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FEBRUARY 2023

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WITHIN THE COMFORT OF HOME.



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Hurawalhi Island Resort



TOP MOVIES TO WATCH IN

FEBRUARY

2023



WATCH NOW

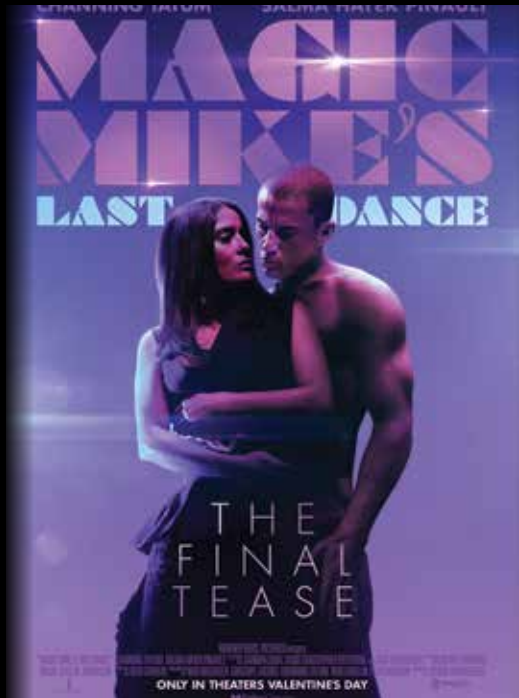


RECOMMENDED

ANT-MAN AND THE WASP: QUANTUMANIA  
FEB 17

Ant-Man and the Wasp find themselves exploring the Quantum Realm, interacting with strange new creatures and embarking on an adventure that pushes them beyond the limits of what they thought was possible.

Genre: Action / Sci-Fi  
Cast: Jonathan Majors, Jeff Loveness, Michael Douglas, Kathryn Newton, Paul Rudd, Peyton Reed, Kevin Feige, Evangeline Lilly.

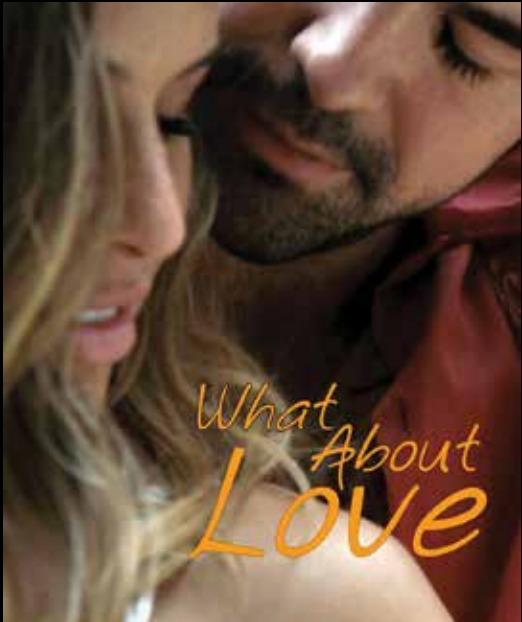


RECOMMENDED

MAGIC MIKE'S LAST DANCE  
FEB 10

Mike Lane takes to the stage once again when a business deal that went bust leaves him broke and bartending in Florida. Hoping for one last hurrah, Mike heads to London with a wealthy socialite who lures him with an offer he can't refuse – and an agenda all her own. With everything on the line, he soon finds himself trying to whip a hot new roster of talented dancers into shape.

Genre: Comedy / Sequel  
Cast: Salma Hayek, Channing Tatum, Steven Soderbergh, Nick Wechsler, Gregory Jacobs, Peter Kiernan, Reid Carolin.

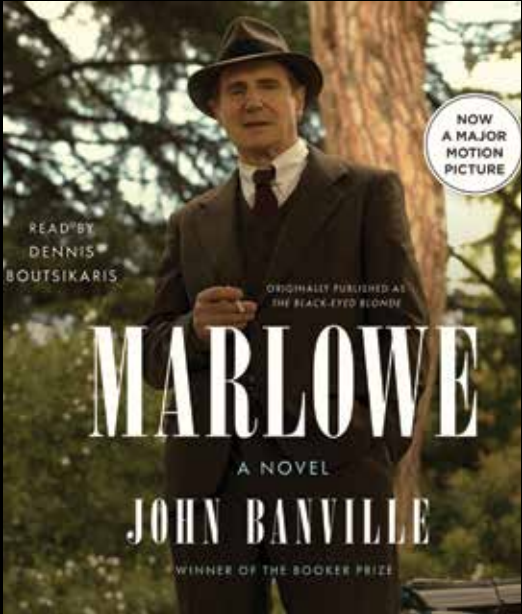


RECOMMENDED

WHAT ABOUT LOVE  
FEB 14

Two young people, somewhat wary of love, spend a summer together in Europe making a film about people's attitude towards love. Tanner and Christian realize that they're actually filming their own love story, but they have no idea that their film will ultimately save Christian's life after tragedy strikes them both.

Genre: Drama / Romance  
Cast: Andy Garcia, Iain Glen, Sharon Stone, Klaus Menzel, Maia Morgenstern, Marielle Jaffe, Jose Coronado.

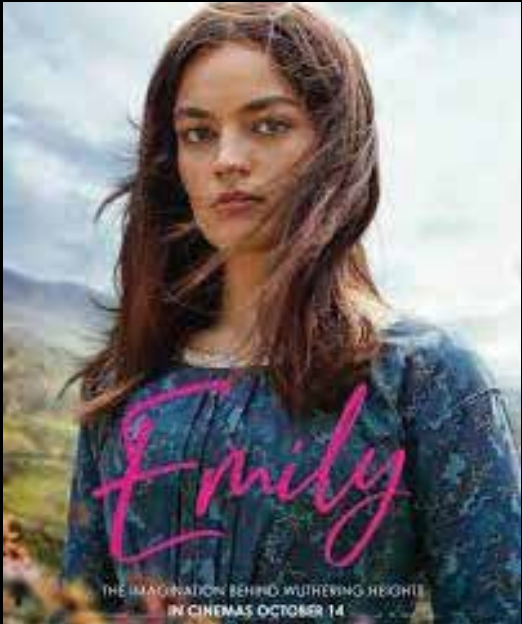


RECOMMENDED

MARLOWE  
FEB 15

MARLOWE, a gripping noir crime thriller set in late 1930's Bay City, centers around a brooding, down on his luck detective; Philip Marlowe, played by Liam Neeson, who is hired to find the ex-lover of a glamorous heiress (Diane Kruger), daughter of a well-known movie star (Jessica Lange). The disappearance is the first twist in a series of bewildering events, and soon Marlowe is embroiled in a deadly investigation and web of lies that he's determined to bring to light.

Genre: Drama/ Mystery  
Cast: Diane Kruger, Danny Huston, Liam Neeson, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Jessica Lange, Daniela Melchior, William Monahan, Alan Cumming.



RECOMMENDED

EMILY  
FEB 17

Home in the wilderness of moody Northern England, the middle sister of the Bronte family, Emily (Emma Mackey), tries to unshackle herself from playing the part of an understudy to her more traditionally acceptable sister Charlotte (Alexandra Dowling). Conservative in her ways and following the laid-out pattern of studying to become a teacher, Charlotte is the vision of pride and prudence that their father, reverend Patrick Bronte (Adrian Dunbar) wishes upon Emily. "The strange one" as addressed by the villagers, Emily tries and fails to fall into the pattern of doing what's expected and saying what would be considered proper.

Genre: Drama / Biography  
Cast: Frances O'Connor, Emma Mackey, Fionn Whitehead, David Barron, Robert Connolly, Joe Alwyn, Piers Tempest, Jo Bamford.



# ROMANCE AND COUPLES

Top Romantic Destinations to Travel to This Valentine's Day

From lavish private beach picnics and dreamy beachfront dining by candle light, to sultry sunset cruises with cocktail in hand, hoteliers are more than happy to play cupid with ingenious romantic gestures to spoil their guests. So this Valentine's Day, we bring you romantic holiday destinations fit for the occasion.



## BORA BORA, FRENCH POLYNESIA

FOUR SEASONS BORA BORA

Boasting lush gardens, soft white-sand beaches and a tranquil lagoon fringed by gently swaying palm trees, Four Seasons Bora Bora Resort provides a true hideaway from the bustle of daily life. The luxury overwater bungalows blend classic Polynesian architecture with striking works of art, private plunge pools and deep-soaking baths, set beside sliding glass doors to maximise panoramic views of the lagoon. Situated on the beach, the two and three-bedroom bungalows offer private gardens and larger swimming pools. The lagoon setting of the spa is spectacular, with glass flooring beneath the treatment beds offering a window onto the teeming, tropical world swimming below. A range of more energetic activities, such as scuba diving, kiteboarding, sailing and fishing, are also on offer for guests. Whether beginning a romantic journey or celebrating years of love, the beautiful island of Bora Bora is the ideal holiday location for couples. Visits can be personalised with an array of romantic activities, such as private in-bungalow dining, a Tahitian beach barbecue on a private islet or a signature Kahaia Haven Ritual Spa treatment in the privacy of guest accommodation.



## ST BARTHS

CHEVAL BLANC ST-BARTH ISLE DE FRANCE

Cheval Blanc St-Barth Isle de France brings a sophisticated 'house party-style' atmosphere to a slice of dazzling white sand that is unequivocally Caribbean. From the entrance hallway, with the sea framed at its end, this striking combination presents itself throughout with vintage French fabrics and sheer, natural linens which perfectly offset the vibrant blues of St Barths. Couples will adore spending time at this iconic, exclusive property, particularly if a romantic luxury holiday is the main focus for visiting this delightful Caribbean island. The hotel offers a number of experiences dedicated to adding unforgettably romantic memories to each couple's stay, such as a day-long private yacht charter that includes dropping anchor at Petit Anse des Salines to enjoy a gourmet picnic on the beach, before heading back to the yacht to enjoy a spa treatment, returning to the hotel as the sun sets, glass of Champagne in hand. Private beach barbecue picnics can be arranged (with fireworks if required), while romantic spa experiences and personalised wine-tasting - culminating in a romantic meal with wine pairings at the hotel's signature restaurant - are all available for couples to enjoy.



## VENICE, ITALY

CIPRIANI, A BELMOND HOTEL VENICE

From the moment you arrive, you feel the sense of calm that pervades Cipriani, A Belmond Hotel, Venice – a true classic. This mood continues through the gardens, where the kids' club is located where works of art and sculpture are often showcased and where Casanova once held his clandestine trysts – onwards into the hotel's vineyards and the hotel itself. Interiors are bedecked with delicately blown-glass and precious fabrics, where beautifully appointed rooms and suites all offer garden or lagoon views. From your classically elegant room or suite, you can explore the hidden wineries, tucked away boutiques and ancient grottos that are scattered across the area, and of course, take that all important romantic boat ride through the enchanting canals.





**DUBAI**

## ONE&amp;ONLY THE PALM

Set beside a stunning stretch of shore, amidst landscaped gardens, fountains and pools, One&Only The Palm is a lush resort oasis — perfect for your luxury Dubai holiday. With a Moorish-meets-Andalusian style of architecture and a contemporary, Arabian chic interior design, understated elegance exudes throughout. Unwind beside the stunning main pool, lined with palm trees and luxury cabanas, or feel the soft sand of the private swathe of beach beneath your feet. Away from the crowds and cars of urban Dubai, cherish tender moments in this intimate beachfront resort. The air of romance oozes from this exquisite address, a place where you can play in the sea and lounge on oversized daybeds and enjoy lavish private dinners relishing astonishing, Michelin-starred, food. Float away stress with a special couple's spa treatment and explore the desert on camelback, the sun's twilight rays glowing across the dunes.

**FIJI**

## LIKULIKU LAGOON RESORT

The only over-water bungalows in Fiji are at the adults-only Likuliku Lagoon Resort, where visitors get a front-row seat to the reefs and other natural splendour of the island. Four private seating areas in the resort restaurant were created with couples in mind. Along with a variety of daily activities like snorkelling, surfing, and even a trip to Mociu Island, a private, uninhabited island in a protected nature reserve that the resort has access to, Likuliku Lagoon Resort also has the opulent Tatadra spa. This spa provides soothing beauty and body treatments.

**LHAVIYANI ATOLL, MALDIVES**

## HURAWALHI ISLAND RESORT

Set on an enchanting private island in the pristine Lhaviyani Atoll in the Maldives, Hurawalhi Island Resort is much like your relationship: it is a perfect match of serenity and excitement, comfort and adventure; it stirs up your every atom with an intricate blend of intimacy and thrill. It is at Hurawalhi that you can fill your days with an unsparing amount of extraordinaires, your mind with wonder, and your heart with romance. The 90-villa, adults-only luxury resort is as brilliant as the ocean that laps against its beaches and more magnificent than any island you have visited. You can swoon over photos of the Maldives, but nothing will prepare you for the beautiful blend of barefoot bliss and contemporary design found at Hurawalhi. Villas at Hurawalhi spoil with lavish comfort, exclusivity and mesmerizing views. With the choice of beachside and over-water luxury, you can revel in your preferred perspective and setting, and find pleasure in having paradise at your fingertips - and the ocean on your doorstep.

**TEMBOK, BALI**

## SPA VILLAGE RESORT TEMBOK

Set against a lush landscape of mystical peaks and the vivid blue sea, this peaceful spa resort is a unique Bali escape, tucked away on the tip of the island's northeastern coast. Yet there's a subtle vibrancy that runs through this part of Bali; a barely perceptible shift in time that takes one back to the true Bali. Discover Tembok, where epic stories lurk in its history and a raw natural beauty is evident in its simple landscape. The gentle spirituality of the island and its rich culture infuses every encounter in this tranquil spa resort. Its philosophy of wellbeing extends beyond the traditional spa treatments available and encompasses every aspect of the resort from activities and lifestyle to architecture and cuisine. Effortlessly blending with the island's natural beauty, the structures of Spa Village Resort Tembok, Bali offer luxury accommodation that merges simple Western elegance with traditional Balinese dwellings. Design is kept sophisticated yet understated with natural Balinese timber accented by neutral fabrics and simple local decorative elements. Rooms are transformed into exclusive havens; suites are generous with stunning views while the villas are private sanctuaries of peace.





### MAUI, HAWAII HOTEL WAILEA

An intimate 5-star enclave set within the most exclusive resort community on Maui, Hotel Wailea boasts 180-degree, unobstructed ocean views of three Hawaiian Islands, breathtaking mountain scenery, and 15 acres of Zen-inspired landscaped grounds comprised of tropical gardens, cascading waterfalls and winding pathways. The only luxury adults-only resort in Hawaii, this peaceful retreat is nestled within a lush tropical hillside perched 300 feet above the sea, with convenient access to island adventures by day – from beaches, water sports and golf to restaurants and shopping – and luxurious tranquility by night. There are only 72 suites on the entire 15 acres of ocean view property, so do book ahead.



### MALLORCA, SPAIN CAP ROCAT

Located in a fortress built for the surveillance of the Bay of Palma, Cap Rocat posed a great challenge in terms of its restoration, which involved transforming the facilities into a hotel as well as complying with the strict regulations governing a building declared a Heritage Asset and listed as a National Monument. The fortress lies within a Protected Natural Area and blends perfectly into the landscape. Cap Rocat has been completely renovated by Antonio Obrador with the utmost respect for its unique architecture and its natural surroundings. The project has received the Europa Nostra Award, among other accolades. Cap Rocat is much more than a hotel: it is an architectural and environmental conservation project, as well as a tribute to all travellers who understand that visiting a new place contributes towards creating a legacy of love and respect for other cultures and ways of life.



### MERANO, ITALY VILLA EDEN

Villa Eden in Merano, Italy is a haven for travellers seeking a health and wellness-focused adults-only escape. Personalised programs help guests get the most out of the services offered at Villa Eden, including a detox program, metabolic therapy, and one program to simply let guests relax. From the longevity medical centre to the spa, there's a range of treatments guests can use to achieve their wellness goals. The boutique luxury hotel has only 29 rooms and suites to allow for an intimate experience. The resort is surrounded by a scenic park, and guests can enjoy Merano's natural wonders with bike tours, hikes, and tennis.

### MAURITIUS PARADISE COVE BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Escape to the luxury Paradise Cove Boutique Hotel for a peaceful and romantic getaway. With four restaurants offering an array of cuisines, 67 rooms and suits for guests to choose from, and a large spa with facial and massage treatments available, Paradise Cove Boutique Hotel is the perfect setting for a lovebird's getaway. The hotel also has a range of excursions, tours, water and land activities for the guest searching for an action-packed vacation. The Prestige Junior Suites are peaceful and luminous. The light wood floor and furniture, rattan, white ceiling and walls, contribute to that chic and warm atmosphere. A beautiful wallpaper behind the fourposter bed is not only a reminder of the surrounding nature but that we are here in Mauritius, a tropical island on the 20° parallel South.

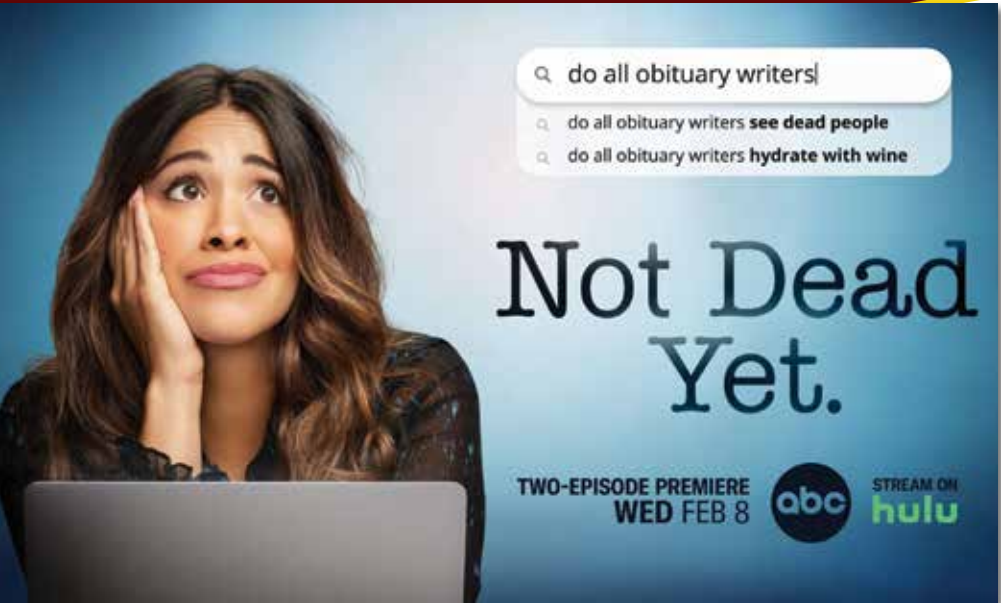
### BRAZIL PONTA DOS GANCHOS EXCLUSIVE RESORT

Ponta dos Ganchos is a stunning resort is set on a private peninsula on the emerald coast of Brazil. With 25 elegant bungalows with sophisticated experiences available at the resort, this is the perfect retreat for an adults-only trip. A visit to "Yes! Island" is a must, a lush spot that sets the stage for special events and, of course, a highly-romantic marriage proposal. The Esmeralda category bungalows received a recent renovation that made them even cosier and more modern. With furniture designed by the award-winning artist from Santa Catarina, Jader Almeida, the Esmeraldas kept their structure and offer, in addition to a private heated pool, a dry sauna with ocean view, a lounge area for relaxation and a whirlpool.



