

Dossier



The Beauty Issue 2013

GRUMETI RESERVE OF TANZANIA

DOING SAFARI IN A NEW WAY

By Daniel Scheffler



KEY SPECIES TO SPOT

During a stay at Serengeti house, spotting a great variety of wildlife, including cheetah, bearded wildebeest, bat eared fox, black rhino, Maasai giraffe, lion, elephant, buffalo and leopard is highly likely.

Luxury safari has changed; it is no longer just a “White Mischief” fantasy of colonialist decadence but much more about the awareness of conservation. For long enough African safari travel has been associated with tramping all over the continent, stalking down animals and staying in out-of-place opulent accommodation. But the need for the preserving of animal life, fauna and flora has altered the course of safari travel. The African journey is about bringing about an understanding to travelers that it is not just the rhino that needs attention but all of continent’s wildlife and environments.

A brand firmly behind the preservation of Africa is Singita, founded by South African Luke Bailes, who believes that “conservation is Singita’s most important cause”. He vocalizes how Singita, with their different product offerings, take guests on a spiritual, emotional and physical quest that fundamentally changes them as the experience gets guests just that close to the wild.

The latest offering from Singita, designed by interior designers Cecile and Boyd’s, includes two new properties in the Grumeti Reserve of Tanzania

MARA RIVER TENTED CAMP

Situated in the Lamai Triangle of the Serengeti in the northern part of the park the tented camp rolls open onto the river and brings nature inside with its bohemian chic design. The camp accommodates 16 guests in 6 luxury tents and has been designed to be off the grid as an attempt to tread lightly yet maintaining an uttermost luxurious experience. For instance the living spaces are filled with natural light and solar power is used if electricity is needed and air-conditioning is let go for a common river breeze.



KEY SPECIES TO SPOT

The annual wildebeest migration crosses the Mara River at various points and the camp’s location provides excellent opportunities to view the crossings. As the Lamai triangle forms part of the Mara ecosystem, guests will experience year-round concentrations of resident plains game, big cats, elephant and enormous populations of crocodile and hippo in the Mara River.

SERENGETI HOUSE

Designed as an exclusive-use retreat for families and friends the property boasts complete privacy for discerning guests. Accommodating 8 people in 2 suites in the main house and 2 guests suites flanking the main house the property dazzles with pared down interiors and private pools, tennis courts and gardens.

Rooms at Mara River start at \$950 per night, Serengeti House with exclusive-use price is available on application/reservation. Both rates include breakfast, lunch, dinner and all drinks (excluding connoisseur wines and French Champagne), Land Rover safaris, airport transfers and laundry services.



HOW TO GET THERE

Although it is tricky to get to the Grumeti Reserve in Tanzania, the open skies and vast landscape makes it worth the while.

SAA (www.flysaa.com) has two flights a day from OR Tambo to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. **KLM** (www.KLM.com) has two flights daily from Schiphol airport outside Amsterdam to Nairobi. **Precision Air** (<https://www.precisionairtz.com/>) has 4-5 daily flights from Nairobi to Mount Kilimanjaro/Arusha. From here Singita will organize a charter flight to fly into the reserve.

BEST TIME TO GO

East Africa is equatorial so the climate is fairly constant and it is a year-round destination. Tanzania has a light rain season from November to March. This period is known as the ‘short rains’, often no more than a quick downpour each day, followed by clear sunshine. From December to March the weather becomes increasingly warmer with the ‘long rains’ occurring between April and May.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Singita Mara River Tented Camp and Serengeti House are in malarial zones so it is essential to consider taking appropriate prophylactics. Yellow fever is present in Tanzania and inoculations are compulsory prior to entering East Africa. The recommendation is to consult a doctor/physician before travelling.

SEASONAL TEMPERATURES

Spring (Sept - Nov) 20°C - 30°C Summer (Dec - Feb) 23°C - 31°C
Autumn (March - May) 22°C - 31°C Winter (June - Aug) 18°C - 29°C

These new properties seem to represent a new way of thinking about accommodation, a way that considers the environment and the soul. For more on Singita, <http://www.singita.com/>.

ST BARTH

ESCAPE TO A NEW KIND OF ISLAND

By Daniel Scheffler



HISTORY

Officially called Saint Barthelemy in French, the small volcanic island encircled by shallow reefs in the northeastern Caribbean, has always attracted a colony of interesting people. Unburdened with the decay of centuries of slavery, the island has due to volcanic rock never had the sugar cane fields like surrounding islands have – and therefore a giant relief from slavery.

An overseas region and department of France, and part of the EU, the island has maintained a distinctly French culture: from the buttered food, the floral language and of course that natural aesthetic. The island has become a popular destination during winter (African summer) holidays and particularly perfect over Christmas and New Year.



