street Journal said at the start of August, citing sources close to the matter.



Lauder has made plenty of major purchases in its time but this would be the biggest acquisition ever for the deep-pocketed business. However, it doesn't have the field to itself and WSJ also said that others are interested in buying the brand.

Neither Lauder nor Tom Ford have commented on the news story.

Ford is the big-name designer who revitalised Gucci in the late 1990s and the noughties and then moved on to make an impact with his own luxury fashion label. Importantly, he's also made inroads into the luxury beauty sector with Lauder having the license for the brand's beauty operations.

If Lauder does manage to buy Tom Ford, it would add further weight to its diverse luxury offer at a time when its domestic market — the US — is booming, as well as global markets proving resilient.

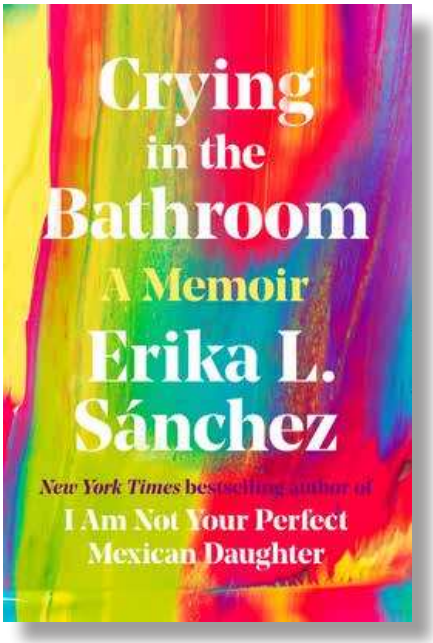
It would be an interesting and unusual move for the business given that the Tom Ford business is best know for its fashion offer. It has a strong menswear arm, as well as producing womenswear and leathergoods in addition to fragrance and other beauty items.

Of course, it's the beauty element that Lauder is most interested in and the report suggested that it could license the apparel and accessories operations.

JULY READING

Crying in the Bathroom: A Memoir

Erika L. Sánchez



Growing up as the daughter of Mexican immigrants in Chicago in the '90s, Erika Sanchez was a self-described pariah, misfit, and disappointment—a foul-mouthed, melancholic rabble-rouser who painted her nails black but also loved comedy, often laughing so hard with her friends that she had to leave her school classroom. Twenty-five years later, she's now an award-winning novelist, poet, and essayist, but she's still got an irrepressible laugh, acerbic wit, and singular powers of perception about the world around her.

In these essays, Sanchez writes about everything from sex to white feminism to debilitating depression, revealing an interior life rich with ideas, self-awareness, and perception. Raunchy, insightful, unapologetic, and brutally honest, Crying in the Bathroom is Sanchez at her best—a book that will make you feel that post-confessional high that comes from talking for hours with your best friend.

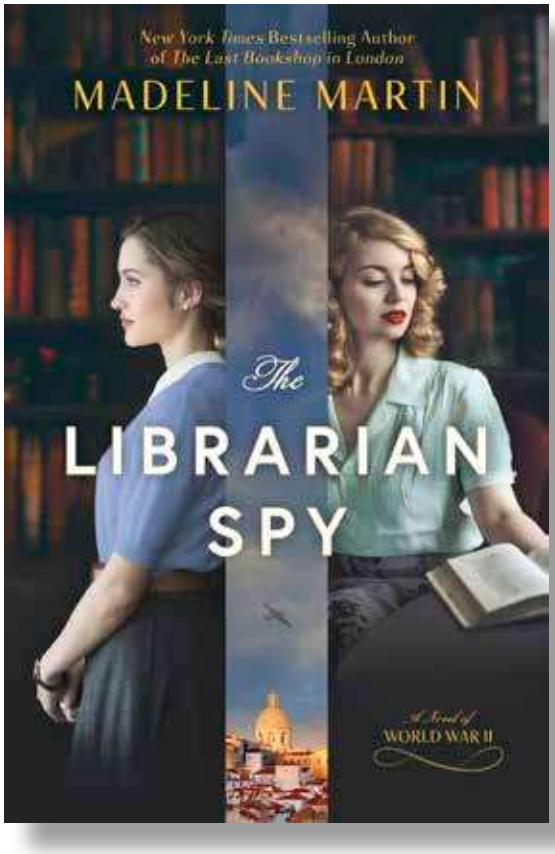


Erika L. Sánchez

Erika L. Sánchez is the daughter of Mexican immigrants. A poet, novelist, and essayist, her debut poetry collection, Lessons on Expulsion, was published by Graywolf in July 2017, and was a finalist for the PEN America Open Book Award. Her debut young adult novel, I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter, published in October 2017 by Knopf Books for Young Readers, is a New York Times Bestseller and a National Book Awards finalist. She was a 2017-2019 Princeton Arts Fellow, and a recent recipient of the 21st Century Award from the Chicago Public Library Foundation and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Poetry. She has recently been appointed the Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Chair in the Latin American and Latino Studies Department at DePaul University and is part of the inaugural core faculty of the Randolph College Low Residency MFA Program.

The Librarian Spy: A Novel of World War II

Erika L. Sánchez



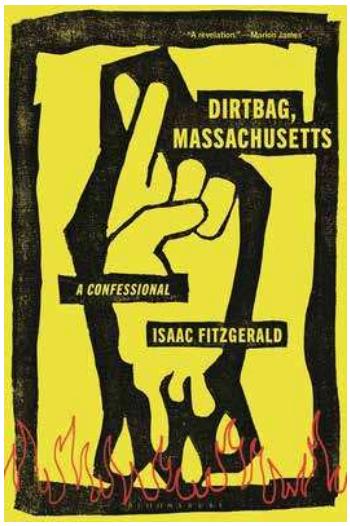
Ava thought her job as a librarian at the Library of Congress would mean a quiet, routine existence. But an unexpected offer from the US military has brought her to Lisbon with a new mission: posing as a librarian while working undercover as a spy gathering intelligence.

Meanwhile, in occupied France, Elaine has begun an apprenticeship at a printing press run by members of the Resistance. It's a job usually reserved for men, but in the war, those rules have been forgotten. Yet she knows that the Nazis are searching for the press and its printer in order to silence them.

As the battle in Europe rages, Ava and Elaine find themselves connecting through coded messages and discovering hope in the face of war.