# BINGE-WORTHY SERIES IN 2023

TV Series to Stream Across Netflix, HBO, Disney Hotstar



abc.com hulu

## NOT DEAD YET FEB 8

Gina Rodriguez is returning to broadcast TV after her star-making turn in “Jane the Virgin” with this half-hour comedy adapted from Alexandra Potter’s 2020 book “Confessions of a 40-Something F–k Up.” The series, from creators David Windsor and Casey Johnson, follows Nell Serrano, a broke and newly single self-identified disaster, who is attempting to restart the life and career she abandoned five years ago. Per the show’s logline, “When she lands the only job she can find — writing obituaries, Nell starts getting life advice from an unlikely source.



Disney+

## THE MANDALORIAN SEASON 3 MARCH 1

The journeys of the Mandalorian through the Star Wars galaxy continue. Once a lone bounty hunter, Din Djarin has reunited with Grogu. Meanwhile, the New Republic struggles to lead the galaxy away from its dark history. The Mandalorian will cross paths with old allies and make new enemies as he and Grogu continue their journey together.



amazon Prime

## DAISY JONES & THE SIX MARCH 3

Taylor Jenkins Reid’s historical fiction novel of the same name rocked the world when it was published in March 2019, and Reese Witherspoon’s Book Club only amplified the story when it selected “Daisy Jones & the Six” as the March 2019 read. Daisy Jones & The Six follows a rock band in the 1970s from their rise in the LA music scene to becoming one of the most legendary bands in the world and explores the reason behind their split at the height of their success.



amazon Prime

## PERRY MASON SEASON 2 MARCH 24

The man with the hat is back! “The Americans” star Matthew Rhys successfully revived the classic TV series “Perry Mason” with the first season of this HBO redo, offering a grittier, deliciously noir-flavoured take on the story of a defence lawyer in 1930s Los Angeles. It’s the worst year of the Depression, and Perry and Della (Juliet Rylance) have set the firm on a safer path pursuing civil cases instead of the tumultuous work criminal cases entail. Unfortunately, there isn’t much work for Paul (Chris Chalk) in wills and contracts, so he’s been out on his own.





Apple TV+ HBO

**MASTERS OF THE AIR**  
TBA

A war drama miniseries based on the World War II operations of the eleven soldiers in a bomber known as the ‘Flying Fortress’ battle German fighter hordes five miles above the ground in hostile territory for their lives. Their goal becomes obvious as American bombers are eliminated one by one to survive.



Disney+

**SECRET INVASION**  
TBA  
DISNEY+

This series stars Samuel L. Jackson as Nick Fury and Ben Mendelsohn as the Skrull Talos – characters who first met in Captain Marvel. The story involves a subversive, long-term invasion of Earth by the Skrulls, a group of alien shapeshifters who have secretly replaced many superheroes in the Marvel Universe with impostors over a period of years, prior to the overt invasion.



NETFLIX

**THE THREE-BODY PROBLEM**  
TBA

A covert military experiment transmits messages into space to contact aliens while the Cultural Revolution is taking place in China. When state intelligence recruits Chinese physicist and nanomaterials researcher Wang Miao to infiltrate an organisation called The Frontiers of Science, which has a history of suicides among its members, he falls ensnared to massive conspiracy.



Disney+

**ECHO**  
TBA

The origin story of Echo revisits Maya Lopez, whose ruthless behaviour in New York City catches up with her in her hometown. She must face her past, reconnect with her Native American roots and embrace the meaning of family and community if she ever hopes to move forward.





# A GUIDE TO CRYSTAL HEALING

Incorporate the practice of crystal healing into your own self-care rituals

*In recent years, alternative therapies such as crystal therapies have gained popularity and it's what many people have looked to during trying times in order to feel centred, reduce worry, and relieve stress. Although the practice of utilising crystals for healing goes back centuries, with celebrities such as Victoria Beckham and Miranda Kerr publicly championing their belief in the practice, it's had a more mainstream resurgence in recent years. How does crystals work you ask? We break down all you need to know below.*



## WHAT IS CRYSTAL HEALING?

According to experts, crystals are described as different combinations of minerals that help purify, balance and realign by working with our bioenergetic systems. It is said to possess a stable and unchanging energy pattern, each with a unique frequency and energy field, or resonance that gives them special properties. As a result, they act like tuning forks, helping bring "harmony" to the very unstable energy field of the human body. Simply put, crystal healing involves using gemstones to bring balance to an individual's life and mind.

## WHAT HAPPENS DURING CRYSTAL HEALING?

Although there isn't a one, effective way for crystal healing, healing begins with purpose. Similar to receiving a massage, crystal healing is a technique meant to help you unwind, revitalise, and refresh yourself on a deeper, more intimate level. The best conditions for crystal healing with an emphasis on healing are when intentions are set and energy channels are open and receptive to mending the soul. During a typical crystal healing session, stones may be placed on the body's seven chakras as one is guided through meditation and visualisation to balance the body's energy, allowing the energy to flow freely.

## THE BENEFITS OF CRYSTAL HEALING

Crystal therapy has been used for centuries to help treat the body holistically for various ailments and the use of these beautiful minerals dates back to Egyptian times when they were said to be used to purge 'evil spirits.' The belief behind crystal therapy is that individual stones such as amethyst, rose quartz and jade have the ability to communicate with the energy flow of the human body and help to realign the energy channels that are interrupting the natural flow of the body and help it heal itself. Crystals with specific stones are said to help to relieve specific ailments such as anxiety, depression and insomnia, or more physical ailments such as digestive problems.

Crystal therapy can be as simple as wearing precious stones and minerals as bracelets and necklaces, placing crystals in the room where you work and sleep or being treated by a crystal therapist, who can identify which stones can work to stimulate the seven chakras, or 'energy points' around the body.

The electromagnetic charge within each stone is said to offer healing vibrations as they work to remove blockages around the body and restore a natural flow of energy. Here's a quick guide to the seven chakras:



**First chakra:** This chakra represents stability, security and our basic needs and when unblocked. It is said to help us feel safe and fearless.

**Second chakra:** This chakra is our centre of creativity and helps us express ourselves.

**Third chakra:** A source of personal power.

**Fourth chakra:** This energy point unites the lower chakras of matter and the upper chakras of spirit and acts as a bridge between our body, mind, emotions and spirit.

**Fifth chakra:** This chakra is situated in the neck and is a source of verbal expression and helps our ability to speak our highest truth.

**Sixth chakra:** Located in between the eyebrows, this chakra is often called the "third eye" and represents our centre of intuition.

**Seventh Chakra:** The Sahaswara chakra or the "thousand petal lotus" chakra is located at the crown of the head. This is the chakra of enlightenment and spiritual connection to ourselves and others.



# A Foodie’s Guide to Bukit Damansara

The enclave of Bukit Damansara has quickly become a favourite for not just its luxurious home, posh boutiques and fancy fitness centres, but its valhalla of restaurants and cuisines. Check out our fool-proof foodie foodie’s guide to this part of the neighbourhood. Enjoy!

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



## NOURISH BY KENNY HILLS BAKERS

Eating healthy is not about size, it’s a lifestyle. Nourish by Kenny Hills Bakers is a brilliant addition to the slew of restaurants in Bukit Damansara, offering wholesome nourishment for the body and soul. Its gluten-free kitchen, healthy meals, refined sugar-free menu will have your body singing songs approval. Start with the Classic Avo Toast topped with everyone’s favourite pairing — smoked salmon and a runny fried egg. It’s also garnished with crispy chickpeas and pomegranate for some added texture. Another wholesome dish is the restaurant’s Mushroom Risotto, a healthy rendition with barley as its base for its amazing benefits including flushing toxins, regulating digestion and keeping your cholesterol and blood sugar in check. It comes hot and creamy with truffle paste, fresh parmesan cheese and crispy leeks. One word, glorious.

No. 35, Jalan Medan Setia 1, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur.



## GINRIKSHA

Situated in the bustling neighbourhood that is Bukit Damansara is a hidden gem by the name of GinRikSha. Its unique name is derived from ‘Jinriksha’, a Japanese term describing the two-wheeled vehicle pulled by man’s strength. It is clear that the restaurant prides itself in being about our people as they are about food. The focus of this establishment’s menu now is the flavours of India, but don’t expect a typical traditional meal here. Creativity drives the construction of the menu and one can expect compelling dishes in the form of small plates and bigger plates. In GinRikSha’s quest to embody the soulful connections food can create, they serve their menu family-style. The best way to experience their dishes are through sharing plates to ensure everyone gets a bite of their lovingly-crafted recipes. Under the To Share... Or Not segment comes the Spiced Cauliflower Rice — a healthy, hearty rice alternative that goes great with GinRikSha’s pan roasted mutton, banana leaf baked seabass, kerala prawn or seriously just on it’s own.

37, Ground Floor, Plaza Damansara, Jalan Medan Setia 1,, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur.



## OLD CHINA CAFÉ

Go through saloon doors into Old China Café — a time capsule of Old Malaya. Inside, an old gramophone playing Chinese opera songs and antique light fixtures as well as family photographs, calligraphy scrolls, delicate porcelain tiles and two large traditional mirrors facing each other to perpetually reflect good luck embellish this classic restaurant. Here, authentic Peranakan fare is celebrated and its recipes probably passed down through generations. A wave of crowd favourites arrive, starting with the Pie Tee or Top Hats. Six crispy, hat-shaped cones crafted from rice flour is filled with a medley of minced chicken, sweet turnip and carrot. To truly enjoy this, add a pea-sized dollop of chilli sauce — divine. Next came the Ayam Pong Teh braised in a unique gravy of brown bean paste, shallot and garlic with mushroom and potato. Smothered in local spices, this dish pairs perfectly with fragrant Coconut Blue Pea Rice to lap up all the gravy.

Old China Café, 11, Jalan Balai Polis, 50000 Kuala Lumpur.



## KRUNG THEP

Krung Thep, short for Krung Thep Mahanakhon, or Bangkok as we know it, is a collective experience with support from Michellin-starred restaurant and bar inspirations. The team behind Krung Thep set forth on their mission to share the true flavours of Thai cuisine which originates from a strong sense of tradition but hoisted by innovation and progress. While this eatery may be named after the beating heart of Thailand, their food is a culmination of the flavours from all four main regions of the country, giving the complex flavours of spicy, sweet, sour, and salty. Aside from the classics such as Tom Yum Goong and Pineapple Fried Rice, the menu at Krung Thep has an extensive range of seafood and meat dishes prepared to deliver flavours native to the Land of Smiles. Relish in dishes such as Gai Yang, a boneless marinated chicken grilled over charcoal and served with a spicy tamarind sauce. It goes really well with a som tam or a bowl of noodles like the pad see ew. The Pineapple Fried Rice is among the highlights here, made with aromatic spices, crunchy veggies, Thai jasmine rice, cashew nuts and is garnished with charred juicy pineapple pieces.

G05, Ground Floor, Republik, 1, Jalan Medan Setia 1, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur.



# Sushi Mew

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Tucked away in The Westin Kuala Lumpur, the gleaming new Sushi Mew adds to the Golden Triangle’s flurry of restaurants. Featuring warm, minimalistic decor and expansive windows that allow sunlight and people watching as well as a wooden sushi bar that sits up to 16 pax comfortably, this Omakase restaurant screams cosy. Armed with showmanship and culinary prowess, the head chef and culinary team crafts a magical, culinary journey for his guests.

Like the winds of change and embodying the spirit of Omakase, the menu at Sushi Mew changes according to the seasons in Japan and so we were engulfed by the flavours and ingredients of the restaurant’s delightful dinner menu, entitled ‘Yu’. Ensuring that this Omakase restaurant’s guests are treated to the absolute best, most of the ingredients employed are air flown directly from all over Japan, bringing you the freshest and finest. Sushi Mew creates a symphony of tastes that explores the limitless possibilities of different elements, flavours and ingredients that revolutionise the combination between classic and modern Japanese haute cuisine.



Shirako Tempura with Ice Plant Tempura



Toro, Foie Gras and Truffle Sushi

Just like an orchestra that builds to a crescendo, so was our gastronomic affair. It began with an appetizer, Zensai, which was then followed by a medley of seasonal sashimi featuring Shiba achi fish, the butteriest Angel prawn and melt-in-your-mouth Chutoro. Not only was it beautifully presented, the flavours and texture left a lasting impression. Next up was the Seasonal Hot Dish — an assemblage of shirako tempura topped with caviar and a side of wasabi mayo, accompanied by fried ice plant.

We then progressed to the much anticipated Nigiri Sushi segment, where the head chef boasted swift hand movements in crafting a piece of sushi. We were treated first, to the Engawa, then Seabream with spicy radish atop, Hokigai, Engawa again, but this time, bathed in Sushi Mew’s signature, heated butter. The final sushi nigiri was an affair and masterpiece of its own — it saw a chunky layer of torched toro, foie gras atop and lastly, generous heaping of truffle shavings. Upon relishing every bite, it was time for the much welcomed Amatai soup, a comforting bowlful that departed from the usual miso offerings. The serving of the dessert marked the conclusion of what was an incredible and incredible satiating omakase experience.

**Sushi Mew, 199, Jalan Bukit Bintang, Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur.**  
**Tel: +6010 322 2888**



Seasonal Sashimi

# EMP

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Beaming with newness and decadence, EMP, which stands for emperor, is a new, pork-free Chinese restaurant in the heart of Kuala Lumpur. Tucked under the roof of The Westin KL, EMP brings patrons back to the grandeur of Imperial China with dynasties that spanned thousands of years through its embellishments.

The opulent and regal interior features a Terracotta palette saturated with golden hues and is embellished with vintage teak screen dividers detailing intricate Latticework and clay carvings displaying the highest level of craftsmanship. Decorative ornaments and soft furnishings showcasing colourful and meticulous Oriental motifs add to the lushness of the extravagant setting and it is lavish, luxurious and imbues a sense of balance and harmony with the surrounding energy and flow.

A feast fit for an emperor is expected and purveyed at EMP, featuring large courses of meals and staying true to tradition, EMP KL’s offerings are impressive and decadent where all dishes are prepared with imperial cooking methods and recipes. The gourmet experience starts with the likes of the Crispy King Prawns with Wasabi Mayo for a light crunch or Chilled Ice Plant Salad with Yuzu Dressing for some cool tangy sweetness before

warming your souls with the Braised Hot and Sour Seafood Broth where contrasting flavours come together in a simmering pot and complement each other resulting in a wonderfully complex and tasty broth.

A live seafood menu will appease any seafood lover. Chef’s recommendations include Giant River Prawns Chee Cheong Fun in Claypot, Steamed Bamboo Fish Canton Style in Lotus Leaves as well as Tiger Prawns in Barbeque Beijing Royal Style. Don’t leave EMP without trying their Signature Crispy London Duck. Which is roasted to perfection.

Alternatively, for lunch, EMP KL doles out an assortment of pork-free, delectable bite-sized dim sum for the day, where you can feast to your heart’s content from 11 am - 3 pm on weekdays and 10am – 3pm on the weekend or public holidays. The Threesome Dim Sum is a must-try and consists of Cod Fish with Crab Meat and Squid Ink Dumpling, Homemade Fish Dumpling and Minced Chicken with Chives Dumpling, rounding up the magical trio.

**EMP, 19, 1st Floor, The Westin Kuala Lumpur, 199, Jalan Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur.**  
**Tel: +6010 303 0011**



Threesome Dim Sum



Steamed Canton Style Bamboo Fish in Lotus Leaves



Giant River Prawns Chee Cheong Fun in Claypot





Elephant Resort Cafe Facade

# ELEPHANT RESORT CAFE

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Elephant Resort Cafe at 1 Utama offers a unique dining experience for foodies in search of something different. Located in the heart of the shopping mall, the cafe is designed to resemble an elephant sanctuary, complete with floor-to-ceiling windows that allow the stream of natural light in, the medley of rattan and wood furnitures and fixtures as well as the ubiquitous placements of greens. Upon walking in, what immediately engages the eye is the Pantone 021 — an orange colourway that is swept across its facade.

The menu at Elephant Resort Cafe features a mix of Asian and Western dishes, with a focus on all-day dining fare. So this means your favourite big breakfasts and nasi lemak. The former’s iteration at Elephant Resort is named The Jumbo Breakfast, and it features a choice of sunny side up or scrambled eggs, homemade toasted sourdough, salted butter, artisanal chicken sausage, grilled tomatoes, sautéed mushrooms, hash brown and baked beans. For something guilt-free yet still delectable, the Summer Fruitbowl is light, sees a play of textures and is both sweet and tart. The ever popular Signature Basmati Nasi Lemak is a plateful of goodness, with generous helpings of crackers and rice.



Signature Basmati Nasi Lemak



Summer Fruitbowl

Besides the fare, one of the highlights at the Elephant Resort Cafe is the variety of coffee featuring their own roasted beans on offer. The cafe purveys unique creations such as the Orange Americano — the matrimony of orange juice and an Americano. The Coconut de Coffee has a beautiful, nutty, lingering aftertaste. Be sure to try the signature Elephant latte, a delicious blend of coffee and elephant-shaped latte art.

The atmosphere at Elephant Resort Cafe is both relaxing and lively, with comfortable seating and a friendly staff. Overall, Elephant Resort Cafe is a great place to visit if you’re looking for a fun and unique dining experience. With a wide range of delicious food and drinks on offer, as well as a lively atmosphere and friendly staff, it’s the perfect place to grab a bite to eat while shopping at 1 Utama.

**Fly Me to KL, 37th Floor, Block, A, Regalia Residence, 2, Jalan Sultan Ismail, Chow Kit, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.**  
**Tel: +6011 1062 6832**



Spinach Roasted Pumpkin Salad with Chicken Teriyaki Poke Bowl



Salmon Teriyaki



Spicy Seafood Squid Ink Pasta

# LIMÓNE

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Reminiscent of a beautiful Italian garden during summertime, Limóne is a European-inspired cafe tucked in Bukit Damansara. A cosy interior with ubiquitously-lined lemon plants, velvet chair on the inside, fun neon signage and a display bar counter flows out to a tropical al-fresco seating area with a lush lemon tree that transports guests to an Italian coast. The picturesque cafe is decorated in tones of bright yellow and earthy green and is inspired by the bustle, comforting cuisine and loyal following garnered by Italy’s cosy trattorias. This cafe is the brainchild of entrepreneur Sherina Binwani and Chef Tee Jiunn Hoong who bonded over their shared interest in baking which grew during the pandemic.