With extensive flora, including cacti and succulents, and fauna like mongoose, turtles and iguanas and also avifauna like brown pelicans and frigate birds the island is visually magnificent.

Pack a bathing suit, get onto the plane and head off the holiday under the sun where you're sure not to know anyone. Unless you recognize Ellen DeGeneres and Steve Martin, of course.



WHERE TO STAY

Renting a villa is the best option for the island and of course St Barth Properties takes care of that, and every single other desire you may have (stbarth.com/).

DOSSIER'S SELECTION OF VILLAS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

VILLA GEM PALM SPRINGS: A four-bedroom villa with a contemporary aesthetic that playfully jubilates in this exotic beach location. The master suite is exceptional as it is privately situated in the main pavilion and comes with two dressing rooms. The open floor plan with state of the art kitchen, outdoor dining and home cinema also add to this gem.

VILLA AVENSTAR: This five-bedroom villa decorated in grays and whites is configured over three levels and boasts with views across the sea, Lorient Beach and St Maarten. With two pools and a spacious terrace the villa becomes the perfect place to entertain and get some serious sun.

MER SOLEIL: The four-bedroom villa is known for its views of sunsets and island views across St Kitts, Saba and St. Maarten. With three en suite bedrooms on the main level and a third bedroom on a lower level the villa impresses with full service on everything from dining, to cooking, to entertaining.

WHAT TO DO

SHOPPING: Some 200 shops and boutiques including Tod's, Bulgari, Cartier, Chopard and Hermès and local products like beauty oils and woven bags, hats and baskets made by the women of Corossol.

EATING AND DRINKING: The island is packed with delis and markets and over 80 restaurants, many high-end but also with low key sidewalk cafes and on the beach grills. Often provisions are flown in from France but the local seafood fare is always in abundance. Highlights include: La Langouste (Hotel Baie des Anges, Flamands, St Barths, hotel-baie-des-anges.com) for fresh lobster and Maya's (La Plage de Public, St Barths) for eclectic Creole food.

NIGHTLIFE: Restaurants often become a bar scene with live music and dancing in the later hours of the night. Highlights include Le Bête à Z'Ailes (Gustavia, St Barthélemy, bazbar.com) and Le Ti St. Barth (Caribbean Tavern, Pointe Milou, etistbarth.com).

SPORTS: the island has an abundance of fun and adventurous activities that include scuba diving, boating, sailing, yachting, windsurfing, gold, tennis, hiking and yoga. (st-barths.com)

ACTIVITIES: Museums like the Inter Oceans Museum on the beach in Corossol and The Wall House Museum (st-barths.com/museum/) on Gustavia Harbor show off some the island's heritage.

HOW TO GET THERE

Virgin Atlantic has a daily direct flight from Cape Town and Johannesburg to London. And then offers three flights a week (Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) to Antigua out of Gatwick airport. A smaller plane operated by Tradewind Aviation (tradewindaviation.com) flies from Antigua to St Barths and takes under an hour. ♦



FOREVER PUNK

By Daniel Scheffler

Every year the Metropolitan Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art uptown in Manhattan attempts to top last year's exhibition with something new and relevant for the times. There was Alexander McQueen and Prada/Schiaparelli over the last few years and those impressed, disgusted and blew audiences away. So it is with great expectations (some hope) and a very big desire to find meaning that New Yorkers, and the rest of the planet who care, come to judge what is on display.

The opening gala of course acts as the preview and flirtatious foreplay for the exhibition and is hosted by Vogue helm Anna Wintour and attended by everyone who's everyone including Kim Kardashian who sneaked an invite despite being unofficially banned. One of the biggest red carpet moments in the city the gala tickets can sell for \$250,000 per table and gets society gals dressing in their punk finest. But according to one, "I don't really want to dress in punk, it looks too homeless" this year's theme can be challenging.

The Costume Institute houses a collection of more than 35,000 costumes and accessories from over seven centuries of dress and this year added some disarray and mutiny to their reservoir. Entitled "Punk: Chaos to Couture" the obvious irony of punk's desire to go against, strongly that is, society now displayed in a precious museum was forgotten. Even if just for a moment.

Designers ranging from Burberry's Christopher Bailey, to the obvious queen of punk Vivienne Westwood, to Franco Moschino and Junya Watanabe filled the rooms with their couture, rebellion and creative explosions. But the effect of punk, its very origins, were somewhat not explored enough in the show. Sure there was a slight indication that counter intuitively the movement did not originate in London, but rather started on the streets of New York: in the Lower East Side and East Village. And yes there were the bold t-shirts, some torn and marred, others with cowboys' showing off their junks and the most recognizable ones with the Queen's face getting defaced. But punk, in its very essence, cannot be captured by a show at a museum or a book - or worst of all in the gift shop at the end of the tunnel.