Dirtbag, Massachusetts: A Confessional

Isaac Fitzgerald

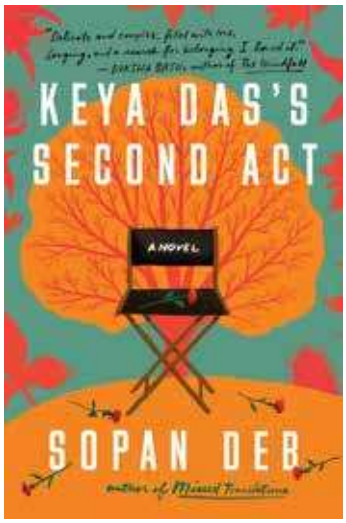


Isaac Fitzgerald has lived many lives. He's been an altar boy, a bartender, a fat kid, a smuggler, a biker, a prince of New England. But before all that, he was a bomb that exploded his parents' lives-or so he was told. In Dirtbag, Massachusetts, Fitzgerald, with warmth and humor, recounts his ongoing search for forgiveness, a more far-reaching vision of masculinity, and a more expansive definition of family and self.

Fitzgerald's memoir-in-essays begins with a childhood that moves at breakneck speed from safety to violence, recounting an extraordinary pilgrimage through trauma to self-understanding and, ultimately, acceptance. From growing up in a Boston homeless shelter to bartending in San Francisco, from smuggling medical supplies into Burma to his lifelong struggle to make peace with his body, Fitzgerald strives to take control of his own story: one that aims to put aside anger, isolation, and entitlement to embrace the idea that one can be generous to oneself by being generous to others.

Keya Das's Second Act

Sopan Deb



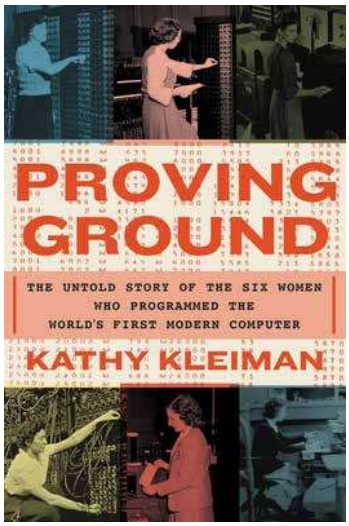
Shantanu Das is living in the shadows of his past. In his fifties, he finds himself isolated from his traditional Bengali community after a devastating divorce from his wife, Chaitali; he hasn't spoken to his eldest daughter Mitali in months; and most painfully, he lives each day with the regret that he didn't accept his teenaged daughter Keya after she came out as gay. As the anniversary of Keya's death approaches, Shantanu wakes up one morning utterly alone in his suburban New Jersey home and realizes it's finally time to move on.

This is when Shantanu discovers a tucked-away box in the attic that could change everything. He calls Mitali and pleads with her to come home. She does so out of pity, not realizing that her life is about to shift.

Inside the box is an unfinished manuscript that Keya and her girlfriend were writing. It's a surprising discovery that brings Keya to life briefly. But Neesh Desai, a new love interest for Mitali with regrets of his own, comes up with a wild idea, one that would give Keya more permanence: what if they are to stage the play? It could be an homage to Keya's memory, and a way to make amends. But first, the Dases need to convince Pamela Moore, Keya's girlfriend, to give her blessing. And they have to overcome ghosts from the past they haven't met yet.

Proving Ground: The Untold Story of the Six Women Who Programmed the World's First Modern Computer

Kathy Kleiman

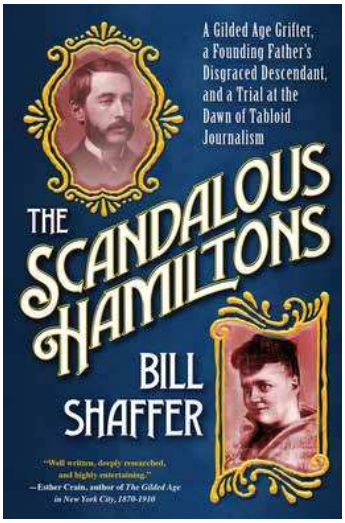


After the end of World War II, the race for technological supremacy sped on. Top-secret research into ballistics and computing, begun during the war to aid those on the front lines, continued across the United States as engineers and programmers rushed to complete their confidential assignments. Among them were six pioneering women, tasked with figuring out how to program the world's first general-purpose, programmable, all-electronic computer--better known as the ENIAC— even though there were no instruction codes or programming languages in existence. While most students of computer history are aware of this innovative machine, the great contributions of the women who programmed it were never told -- until now.

Over the course of a decade, Kathy Kleiman met with four of the original six ENIAC Programmers and recorded extensive interviews with the women about their work. PROVING GROUND restores these women to their rightful place as technological revolutionaries.

The Scandalous Hamiltons: A Gilded Age Grifter, a Founding Father's Disgraced Descendant, and a Trial at the Dawn of Tabloid Journalism

Bill Shaffer



It's a story almost too tawdry to be true--a con woman prostitute who met the descendant of a Founding Father in a brothel, duped him into marriage using an infant purchased from a baby farm, then went to prison for stabbing the couple's baby nurse--all while in a common-law marriage with another man. The scandal surrounding Evangeline and Robert Ray Hamilton, though little known today, was one of the sensations of the Gilded Age, a sordid, gripping tale involving bigamy, bribery, sex, and violence.

When the salacious Hamilton story emerged in during Eva's trial for the August 1889 stabbing, it commanded unprecedented national and international newspaper coverage thanks to the telegraph and the recently founded Associated Press. For the New York dailies, eager to capture readers through provocative headlines, Ray and Eva were a godsend.

After Hours on Milagro Street

Angelina M. Lopez



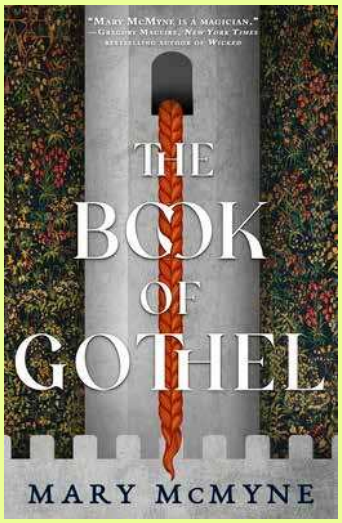
Professor Jeremiah Post, the poor handsome man, is in fact standing in the way of Alejandra "Alex" Torres turning Loretta's, her grandmother's bar, into a viable business. The hot brainiac who sleeps in one of the upstairs tenant rooms already has all of her Mexican American family's admiration; she won't let him have the bar and building she needs to resurrect her career, too.