Besides the luscious handcrafted pastries and desserts that is undoubtedly a highlight here, the food menu teases a medley of Asian and Mediterranean elements evident in the restaurant’s

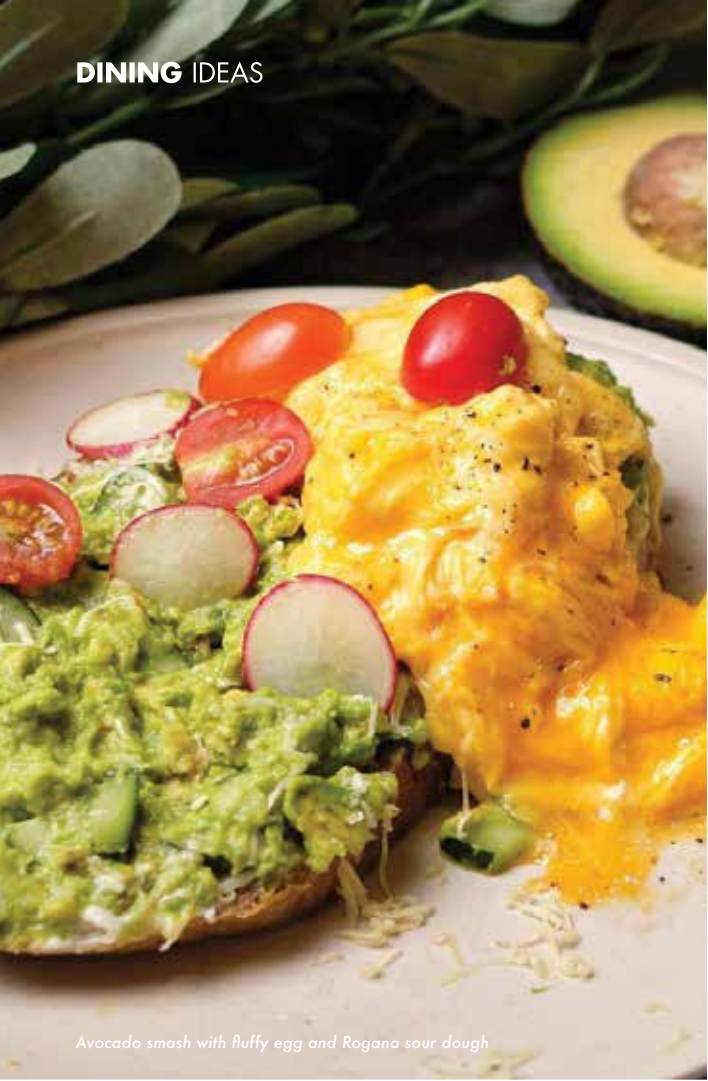
L’entrée, Eggs & Salad and Pasta segments. We fall in line, ordering first a refreshing salad — the Spinach & Roasted Pumpkin Salad which saw a beautiful assemblage of roasted pumpkin, spinach, walnut, pomegranate and feta cheese tossed in a lovely yuzu vinaigrette. Patrons can choose to add on grilled chicken or smoked salmon for some protein.

The Chicken Teriyaki from the Poke Bowls segment followed suit, boasting wholesomeness in a bowl and equal parts of substance and style. It featured brown rice, cucumber, carrot, edamame, pea sprout, seaweed, quinoa, tempeh, beetroot and chicken with teriyaki sauce served [on the side, all lined neatly and aesthetically. Then, we approached the glorious, Spicy Seafood Squid Ink Pasta that just explodes with Asian flavours. The spicy yellow curry sauce is evocative of a Thai green curry and the local masak lemak that bathes the accompaniment of mixed seafood.

For dessert, it was necessary, nay, mandatory for us to try out Limóne’s array of petit gateau. We start with something light and tart — the Tokyo Garden crafted with fresh yuzu and sweet almond cream that left us craving for more. Then, for something more indulgent in nature, we called for the Pink Pistache — a velvety and utterly delectable pistachio and strawberry cake. As for beverages, Limóne prides itself on its single-origin Brazilian roast, alongside a variety of TWG teas, Niko Neko Matcha, and Valrhona chocolate, each designed to pair its fare seamlessly.

**Lot G01-03, Ground Floor Block A, Plaza Zurich, No.12 Jalan Gelenggang, 50490 Bukit Damansara.**





Avocado smash with fluffy egg and Rogana sour dough



Crispy Chicken Donburi

# HARTTON KITCHEN

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Hartton Kitchen, a humble little cafe in Damansara Utama has relocated to a new building, also within the same locale and will be expanding its wings to the top floor. Hartton Kitchen’s menu is one that centres around everything egg — fluffy, melt-in-your-mouth scrambled eggs to be specific. With an extensive choice spanning rice bowls, salads and sandwiches, the restaurant strikes a fine balance between serving comfort and healthy fare.

The breakfast menu is an affair all on its own, with decadent offerings such as the Avocado smash on a Rogana sour dough bread and fluffy scrambled egg on the side leaves you desiring for more. Unable to resist the call of the Crispy Chicken Donburi, we dug in. Oh, such creamy comfort. The sweetness of the rice is deliberately paired with the crunchiness and creaminess of Hartton’s karaage chicken. It’s packed with flavours yet isn’t heavy on the palate. Hartton’s Noya Udon is one for the books — a distinct dish with udon as its base, topped with ground chicken slow-cooked for five hours, mixed herbs, kampung egg, shallot oil fragrance and eight other ingredients. It is reminiscent of a pan mee yet possesses a unique taste profile that is both intriguing and delectable.

Hartton’s allure lies in its mammoth sandwiches. Among our favourites is the Fish Fillet Sandwich that comprises tender, fluffy bread, velvety egg, cheese, lettuce and a homemade fish fillet patty that lends a welcomed crunch. From our very first mouthful of the Smoky Bacon (beef) sandwich, we were thrust into experiencing a beautiful harmony of tender streaks of pan-fried beef bacon sandwiched between lettuce, fluffy egg and slathered with homemade sauce that is both tangy and sweet — it was clear we’re in good hands. Crafted for the health buffs, they would appreciate the roasted chicken breast sandwich. This mammoth of a sandwich beams with protein and emits enticing flavours from the butter and marriage of herb-marinated chicken and egg.

Hartton Kitchen, 48, Jalan SS21/39 Damansara Utama 47400 Petaling Jaya.  
To order: [weborder.zeoniq.com/one/init-b](http://weborder.zeoniq.com/one/init-b)

# KOFI BY 77

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Exuding a sense of peace and calm, Kofi by 77 has become a café getaway for its patrons since its inception. An unassuming establishment, Kofi by 77 has a humble façade and minimalistic décor yet a variety of wonderful surprises waiting to be discovered once you cross the threshold. An emphasis on quality ingredients, hearty cakes and carefully sourced coffee beans, it has a little something for the busy metropolitans to enjoy in their small getaway.

Its carefully-curated menu sees a variety of Yoshoku dishes, Japanese cuisine with a Western influence. One of our favourites from the menu was the Don by 77, a pan-seared, teriyaki-glazed salmon, signature tamago and grilled asparagus, all served with Japanese rice. The familiar savouriness of the teriyaki glaze on the flaky salmon paired well with the fluffy and slightly sweet tamago and earthy flavour of the asparagus. We did not miss out on the Chef’s Special Aglio Olio either, spaghetti cooked with garlic smoked beef bacon, wild mushroom and garnished surprisingly with tamago.

The Unagi Sando was also an exquisite treat for the palate. The grilled eel was layered among banana fritters and the house special secret dressing, all placed between sourdough brioche, achieving a perfect balance of sweet and savoury. These are just some of the delicious offerings at Kofi and so much more to be discovered. Treat yourself to one or five of the cakes and wash it down with their freshly brewed single origin coffee to cap off your experience at Kofi by 77.

Kofi By 77, \*Japanese Yoshoku \*Casual dining (pork-free)\* Vista Kiara Shoppe, Jln Kiara 3, Mont Kiara, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur  
Tel: 03-6206 1020



Belly Full



Unagi sando



Don by 77



# Tantalising Tipples

Usher In The Year of the Rabbit With Craft Cocktails  
BY HIRANMAYII AVLI MOHANAN

What’s a meal without the perfect drink? Try your at-home mixologist skills with the following Lunar New Year-inspired cocktails.



### GIN FIZZ COCKTAIL

This simple cocktail recipe is perfectly balanced, both sweet and tart. And adding soda water magically creates a frothy egg white foam topping. Oh and it takes only 5 minutes to make.

Ingredients:

- 2 ounces (4 tablespoons) gin
- ¾ ounce (1 ½ tablespoons) lemon juice
- ½ ounce (1 tablespoon) simple syrup or maple syrup
- 1 egg white\*
- Garnish with lemon twist (optional)
- Soda water

Method:

Place the gin, lemon juice, syrup and egg white in a cocktail shaker. Shake vigorously for 15 seconds. Fill the shaker with ice and shake for 30 seconds until cold. Strain the drink into a glass and top with the soda water; the egg white foam forms on top. If desired, garnish with a lemon twist. Serve immediately.



### GIN GIMLET

Here’s a classic cocktail that is super refreshing and takes only 5 minutes to whip up: the gimlet! Not only is the gimlet simple to make, it’s the perfect balance of sweet and tart with the botanical flavour of gin.

Ingredients:

- 2 ounces (4 tablespoons) gin
- ½ ounce (1 tablespoon) lime juice
- ½ ounce (1 tablespoon) simple syrup or pure maple syrup
- Splash of soda water (optional)

Method:

Add gin, lime juice, and syrup to a cocktail shaker. Fill with ice and shake until cold. Strain into glass and top with a splash of soda water, if desired. Garnish with a lime wheel and serve.



### GINGER CHAI COCKTAIL

Combine chai concentrate and ginger beer for a flavour duo that makes for the perfect drink. Spiced to perfection, with a little bit of bubbles, and a whole lot of fun.

Ingredients:

- 1.5 oz Chai concentrate
- 8 oz ginger beer
- 1.5 oz vodka optional
- Crystalized ginger garnish
- ice

Method:

Add concentrate, ginger beer, and vodka into a mixer or pitcher. Stir. Pour over a glass of ice. Slice the ginger and add to the side of the glass for a garnish.



### RUBY QUEEN

Have you ever considered the matrimony between scotch and beet juice? While it sounds questionable, the surprise comes when you taste just how well scotch works against this sweetened vegetable profile.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 ounces Scotch whisky
- 1 ounce fresh red beet juice
- 3/4 ounce honey syrup
- 3/4 ounce freshly squeezed lemon juice
- Fresh dill or tarragon sprig, for garnish
- Lemon twist, for garnish

Method:

In a cocktail shaker, add the Scotch whisky, beet juice, honey syrup and lemon juice. Fill with ice. Shake vigorously for at least 30 seconds. Fine-strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with a sprig of fresh dill or tarragon and a lemon twist. Serve and enjoy.





AMARETTO SOUR

Here’s the perfect amaretto sour! Made correctly, this drink can be one of the best cocktails out there (not that syrupy kind made with sour mix). It’s tangy and sweet tart, with a hint of almond from the amaretto that’s toned down by the secret ingredient: bourbon.

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ ounces (3 tablespoons) amaretto
- ½ ounce (1 tablespoon) bourbon whiskey
- 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon simple syrup or maple syrup
- 1 egg white (optional)\*
- 2 dashes Angostura bitters
- For the garnish: Cocktail cherry or Luxardo cherry, lemon slice

Method:

Add the amaretto, bourbon, lemon juice, syrup, egg white, and bitters to a cocktail shaker without ice. Shake for 15 seconds. Add the ice to the cocktail shaker. Shake again for 30 seconds. Strain the drink into a glass; the foam will collect at the top. Garnish with a cocktail cherry.



BEER, BOURBON, BARBECUE COCKTAIL

Beer, bourbon and barbecue are three things that are relished separately. What if we tell you that combining this trio into a single glass results in a wonderful cocktail? Try it for yourself!

Ingredients:

For the BBQ Water:

- 1 (19-ounce) bottle barbecue sauce
- 19 ounces hot water, about 2 1/3 cups

For the Cocktail:

- 1 1/2 ounces bourbon whiskey
- 1 ounce honey whiskey liqueur
- 1 ounce BBQ water
- 3/4 ounce orange juice, from 1/4 orange
- 3 ounces Hefeweizen beer

Method:

To make the BBQ water, in a mixing bowl, combine the barbecue sauce with an equal part of steaming hot water. Whisk until fully incorporated. Let sit to cool, or refrigerate. Then, in a cocktail shaker filled with ice, pour the liquors and BBQ water. Squeeze the juice of a quarter of an orange into the shaker as well. Shake vigorously. Strain into a cocktail glass. Pour a quarter of a bottle of beer into a cocktail shaker and shake until foamy. Spoon the beer foam on top of the cocktail to garnish. Serve and enjoy!



BUTTERNUT OLD FASHIONED

A fascinating autumn twist to an old-fashioned that incorporates butternut squash infusion with bourbon.

Ingredients:

For the Butternut-Infused Bourbon:

- 1 butternut squash
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 (750 ml) bottle bourbon whiskey

For the Cocktail:

- 2 ounces butternut-infused bourbon
- 1/4 ounce maple syrup
- 1 splash maple bitters
- 1 splash aromatic bitters
- Orange peel, for garnish

Method:

Cut the butternut squash into tiny pieces and lightly dust them with cinnamon and sugar and roast for about 20 minutes until dry and golden. Cool to room temperature, place in an infusion jar, then top with bourbon. Let the infusion sit for at least 6 days. Test for flavour and let it infuse longer if needed. Once the desired intensity is reached, strain out the squash and bottle the bourbon. It can be stored like any liquor but should be enjoyed within a couple of months. In an old-fashioned glass filled with cracked ice, pour the butternut-infused bourbon, maple syrup and bitters. Stir well and garnish with orange peel.



EUCALYPTUS MARTINI

As indicated by its moniker, the key to making this martini rendition is the eucalyptus syrup. Pair that with a fantastic gin and a little lime juice and you have yourself a refreshing treat.

Ingredients:

For the Eucalyptus Syrup:

- 2 cups water
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/3 cup fresh eucalyptus, optional

For the Cocktail:

- 1 1/2 ounces (50 ml) gin
- 3/4 ounce (25 ml) eucalyptus syrup
- 1/2 ounce (12.5 ml) freshly squeezed lime juice
- 3 drops egg white
- Eucalyptus leaf, for garnish

Method:

To make the eucalyptus syrup, in a saucepan, bring the water to a boil and stir in the sugar until it’s completely dissolved. Reduce the heat and simmer for 1 minute. Add the eucalyptus leaves and liquidise. Pour the syrup into a bowl and cover for 15 minutes. Once cooled, the syrup can be stored in a well-sealed container in the refrigerator for about two weeks. To make the cocktail, in a cocktail shaker, pour the gin, eucalyptus syrup, lime juice, egg white and fill with ice. Shake well. Double strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with a floating eucalyptus leaf. Serve and enjoy.



# Feasting at Home

## Delectable Vegan Recipes That Won’t Make You Miss Meat

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Whether you are simply trying to eat less meat, cook more plant-based meals, consume more vibrant healthy produce, the following vegan recipes will inspire you on your health journey and will be far from boring or bland.



### Butternut Risotto With Leeks

A quick and easy weeknight recipe for Butternut Risotto with Leeks and Spinach made with very little fuss, on your stovetop or in your Instant Pot pressure cooker.

#### Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil (or butter)
- 2 cups sliced leeks (one extra large leek) or sub one onion
- 4 garlic cloves, rough chopped
- 8 sage leaves, chopped
- 1 cup Arborio rice or short-grain Spanish rice
- 2 heaping cups butternut squash, cubed
- 1/4 cup white wine
- 2 cups veggie stock or chicken stock or broth (or water and one teaspoon or cube veggie bouillon)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, more to taste
- 1/8 teaspoon white pepper (or sub black pepper to taste)
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg the nutmeg makes this — don’t leave it out!
- 2–3 handfuls baby spinach or chopped kale
- OPTIONAL: 1/4 – 1/2 cup parmesan, pecorino, manchego, vegan cheese or cashew cheese – or the leave cheese out and use leek oil for garnish. Or stir in 1-2 tablespoons of butter or ghee, or a drizzle of olive oil.

#### Instructions:

1. Slice and rinse leeks, separating rings (rinsing will help them to soften faster).
2. Set Instant Pot to the “Sauté” function.
3. Heat oil in the instant pot, add the rinsed leeks and stir for 2 minutes. Add garlic, sage and rice, stir for 2 minutes.
4. Add butternut squash, and keep stirring for a couple of minutes, until there is a bit of browning on the bottom of the instant pot.

5. Add the wine and scrape up the browned bits — a wooden spoon is good for this. Let all the wine cook off, about 2-3 minutes. Add the stock or broth. Scrape up more browned bits. Add the salt, pepper and nutmeg, and give a good stir. Seal the instant pot and pressure cook on High for 6 minutes. Naturally, release for 5 minutes, then manually release.

6. While the Instant pot is going you could make the leek oil. Stir the risotto, adding the spinach and cheese or butter if you like, or leave them out. As the butternut breaks down a bit, it will add a nice natural creaminess to the risotto.

7. Adjust salt to taste. If you like a “looser” risotto add a bit more broth.



### Coconut Rice Bowls

The beauty of this Coconut Rice Bowl is that you can adapt it to seasonal veggies and use whatever protein you prefer! This recipe calls for using tofu as protein along with asparagus and peas.

#### Ingredients:

##### Coconut Rice

- 2 cups rice, (jasmine is nice but other white rice is fine.)
- 1 can coconut milk, about 400ml or 13.5 oz
- 1 3/4 cups water
- 2 teaspoons yellow curry powder
- 1 teaspoon sea salt (less if using table salt)
- 1 teaspoons ginger, minced or grated

##### Sauce

- 2 tablespoons sriracha (or sambal olek) Adjust to taste- start with less if you like less spice.
- 1–2 tablespoons Braggs liquid aminos or lite soy sauce (use half fish sauce and half braggs if desired)
- 2 teaspoons coconut sugar (or other sweetener)

##### Tofu and Veggies

- 2 tablespoons coconut oil
- 16 oz tofu
- 4 garlic cloves, roughly chopped
- 2 teaspoons lemongrass, minced
- 1 teaspoon fresh ginger, minced or grated
- 1 pound asparagus, cut into 1 inch julienne pieces (or use green beans, broccoli, snap peas, bell pepper, carrots)
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup peas (frozen is fine just give a quick rinse under cool water to thaw quickly)
- juice of a lime, about 2-3 tablespoons
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup fresh mint
- 1/2 cup toasted coconut flakes (unsweetened)

#### Instructions:

1. Cook the Rice: In a pot with a lid, add rice, coconut milk, water, curry powder, salt, and 1 teaspoon ginger. With the lid on, bring to a simmer. And cook for 20 minutes. Turn heat off and let sit with lid on until ready to serve.
2. Make the Sauce: Whisk together sriracha, braggs or soy sauce, and coconut sugar.
3. Sear Tofu (or cook chicken, fish or shrimp if using): Pat tofu dry and cut into thick strips. Heat pan (we like cast iron) to med-high. Add 1 tablespoon coconut oil and a sprinkle of salt and pepper. Add tofu and sear for about 3 minutes without moving tofu around, flip over and sear for another 3 minutes. Set tofu aside.

4. Sauté Veggies: In the same pan, add 1 tablespoon coconut oil sauté asparagus (or other vegetables) for about 1 minute. Add garlic, lemongrass, ginger and stir over medium heat for about 3-4 minutes, until asparagus is tender. Add green onions and 1 tablespoon of water scraping the pan to loosen all the stuck bits. Cook for another minute more.

5. Combine: Add tofu, sauce, and peas, and lime juice stirring to combine. Remove from the heat. Taste for saltiness adding more braggs or soy sauce if needed.



# Swoon–Worthy Desserts For Your Sweetheart

Nothing says ‘I love you’ quite like a homemade dessert. Impress your sweetheart with these swoon-worthy treats that are sure to win their heart. From decadent chocolate cakes to creamy cheesecakes, these desserts are perfect for any special occasion or just because. Indulge in the sweetness of love with these delicious creations.

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



## Berries and Cream Cookies

This pretty-in-pink recipe only requires 40 minutes of your time. The secret to the cookies’ blush color? Freeze-dried raspberries.

**Ingredients:**

- 3 cups (360g) all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ¾ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup (226g/2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1¾ cups (350g) granulated sugar
- 1 large (50g) egg
- 1 large (14g) egg yolk
- 2 teaspoons (9g) pure vanilla extract
- ¾ cup (12g) freeze-dried berries, such as strawberry, raspberry or a mix

**Directions:**

- 1.** In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, salt and baking soda to combine.

**2.** In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream the butter with the sugar on medium speed until pale and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add the egg and egg yolk, and mix to combine. Add the vanilla and mix to combine. Add the flour mixture and mix until just combined; reserve the medium bowl. (Try to not overmix the dough or the cookies will be tough.)

**3.** In in a food processor or high-speed blender, pulse the freeze-dried berries into a fine powder.

**4.** Divide the dough in half, and transfer one half to the reserved mixing bowl; set aside. To the stand mixer bowl, add the berry powder and mix on medium speed until just combined.
- 5.** Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C) and line three baking sheets with parchment paper.

**6.** To form the cookies, pinch off a small piece (22g or a rough tablespoon) of each dough and lightly press them together, then roll the dough into a ball. Arrange the dough balls between the baking sheets (about 8 per sheet).

**7.** Bake the cookies one baking sheet at a time, until they are puffed and set but not golden on the edges, 9 to 10 minutes. Cool on the baking sheet for about 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. The cookies will keep in an airtight container at room temperature for 3 days.



## Brown Butter Snickerdoodle Blondies

Your S.O. will be totally impressed that you took the time to brown butter for these crackly, caramelly, cinnamon-kissed bars.

**Ingredients:**

- 1 stick unsalted butter
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon

**Directions:**

- 1.**Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C). Spray an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with nonstick spray.

**2.** In a small saucepan or skillet, melt the butter over medium heat, swirling and stirring with a silicone spatula until the milk solids are browned and it smells nutty, 5 to 10 minutes. Transfer to a medium bowl and cool slightly, about 5 minutes. Add the sugar, vanilla extract and salt, and whisk to combine. Add the egg and whisk until fully combined. Stir in the flour.

**3.** Transfer the batter to the prepared pan, using a silicone spatula to coax it into the corners and smooth the top (it’s thick). In a small bowl, combine the granulated sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle on top of the blondies. Transfer to the oven and bake until golden-brown and just set, 20 to 25 minutes. Cool in the pan before slicing and serving. The blondies will keep in an airtight container for about 5 days.



## Salted Caramel Brownies

Be still our salty-sweet loving heart. A heart-shaped cookie cutter makes these fudgy gems holiday-appropriate in a flash.

**Ingredients:**

**Yummy Homemade Caramel:**

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons salted butter
- 3 tablespoons heavy cream
- pinch of salt

**Fudgy Thick Brownies:**

- 4 ounces unsweetened chocolate (one bar)
- 1 stick salted butter (8 tablespoons)
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3/4 cup flour
- pinch of salt

**Directions:**

- 1.**Prep: Preheat oven to 350. Line a flat plate with parchment paper and coat with cooking spray. Line an 8×8 square baking pan with parchment paper and coat with cooking spray.

**2.** Make that caramel: place the sugar in a small saucepan over medium high heat. Stir frequently – the sugar will form clumps and eventually become smooth. Remove from heat. Add butter and stir in. Add cream and stir in. Return to heat – let it get smooth and bubbly for another few minutes. Pour the caramel on the parchment-lined plate. Freeze for 20-30 minutes to solidify.

**3.** Brownie time: Melt the chocolate and the butter (microwave or double boiler). Whisk in the sugar. Whisk in the eggs and vanilla. Whisk in the flour and salt.

**4.** Caramel meets brownie: Cut the cooled caramel into small squares. Stir most of them into the brownie batter and transfer to the pan. Arrange the last few caramel pieces on top of the brownies. Bake for 30 minutes (more or less to taste). Cool in the fridge or freezer for easier cutting.





## Raspberry-Rose Chocolate Cupcakes For Two

Raspberry Rose Chocolate Cupcakes perfectly portioned for one for you and one for your boo. Espresso powder gives the cupcakes an extra dose of intensity. The keys to the frosting are raspberry preserves and a dash of rosewater.

**Ingredients:**

**For The Cupcakes:**

- 3 1/2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 1/8 teaspoon espresso powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 egg white, room temperature
- 2 tablespoons whole milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**For The Frosting:**

- 4 tablespoons of butter, room temperature
- 2/3 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon rosewater
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 tablespoon raspberry preserves
- red and brown food colouring, for colour! (I started with 3 of red and 1 of brown)

**Directions:**

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a cupcake tin with cupcake moulds for 2 cupcakes. Set aside.
2. In medium bowl, sift the sugar, flour, cocoa powder, espresso powder and baking soda. Add the vegetable oil, egg white, milk, and vanilla extract. Mix well.
3. Pour into cupcake moulds filling them about 2/3 of the way. You'll have a little extra batter left. Feel free to eat it or make a mini cupcake.
4. Bake cupcakes for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool completely on a cooling rack.

5. While the cupcakes are cooling, mix the softened butter, powdered sugar, rosewater, vanilla extract, salt, and food colouring in a medium bowl with hand mixer. Whisk until everything comes together and the frosting becomes light and fluffy. Spoon in the raspberry preserves, swirling around only once. It won't look mixed enough, but once you put the frosting in a piping bag and then pipe onto the cupcakes it will naturally swirl more.
6. Transfer the frosting into an icing bag with your preferred tip. Frost your cupcakes and enjoy with your boo!



## Vegan Alfredo

M&M Cheesecake Cookie Bars! It's a combo of sugar cookies, cheesecake and M&M's all layered together to make the ultimate dessert bar.

**Ingredients:**

**For the Cookie Layer:**

- 1 cup unsalted butter at room temperature
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 cup Valentine's Day M&M's

**For the Cheesecake Layer**

- 8 oz cream cheese room temp
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**Directions:**

1. Cream together the butter and sugars in a large stand mixer for 3 minutes. Add the eggs and vanilla, making sure to scrape down the sides of the mixing bowl. Add the flour, salt, baking soda and baking powder and mix on low until everything is incorporated. Toss in a handful of the Valentine's Day M&M's and mix for a quick second. Chill the dough while you make the cheesecake layer.

**For the Cheesecake Layer**

1. Whip together the cream cheese, sugar, egg and vanilla for 3 minutes until everything is evenly combined and smooth.
2. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees F. Line a 9x13 baking pan with tin foil and spray it with non-stick baking spray.

3. Press 1/2 of the cookie dough mixture into the bottom of the pan to make 1 even layer.
4. Spread the cheesecake mixture on top of the cookie dough.
5. Crumble and sprinkle the remaining cookie dough on top of the cheesecake mixture and then sprinkle with the remaining Valentine's Day M&M's.
6. Place it into the oven and bake for 40-45 minutes until the cookie dough is golden brown. The inner part of the dish might look a bit jiggly, but not to fear. Once the bars have baked, remove them from the oven and let them cool on the counter for 30 minutes. Then transfer them to the fridge and cool completely for at least 2 hours. Cut and serve as needed.



# KLAS ART AUCTION

MALAYSIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

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**SUNDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**



**KHOO SUI HOE**

**Two Standing Between Leaves, Jan 1979**

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# DESTINATION: SPENDING VALENTINE'S DAY AMID NATURE

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

In this day and age where everyone is busy juggling work, family and other commitments, it is quite a feat to break away and unwind physically and mentally. In this issue, we guide you through an excursion into wilderness with your other half. What better way to reconnect than to be cut off from the world for a day or two, surrounded by giant, ancient towering trees, fascinating fauna and most importantly, the tranquillity. Lucky for you, our beautiful country is brimming with beautiful nooks and crannies for you to escape to. Following are our top five picks for spending Valentine's Day in Nature.



## THE BANJARAN HOTSPRINGS RETREAT

This is by far one of our favourite forest resorts. This hidden gem nestled in the Sunway City of Ipoh offers garden and water villas, enveloped by paleozoic limestone hills, a restaurant in a well-preserved cave, exquisite greens, and geothermal hot springs that flows to the Jacuzzi in your villa. This resort is perfect for a Valentine excursion and rejuvenation. Dust the cobwebs of the city by pampering each other to a slew of spa treatments and holistic programmes

*Address: No. 1, Persiaran Lagun Sunway 3, Sunway City Ipoh, 31150 Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan, Malaysia.*





THE SHOREA

Set within the thick Berembun Forest Reserve is a boutique eco-resort for you to discover. This beautiful establishment comprises 8 villas, accommodating up to 40 adults. Its open-concept allows natural light, air and breeze in. If that isn't appealing enough, the Shorea offers two main infinity pools that spread across the Shorea Estate and Shorea Resort wings and a breathtaking view you wouldn't want to leave. The greenery paired with the blue sky is simply picture-perfect.

Address: Village Kolam Air, Mukim Pantai, Jalan Jelebu, 71770 Seremban, Negeri Sembilan.



MULU MARIOTT RESORT AND SPA

Mulu Marriott Resort and Spa (previously known as the Royal Mulu Resort) is just a five-minute walk from Gunung Mulu National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Sarawak Borneo. It's the only five-star luxury resort in the entire Mulu region. The resort offers everything from a banquet hall, Balinese spa and cooking classes to cultural demonstrations. Activities include rainforest hikes and the awe-inspiring Mulu caves tours. This resort and its walkways are also built on wooden stilts.

Address: Sungai Melinau PO Box 1145, Mulu, Gunung Mulu National Park 98008 Sarawak.

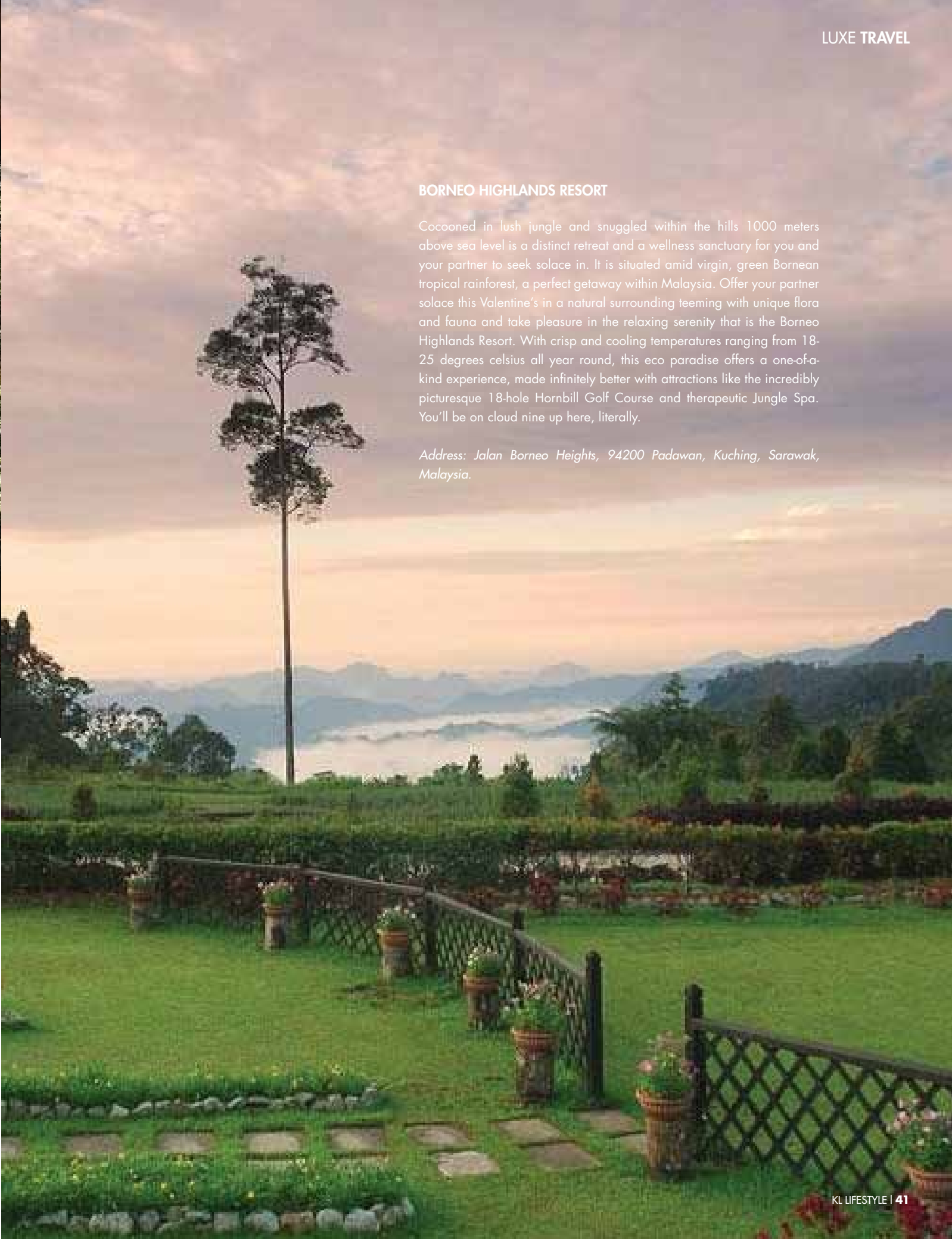




**MALIHOM PRIVATE ESTATE**

Perched 1000 metres above sea level, this resort stands sturdily amid a mountainous highland rainforest. Bask in the crisp and cooling temperatures ranging from 18-25 degrees celsius all year round and cosy up to your other half. This utopia offers a unique experience, such as the 18-hole Hornbill Golf Course and therapeutic Jungle Spa. With these fantastic facilities and amenities, cloud nine is merely at arm’s length.

*Address: Village Kolam Air, Mukim Pantai, Jalan Jelebu, 71770 Seremban, Negeri Sembilan.*



**BORNEO HIGHLANDS RESORT**

Cocooned in lush jungle and snuggled within the hills 1000 meters above sea level is a distinct retreat and a wellness sanctuary for you and your partner to seek solace in. It is situated amid virgin, green Bornean tropical rainforest, a perfect getaway within Malaysia. Offer your partner solace this Valentine’s in a natural surrounding teeming with unique flora and fauna and take pleasure in the relaxing serenity that is the Borneo Highlands Resort. With crisp and cooling temperatures ranging from 18-25 degrees celsius all year round, this eco paradise offers a one-of-a-kind experience, made infinitely better with attractions like the incredibly picturesque 18-hole Hornbill Golf Course and therapeutic Jungle Spa. You’ll be on cloud nine up here, literally.

*Address: Jalan Borneo Heights, 94200 Padawan, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.*



# FASHION & BEAUTY NEWS

All the must-knows and must-haves of the month

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



JIMMY CHOO SPRING/SUMMER 2023

For Spring/Summer 2023, Jimmy Choo presents a new range of sunglasses and opticals reflecting the glamorous, confident and daring spirit of the house. The new collection features Jimmy Choo’s most distinctive design signatures, including: JC MONOGRAM: Bold yet lightweight sunglasses and elegant optical frames are decorated with the brand’s signature JC Monogram, placed prominently on the temples, a hallmark of quality, craft and design expertise. CRYSTAL & GLITTER: Shimmering crystal accents reflect sophistication and a sense of daring; offering a contemporary twist to timeless sunglasses and optical frames while also offering a bold new proposition in the form of cutting-edge designs. JC PEARLS: When opalescent pearl details and sparkling carré crystals are paired they bring a sense of refinement and flair to optical frames and sunglasses alike, turning the most functional accessories into something truly exquisite.

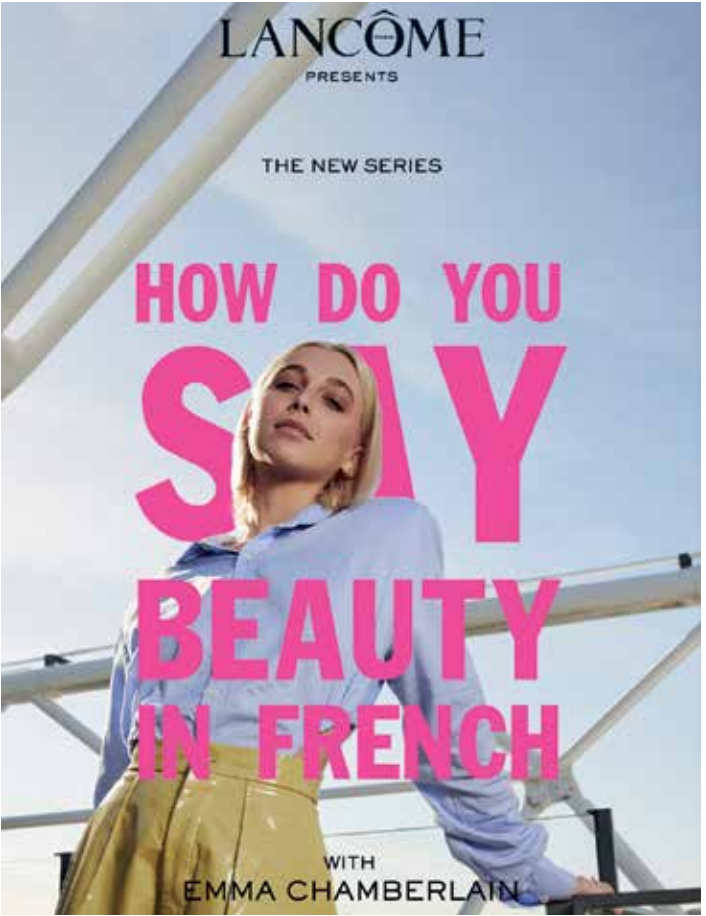


ZENITH’S DEFY REVIVAL A3691 MARKS THE RETURN OF THE FIRST DEFY MODEL

After revisiting the very first DEFY wristwatch last year, ZENITH is unveiling the second model in its collection of faithfully reproduced iconic DEFY pieces with the DEFY Revival A3691 Revival, an important 1971 reference that took the audacious design a step further by initiating the collection’s historically extensive use of striking colours. With its vibrant red gradient-effect dial and rugged geometric case, the DEFY Revival A3691 becomes the first DEFY Revival model in the permanent collection. One of the first models of this DEFY collection was the A3642, fittingly nicknamed the coffre-fort in French, which translates to “bank vault” or “safe-deposit box”. About two years later, ZENITH built on this daring design and introduced new colourful dials with a marked “vignette” effect that darkens towards the edges, including the A3691 with a deep red dial.

VERSACE SPRING/SUMMER 2023 COLLECTION

With the Spring-Summer 2023 season well underway, Versace unveiled a dark and gothic Spring-Summer 2023 collection. Having Dark Gothic Goddess in mind, black, purple, and hints of fuchsia are the colors running through the whole collection, coming together in looks both high-glamour and hard-edged, diva and subversive. Prints have a brooding glow in the collection’s colors of dark orchid purple and tropical pink. The multi-logo ‘Versace on Repeat’ print, and floral and zebra patterns interplay and are incorporated into laminated lace, fil coupé, intarsia, or metal stud finishes.



EMMA CHAMBERLAIN IS THE NEW LANCÔME AMBASSADOR

Lancôme has announced the appointment of the new face of the brand, the American Gen Zer, fashion icon, entrepreneur, and girl of the 21st century, Emma Chamberlain. Bringing her modernity and edge to the French house of beauty, Emma says: “I have always had my own notion of beauty and didn’t project myself within the beauty industry because of the duality that I show, mixing comfort, with being nicely put together. Hence why, when Lancôme came to me, I felt so honoured and excited that the brand understood and appreciated who I am.” Joining the Lancôme stellar group of ambassadors, Emma will add her irresistible wit and singularity. Together with Lancôme, Emma will further spread the brand’s values of positive and powerful beauty to invite a whole generation to shine inside out.



STRONGER, BETTER, HEALTHIER SKIN

The “new year, new me” resolution always makes a comeback at the fresh start of the year – new habits, new goals. As you rethink your lifestyle, consider making room for an improved skincare routine. So why not kickstart 2023 with Dr.Jart+ Ceramidin line? According to health experts, a compromised skin barrier will result in irritated, sensitized and dry skin. It can also increase the risk of infections and dermatitis. Not to worry – say hello to your skin barrier’s new best friend: Dr.Jart+ Ceramidin™ Cream. If you have sensitive or reactive skin, this bad boy will help strengthen your skin like no other. If you need a quick pick-me-up, Dr. Jart+’s Ceramidin Facial Barrier Sheet Mask (5pcs) will enhance the skin barrier with an intensive moisturising and barrier-forming effect with its double amount of 5 Cera Complex® in essence and a bamboo sheet coated with 5 Cera Complex® and Ectoin. We highly recommend using this after your facial treatments at the clinic to reduce discomfort and restrengthen your skin.