Alex blowing into town has rocked Jeremiah to his mild-mannered core, but the large, boisterous Torres clan is everything he never had. He doesn't believe Alex has the best interest of her family, their community or the bar's legacy in mind. To protect all three, he'll stand up to the tough and tattooed bartender with whom he now shares a bedroom wall—and resist the insta-lust they both feel.

But when an old enemy threatens Loretta's and the surrounding neighborhood, Alex and Jeremiah must combine forces. It will take her might and his mind to save the home they both desperately need.

The Book of Gothel

by Mary McMyne



Haelewise has always lived under the shadow of her mother, Hedda—a woman who will do anything to keep her daughter protected. For with her strange black eyes and even stranger fainting spells, Haelewise is shunned by her medieval village, and her only solace lies in the stories her mother tells of child-stealing witches, of princes in wolf-skins, of an ancient tower cloaked in mist, where women will find shelter if they are brave enough to seek it.

Then, Hedda dies, and Haelewise is left unmoored. With nothing left for her in her village, she sets out to find the legendary tower her mother used to speak of—a place called Gothel, where Haelewise meets a wise woman willing to take her under her wing.

But Haelewise is not the only woman to seek refuge at Gothel. It's also a haven for a girl named Rika, who carries with her a secret the Church strives to keep hidden. A secret that unlocks a dark world of ancient spells and murderous nobles behind the world Haelewise has always known...

BLURRING THE LINES BETWEEN ART AND DESIGN

This book is a compilation of Jaime Hayon's outstanding work, exploring his relationship with materials, his theory of color, his technique, inspiration, and his creative process.





Welcome to Jaime Hayon's beautiful world: mysterious ceramic creatures, finely crafted objects, and the warm pastel colors of his Mediterranean home. This book is a compilation of Jaime Hayon's outstanding work, exploring his relationship with materials, his theory of color, his technique, inspiration, and his creative process.

Jaime's style and vision have come to be associated with the most prestigious interior design for hotels, restaurants, and galleries. Blurring the lines between art and design, Hayon's creations are full of playfulness and optimism. Jaime Hayon shows beautifully detailed photography of the artist's work across his illustrious career and is the follow-up to gestalten's highly successful book, Jaime Hayon Works.


YOU
KNOW
MORE
THAN
YOU

IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN PRESENTS EXCLUSIVE BIG PILOT'S WATCH WITH CONSTANT- FORCE TOURBILLON IN TITANIUM ALUMINIDE AND CERATANIUM



In collaboration with its partner Mercedes-AMG, IWC Schaffhausen has created the Big Pilot's Watch Constant-Force Tourbillon Edition "AMG ONE OWNERS". Available exclusively for future owners of the performance hybrid Mercedes-AMG ONE, this masterpiece of horological engineering features the Swiss luxury watch manufacturer's patented constant-force mechanism, which transmits completely even impulses of force to the escapement. The case is made of titanium aluminide (TiAl), an advanced high-tech material that is extremely challenging to machine. Thanks to its high temperature resistance, this intermetallic compound is also used for components of high-performance engines in motorsport. The striking design features details and colour codes are directly inspired by the Mercedes-AMG ONE.

Since the birth of Formula 1TM, engineers have been dreaming of bringing the supreme technology from the elite class of motor racing to the streets. After a long engineering journey, Mercedes-AMG is about to make this dream come true. The German performance and sports car manufacturer will soon initiate the production of the Mercedes-AMG ONE hypercar. The two-seater will transfer the latest and most efficient Formula 1TM hybrid technology almost one to one from the racetrack to the street for the first time. The performance hybrid will produce over 1,000 horsepower at a maximum speed of over 350 km/h.

"The Mercedes-AMG ONE sets a new benchmark in automotive engineering. It is absolutely remarkable to see Formula 1TM technology outside the racing track in the usual urban context. To accompany its launch, we have engineered a timepiece that

similarly represents the pinnacle of watchmaking and material science. It combines one of our technically most advanced movements and complications with high-end performance materials such as titanium aluminide (TiAl) and Ceratanium®," explains Chris Grainger-Herr, CEO of IWC Schaffhausen.

The Big Pilot's Watch Constant-Force Tourbillon Edition "AMG ONE OWNERS" (Ref. 590502) features IWC's patented constant-force mechanism. This complication disengages the escapement from the direct flow of power through the wheel train and transmits completely even impulses of energy to the escape wheel. As a result, even as the torque in the mainspring diminishes, the balance wheel oscillates with virtually the same amplitude. In combination with the tourbillon, which compensates for the negative influences of gravity, this ensures a highly exact rate. The IWC-manufactured 94800 calibre is manually wound and stores a power reserve of 96 hours in its twin barrels. The fully blackened movement is visible through the sapphire glass back. The case back is made of Ceratanium®. Based on a special titanium alloy, this IWC-developed material is as light and rigid as titanium and, at the same time, almost equally as hard and scratch-resistant as ceramic.

TITANIUM ALUMINIDE REFLECTS IWC'S UNIQUE TITANIUM LEGACY

The Big Pilot's Watch Constant-Force Tourbillon Edition "AMG ONE OWNERS" reflects the unique competence IWC acquired in machining titanium since the 1980s. The case is made of titanium aluminide (TiAl). TiAl is lighter and harder than conventional titanium, highly resistant to corrosion, and biocompatible. This high-tech material belongs to the group of intermetallic compounds. Due to the specific mixing ratio of titanium and aluminium, atoms and electrons arrange themselves in a particular way. This causes the material to have certain non- metallic properties in addition to the classic properties of a metal. In the case of TiAl, it is its high temperature resistance that stands out. For this reason, the material is used for the turbine blades of modern jet engines, where lightness and temperature resistance are essential requirements. Its specific properties also make it the ideal choice for components of high-performance engines in motorsport.

Because titanium aluminide has a difficult machining behaviour, manufacturing a TiAl watch case is a real engineering feat. In addition, the requirements for the purity of the raw materials are very high, and the production of the titanium aluminide alloy is costly and complex. Today, IWC is one of the few watch manufacturer capable of producing a titanium aluminide case. The case of the Big Pilot's Watch Constant-Force Tourbillon Edition "AMG ONE OWNERS" is elaborately finished with polished and sandblasted surfaces.