HUBLOT CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT

In order to mark the arrival of the Year of the Rabbit, Hublot collaborated with Chinese Artist Wen Na in creating a unique painting for the dial of the Spirit of Big Bang Black Ceramic Rabbit. The fusion of traditional Chinese culture with Contemporary Haute Horlogerie has given rise to new ideas: Wen visualised 12 double-hours from the Heavenly Stems and Earthly Branches and combined them with traditional elements of the Lunar New Year. We therefore can find festive lanterns, firecrackers and lion dance in the artwork, to create an intriguing world to usher into the new year. The time is brimming with wonder and excitement at each double-hours, giving full expression to Hublot’s Art of Fusion spirit.



SECRETS OF THE FOREST

The Japanese have long held sacred their connection with the natural world. So much so that forest bathing, also known as shinrin-yoku, which involves immersing the five senses in nature, has become a common medical treatment prescribed by Japanese physicians for its many immunity and mood-boosting powers. Research shows that over 50% of the benefits of forest bathing come from breathing the forest air, which is rich in phytoncides: organic compounds emitted by trees’ essential oils to ward off mould, bacteria, and insects, and proven to boost immune function, decrease stress, improve sleep, and lower blood pressure. Tatcha’s new Forest Awakening Body Collection is infused with these naturally healing phytoncides and delivers them to you alongside proven skincare ingredients to nourish the body while calming the mind. Sourced from the healing trees of Japan’s forests, these antimicrobial oils deliver the benefits of forest air to your home, and when inhaled by humans, set off a waterfall of health benefits inside and out, offering a truly holistic approach for skin and mind.



ULYSSE NARDIN DIVER X SKELETON WHITE

A perfect blend of technical fine watchmaking and sports watches, the Diver X Skeleton has made an impressive entry into the Ulysse Nardin Manufacture’s current collection. Encased in titanium, its streamlined silhouette is cloaked in white. Audacity, technicality, power and explosive energy characterise this model, which is utterly unique in the world of watchmaking. An ultra-contemporary skeletonised automatic movement featuring an oversized silicium oscillator sits at the centre of this innovation incubator. The escapement wheel, pallet and balance-spring are also made of silicium – a preferred material at Ulysse Nardin, who introduced it to the world of watchmaking. The calibre UN-372 displays the hours, minutes and seconds functions.



VALENTINE’S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Kate Spade New York introduced the Valentine’s Day gift guide, as we invite everyone to show a little extra love to the people, they care about most with objects of affection. From heart-shaped prints, small leather goods, and even a new staple handbag, the capsule collection includes an array of accessories and ready-to-wear perfect for a romantic evening or gifting a special someone.

HOTPICKS BEAUTY  
KL LIFESTYLE’S TOP PICKS

We have curated a list of all the beauty products we’re loving and are part of our arsenal.

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



TATCHA  
HINOKI BODY WASH  
200ML

The Japanese have long held sacred their connection with the natural world. So much so that forest bathing, also known as shinrin-yoku, which involves immersing the five senses in nature, has become a common medical treatment prescribed by Japanese physicians for its many immunity and mood-boosting powers. Research shows that over 50% of the benefits of forest bathing come from breathing the forest air, which is rich in phytoncides: organic compounds emitted by trees’ essential oils to ward off mold, bacteria, and insects, and proven to boost immune function, decrease stress, improve sleep, and lower blood pressure. Tatcha’s NEW Forest Awakening Body Collection is infused with these naturally healing phytoncides and delivers them to you alongside proven skincare ingredients to nourish the body while calming the mind. This soft exfoliating gel body scrub gently cleanses and exfoliates your skin while awakening the senses and calming the mind. It also helps to boost the skin’s natural renewal process, resulting in softer, smoother skin over time.



LANCÔME  
ADVANCED GÉNIFIQUE SENSITIVE DUAL  
CONCENTRATE SERUM  
20ML

Lancôme’s unique Génifique expertise, inspired by microbiome science, is now encapsulated in our updated formula Advanced Génifique Sensitive, an active recovery, soothing facial serum. Proven to strengthen skins barrier, instantly soothe the feeling of stressed skin to leave skin feeling balanced and looking healthy. Seasonal changes, environmental aggressions, and the stress of modern life can make skin react with feelings of tightness and discomfort, and lead to premature signs of skin aging. With its unique formula enriched with 7 prebiotic and probiotic derived extracts, this intense recovery concentrate helps strengthen the skin barrier and protect against the effect of daily aggressors. Two active concentrates in one, separate until first use to maintain their freshness. The blue concentrate, enriched with antioxidant Ferulic acid and Vitamin E, is released into the serum base on first use to create an active recovery concentrate, helping soothe the feel of skin and keep it balanced. Helping to improve the signs of stressed skin: dullness, dryness.



YVES SAINT LAURENT  
LIBRE LE PARFUM

LIBRE, is the new Le Parfum by Yves Saint Laurent. The fragrance is reminiscent of a confident, unapologetic and charismatic woman living her freedom as the ultimate luxury. She is ignited by the urge to live everything with excess, to feel everything amplified and to live libre, now. Because freedom doesn’t wait, neither should you. The iconic LIBRE scent is reinterpreted in a warm and spicy way. The first floral lavender note is now twisted by a saffron accord from the YSL Ourika Community Gardens in Morocco. A flamboyant juice, encapsulating the incandescence of fire and enclosed in a jewel-like bottle with an edgy twist.



DR.JART+ CERAMIDIN CREAM  
CERAMIDIN CREAM  
50ML

According to health experts, a compromised skin barrier will result in irritated, sensitized and dry skin. It can also increase the risk of infections and dermatitis. Not to worry – say hello to your skin barrier’s new best friend: Dr.Jart+ Ceramidin™ Cream. If you have sensitive or reactive skin, this bad boy will help strengthen your skin like no other. The nourishing cream also helps to prevent moisture loss – keeping your skin plump, hydrated and supple – and protects your skin against external aggressors. Regardless of your skin type, everyone can take advantage of Dr.Jart+ Ceramidin™ Cream, which is supercharged with 5-Cera Complex – a blend of five ceramides – along with hyaluronic acid and shea butter to help improve your skin barrier.





**ALAÏA**  
Archetypes metallic ribbed  
wool-blend mini dress  
RM15,042



**ALAÏA**  
Laser-cut leather belt  
RM4,570



**ALAÏA**  
Le Mina 20 New  
Vienne leather tote  
RM9,136



**ALAÏA**  
La Bombe 110 studded  
suede sandals  
RM5,107

## DATE NIGHT DRESSING

We have curated the perfect outfit  
that will make you dazzle and sizzle  
this Valentine's Day



**ANITA KO**  
Large Meryl 18-karat gold hoop  
earrings  
RM24,226



**LOEWE**  
Bracelet pleated  
leather shoulder bag  
RM7,150



**ZIMMERMANN**  
Ruffled silk-satin  
mini wrap dress  
RM2,377



**STONE AND STRAND**  
Alphabet Mini Pinky  
gold ring  
RM323



**MANOLO BLAHNIK**  
Jadifa 70 suede-trimmed  
PVC mules  
RM4,020



**CELINE HOMME**  
Wesley Straight-Leg Faux  
Fur-Trimmed Distressed Jeans  
RM6,783



**CELINE HOMME**  
Silk and Wool-Blend Cady Shirt  
RM7,180



**CELINE HOMME**  
Wool-Gabardine Blazer  
RM11,631



**CELINE HOMME**  
Embellished Embroidered  
Leather Chelsea Boots  
RM5,961



**CELINE HOMME**  
Burnished Rhodium-Plated  
Onyx Signet Ring  
RM3,157

## DATE NIGHT FITS

Dapper is the theme this Valentine's Day



**TOM FORD**  
Full-Grain Leather Belt  
RM6,072



**TOM FORD**  
Slim-Fit Suede Jacket  
RM28,609



**TOM FORD**  
Leather Chelsea Boots  
RM8,224



**LORO PIANA**  
Ribbed Cashmere and Silk-  
Blend Half-Zip Sweater  
RM9,715



**GUCCI**  
E-Straight-Leg Cropped  
Logo-Jacquard Cotton and  
Wool-Blend Twill Trousers  
RM6,675



# CHLOÉ'S STAR STUDDED PIECES

For more than 50 years, Chloé, one of the first luxury ready-to-wear brands in the world, has embodied Parisian style with its elegant and self-assured creations. Under Gabriela Hearst’s creative supervision, the company now promotes nature and creativity through Chloé Craft.

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN



**EMBROIDERED WOOL AND LINEN-BLEND MIDI DRESS**  
**RM15,926**  
Chloé’s flowing midi dress has contrasting stitching that gives the appearance of a highly detailed corset. Its wool and linen blend construction gives it a structured appearance. To go with the square neckline and narrow spaghetti straps, wear yours with a pendant necklace.



**LEATHER SHIRT**  
**RM16,617**  
Buttery-soft leather is used to create Chloé’s shirt, which has a sleek fit that is highlighted by matching stitching. It includes billowy sleeves, a stylish collar, and a partially hidden snap that can be undone at the neck or hem to change the shape. Wear it with patterned or tailored pants.



**FLARED DENIM MIDI DRESS**  
**RM9,279**  
The dress by Chloé is styled to appear to be two different pieces worn together. It is made of “Dusky Blue” denim and features a vest-style top with silver-tone buttons along the front and a flared skirt that ends at the midriff. Wear yours with a vintage trench and black knee boots.



**CHAIN-EMBELISHED LEATHER TOTE**  
**RM10,325**  
The top handles of Chloé’s tote can be used as top handles, or you can draw the chain strap through one side to wear it over your shoulder. It is laced with a gold-tone chain strap with an oversized lobster clasp. It has a suede interior with a pink trim along the open top, and is made of smooth black leather.



**MARCIE TASSELED TEXTURED-LEATHER SHOULDER BAG**  
**RM8,544**  
The top handles of Chloé’s tote can be used as top handles, or you can draw the chain strap through one side to wear it over your shoulder. It is laced with a gold-tone chain strap with an oversized lobster clasp. It has a suede interior with a pink trim along the open top, and is made of smooth black leather.



**CHLOÉ SENSE LEATHER-TRIMMED RAFFIA TOTE**  
**RM3,386**  
This tiny tote, which is a part of the “Chloé Sense” line, embodies the carefree summertime atmosphere. It is constructed of braided raffia and has leather trim at the handles and open top that fastens with a tie. There is enough inside for a beach book, sunglasses, and a few daytime necessities. When you wish to use your hands free, use the removable strap.



**ODINA SUEDE PLATFORM SANDALS**  
**RM3,827**  
Chloé’s “Odina” sandals were modelled from a sketch made by Creative Director Gabriela Hearst when she was only 17 years old. They are minimally styled and made of silky black suede. They have thick 100mm heels that feel incredibly solid because of the platform soles. The circular gold buckles are reminiscent of the house’s bags’ distinctive hoop hardware.



**OLI LEATHER KNEE BOOTS**  
**RM6,645**  
The soft black leather used to make Chloé’s “Oli” boots ensures that they will last for many years to come. They have elegant pointed toes and sculpted 80mm heels that are comfortable to walk in. They sit just below the knee.



**WOOL AND LINEN-BLEND FLARED PANTS**  
**RM6,258**  
Chloé’s minimal pants are designed in a slim fit with flared hems. Made from a black wool and linen-blend, they sit at your natural waist and have glossy buttons at each hip. Tuck a tonal sweater or silky blouse into yours.



# LUXE LOAFERS

Chic and extremely versatile, a classic pair of loafers can add polish to any outfit without compromising on comfort.

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



**TOD'S**  
**GOMMINI EMBELLISHED LEATHER LOAFERS**  
**RM2,616**

Gommino driving shoes in brushed leather with metal chain accessory and exposed handmade stitching. Characterised by the distinctive rubber pebble outsole, they are a versatile style that renews the synthesis of informal elegance and sophisticated urban taste.



**ISABEL MARANT**  
**FREZZA TASSELED GLOSSED-LEATHER LOAFERS**  
**RM2,925**

Isabel Marant makes Parisian dressing easy with these 'Frezza' loafers, they'll look so chic with straight-leg jeans or tailored pants. Made from glossed-leather, they're topstitched to reinforce the hide and have classic tassels and fringing. The tongue is subtly embossed with the house moniker.



**GUCCI**  
**HORSEBIT-DETAILED METALLIC EMBROIDERED LEATHER PLATFORM LOAFERS**  
**RM4,561**

A mainstay in Gucci history since the '50s, the classic Horsebit loafer bridges the past to the present. A homage to the House's heritage rooted in the equestrian world, the emblematic shape is reworked in a contemporary shape on a rubber lug sole.



**LORO PIANA**  
**SUMMER CHARMS WALK SUEDE LOAFERS**  
**RM4,795**

Iconic Loro Piana suede loafers featuring a front strap with miniature My Charms pendants. They are enhanced by a water-repellent, spot-resistant treatment. Inspired by the design of boat shoes, you can place your own name on their white, natural rubber soles — a common feature of all Loro Piana sportswear shoes. Lined with beaver fur, they are incredibly soft and comfortable.



**GIVENCHY**  
**TERRA LOGO-EMBEELLISHED LEATHER PLATFORM LOAFERS**  
**RM5,156**

Givenchy's loafers are inspired by biker styles - all the footwear in the 'Terra' line has the same chunky platform soles. They're made from glossy leather and embellished at the front with the maison's gold '4G' plaque.



**CHLOÉ**  
**NOUA WHIPSTITCHED LEATHER LOAFERS**  
**RM3,827**

What are the core characteristics of Chloé's Noua collection? If you're a devoted follower of the brand, you may be able to guess that it's the hand-sewn whipstitched trims and scalloped detailing. We see both spring to life in the form of these leather loafers, lending a preppy, bohemian-charged slant to your outfit of the day.



# THE LUXE REPORT

BY HIRANMAYILAWALI MOHAMMAD

## Andaz Brand Debuts in Thailand With the Opening of Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach

Hyatt Hotels Corporation has announced the opening of Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach, marking the debut of the Andaz brand in Thailand. Nestled across over 15 acres (6.4 hectares) of stunning beachfront land, amid mature trees and gardens overlooking the Gulf of Thailand, this luxury lifestyle resort provides a myriad of ways for guests to express their personal style and connect with the local culture and nature, from destination excursions to authentic dining, wellness and family activities. Surrounded by nature, landscaped gardens with conserved, century-old trees, the distinctively local yet modern design of the resort is inspired by the site's history as a private estate. Set in low-rise clustered buildings, the 204 rooms, suites, and villas, which start from 538 square feet (50 square meters), are adorned with locally influenced interiors, walk-in rain showers and a balcony or terrace with a relaxing daybed. Spread throughout the gardens, guests can experience a sense of discovery as they explore the lush landscape. A variety of accommodation options cater to a wide range of occasions and guests, from multi-generational families to couples and individuals.

## Jumeirah Bali Welcomes Multi-Disciplinary Expert Paula Choi to Lead Resort's Wellness Programme

A mystic destination combining luxurious spa experiences with the authentic healing traditions of Java, Jumeirah Bali has welcomed an experienced wellness therapist from Australia, Paula Choi. In her role as the resort's in-house wellness consultant, Paula has curated a comprehensive programme of land- and water-based activities specifically designed to complement Uluwatu's newest wellness destination, including private and group yoga, tai chi, aquatic and acupuncture sessions, complimentary weekly wellness talks, and private wellness consultations. In her approach to wellness, Paula practices within a holistic framework that encourages harmony within the mind-body complex. She focuses on nurturing a strong health foundation using effective techniques and movement on land and in water. A certified acupuncturist with a degree from Sydney's University of Technology, Paula has over the years broadened her scope of practice to qualify as an aquatic bodyworker, hatha yoga and tai chi instructor.

## The Banjaran Hotsprings Retreat Unveils New Royal Villa

The Banjaran Hotsprings Retreat, Sunway's five-star sanctuary in Malaysia, has unveiled its new Royal Banjaran Villa — a breathtaking private residence that will immerse guests in a world of tropical luxury and tranquility amid the lush rainforest and healing waters of Ipoh. For centuries, local people have understood the therapeutic benefits of these mineral-rich waters, which flow through the mountains and are purified by the prehistoric limestone rocks. Bathing in these geothermal pools can help to revitalise the skin, improve circulation, reduce stress and even ease pain in the body. The Banjaran harnesses this ancient wisdom to help every guest achieve complete wellbeing. Now, guests can blend these natural health benefits with the highest levels of luxury in the Royal Villa, a magnificent 355sqm villa which represents the pinnacle of premium hospitality in Ipoh and sets the stage for life's most important occasions, including family vacations, heavenly honeymoons and extraordinary events.

## The St. Regis Langkawi Offers Romantic Experiences Exclusively for Valentine's Day

For couples wishing to indulge in an exquisite Valentine's Day, The St. Regis Langkawi is the perfect place to celebrate and reminisce about your love story. From spending precious time with your loved one in our luxurious accommodation to a romantic walk on the beach overlooking the magnificent views of the Andaman Sea, an exquisite dining experience under the stars, and indulging in a lavish breakfast whilst admiring the centuries-old rainforests, there is nothing quite like celebrating love at Langkawi's best address. Couples looking for a bit of extra romance can take advantage of the Exquisite Romance offer, which includes — 3 days/ 2 nights stay in one of the hotel's exquisite accommodation, One bottle of champagne, Daily bubbly breakfast for two guests at L'Orangerie, Experience The St. Regis Langkawi's sunset champagne sabering ritual and Lounge access at the departure airport.

## Hotel du Cap Eden-Roc Unveils Newly Transformed Suites

Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc, part of the Oetker Collection portfolio of Masterpiece Hotels, will reopen on April 14th for the 2023 season with seven fewer keys than in 2022 following a thorough renovation project undertaken to modernise and expand the hotel's suites. A timeless décor speaks through Countess Bergit Gräfin Douglas' choice of interiors by Pierre Frey, Loro Piana and Manuel Canovas, elaborated in a varied palette of blues and whites to reflect the intrinsic character of each building. All 31 Junior Suites are being fully refreshed with the creative input from British interior designer Francis Sultana, and Countess Bergit Gräfin Douglas has ensured that eighty percent of the suites' decorative elements were sourced in Europe, with most coming from France. Each boasting a direct view of the Mediterranean Sea and the Lérins Islands, the Junior Suites feature natural materials such as cotton, linen and wool in a palette of vibrant blues, pristine whites and shades of green echoing the contrast of sea, sky and the hotel's verdant gardens.



# The World of AUTOMOTIVE LUXURY

When Design Meets Innovation

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

We’re here to hype you up on all the beautifully-designed automobile news and latest releases.



2024 NISSAN GT-R



Nissan has officially unveiled its portfolio of 2024 GT-R vehicles, featuring a fresh look and rear designs that improve the aerodynamic performance of the storied sports car. The GT-R T-Spec trim is making a comeback this year, joining the Premium and NISMO variants. Exclusive paint hues Millennium Jade and Midnight Purple are also making a comeback, paying homage to some of the rarest R34 GT-R cars. The 565 horsepower 2024 GT-R Premium and T-Spec and the 600 horsepower GT-R NISMO both offer excellent performance derived from motorsports uses. From the outside, improvements can be seen in the modified front and rear fascias, the updated grille, the redesigned rear wings, and the optimised bumper sides. The changes result in more downforce while maintaining the same drag coefficient. The GT-R NISMO has a redesigned rear wing in the swan neck shape that is about 10% larger than its predecessor. It also has 20-inch RAYS forged wheels, a special clear coat on the carbon fibre hood, Recaro seats, and unique engine cover designs.