A DESIGN INSPIRED BY THE MERCEDES-AMG ONE

In addition to the constant-force tourbillon at 9 o'clock, the black dial also features a double moon phase display for the northern and southern hemispheres and a power reserve display at 4 o'clock, reminiscent of a tachometer. The louvred, ring-shaped structure of the outer dial ring takes inspiration from the air inlets that dominate the front of the Mercedes-AMG ONE. The design also features details in Petronas green – the signature colour of the Mercedes-AMG Petronas Formula OneTM team, whose plug-in hybrid technology the new car brings to the street. A thin ring in Petronas green, for example, marks the transition between the polished and sandblasted parts of the case. Details in Petronas green can also be found on the dial and on some of the movement components.



The Big Pilot's Watch Constant-Force Tourbillon Edition "AMG ONE OWNERS" is fitted with a two-tone rubber strap. Manufactured using the so-called multi-component injection moulding process, it is black on the outside and green on the inside. Numerous Mercedes stars in Petronas green are visible on the outer side of the strap.

The Big Pilot's Watch Constant-Force Tourbillon Edition "AMG ONE OWNERS" will be available exclusively to the future owners of the Mercedes-AMG ONE. If you are a car owner, Mercedes-AMG and IWC Schaffhausen will contact you with information regarding the order process.

TOMMY JEANS presents festival looks







Elevate your summer festival style with contemporary streetwear looks made for moving, grooving and show-hopping. This season is a carnival of color as tropical prints and tie-dye finishes meet denim-on-denim favorites.

FESTIVAL ESSENTIALS FOR HER

Signature styles blend bohemian influences with streetwear favorites — think crop tops, floral print shirts and flatform sandals.



FESTIVAL ESSENTIALS FOR HIM

When it comes to festival style, oversized silhouettes will always reign supreme. Layer up with graphic tees, baggy jeans and tie-dye hoodies for an effortlessly cool effect.



ALEXANDER McQUEEN PRE-AUTUMN/WINTER 2022 'PROCESS'

To illustrate the fact that creativity emerges from countless perspectives, Alexander McQueen invites a group of twelve artists to express their individual working practices inspired by the Autumn/Winter 2022 women's pre-collection.

Each artist has chosen a look from the collection and responded to it through their preferred medium, engaging in a creative dialogue with the house. All have been given complete creative freedom resulting in a rich conversation between their work and the selected looks.

The artworks are conceived to be displayed alongside the McQueen pieces they relate to in a temporary installation designed to showcase the individual approaches and the ways in which artworks and looks interact.

The artists are:

- Ann Cathrin November Høibo
- Beverly Semmes
- Bingyi
- Cristina de Middel
- Guinevere van Seenus
- Hope Gangloff
- Marcia Kure
- Jackie Nickerson
- Jennie Jieun Lee
- Judas Companion
- Marcela Correa
- Marcia Michael





"I wanted to engage in a new creative dialogue with the collection this season and see how the artists interpreted the work that we created in the studio. It's been very interesting to see how creativity has sprung from so many different perspectives, and the outcomes that have been varied and beautiful. We wanted the artists to have total freedom to respond to the looks, creating bold and thought-provoking conversations with their works. I hope that viewers will be as inspired as we have all been by witnessing these creative processes."

– Sarah Burton, Creative Director.













THE HOUSE OF GIVENCHY PRESENTS THE 101 DALMATIANS CAPSULE IN COLLABORATION WITH DISNEY

A second limited-edition capsule collection celebrates love, loyalty, and high style in the City of Light, with a special appearance by Kate Moss.





For the second chapter in its long-term collaboration with Disney, the House of Givenchy is pleased to unveil a limited-edition capsule collection starring beloved characters from the iconic 1961 animated film Disney's 101 Dalmatians. The collection will be accompanied by custom animation created by the legends of hand-drawn animation at Walt Disney Animation Studios featuring a special appearance by supermodel Kate Moss.

Designed by Creative Director Matthew M. Williams in collaboration with Disney, the Disney x Givenchy 101 Dalmatians capsule celebrates love and loyalty in high style as Pongo, Perdita and their pups set out for fun and adventure in the City of Light. Playful references abound in Disney prints portraying dalmatian puppies frolicking about on Givenchy's 4G emblem or romping over the balconies of the Hôtel de Caraman, the House's landmark address on the Avenue George V in Paris. Cruella De Vil is also in town, sweeping through Paris's Golden Triangle with shopping bags over her arms.

Covetable, collectible pieces for women and men span ready-to-wear, bags, shoes, small leather accessories and fashion jewelry.

For her, signature separates in light pink, black and white include a t-shirt with puppies climbing through Givenchy lettering, a print of Cruella De Vil sauntering by the windows of the historic Givenchy headquarters in Paris, or a black and white varsity jacket bearing a charming portrait of Perdita wearing a G-Lock collar — an homage to the love locks adorning the bridges of Paris.

For him, a black, white, and red palette showcases a stern-looking Pongo, also with a G-Lock, separates with black or white spots, or tailored black suiting with a U-Lock closure and white accents. In a more casual vein, ripped and repaired denim pieces feature dalmatian-like black spots.

Leather collar necklaces fastened with G-Locks; wallets, card holders, and caps printed with favorite characters; bob hats, a Pongo cross-body bag and a black backpack with a castle silhouette. Women's footwear, from slides to high- and low-tops mingling the 4G emblem with Perdita and her pups round out the lineup.

As a finishing touch, statement jewelry in silver-finish brass and enamel blends the worlds of Givenchy and 101 Dalmatians: heart-shaped rings, earrings and pendants speak to the universal








themes of love and loyalty, embellished with 4G motifs on one side, and dalmatian spots with the 4G logo on the other.

To further the creative storytelling between Givenchy and 101 Dalmatians, Givenchy worked alongside Disney animators at Walt Disney Animation Studios to create a custom animated short featuring the playful pups on a fanciful adventure throughout the streets of Paris. The animation culminates at Givenchy on the Avenue George V where the dalmatians, accompanied by Matthew M. Williams and supermodel Kate Moss, admire the collection display in the store windows. Their moment of bliss is briefly interrupted by a surprise appearance from the notorious, Cruella De Vil, but she quickly flees after Pongo and Perdita stand their ground with a protective growl.

The animated video for this Disney x Givenchy 101 Dalmatians collection was overseen by Eric Goldberg, the renowned Disney director and 2D animator who brought to life such diverse and unforgettable characters as the Genie in Aladdin, the satyr Phil in Hercules, and Louis, the trumpet-playing alligator in The Princess and the Frog.

"To have the opportunity to tell a story and create new animation with the characters from 101 Dalmatians, through the imaginative and playful lens of the House of Givenchy, was an absolute dream. It was a true delight to collaborate with such talented creators to bring these beloved characters back to life in such a unique way," said Eric Goldberg.