## LEXUS UNVEILED ITS RZ SPORTS CONCEPT

The RZ SPORT CONCEPT, which combines the pleasures of performance and environmental equity, was unveiled by Lexus. The EV concept ups the ante on the Lexus RZ, the first electric vehicle model. The model has motors with a combined output of 150 KW in the front and rear, giving it a more potent output appropriate for use on any route. The car also has a 35 mm lower suspension, bigger tyres, full bucket seats up front and back, and customised aero components. What makes the CONCEPT’s performance details stand out is its development in partnership with racing driver, Masahiro Sasaki. Lexus unveiled the RZ SPORT CONCEPT at the Tokyo Auto Salon.



## JAGUAR REVEALED ITS FINAL F-TYPE 75

In honour of the 75th anniversary of Jaguar’s sports car heritage, the company has officially unveiled the final F-TYPE. Customers can pick between the F-TYPE 75 or F-TYPE R 75 limited edition cars, both of which are powered by a supercharged 5.0-liter V8 engine from Jaguar and produce 444 or 567 horsepower depending on the body type they are in. The F-Type R 75 is the faster of the two, claiming a 0-60 mph time of 3.5 seconds and a top speed of 186 mph. The 2024 F-Types will be the last combustion engine sports car type offered by the factory before Jaguar becomes an all-electric brand in 2025. They are available in a special Giola Green metallic colour option, and 20-inch wheels are standard on all variants.



## SONY HONDA MOBILITY UNVEILS THE AFEELA PROTOTYPE EV

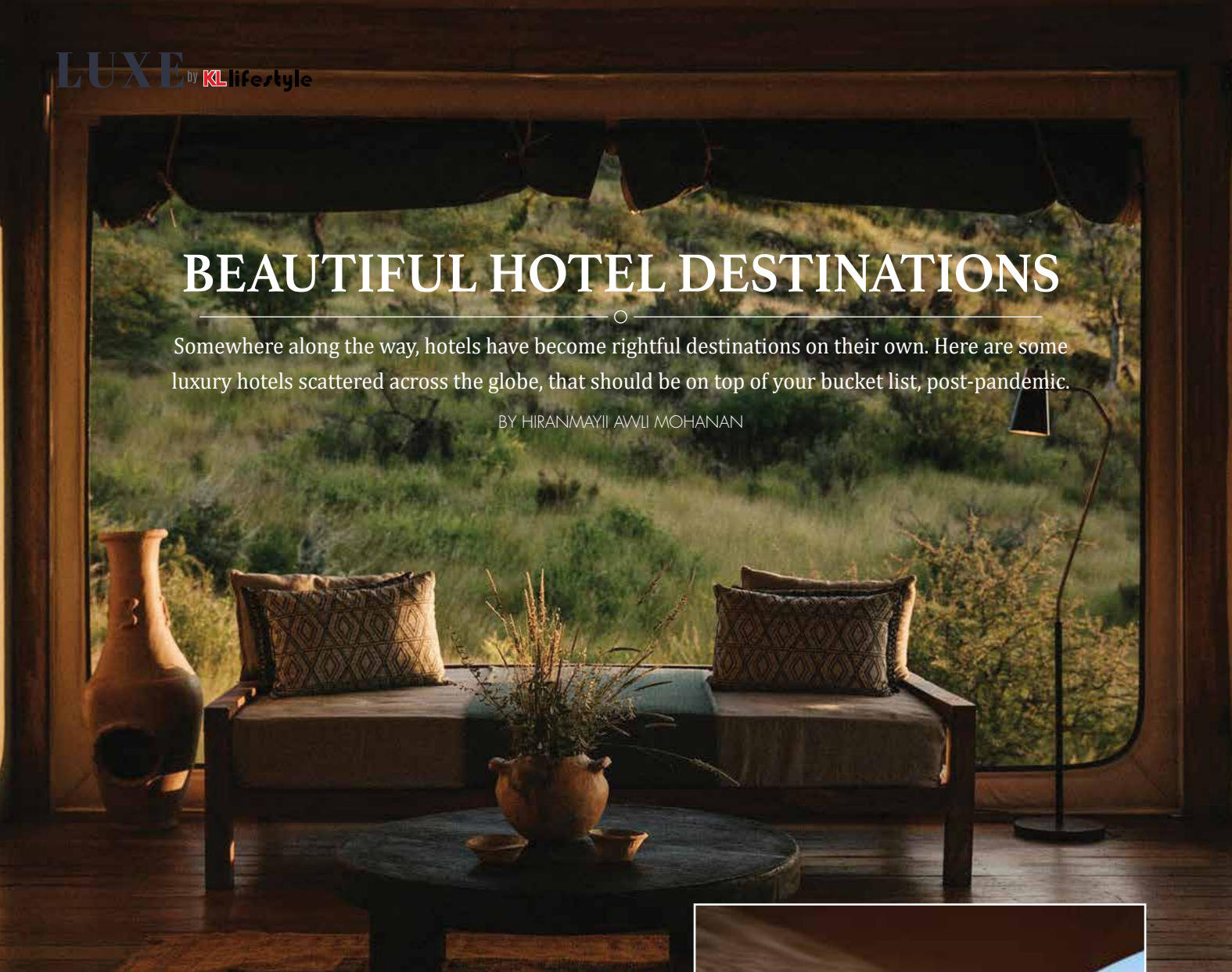
The car presents a cohesive form with streamlined front and back lights while maintaining an aerodynamic shape. Additionally, there is a “Media Bar” between the headlights that may be customised and offers information. Moving inside, Sony came in to provide a bevy of displays that will be driven by a collaboration with Epic Games that will offer entertainment alternatives. The 45 cameras and sensors that make up the safety system that functions in tandem with the Qualcomm computer chip partnership to assist the Afeela become a Level 3 autonomous vehicle were handled by Honda. The Afeela prototype EV is anticipated to have an independent multilink configuration with all-wheel drive, double-wishbone suspension, and a dual-motor layout with a larger motor at the rear.



## BEAUTIFUL HOTEL DESTINATIONS

Somewhere along the way, hotels have become rightful destinations on their own. Here are some luxury hotels scattered across the globe, that should be on top of your bucket list, post-pandemic.

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN



### Habitas Namibia

#### Namibia

Lost among a 51,000-hectare nature reserve in Namibia, where rare and majestic wildlife roam free, discover a way of life that looks to the earth beneath your feet and the stars above for knowledge. The Savanna rooms at Habitas Namibia are equipped with sweeping panoramic views. Glimpse Namibia's wildlife from your private outdoor terrace. As for its fare, the menu showcases Namibia's versatile cuisine in a refined yet rustic manner. The dishes feature local ingredients paired with globally-inspired flavours. This is a stay that goes beyond offering a peak into the wild, to offering culture for those who refuse to be tamed.

[www.ourhabitas.com/namibia/](http://www.ourhabitas.com/namibia/)



### Octola Private Wilderness

Rovaniemi, Finland



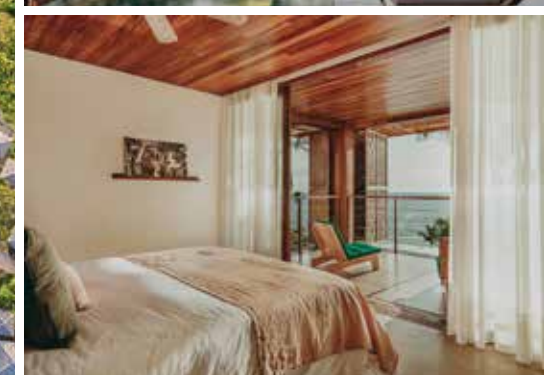
Octola Private Wilderness was born from a dream turned into reality. After acquisitions of several chalets across Lapland, their refurbishment and conceived according to the style of Lapp and Sámi tradition. OCTOLA's shape is derived from traditional Lapp 'laavu' buildings, that in the past used to provide shelter for the people living the nomadic lifestyle. This is where one communes with nature. Being accommodated in a wooden chalet is the essence of Lapland, providing the most authentic stay in the Arctic. Octola offers total privacy in its own secluded wilderness area and all the exciting outdoor Arctic activities are at your doorstep.

The wilderness guides, chef and butler ensure that all your requirements and wishes are attended to.

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

### Barracuda Hotel & Villas

Bahia, Brazil



With only 17 suites, Barracuda Hotel & Villas is a haven in complete harmony with the untouched nature of Itacaré. Located in the heart of a unique town rich in history and culture, a combination of privacy and personal service, sets the tone for the hospitality that connects each Barracuda guest with the Bahian nature. Just a few steps from the main street and next to one of the most beautiful beaches in the city, a stay at Barracuda Hotel & Villas provides tranquillity for those who are looking for some relaxing days, but who also want to activate their body and mind with tailor-made experiences.

[www.thebarracuda.com.br](http://www.thebarracuda.com.br)



# HAUTE HOMEWARE

*The Best Danish Designs*



## WENDELBO REST MOUNTED SIDE TABLE

For when we find ourselves in need of a remote space to do work, relax or reenergise between meetings or events: The Rest bench by Sebastian Herkner. The design has a characterful persona with upholstered elements that bring a sense of softness to modern spaces, joined by the functionality of its curved back, allowing for the user to be seated at multiple positions, and the elegant side table.

## CARL HANSEN & SON CH322 TABLE

The CH322 Dining Table comes in a solid oak top with hardware for two or four leaves (not included) and one supporting wooden leg (2 leaf) or four supporting legs (4 leaf). It's no coincidence that Wegner's dining tables complement his chairs perfectly. They are both excellent expressions of his approach to timeless design. Wegner's dining tables reveal his profound understanding of wood and its possibilities. Combined with Carl Hansen & Son's uncompromising selection and workmanship of the best hardwoods, Wegner's tables are a daily pleasure with deep roots in the Danish forests. Form and function always find a perfect balance in Wegner's designs. His tables are as stable as they are comfortable, and their sculptural beauty can be appreciated from any angle. Like his chairs, Wegner's tables demand the very best of skilled craftsmen. His furniture's construction and joints were designed to be stable and beautiful - not to be easy to produce.



## NORMANN COPENHAGEN RIB CABINETS

Rib sideboard and cabinet are timeless and elegant storage solutions. The design is inspired by the architecture of Nordic summerhouses from the 1960's with wooden slats adorning the façade creating an interesting and decorative exterior. Rib continues this architectural heritage by having trapeze-shaped wooden panels, which add character to the design. The wooden slats create a visual break in the uniform surface of the front and add depth and dynamics. To further reference the source of inspiration, Rib is designed in oak veneer with solid oak slats and base and equipped with a push latch, making handles redundant. This creates a harmonious expression mirroring a stringent wooden facade. The Rib collection consists of a cabinet and sideboard available in either lacquered oak veneer or painted and lacquered oak veneer. Both variants have removable shelves that can be adjusted in height, giving the possibility to store any object or belongings.

## STELLAR WORKS SEITON TV CABINET

Seiton is a coherent modular storage system designed for the home, the office and for hospitality. The system is flexible and modular allowing the user to create unique solutions. Seiton is designed for function and flexibility without losing focus on aesthetics. The design is grand in style and appearance. The system can be configured in multiple ways - against a wall or freestanding as a room divider. Seiton comes as flat-pack and is easy to assemble. Key design elements of Seiton are functionality, contrast, materiality, refinement and detail. The design is solid and light in appearance and plays with positive and negative space. The system is focused on high quality and attention to detail.



## GUBI SEINE CEILING LAMP

The Seine Collection by Space Copenhagen was inspired by the behavior of light in moving water, an effect that was captured through the use of patterned mouth-blown glass. The collection comprises of a Table Lamp, Ceiling Lamp, and Pendant, each of which can be configured with a shade in Smoke, a lightly tinted translucent glass which reveals the inner structure of the lamp, or Coral, where the interior of the shade has been sand-blasted to create a clouded effect. Each Seine lamp draws on the power of glass to soften, layer, and blur light, creating a dreamy, reflective ambiance.





# DIY WALL DECOR IDEAS TO ELEVATE YOUR HOME

The Blank Wall is Your Canvas

## WOOD SLAT WALL

For when we find ourselves in need of a remote space to do work, relax or reenergise between meetings or events: The Rest bench by Sebastian Herkner. The design has a characterful persona with upholstered elements that bring a sense of softness to modern spaces, joined by the functionality of its curved back, allowing for the user to be seated at multiple positions, and the elegant side table.



## CORKBOARD WORLD MAP

A functioning workstation and this corkboard global map, which you can construct yourself, are necessities for an at-home office environment. You can glance up at your lovely map and think back on the vacations you've been and the places you're dreaming of visiting as you're zoning out over the barrage of emails (sorry bosses, it happens).



## FLOWER WALL

This wall of (fake) flowers will add a splash of colour to your space. It may be readily customised to match your colour scheme and looks fantastic when placed behind your bed (headboards are overrated).



## BOHO WALL HANGING

Buying something like this might cost you an arm and leg on a bougie website but you can make it on your own for way less. Get your tools ready and follow the instructions from any YouTube tutorial. Your friends are going to freak out when they find out that you made this beauty. Be warned: They might ask you to make them one too.



## CIRCULAR WALL HANGINGS

Let's be honest, these circular wall hangings don't necessarily look like an easy DIY project. But by following the myriad of readily available YouTube video tutorials, you'll get access to add these to every wall in your home. They'd also make great presents too.



## LIVING GALLERY WALL

Once you plant these little ones, your living gallery wall will flourish just as much as your general obsession with plants does. This one may require a little more sustained effort from you, but if you value the life and uplift that fresh plants provide to your home, it will be well worth the extra work. And if you don't yet possess a green thumb, perhaps look at these plants that are virtually unkillable.



## PAPER FLOWER WREATHS

This is childhood craft time meets adult wall space at its finest. Customise the colours of the flowers to match your already-outfitted room, and it'll be the perfect addition to that boring wall you've always dreaded looking at.



## WOODEN PEGBOARD

If you have a huge wall, lots of ideas, but no clue where to start, a wooden pegboard is your answer. You can add as many sections as you want and are able to fill the board up with all your random bits and bobs. Look how chic they are all together.



## SHOWER CURTAIN WALL ART

DIY projects can be pricey depending on the tools you need, but this is one of the most budget-friendly tutorials you can take on. All you need is a shower curtain and some wood to make a frame. Boom.



# SIMPLY SKINCARE

## Skincare Trends That Will Dominate in 2023

BY HIRANMAYIL AWJI MOHANAN

The world of skincare is constantly evolving, and it can be challenging to stay on top of the latest trends. As we enter a new year, it's important to be aware of the skincare trends that are expected to dominate in 2023. These trends not only provide insight into what consumers are looking for, but they can also help us to improve the health and appearance of our skin. In this article, we will take a look at some of the skincare trends that are expected to dominate in 2023, including sustainable skincare, CBD-infused skincare, probiotic skincare, personalised skincare and clean beauty. Whether you're looking to improve your overall skincare routine or target specific skin concerns, these trends offer a variety of options to choose from. By staying informed about the latest skincare trends, you can ensure that your skin is at its best, both now and in the future.

### 1. SUSTAINABLE SKINCARE

With the increasing awareness of the impact of the beauty industry on the environment, many consumers are looking for skincare products that are eco-friendly and sustainable. Brands that use natural and organic ingredients, package their products in recyclable materials, and have a commitment to reducing their carbon footprint will be in high demand. Additionally, consumers are also looking for skincare products that are cruelty-free and have minimal packaging waste. Brands that can demonstrate their commitment to sustainability will have a competitive edge in the market.

### 2. CBD-INFUSED SKINCARE

CBD, also known as cannabidiol, is a compound found in the hemp plant that is believed to have anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties. This makes it a popular ingredient in skincare products for treating a variety of skin concerns, such as acne, eczema, and aging. CBD-infused skincare products are expected to become even more popular in 2023 as more research is done on the benefits of CBD for the skin.

### 3. PROBIOTIC SKINCARE

Probiotics are known for their benefits to gut health, but they're also being used in skincare to improve the overall health of the skin. Probiotic skincare products contain live microorganisms that help to balance the skin's microbiome, which can lead to a clearer and more radiant complexion. These products can also help to strengthen the skin's natural barrier and reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles.

### 4. Personalised skincare

Personalised skincare is all about tailoring skincare products and routines to the individual's specific skin type and concerns. This trend is expected to grow in popularity in 2023 as more and more consumers look for skincare products that are tailored to their unique needs. Brands are using technology such as skin analysis and DNA testing to create customised skincare regimens for their customers.

### 5. Clean beauty

Clean beauty is a term used to describe skincare products that are free from harmful chemicals and toxins. This trend has been gaining momentum in recent years and is expected to continue in 2023. Consumers are becoming more aware of the ingredients used in skincare products and are looking for products that are free from harmful chemicals. Brands are formulating products with natural and organic ingredients, and are transparent about the ingredients they use.

### Summary

In conclusion, in 2023, consumers will be more conscious of the impact of their skincare choices on the environment and their own health. Sustainable, natural, and personalised skincare products will be in high demand, as will be CBD-infused, probiotic, and clean beauty skincare products. Brands that can offer these types of products, while also being transparent about their ingredients and sustainable practices, will be well positioned to succeed in the market.



# CONSCIOUS EFFORT

## Adopting an Eco-Friendly Beauty Routine in 2023

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



As we become more aware of the impact our actions have on the environment, many of us are looking for ways to make our daily routines more eco-conscious. One area that often goes overlooked is our beauty routine. But did you know that the products we use on our skin, hair, and nails can have a significant impact on the environment? The word ‘clean’ has become a major trend in the beauty world. Consumers want to know not just what product works the best on their face, but what product is best for our planet as well. So, what conscious efforts can you make in order to transform your beauty routine into an environmentally friendly beauty routine? We divulge some tips to adopting a more eco-friendly beauty routine.



**1. USE NATURAL AND ORGANIC PRODUCTS.**

Many conventional beauty products contain harsh chemicals that can be harmful to both our skin and the environment. Look for products that are made with natural and organic ingredients, which are often better for our skin and the planet.

**2. AVOID MICROBEADS.**

Microbeads, tiny plastic beads found in exfoliating scrubs and toothpastes, are a major contributor to plastic pollution in our oceans. Instead, look for products that use natural exfoliants, such as sugar or sea salt.

**3. CHOOSE PRODUCTS WITH MINIMAL PACKAGING.**

Many beauty products come in excessive packaging, which can be wasteful and bad for the environment. Choose products that have minimal packaging or that use eco-friendly packaging materials, such as glass or biodegradable materials.

**4. DITCH DISPOSABLE BEAUTY PRODUCTS.**

Single-use beauty products, such as makeup wipes and cotton pads, can create a lot of waste. Instead, opt for reusable alternatives, such as makeup remover cloths or a konjac sponge for your face. If you do buy a product in-store that has plastic packaging, make sure to at least recycle these plastics at home which is truly a small conscious effort. It's also possible to recycle or reuse beauty product bottles that you normally would throw out.

**5. INVEST IN LONG-LASTING PRODUCTS.**

When it comes to makeup, skincare, and hair care, it's often better to invest in a few high-quality, long-lasting products rather than buying new ones every few weeks. Not only will this save you money in the long run, but it's also better for the environment.

**6. SUPPORT ECO-FRIENDLY BEAUTY BRANDS.**

Many beauty brands are taking steps to become more sustainable, such as using eco-friendly packaging and sourcing ingredients ethically. By supporting these brands, you're helping to drive the demand for more sustainable beauty products.