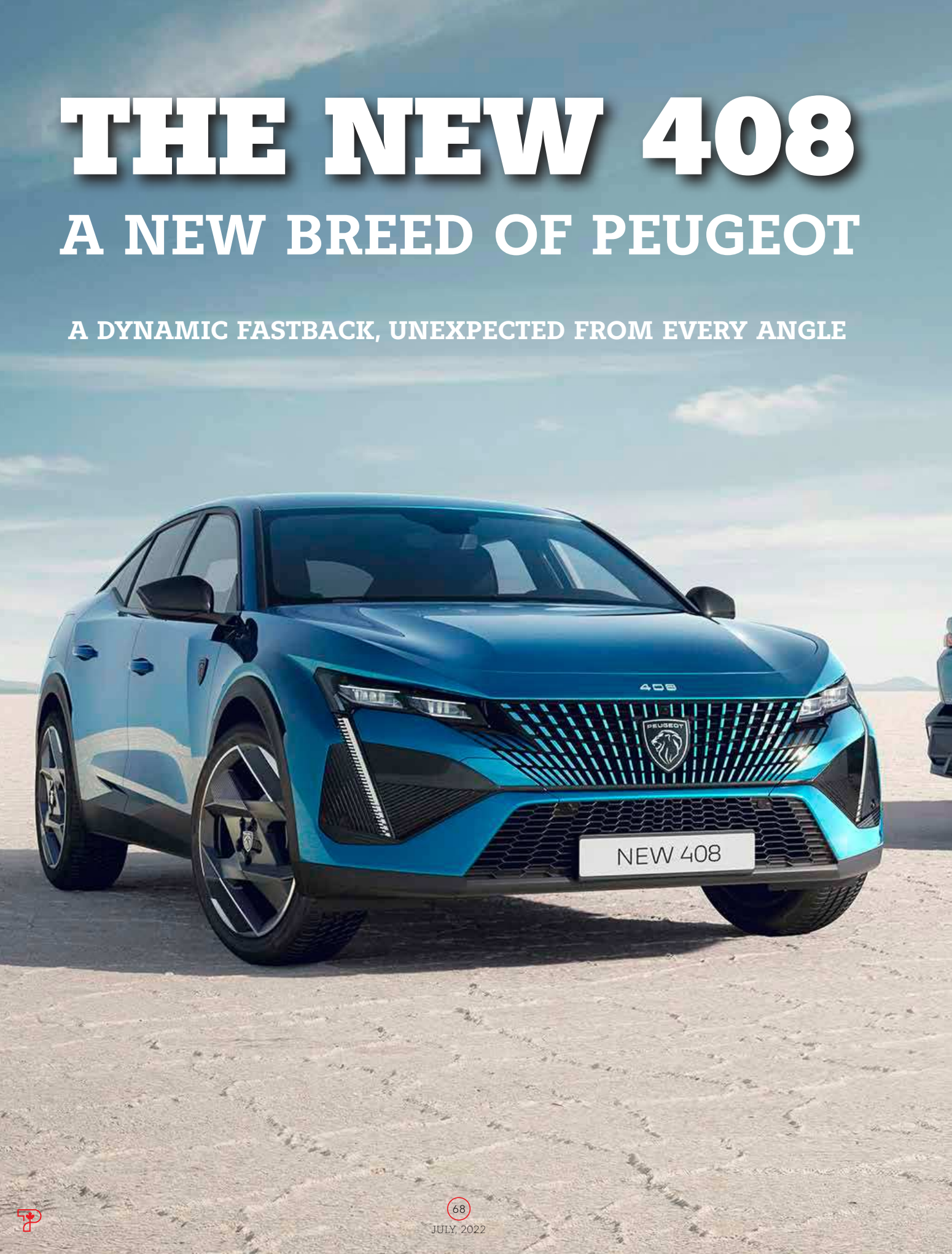
The "101 Dalmatians" luxury capsule will launch in select locations worldwide on July 1, 2022.

Prices for the "101 Dalmatians" range from 390 euros to 3,990 euros for ready-to-wear; 220 euros to 1,590 euros for accessories, and 320 euros to 550 euros for jewelry.

THE NEW 408

A NEW BREED OF PEUGEOT

A DYNAMIC FASTBACK, UNEXPECTED FROM EVERY ANGLE



PEUGEOT unveiled the mould-breaking new PEUGEOT 408. A first of its kind - in the history of the Brand itself and in the car market as a whole - with the new 408, PEUGEOT demonstrates the creativity of its teams by offering a new fastback silhouette at the top of the C segment. This new age PEUGEOT offers a feline stance and unique allure, engineering excellence focused on efficiency and intelligent electrification, as well as the emotions provided by cutting-edge technologies dedicated to driving pleasure and instinctive use.




PEUGEOT



ALLURE. The PEUGEOT 408 boasts sharp lines, a grille matched to the colour of the bodywork to blend in with the front end, and proudly boasts the new PEUGEOT emblem with the head of a lion. The inverted cut-out of the rear bumper is unexpected, and the new PEUGEOT 408 sits solidly on 720mm diameter wheels with iconic 20-inch rims featuring a disruptive geometric design. At the front, the fang-shaped light signature perfectly integrates the 408 into the PEUGEOT family, as do the three-claw LED lights at the rear.

With a length of 4.69m, based on a long wheelbase of 2.79m, the new PEUGEOT 408 has a remarkably spacious second row, with 188mm of legroom. The boot is also generously sized, with a volume of 536 litres, which can be increased to 1,611 litres once the rear seats are folded down. At 1.48m high, the new PEUGEOT 408 has a slim and sleek silhouette to enhance aerodynamic efficiency.

EMOTION. The PEUGEOT 408 offers the latest generation of the PEUGEOT i-Cockpit®, instantly recognisable by its compact steering wheel dedicated to driving pleasure and controlled agility. In the cockpit, the emphasis is on quality and connectivity, with the very latest technologies to make the driving and travelling experience more intuitive and rewarding.

EXCELLENCE. The new PEUGEOT 408 will arrive in the Middle East in 2023. A car with a global ambition, it will be produced at first in France.

"At PEUGEOT, we believe that life is better with allure. With its unique look, innovative fastback silhouette and unbridled elegance, the new 408 is the perfect expression of the PEUGEOT Brand's philosophy and inventiveness," says Linda Jackson, CEO of the PEUGEOT Brand. "Unexpected from every angle, the new PEUGEOT 408 has been designed for lovers of cars and of life, who want to break free from the traditional while seeking responsible pleasure. It embodies PEUGEOT's exacting technological standards - controlled efficiency and a very high-level digital experience - as well as the intense emotions of instinctive driving pleasure."

The quest for responsible and modern pleasure: the customers

With the new 408, the PEUGEOT brand completes its offer in the highly strategic C segment. PEUGEOT has taken a leading position in this segment over the last few years, with the success of the 3008 and 5008 SUVs, and of three generations of 308 saloons and 308 SW estate cars, the latest of which has just been launched. The PEUGEOT 408 completes the Brand's offer and is positioned at the top end of the C-segment. Customers looking for a silhouette that is more original and innovative than a compact SUV will appreciate the 408, as will those who simply appreciate the stature of a large car. All of them are looking for a very contemporary motoring experience, whether for everyday use or for long, comfortable and peaceful journeys with others.

Unique ALLURE of a dynamic and innovative fastback: the design

Combined with the feline stance of all PEUGEOTs, the formal language of the new 408 is perfectly in keeping with its innovative concept of a top-of-the-range C-segment fastback. Based on the multi-energy EMP2 (Efficient Modular Platform) version, the PEUGEOT 408 has a long wheelbase of 2.787m, providing generous rear seat space.

The Matrix LED technology used for the lighting has made it possible to design ultra-slim headlights with the distinctive Lion fangs. The grille is a bold sign of the 408's identity - focused around the new Brand emblem.

The profile is characterised by a clever division between the black and painted parts, designed to refine its silhouette and add dynamism.

EMOTIONAL driving experience thanks to the PEUGEOT i-Cockpit®

Inside, the PEUGEOT i-Cockpit® sets new standards in ergonomics, quality, practicality and technology with a new infotainment system, the PEUGEOT i-Connect®. The compact steering wheel of the PEUGEOT i-Cockpit® increases driving pleasure tenfold - offering unique agility and precision of movement.
Located just above the steering wheel, the new digital handset incorporates a 10-inch digital screen which can be fully personalized. The system features fully configurable i-toggles below the central screen, providing an aesthetic and level of technology unique in the segment. The Driving Mode selector allows the driver to select modes (Electric, Eco, Hybrid, Normal and Sport) depending on the engine.

Connected EXCELLENCE: the PEUGEOT i-Connect Advanced system

The new PEUGEOT 408 offers a very high-level connected experience. Its new infotainment system is ergonomic and seamless. Each driver can define and maintain their own display, atmosphere and setting preferences - up to eight different profiles can be stored.
The mirroring function connecting the smartphone to the car's infotainment system is now wireless, and two phones can connect via Bluetooth at the same time. EXCELLENCE and Efficiency as a must: bodywork and engines
Efficiency has been at the heart the design and development of the new 408 to reduce its consumption and limit its CO_2 emissions. Particular attention has been paid to aerodynamics to improve the energy balance. All body parts have been optimised thanks to close collaboration between PEUGEOT's stylists and aerodynamic engineers – a collaboration that echoes the work discipline set up by PEUGEOT's Design and engineering teams while creating the 9X8 Hypercar. In the same vein, the design of the wheels allows for better aerodynamic efficiency and contributes significantly to the car's overall performance.
The internal combustion engine is available: the 130hp 1.2-litre PureTech 3-cylinder petrol engine with the 8-speed EAT8 automatic gearbox

Technological EXCELLENCE: driving aids

On board the new PEUGEOT 408, a comprehensive range of latest-generation driving assistance systems, fed by information gathered by 6 cameras and 9 radars, make driving, manoeuvring and travelling safer and smoother. These include adaptive cruise control, automatic emergency braking with collision warning, active lane departure warning with lane correction, driver attention alert, extended road signs recognition and display on the digital cluster and long-range blind spot monitoring.

Long-lasting EMOTIONS throughout a peaceful journey: well-being on board

Designed as a top-of-the-range C-segment fastback, the new PEUGEOT 408 is designed to help drivers and passengers fully enjoy the pleasure of travelling and mobility.
The front seats have been awarded the AGR (Aktion für Gesunder Rücken) label by an independent German association of ergonomics and back health experts. Materials used With 10 way power adjustment seats, 8 pocket air massage with 5 programs with mottled fabric, technical mesh, alcantara, embossed leather and coloured nappa leather.









Rear space is particularly generous, thanks to the long wheelbase of 2.787 m, which makes the new 408 the most spacious PEUGEOT for rear passengers. The luggage compartment of the new 408 is particularly spacious. When both seat backs are folded down, the load capacity increases from 536 to 1,611 litres (including 36 litres of storage space under the boot mat for the internal combustion engine version). With the backrest folded down, an object up to 1.89 metres long can be loaded. The boot lid is motorised to facilitate access with loaded arms. And inside, the ambient LED lighting (with 8 colours to choose from) located behind the central screen releases a soft light and contributes to the sophisticated atmosphere of the cabin.

Developed in partnership with Focal, a French brand specialising in audio, The FOCAL® Premium Hi-Fi system in the new PEUGEOT 408 includes 10 speakers with exclusive patented technologies connected to a new 12-channel 690 W amplifier, offering a sensational sound immersion.

HOROSCOPES



ARIES

(March 21 - April 19)

Prioritizing yourself this month should be, well, a priority! With the sun traveling through your sign, you should be looking for ways to push your agenda because the universe is in the mood to lend a helping hand. Follow your intuition whenever it speaks to you, dear Aries, especially if it pertains to your personal life or public image.

Though you'll be feeling as ambitious as ever, it's important that you carve out plenty of time for self-care, especially once Venus enters Pisces on April 5. This planetary placement can be particularly healing for you but only if you put in the time to nurture yourself. Running away from rest or even your feelings can backfire during this time, so you'll need to be proactive about going within and tapping in to your emotions. Luckily, these vibes can be extremely inspiring, helping you see the path ahead with more clarity and creativity.

The fourteenth marks another significant shift for you as your ruling planet Mars enters your solar twelfth house. Use this energy to pull back from making big moves in favor of flying under the radar and planning your next great adventure. Look upon this astrological period as a bit of a "calm before the storm" as your mind, body, and soul gear up for a whirlwind of activity next month. Mars will enter Aries on May 2, giving you permission to pull the trigger on everything you've been meditating on throughout April.



TAURUS

(April 20 - May 20)

You might feel a little more irritable this month, dear Taurus, because the Aries sun brings its fiery and primal energy to the sector of your chart that rules the subconscious. These vibes can be particularly troublesome if you don't get enough alone time, so make sure you're taking plenty of breaks from socializing in order to recharge between work and personal engagements.