**7. DIY YOUR OWN BEAUTY PRODUCTS.**

Many beauty products can be made at home using natural ingredients. This can not only save you money, but it also reduces packaging waste and supports a more sustainable lifestyle.

**8. LOOK FOR MULTI-USE PRODUCTS.**

Searching for products with many uses is one of the simplest ways to make your beauty regimen more eco-friendly. Products with many uses generate less waste and cost. Find makeup sticks that may be used on your lips, eyes, and cheeks all at once. Choose moisturisers that also act as sunscreen, if possible. Instead of using both, you may alternatively use eyeshadow as eyeliner.

There aren't multi-use products for every situation, but in those instances, attempt to purchase larger bottles or containers. You will utilise a package longer and generate less waste if it is larger. But only do this if you're certain you can finish the product before it goes bad! If you frequently discard (not empty) things because they have reached the end of their shelf life, that will result in increased waste. Comparatively speaking to a mascara, lipstick, or makeup palette, skincare is probably simpler to empty. It's a good idea to purchase larger skincare bottles and miniature makeup items. a sincere effort that is also wise financially.

Adopting a more eco-conscious beauty routine doesn't have to be difficult or expensive. By making small changes, such as switching to natural and organic products and investing in long-lasting items, we can all make a positive impact on the environment. Remember, every small step counts in the larger picture of preserving the earth for the future generations.





# BEST FOODS TO SOOTHE SORE THROAT

Sore throats can be a real nuisance, making it hard to eat or even talk. But did you know that certain foods can actually help soothe the discomfort and inflammation? Eating is a super underrated remedy for a sore throat. Nutrient-dense foods are a low-risk, high-potential gain prescription.

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

## WHAT CAUSES SORE THROAT?

A sore throat is a painful, dry, or scratchy feeling in the throat. Sore throats are divided into types — pharyngitis, tonsillitis, and laryngitis — based on the part of the throat they affect. The most common cause of a sore throat is a viral infection. The virus and your immune response to the virus cause the lining of your throat to become inflamed, which causes pain. A lot of viruses and bacteria can cause pharyngitis (a.k.a. a sore throat), sinus congestion, or a cough, and that irritates the throat and can cause swelling. You should also be mindful of COVID-19 as a potential contributing factor. The common manifestations of COVID are tonsil enlargement, runny nose, and upper respiratory infection, and all can cause a sore throat.

### BEST FOODS TO SOOTHE SORE THROAT

Here are some of the best foods to eat when you're dealing with a sore throat:

- Warm liquids: Drinking warm liquids, such as tea or broth, can provide much-needed moisture to the throat, helping to soothe the discomfort. Warm liquids can also help to break up mucus and reduce inflammation. Herbal teas like chamomile, liquorice root and ginger can provide additional benefits
- Honey: Honey has natural antimicrobial properties that can help to kill off the bacteria or viruses that may be causing your sore throat. It's also a natural anti-inflammatory, which can help to reduce swelling and discomfort. Mixing a spoonful of honey in warm tea or lemon water can provide extra relief.
- Garlic: Garlic is a natural antibiotic that can help to fight off the infection that's causing your sore throat. It also has natural anti-inflammatory properties, which can help to reduce swelling and discomfort. Eating raw garlic or adding it to your cooking can provide the best benefits.
- Yogurt: Yogurt contains probiotics, which are beneficial bacteria that can help to boost your immune system and fight off the infection that's causing your sore throat. Eating plain, unsweetened yogurt can provide the most benefits.

- Ginger: Ginger is a natural anti-inflammatory, which can help to reduce swelling and discomfort. It also has antimicrobial properties, which can help to fight off the infection that's causing your sore throat. Drinking ginger tea or chew on a ginger piece can provide relief.
- Turmeric: Turmeric is a natural anti-inflammatory, which can help to reduce swelling and discomfort. It also has antimicrobial properties, which can help to fight off the infection that's causing your sore throat. Adding turmeric to your food or drinking turmeric milk can provide benefits.
- Fruits and vegetables: Fruits and vegetables are rich in vitamins and minerals that can help to boost your immune system and fight off the infection that's causing your sore throat. Eating a variety of colourful fruits and vegetables can provide the most benefits.

In addition to incorporating these foods into your diet, it's important to stay hydrated, get plenty of rest, and avoid smoking or second-hand smoke. If your sore throat persists or is accompanied by other symptoms, it's best to see a doctor. Remember, a healthy diet is key to maintaining a strong immune system, and these foods can provide additional support when you're dealing with a sore throat.



There are a lot of awesome fitness goals you can shoot for. You can train for a half-marathon, aim to build more muscle, finally achieve that elusive pullup or chinup, or sculpt six-pack abs. If the previous sentence caught your attention, we've got you covered with the trainer's insider tips for getting a six-pack. It's important to note right away that not all of the factors that affect whether you can truly see your abs are within your control. You must combine what you eat and drink with core exercises if you want to see increased muscle definition in your set of abs.

For instance, both genetics and diet have an impact on body composition, which is the ratio of your lean muscle mass to body fat. Most women should aim for a body fat percentage of between 15 and 19 percent. Instead of focusing solely on a six-pack, which is extremely unrealistic for the majority of people, the ideal way to approach ab workouts is to think holistically about your core and train 360 degrees around your centre of your body. Following is what fitness gurus advise doing to achieve a body fat percentage that will make your six-pack pop.

#### • TURN UP THE CARDIO

A fantastic technique to burn fat is through aerobic activity. According to a review of 16 clinical experiments that examined the relationship between the two, the more cardio you perform, the more belly fat you stand to shed. You can also reduce your whole body weight as there is no such thing as "spot training" a certain muscle area. Cardio is a fantastic strategy for reducing stress and weight. It both defines and contributes to strength. You'll start to notice a change in your body composition as well as increased tone and definition from head to toe, including ab muscles, when you consistently incorporate cardio into a training routine that also emphasises core and muscle building.

#### • ADD HIIT WORKOUTS TO YOUR ROUTINE

HIIT: What is it? First off, it stands for high-intensity interval training, and it might be the quickest route to developing abs. This is due to the exercise method's ability to mix both cardio and strength training into a single, efficient workout, also known for how well it raises your heart rate. The beauty of a HIIT class is that it gives you the benefit of body fat loss, as well as putting on lean mass. If you start doing HIIT three to four times a week you will see a noticeable difference in your body.

#### • DO CORE / AB WORKOUTS REGULARLY

Every workout should involve core training. Just know that exercise alone isn't enough to give your muscle definition because core workouts won't decrease belly fat necessarily, according to a small study that looked at 24 women who did abs exercises five times per week for six weeks; you also need to follow a healthy diet. In fact, just focusing on core exercises will have little to no effect on reducing abdominal fat but it will increase your core strength. You've probably heard it before, but a six pack is really built in the kitchen (ie your food intake). However, exercise is the only method to add muscle and get that definition. It's crucial to exercise your entire set of abdominal muscles, not just your rectus abdominis (i.e. six pack). By performing exercises that sculpt from every angle, you aim to strengthen your complete core, which includes your internal and external obliques, transverse abdominals, and internal stabilisers.

#### • LOAD UP ON PROTEIN

If you already engage in physical activity, it's likely that you've heard that protein is crucial for recovery after workouts because it aids in muscle growth and repair. Did you realise, however, that consuming more protein could also alter your body's composition by reducing body fat? Even a small amount of additional protein can have a significant impact. One study found that increasing your protein intake by just 15% could have the desired effect. Here are the top high-protein foods you should start consuming right away if you haven't already.

#### • HYDRATION IS KEY

In addition to being healthy for your skin and body as a whole, staying hydrated may also help you burn more calories and lose more body fat, according to some research. According to study, drinking about 17 ounces of water can increase your metabolic rate by up to 30% for anywhere between 10 and 40 minutes while also increasing your energy expenditure. According to the same study, you burn 23 calories for every 17 ounces of water you consume.

#### • REDUCE SUGAR AND PROCESSED FOOD

Our body stores any excess fuel from food it's not burning right away as fat to be broken down for energy at a later date. This process happens very quickly with foods that are high in sugar and/or calories like sweets, packaged goods, and even drinks, like soda and wine. So, consuming them in moderation is a key if you're interested in figuring out how to lose fat and gain muscle at the same time in order to create more definition in your six-pack region. Additionally, hormones like cortisol, sometimes known as the stress hormone, might have an impact on belly fat in particular. In fact, studies show that stress is associated with increased amounts of belly fat in women who are not medically obese.

# HOW TO GET VISIBLY TONED ABS

Tips That Trainers Recommend

BY HIRANMAYIL AWLI MOHANAN



# LONG THIEN SHIH

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Long Thien Shih studied art in Atelier 17 and Atelier de Lithographic, Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux- Arts, both in Paris, under a French government scholarship. Thereafter, he moved to London to study at the Royal College of Art. He has won awards such as the First Prize in the 1961 Young Malayan Artists Competition in Kuala Lumpur and the 1992 Prints Prize in Salon Malaysia. Thien Shih is known among the contemporary artists of the early generation through his subjects and themes ranging from eroticism, environment concern, satires as well as his careful observations of local and international culture and politics.

He presented a retrospective exhibition titled Man Of The Times at National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur in 2014. In 2018, he participated in a group exhibition titled The Art Of Printmaking: Lasting Impressions, which was held at Bank Negara Malaysia Museum and Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.

The artist's proclivity for illustrating scenes of yesteryear is endearing and evokes a flood of memories, evident in Long's pieces. His landscapes boasts explorations of colours, contours, crevices and shapes, and translates his adoration for scenes onto canvas.



**Long Thien Shih**  
Kampung Hailam, 1963  
Watercolour on paper, 40 x 63 cm

## Kampung Hailam, 1963

This painting, entitled Kampung Hailam, 1963 is especially endearing as Long Thien Shih's have relatives who live in Kampung Hailam in Port Klang and Pulau Ketam. The artist used to spend his school holidays there with them during his childhood. "When I began to learn drawing, I noticed many artists have been painting fishing villages using the oil and watercolour medium," said Long. This inspired him to incorporate similar subjects as part of his works, and more so, because these subjects and scenes are endearing, as well as familiar to the artist.

"During my formative years as an artist, from 1960 to 1964, I painted many fishing villages in all sorts of styles, and initially, I took cues from veteran artists like Cheong Soo Peng or Lim Cheng Hoe or Yong M n San, but later I develop my own style by using palette knives to render lines in watercolour, which was never done by any one before me. I know the essential features of the fishing village and boats, which I would then employ the palette knife with watercolour easily to render the subjects in my own way," said Long about his style of painting.



# KLAS ART AUCTION

## SUNDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

Ever devoted to bring art enthusiasts the best of modern and contemporary art, from the local, regional and international sphere, KLAS PLUS, under the banner of KL Lifestyle Art Space (KLAS) is set to host its inaugural art auction of the year. Scheduled for Feb 26, 2023 at its gallery at 150 Jalan Maarof, Bangsar, the modern and contemporary art auction features an array of Malaysian and regional artworks by masters of the craft.

Art connoisseurs can look forward to works by big guns such as Datuk Chuah Thean Teng, Khalil Ibrahim, Kwan Chin, Ismail Abdul Latiff and many more. Patrons can also look forward to works by Indonesian artist Raka Suasto, Indian artists Laxman Pai, M. Sivanesan, and the late Sunil Daswill also be showcased during the auction. Feast your senses to these beautiful works and if you're lucky, it could be yours.



**Ismail Mat Hussin**  
Weaving Silk, 2004  
Watercolour on paper, 56 x 76 cm  
**RM 3,500 - 5,000**

## Ismail Mat Hussin, Weaving Silk, 2004

It's well established that Ismail Mat Hussin has a knack for depicting scenes, infusing colours, wonder and nostalgia onto canvas. He is one of the prominent artists who incorporates batik into his paintings and infuses his entire being into his work, making the feel as if they know the artist himself just by looking at the painting. It is both endearing and warm. This endearing work takes one on a journey to the rural kampungs where ladies make a living off weaving fabric. This piece presents tranquility, reminisces the past and daily experiences of people in the East Coast. The calm and soothing earth tones are something Ismail Mat Hussin has a proclivity for, using them often in his works.

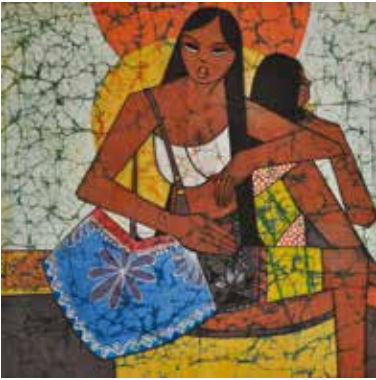


**Ismail Mat Hussin**  
Mandi Bersama Ibu, 2004  
Watercolour on paper, 56 x 76 cm  
**RM 16,000 - 25,000**

## Ismail Mat Hussin, Mandi Bersama Ibu, 2004

Born in 1938, in Pantai Sabak, Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Ismail Mat Hussin's art depicts everyday rural scenes from the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia. He developed an interest in painting at 12 and took up weekly art painting classes at Padang Garong Malay School under the tutelage of Cikgu Nik Mahmud Idris between 1954 and 1955. In 1968, he took the plunge and took up painting full-time. At that time, experimentation with batik painting among artists in Malaysia was gaining momentum. This endearing piece by Ismail Mat Hussin embodies exactly what its title suggests, which is translated to bath time with mother. Two female figures are depicted donning sarongs and a small boy is illustrated naked in his bathroom, awaiting his mother to give him a bath. Ismail's batik paintings may be found in the art collections of the National Art Gallery Kuala Lumpur, Petronas, Bank Negara Malaysia, ESSO Malaysia and Maybank among others, including a clutch full of notable individuals.





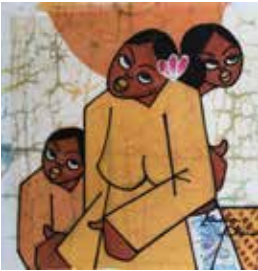
**Kwan Chin**  
Sunshine Girl, 1998  
Batik, 74 x 74 cm  
RM 5,000 - 9,000

**Kwan Chin, Sunshine Girl, 1998**

Kwan Chin has a penchant for the Malaysian country life, setting and people. The lines and details of the batik are very clear and evident here, proving to the audience how much of an expert Kwan Chin is with his detailing when it comes to batik. The lovely display of colours sets a cheerful, sunny mood for the viewer, at the same time showcasing the complexity of batikmaking. Born in Kepong, Kuala Lumpur in 1946, Kwan Chin attended the Nanyang Academy of Fine Art in Singapore during which he learned how to use traditional art materials. Shortly thereafter, he delved into the world of advertising but once he was introduced to batik, it instantly changed his career path.



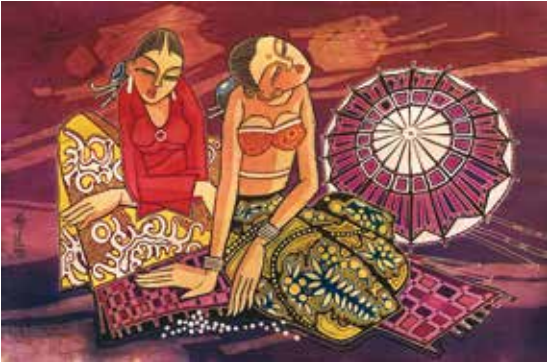
**Seah Kim Joo**  
Dayak Girl, 1970's  
Batik, 63.5 x 45.5 cm  
RM 3,500 - 7,000



**Kwan Chin**  
Mother & Children / Three Siblings  
Batik, 29 x 28 cm / 30 x 29 cm  
RM 2,000 - 5,000

**Kwan Chin, Mother & Children / Three Siblings**

Featuring two pieces of paintings within one lot, Kwan Chin concocts a calm, peaceful atmosphere in the Malaysian suburbs, the first, a mother with a flower adorning her hair with her children and the second, siblings of three in an embrace to show their affinity for one another. Here, Kwan Chin capture the relationships of family and the simple life of yesteryears, together with their closeness to nature.



**Tay Chee Toh**  
Resting 2, 1970  
Batik, 49 x 75 cm  
RM 8,000 - 18,000

**Tay Chee Toh, Resting 2**

Painter, sculptor and Cultural Medallion recipient Tay Chee Toh has been creating art for almost half a century. Tay's artistic practices is driven by his consistent quest to challenge himself and to advance fresh forms of artistic expressions. Tay's artistic prowess is evident in this body of work. Here, dark, vivid colours are employed throughout the batik work, and in Tay's manner, he illustrates two subjects adorned in the traditional sarong and top resting. Seeking solace, they rest on a tikar and use an umbrella to create a shade from the sun. The subjects are portrayed in a unique juxtaposition of reality and fantasy.

**Seah Kim Joo, Dayak Girl, 1970's**

Seah Kim Joo was introduced to the process of traditional batik-making very early in his career as an artist through the environment of his hometown. In the 1950s, when the Penang- based artist Chuah Thean Teng first pioneered painting using the batik medium, Seah Kim Joo was then drawn even more into batik painting. This made Seah a passionate follower of the late Chuah and his works, since the manifestation of contemporary themes in a traditional medium was regarded as a direct expression of Nanyang regionalism. His work entitled 'Dayak' uses soothing tones of the sun, accompanied by highlights of nature as two-dimensional shapes overlay and fades into one another when met.



**Seah Kim Joo**  
Fisherfolks  
Batik, 90 x 60 cm  
RM 10,000 - 18,000

**Seah Kim Joo, Fisherfolks**

It was Seah Kim Joo's hometown in Terengganu that exposed him to batik in his early days. His passion for batik painting only grew in the 1950s, when the Penang-based artist Chuah Thean Teng first pioneered painting using the batik medium. It also resulted in Seah being an ardent follower of the late Chuah and his works, since the manifestation of contemporary themes in a traditional medium was regarded as a direct expression of Nanyang regionalism. Seah's works are about nature and people, apart from occasional abstract pieces. Perhaps it was the cultural background of his hometown in Terengganu that influenced his choice of subject matters. Ever equipped with an ethereal quality, 'Fisherfolks' is a batik work rendered in an orange hue, with fishing boats floating in a distance and in the foregrounds, two fishermen are portrayed with a cloth around their head and dressed in sarong and shirt, tending to their nets.



**Tan Chong Ghee**  
Mosque in Penang, 1982  
Watercolour on rice paper, 46 x 68.5 cm  
RM 5,000 - 10,000

**Tan Choon Ghee, Mosque in Penang, 1982**

Tan Choon Ghee was a master in capturing buildings, shops, landscapes and tiny, miniscule details. By infusing the Chinese classical paintings' calligraphic brushstrokes and the British watercolour approach, Tan Choon Ghee created pieces that are ethereal, desirable and unmitigated in its exquisiteness. With gentle brushstrokes and the way the ink blends into the white background gives it that faint, misty glow that provides his pieces with an air of nostalgia. Tan Choon Ghee was considered one of the most established Malaysian artists.



**Koeh Sia Yong**  
Market Scene, 2005  
Oil on canvas, 50 x 60 cm  
RM 13,000 - 22,000



**Mohd Akhir Ahmad**  
Ada yang Tertinggal, 2013  
Mixed media on canvas, 91 x 91 cm  
RM 1,000 - 2,500



**Tong Chin Sye**  
Market in Boat Quay, Singapore  
Watercolour on paper, 37 x 51 cm  
RM 10,000 - 18,000

**Tong Chin Sye, Market in Boat Quay, Singapore**

Born in Singapore, Tong Chin Sye is a renowned multi-media artist trained in both Western and Chinese art. His dynamic oeuvre includes watercolour, oil, Chinese ink and mixed media paintings. Chin Sye was previously a part-time lecturer in Western Art at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and has participated in numerous local and overseas exhibitions over the years. He clinched the first prize in the Port of Singapore Authority Open Art Competition in 1987 and represented Singapore at the Flemish Watercolour Days held at Zaventem, Belgium in 1988.