If you feel yourself growing increasingly impatient with someone, it might be wise to step away for a few minutes and calm yourself in the fresh air. A dedicated meditation practice can also work wonders for you right now, giving you a chance to stay grounded amid the cosmic funk.

You'll begin to feel more grounded and like yourself beginning when the sun enters your sign on April 19. This solar placement acts like a salve to your soul, helping you let go of any issues that arose earlier in the month. If you come to the realization that you owe someone an apology for your short fuse, try to get it in when communicative Mercury blows a kiss to optimistic Jupiter on the twenty-eighth.



GEMINI

(May 21 - June 20)

You'll be jumping from one social engagement to another this month, dear Gemini, as Aries season lights a fire in your solar eleventh house. These vibes could also inspire you to pick up a new extracurricular activity, especially if it involves taking a class at a local studio or community college.

Just try not to get too carried away by your ambitions right now, or you could end up attempting to do too many things at once. Before you agree to attend a party, enroll in a course, or add an extra brunch to your already packed weekend, stop to think about whether or not you actually have the bandwidth to do so.

After a whirlwind start to the month, you'll begin to feel a bit more closed off once the sun moves into Taurus on April 19. This solar placement encourages you to slow down, especially if you've been feeling stretched thin. This energy could also impact your desire to communicate, since solace will seem more appealing than even a one-on-one with your bestie.



CANCER

(June 21 - July 22)

This month, you could find yourself on the receiving end of more leadership opportunities at work as the Aries sun lights up the sector of your chart that governs career. Taking the reins when no one else wants to can help you gain the support and trust of your supervisors, though you might need to touch base with your assertive side.

If you're feeling stuck in your profession, this energy could also drum up impatience on your end, especially if your superiors have failed to deliver on any promises they made to you earlier. Don't be afraid to ask for fair compensation or a promotion if you're due one, dear Cancer, even if negotiations make you uncomfortable.

You'll feel an internal shift when passionate Mars enters watery Pisces and your solar ninth house on April 14. This planetary placement can inspire you to follow your intuition with more trust, especially if it ignites the fire within you. However, try not to act impulsively, tempting as it may be. You still need to balance your third eye with good sense.

The Libra full moon manifests on the sixteenth, bringing harmonious energy to your home life while asking you to take a step back from the grind in favor of some rest and relaxation. This cosmic climate is meant to act as a moment of reprieve for you, making it important that you focus on yourself and the people you care about most. These vibes are also perfect for meditation and self-care, especially if it's been a while since you embraced your inner zen.



LEO

(July 23 - August 22)

Sparks of inspiration will light a fire within you this month as the Aries sun burns brightly in your solar ninth house. These vibes are poised to take you on a few journeys of the mind, though you might feel prompted to pack for some physical exploration as well. Whether you're daydreaming at your desk or embarking on an adventure, give yourself permission to let go of what's expected of you. Just don't allow this sentiment to go too far, dear Leo. You still need to take care of your work and responsibilities.

Your intuition is also set to receive a nice boost from this solar placement as the universe looks for ways to guide and communicate with you. However, your third eye could begin to frustrate you when the Libra full moon manifests in the sector of your chart that rules communication and thought processes on April 16. This cosmic climate could put you at a crossroads as Luna has you romanticizing your future while Pluto confronts you with the harsh logistical reality surrounding such dreams. Don't feel disheartened by the work that lies before you. Instead, break it down piece by piece.



VIRGO

(August 23 - September)

April will act as a breath of fresh air for you, dear Virgo, because the Aries sun burns brightly in the sector of your chart that governs personal transformation. These vibes are perfect for starting over and eliciting change as the universe encourages you to leave behind any situations, habits, or people you've outgrown. Luckily, this solar placement also gives you the motivation and bravery you need to upend your life a bit, especially if it's in the name of your soul's evolution.

Your love life is set to benefit from some celestial support beginning when Venus enters Pisces and your solar seventh house on April 5. This cosmic climate bestows a softness upon the collective, helping you melt any walls that have kept you away from your heart's desire. Opening up will feel more organic than usual, giving you and anyone you're involved with a chance to connect in new ways. These dreamy vibes are also perfect for self-love, making it important that you appreciate yourself just as much as you would the object of your affection.

LIBRA



(September 23 - October)

April kicks off with Aries season in full swing, dear Libra, bringing a serious dose of heat to your romantic life as the sun travels through your solar seventh house. If you're in a committed relationship and the vibe has cooled a bit since you first met, now would be the time to ramp up the heat once more. Trying new things with your significant other can work wonders for your bond, helping you rediscover what you love about one another and rekindling your mutual passion.

If you're single, this cosmic climate is absolutely perfect for putting yourself first, so be sure to practice plenty of self-love and self-care. However, if you're hoping to find a connection, there's definitely a celestial possibility that you could meet someone new, though you'll need to put yourself out there.

Venus, your ruling planet, enters compassionate Pisces on April 5, asking you to loosen the reins a touch within your day-to-day life. If work-related pressure has been weighing heavily on your shoulders, you might need to take a few days off and maybe treat yourself to a massage. If you feel your stress level rising, this cosmic climate makes it easier for you to release and cope with such feelings, but you'll need to give yourself permission to let go.

SCORPIO



(October 23 - November)

Strange things could happen to your energy level this month, dear Scorpio, because the Aries sun is traveling through the sector of your chart that governs health and wellness. There will be many times when you feel energized, motivated, and ready to take on the day. However, this boost to your vigor could be fleeting if you don't pace yourself, making it important that you maintain a healthy balance between movement and rest.

You'll also want to gauge how much time you spend assisting others. This solar placement can put you in a helpful mood, but you should consider what you already have on your plate before adding tasks that aren't actually your responsibility.

Your creative juices begin to flow when your ruler Mars enters Pisces and your solar fifth house on April 14. Allow this energy to move through you by embracing an artistic outlet of your choice. If you've been fantasizing about getting a new passion project off the ground, this is prime time to do so. The universe is looking for ways to reward your motivation and ambition.

SAGITTARIUS



(November 22 - December)

When it comes to organizing get-togethers with your friends, you might need to take the reins this month, dear Sagittarius, because the Aries sun illuminates the sector of your chart that rules creativity, self-expression, and fun. Blowing off steam feels essential to your mental health right now, prompting you to rally your nearest and dearest for an adventure or two.