**Koeh Sia Yong, Market Scene 2005**

Born in 1938, Koeh Sia Yong is a second-generation Singaporean artist who has dedicated his life to creating spectacular art capturing his environment and its occupants. An acclaimed artist, Koeh's works are highly sought after by collectors, including the Singapore Art Museum, National Museum of Singapore, UOB and Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. Nanyang Academy of Fine Art graduate Koeh was a key member of the now-defunct Equator Society, whose members promoted social realism in Singapore and often produced work that drew attention to the everyday conditions of the working class and the poor. Koeh has been an illustrator and artist for over 50 years. Known for his unique artistic style and excellent painting techniques, he is one of Singapore's most outstanding artists today. His work is widely exhibited, and he is involved in the commercial development of art through magazines, art catalogues and political cartoons. The artist is most known for his oil painting depictions of rich culture scenes of Southeast Asia through bold and unrestrained brushstrokes.





**Raka Suasto**  
Bali 1, 2006  
Mixed media on paper, 46 x 34.5 cm  
**RM 1,000 - 3,500**

**Raka Suasto, Bali 1, 2006**

Raka Suasto is an Indonesian artist known for his unique blend of traditional and contemporary styles. His artworks often depict scenes from everyday life, using a vibrant colour palette and bold brushstrokes to create dynamic compositions. One of his most recognisable series is the “Kampung” series, which features scenes from rural villages in Indonesia. In these paintings, Suasto captures the bustling energy of village life, with people going about their daily activities set against a backdrop of lush greenery and traditional architecture. The use of bold colours and thick brushstrokes gives these paintings a sense of movement and vitality.



**Chuah Thean Teng, Bullock Cart Carriage, 1970's**

Dato’ Chuah Thean Teng was born in China in 1914, where he studied at the Amoy Art School. Teng first started in this medium in 1953 and therefore he can be considered the father of Batik Painting in Malaysia. He says, “Art is the vision of the artist, his creation, imagination and expression reflecting the artist’s many degrees of feeling. It is an interplay of both emotional and visual expression where the illusions created convey the statements across. And through the different modes of expressions, we are compelled to seek some standard of value to enable us to distinguish between them. This distinction is called the transformation of things.” According to Frank Sullivan, “His (referring to Dato’ Chuah Thean Teng) productivity in batik painting is enormous never satisfied, he is always experimenting, seeking to give new depth and range to his batik art.”

**Chua Thean Teng**  
Bullock Cart Carriage, 1970's  
Batik, 59 x 44 cm  
**RM 14,000 - 22,000**



**Raka Suasto, Bali 4, 2005**

Overall, Raka Suasto’s artworks are known for their bright colors and dynamic compositions, capturing the energy and vitality of everyday life in Indonesia. His unique blend of traditional and contemporary styles has made him one of the most sought-after artists in Indonesia.

**Raka Suasto**  
Bali 4, 2005  
Mixed media on paper, 27 x 37.5 cm  
**RM 1,000 - 3,500**



**Chen Wen Hsi**  
Two Gibbons  
Chinese ink and watercolour on paper, 33 x 44 cm  
**RM 28,000 - 45,000**

**Chen Wen Hsi, Two Gibbons**

The black of the Chinese ink in Chen Wen Hsi’s works is sometimes accompanied by subtle shades of brown that make up tree trunks or the skin of gibbons showing through black fur. Oftentimes, dabs and strokes of the occasional green of leaves, interrupt the monochromatic aspects of the works. All these muted tones come together to suffuse the ink works with a harmonious feel. It is easy to get lost in Chen Wen Hsi’s skilful handling of the brush in depicting the gibbons’ fur. The artist alternates between fine and broad brushstrokes as well as between wet and dry ones, all to different effects. Sometimes, all these different brush strokes can be found on the body of a single gibbon, enhancing its three-dimensional quality. At other times, they are applied separately on different gibbons.



**Chuah Thean Teng**  
Datuk Mother and Child - Durian Seller (1970's)  
Batik, 89 x 61 cm  
**RM 45,000 - 80,000**



**Chuah Thean Teng**  
Datuk Mother and Child - Durian Seller (1970's)  
Batik, 89 x 61 cm  
**RM 45,000 - 80,000**



**Yusof Ghani**  
Siri Ombak  
Acrylic on canvas, 34.5 x 45 cm  
**RM 3,500 - 7,000**

**Chuah Thean Teng, Mother and Child- Durian Seller (1970's)**

Datuk Chuah Thean Teng is a renowned Malaysian artist, known for his striking batik paintings. His “Mother and Child” series is one of his most iconic works, which is characterised by its tender and emotional depiction of the bond between a mother and her child. The series features a variety of compositions, but all of them depict the intimate relationship between a mother and her child in a serene and peaceful setting. The mother is often shown holding her child close, with a look of love and tenderness on her face. The children, on the other hand, are shown with a look of contentment and trust in their mother. In this painting, the mother, who is a durian seller appears to have her son strapped to her back, while she tends to customers.

**Khoo Sui Hoe, Two Standing Between Leaves, Jan 1979**

Khoo Sui Hoe was one of the earliest and courageous people who took the plunge of becoming a full-time artist. Through his Alpha Singapore Gallery and Alpha Utara Gallery in Penang, he has played a vital role in nurturing other artists. Khoo Sui Hoe has also won various awards, among which are the First Prize for the 1965 Malaysian art competition, an Honourable Mention in Salon Malaysia 1969 and the Asian Arts Now Awards (twice) given by the Las Vegas Museum. ‘Two Standing Between Leaves’ is a sublime body of work with two silhouettes of subjects in the epicentre are illustrated amid nature, represented the leaves. Peace also seems to be the underlining theme with the artists use of green and his hallmark of rounded lips on the subject.

**Yusof Ghani, Siri Ombak**

Aptly named the Ombak Series, it depicts a mighty and wrathful rolling waves. One can observe the intricacies in the movements of the waves as it gains in dimension and about to unfold itself onto the shore. The waves represent the most recent three phases of Yusof Ghani’s journey, namely: destruction, humanity and awakening. This series brings us back to his roots in abstract expressionism. His earlier works showcase his curiosity and search for something more spiritual through the series of ‘Tari’, ‘Topeng’, ‘Wayang’, ‘Segerak’, ‘Hijau’, ‘Biring’ and ‘Wajah’. Yusof Ghani is a painter who always gives depth to his paintings by equipping them with an underlying meaning.



**Chung Cheng Sun**  
Indian Lady\_ Mother and Child, 1975  
Ink on paper, 136 x 65 cm  
**RM 5,000 - 12,000**

**Chung Chen Sun, Indian Lady-Mother and Child, 1975**

Chung Chen Sun, born in 1935 in Malacca, is an internationally famed and recognised artist as well as art academician. He graduated from Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Singapore under the tutelage of artists such as Chen Wen Hsi, Chen Zhong Rui and Cheong Soo Pieng. In 1964, Chung obtained a masters degree in Public Administration and Management from Los Angeles University. He is an artist and educator who is well-versed in the melting pot of multiculturalism. The artist is widely regarded as the “Father of Malaysian Modern Art Education” and “The Father of Malaysian Modern Ink Painting”. Chung’s forte lies in ink painting and he is very diverse in his subject matters, creating works of landscape, figures and still life. This particular ink iteration sees a subject clad in traditional Indian attire called the saree, and is seen tending or playing with her child.





### Dining

The opulence and aesthetic continues at the Art 66 Bar. Be mesmerised by the embellished hand-crafted Baroque-styled columns and hand-painted fresco ceilings at the tallest bar in Mont Kiara. At Arte 66, be greeted by the stunning views of the Kuala Lumpur city skyline as you order your morning espresso, a relaxing cup of afternoon tea or a signature glass of Arte's premium cocktail. Whatever you desire, the barista-cum-bartender is always at your service. When staying in a French-inspired hotel, it is expected that the dining experience would be an immersive, French flair in modern, Rococo-styled contemporary dining restaurant — Arte 66 Restaurant. Embrace the premium French cuisine and hearty classics delivered with robust and vibrant flavours. Felicia's Lounge or the exclusive La Salon Lounge is for thoughtful reflections and intimate afternoon teas inspired by the ornate French-styled cathedral windows and high ceilings of Notre Drame. The lounge was lovingly crafted and named after the fair Lady Felicia, the love and life of the architect.

### Fitness Centre

Keep to your fitness goals at the hotel's state of the art and fully equipped Palestra gym complete with weights and treadmills. Check on your progress against black marble and be awed by the Kuala Lumpur city skyline through the floor-to-ceiling windows.

### Rooftop Infinity Pool

Step through the vines of the rooftop garden to the exclusive Les Belles Piscine, an outdoor infinity pool to the stunning panoramic views. Dive in, unfurl and unwind in the shimmering water or enjoy the sun and relax peacefully on Arte by Thomas Chan's very own sun loungers 59 floors above ground. The rooftop infinity pool is reserved exclusively for guests.

**Arte by Thomas Chan, Level 66, Tower 2, Jalan Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah, Mont Kiara, 50480 Kuala Lumpur.**

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## ARTE BY THOMAS CHAN

### Parisian Allure in the Heart of Mont Kiara

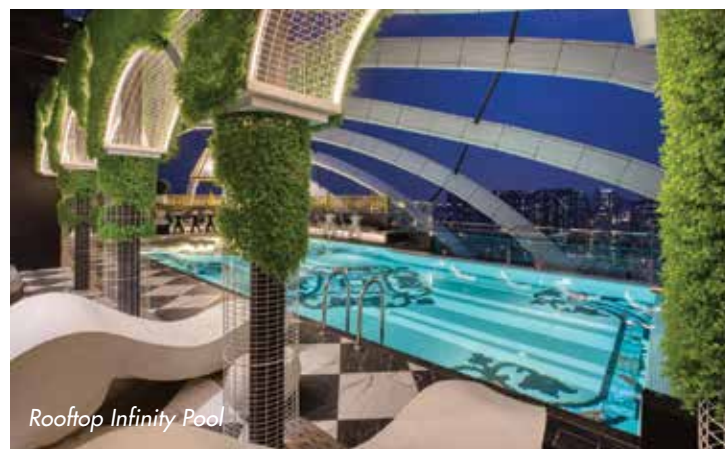
BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN

*Care for a Parisian getaway without having to leave the city? Arte by Thomas Chan checks the ideals of a romantic French getaway and brings it to life. From meticulously handcrafted Baroque-inspired columns, poetic hand-painted frescos and exceptional artistic finesse, Arte by Thomas Chan is a tribute to the French opulence, warmth and joy of life. As the tallest hotel in the international, cosmopolitan enclave of Mont Kiara, Arte by Thomas Chan connects you to a plethora of foreign experiences, premium shopping outlets, newest restaurants, exciting nightlife and key locations such as the Malaysian International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC —the largest exhibition centre in Southeast Asia, perfect for both business and convention travellers).*

*Where old world splendour meets new world creativity and innovation, Arte By Thomas Chan offers classic French luxury refined for the modern tastes of business, leisure and family travellers alike. Featuring artistically-inspired rooms and suites, a 24-hour fitness facility and a luxurious infinity pool. This distinct hotel offers 74 rooms and suites you'll never want to leave, especially with its stunning views of the Kuala Lumpur skyline from the tallest hotel in Mont Kiara. Immerse yourself in the distinct feel of the renaissance as you stretch out on your pillow-top king bed, entertain in your living room, lounge on the velvet sofas or soak in the oversized tub to the elegant Baroque, Palatial and Parisian-inspired interiors.*



Guest Room



Rooftop Infinity Pool



## M RESORT AND HOTEL

### Your Home Away From Home

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN



Guest Room



Restaurant



Swimming Pool

M Resort and Hotel Kuala Lumpur is a luxurious oasis in the heart of the bustling city. With its sleek, modern design and top-notch amenities, this hotel is the perfect choice for travellers looking for a comfortable and sophisticated stay in the capital of Malaysia.

Upon arriving at the hotel, guests are greeted with a grand and modern lobby that sets the tone for the rest of the hotel's elegant design. The hotel's guest rooms and suites are spacious and elegantly decorated, with floor-to-ceiling windows that offer stunning a city view. Each room is equipped with modern amenities such as a flat-screen TV, high-speed internet, and a comfortable bed with plush bedding. The bathrooms are also well-appointed, featuring a separate shower and bathtub, as well as high-end toiletries.

One of the hotel's standout features is its outdoor swimming pool and terrace area. The pool is the perfect place to relax and soak up the sun, and it offers a great view of the city skyline. The terrace area is also a great spot for enjoying a cocktail or a meal, as it features a variety of seating options and a bar for some sundowners. Guests who would want to keep up with their workout routine would appreciate the fitness centre that is open 24/7. It is well-equipped with a variety of cardio and weight-training equipment.

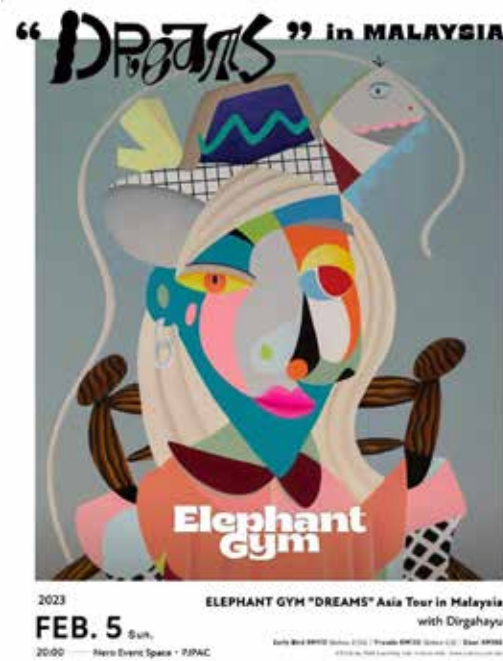
For those traveling on business, the hotel offers a variety of meeting and conference rooms, as well as a business centre. The hotel's event spaces are equipped with modern technology and are suitable for a wide range of events, from small meetings to large conferences. The hotel's location is also great, as it is located within walking distance of many of Kuala Lumpur's top attractions. The hotel is also close to a variety of shopping and dining options, making it easy for guests to explore the city.

In conclusion, M Resort and Hotel Kuala Lumpur is a fantastic choice for travellers looking for luxury and comfort in the heart of the city. From the well-appointed guest rooms to the outdoor pool and terrace area, this hotel offers guests a wide range of amenities and services to make their stay as comfortable as possible. Whether you're traveling on business or leisure, this hotel is sure to exceed your expectations.

**M Resort and Hotel, No.1, Jln KGPA, Bukit Kiara, 60000 Kuala Lumpur.  
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Goings On February 2023



Feb 5

Elephant Gym 'Dreams' Asia Tour in Malaysia Dirgahayu

Following the release of their latest album 'Dreams,' Elephant Gym has announced that they will return to Malaysia for a one-night only concert on 5th February 2023, at Nero Event Space, PJPAC. With a math rock sensibility, now fused with elements from classical music and jazz for the new musical journey. The Kaohsiung based trio has graced stages of top music festivals like Japan's Fuji Rock to Korea's Pentaport Festival. For the upcoming Malaysia show, the band will bring along their latest collection of new music along with their previous fan favourites. Dream on with Elephant Gym through their kaleidoscopic sound fantasy, along with a new and evolved sound.

Venue: PJPac  
Ticket: RM130



Feb 11

Backstage Bites: Valentine's Edition

Want to do something memorable for Valentine's Day? Take your partner on a backstage journey through theatre areas hidden from public view before taking a romantic sunset stroll through Sentul Park. Settle down for a romantic dinner at Craf before ending your day with a classic selection of the golden oldies from our Yesterday Once More 4 concert. Backstage Bites: Valentine's edition is supported by Yayasan Sime Darby.

Venue: Klpac  
Ticket: RM120 to RM150



Feb 8 to 12

Cabaret Series: Yesterday Once More 4

With three near sold-out editions under its belt, our popular Golden Oldies series makes a grand return just in time for an early Valentine's Day celebration. Treat your loved ones to some of the most loved classics from the 40s to the 70s. They are in for a relaxing time with music from some of the greatest crooners and soul singers such as The Platters, Joni Mitchell, Louis Armstrong, Bee Gees, Shirley Bassey, Nat King Cole, Tina Turner, Aretha Franklin and the King of Rock and Roll Elvis Presley. Directed by Ian Chow and Omar Ali, Yesterday Once More 4 welcomes back singers Joel Wong, Omar Ali, Phaveen Arikiah and Rachel Liu along with two new vocalists Angie Cheah and Kirthana Kuhendran. They will be joined by keyboardist Jacqueline Teng (also Music Director), lead guitarist Jeremy James Kong, bassist Dishon Lau and percussionist Alex Lee.

Venue: Pentas 2, klpac  
Ticket: RM50



Feb 11 & 14

La Traviata

A courtesan as refined as a La Traviata. How she evolved from a courtesan to a daughter of a rich family, met her lover, and experienced a tragic ending. La Traviata is an opera in three acts by Giuseppe Verdi set to an Italian libretto by Francesco Maria Piave. It is based on La Dame aux camélias (1852), a play by Alexandre Dumas fils adapted from his own 1848 novel. The opera was originally titled Violetta, after the main character. Present by the MOV Asia Korea Opera team, from Korea to Malaysia. Experience the most enjoyable show presented by MOV Asia.

Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas  
Ticket: RM290 to RM550

MUST VISIT ART GALLERY



**KL LIFESTYLE ART SPACE**  
KL Lifestyle Art Space (KLAS) is an art gallery that boasts modern and contemporary artworks from Malaysia and around the region. Through its gallery, KLAS intends to inculcate awareness about Malaysian artists and their works. This establishment will also provide the service of receiving consignments from artists or individual collectors, thereby making their artworks available to interested parties. Today, KLAS is one of the leading auction houses in Malaysia that sells high volumes of prized artworks during every auction.



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## Goings On February 2023



### Feb 12

#### MOV Grand Gala Concert - Operrissima

Join MOV Asia for a glittering "Grand Gala Concert – Operrissima" from the most popular opera hits of all time! Don't miss this curated selection of arias, delightful duets and unforgettable symphonic moments! Conducted by Yang Ginmo.

**Venue:** Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

**Ticket:** RM290 to RM550



### Feb 14

#### Mark Atkins, His Stories and His Music

Acknowledged as one of Australia's finest didgeridoo players, Mark Atkins is also recognised internationally for his collaborative projects with some of the world's leading composers and musicians. His great passion, however, is to share his own stories about his country, the land and the people through the solo show "Mark Atkins, His Stories and His Music". A descendent of Western Australia's Yamitji people, as well as of Irish/Australian heritage, Atkins draws on his rich and diverse background to offer an eclectic mix of original and new compositions featuring didgeridoo and guitar. In the tradition of sitting down and having a yarn, this concert is a musical conversation between the instruments the audience and Mark, much of it improvised. The instruments and performer complement each other, speaking their own unique and universal language as one.

**Venue:** Pentas 2, klpac

**Ticket:** RM84

## MUST VISIT PUBLIC ART GALLERY



### ILHAM GALLERY KUALA LUMPUR

ILHAM is a public art gallery committed to supporting the development, understanding and enjoyment of Malaysian modern and contemporary art within a regional and global context.





# KLAS ART AUCTION

MALAYSIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

## NOW OPEN FOR CONSIGNMENT

**SUNDAY, 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**



**KHALIL IBRAHIM**  
East Coast Fisherman, 1967

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