While you can certainly benefit from rejuvenating your lust for life, try to keep in mind that not everyone is where you are physically or emotionally. The Aries energy circulating right now has a different impact on each person, and it could bring out aggressive behavior in others if you try to shift their focus in a direction that doesn't align with their current priorities. Extend invitations to your friends if you want to see them, but don't take it personally if they choose to apply their energy elsewhere.

CAPRICORN



(December 22 - January 19)

Get ready for a busy month at home, dear Capricorn. The Aries sun breathes life into your solar fourth house, inspiring you to take on all the domestic projects you've been putting off until spring's arrival.

Meanwhile, Venus, Mars, and Saturn continue their journey through the sector of your chart that governs finances and your connection to the material realms, giving you permission to spend a little cash on your surroundings. Though you tend to be fairly reserved with your spending, don't feel guilty about splurging on new interior design accents. The universe wants you to spoil yourself a bit!

Unfortunately, your ruler Saturn is locked in a harsh t-square with the lunar nodes throughout the month, which could leave you feeling a bit restricted in your creativity and movements. Don't push yourself to revamp your space (or your life, for that matter) if you're not totally into it.

There could also be a sense that your friends are moving on with their lives while you're stuck standing still, but try not to stress yourself out over it. Capricorns are known as the late bloomers of the zodiac, which means you'll peak just as everyone else around you seems to be hitting a slump.

AQUARIUS



(January 20 - February 18)

Your mind will be eager for new knowledge this month, dear Aquarius, as the sun and Mercury make their way through Aries and the sector of your chart that governs learning and curiosity. However, don't feel like you have to focus all your brainpower in one area, this energy should be used to explore a broad range of topics, or you could get bored attempting to master one specific subject. Have fun with your thoughts and play with new ideas, but don't commit to any of them unless you're called to do so at a deep level.

The vibe shifts when the sun moves into Taurus and the sector of your chart that governs the home on April 19. This energy is perfect for updating your space, especially if you've been meaning to redecorate. You'll also feel more called to enjoy the comforts of your home most evenings, opting for a cozy night in rather than a crazed night on the town.

However, that doesn't mean you need to go into hermit mode. Inviting your friends over for game or movie nights is a great way to marry this cosmic climate with your naturally social demeanor.

PISCES



(February 19 - March 20)

Avoid spending recklessly this month, dear Pisces, or you could end up blowing your budget before you even have a chance to assess it. With Aries traveling through the sector of your chart that governs money, it would be easy for your bank account to hit an uncomfortable low, especially if you don't remain centered and practical. Even tiny impulse purchases while waiting in line at the grocery store can begin to add up, making it important that you use financial discernment at all times.

Luckily, this energy can also help you gain money quickly, especially on April 17, though you'll need to strike while the iron is hot. If an opportunity arises to make some scratch, you should try to decide quickly whether you want to take it on or the job will likely pass to someone else. All this quick movement could begin to make your head spin, but try not to get caught up in a tizzy when it comes to making or spending right now.

HOMEWORK FOR GROWNUPS

JUMBLED WORDS

1. What word makes five new words when prefixed with: Form, Fume, Jury, Son, and Verse?

2. What term, originally German, refers to the imprint in snow made when falling backwards: Fallenbach; Schnodent; Gappeneitz; or Sitzmark?

3. Named onomatopoeically, a sistrum is an ancient Egyptian instrument of: Musical percussion; Torture; Water-dowsing; or Navigation?

4. From Latin meaning 'stake', what is the hinged or pivoted catch preventing reverse motion of a ratchet wheel: Pawl; Stawl; Rawl; or Yawl?

5. What traditional strong ceramic material is named ultimately from a pig?

6. What does the Greek prefix 'iso' mean: Many; Long; Equal; or Two?

7. How many curves characterize a Cupid's Bow: One; Two; Three; or Four?

8. Superannuation is an alternative (and Australian/NZ) term for what sort financial payment scheme?

9. The mythological Phoenix bird originally and essentially symbolized: Fire; Ashes/Remains; Flight; or Rebirth?

10. What part of the human body contains bone-forms called Phalange, Cuneiform, Talus and Calcaneus?

11. What legendary man-trapping creature is actually the world's the largest living bivalve mollusk?

12. Musk, a common basic fragrance, takesw its name from Sanskrit 'muska' meaning: Flower; Deer; Lemon; or Scrotum?

13. The roadrunner (Geococcyx, or chaparral bird) is a member of which bird family: Loon; Cuckoo; Stork; Ostrich?

14. What swirly pattern is named after the administrative central town of Renfrewshire in Scotland?

15. What does the pencil grade HB stand for?

16. What characteristic of Borneo ranks it among the largest five globally: Island; Mountain; Lake; or Population?

17. The Malayalam language is from, and still used by over 30 million people in: China; Malaysia; India; or Australia?

18. Copra is the dried white meat or flesh of what?

19. What does the internet top level domain '.cat' represent?

20. What term refers to a traditional alternative to electronic or digital technology, and separately to something which corresponds to another?

ANSWERS: 1.Pet, 2.Sitzmark, 3.Musical percussion, 4.Pawl, 5.Porcelain, 6.Equal, 7.Two, 8.Pension/Retirement, 9.Rebirth, 10.Foot, 11.Giant Clam, 12.Scrotum, 13.Cuckoo, 14.Paisley, 15.Hard Black, 16.Island, 17.India, 18.Coconut, 19.Catalan, 20.Analogue

TEST YOUR VOCABULARY

'Do you think these pictures might be a **clue**, Ted?

In this sentence, **clue** means:

a. a detailed list
b. a slight indication
c. an artistic device or effect
d. a contemptuous or scornful remark

ANSWER: b. A *clue* is a piece of evidence that helps solve a problem, or it's a slight hint. When you're in the dark about the surprise party your friends are planning, they'll say, "She doesn't have a *clue*!" When you first join the police force, you're mostly just walking the beat. But when you're promoted to detective, your job is to look for that big clue that will help you solve the case. The original Middle English word was clew, which meant 'a ball of thread.' If you were trapped in a labyrinth, you could follow the clew to help find your way out.

JUMBLED WORDS

1 T I D O T

2 V O N E W

3 K A H E S N

4 D L E A G

5 A R N W R O

6 C A P E C T

ANSWERS: 1.DITTO, 2.WOVEN, 3.SHAKEN, 4.GLADE, 5.NARROW, 6.ACCEPT

MATH CORNER

A car covers a distance of 200km in 2 hours 40 minutes, whereas a jeep covers the same distance in 2 hours. What is the ratio of their speed?

A. 3:4
B. 4:3
C. 4:5
D. 5:4

ANSWERS: A



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