What couture and the carefully curated garbs here show so well are the do it yourself attitudes associated with punk: the spikes, the zippers, the padlocks, the safety pins, the razor blades and Sid Vicious showing you the finger. Punk is about confrontation and agitation and lives on - every day on your street. We see it even on the uptown girl that bought the Marc Jacobs handbag that has a giant zipper, and the Brooklyn cyclist hipster with extra spikes on his belt. In small ways punk is with us, and will grow bigger and be celebrated more. That is partially thanks to the Met Exhibition of course. But mostly thanks to society wanting to take back control and rebel against norms, beliefs and boring red tape - as they need to.

Punk is a tan that never fades, or maybe it's an anti-tan that never goes away. It's a way of being, not just thinking, and it rocks the world through clothing and accessories by destroying, ballooning, DYing or marking what you adorn yourself with. The exhibition starts to show all of this, luckily, but cannot quite come to a climax. But for the most part, it is still a museum and not the Sex Pistols' toilet stall. ♡



GEMFIELDS

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS MORE OF

By Daniel Scheffler



Sustainability has for a long time been forgotten in the gemstone and precious stone market. Leonardo DiCaprio brought some attention to the matter in a Hollywood blockbuster, complete with Zimbabwe accent, as he realized sadly that war and politics are concomitant with the diamond business. But the emphasis sustainability, as it has no choice, will prevail, as the world gets flatter, hotter, faster and more chaotic.

Gemfields, a leading producer of colored gemstones, is hopefully changing the negative stigma with their focus on weaving socially and environmentally responsible endeavors into the industry. Planting forests, seeding lakes, building schools and providing jobs are just some of their focus areas.

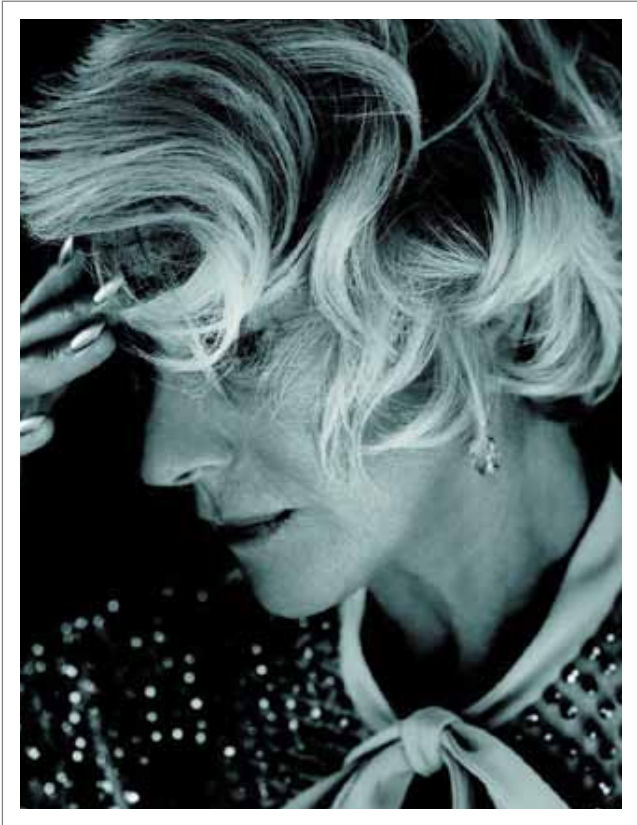
But besides for all the good work they also have cutey Mila Kunis as their brand ambassador with the launch of their educational website aimed at teaching the market place on buying rocks.

Two designers, both New Yorkers, Parulina and Zaiken, have recently used Gemfields in their display of creativity. Parulina with a bold two finger ring featuring 3 cabochons and nearly 30 carats of Gemfields Zambian emeralds and Zaiken with a pendant in 18K rose gold and silver along 5 carats of Zambian emeralds. The collection debuts next month in Las Vegas at Couture. ♡

BEAUTY FROM BOTH SIDES

By Daniel Scheffler

Two prolific photographers each with an unreservedly unique, and very particular aesthetic, pared here with the very same questions about beauty explore their answers in such contrastive and exquisite ways. These approaches show how Parisian world-traveler Matthew Brooks and New York-Londoner Kevin Mackintosh connect as Africans, and friends, but diverge as they explore beauty through their work in their own vernacular - sometimes hectic but never highfalutin.



MATTHEW BROOKES

DOSSIER: What does beauty mean to you?

MB: I think beauty comes from character and a way someone moves. There are many beautiful actors and

models but the ones that really stand out are the ones who have a special energy - usually they are the ones that are interesting people first and beauty seems to be an added bonus. It's not the first thing you notice about them. Photographing people everyday you become very in tune to reading people and the emotion they give off - certain people may not be the most beautiful in a crowd but once you start to speak to them you think "Wow - they really have something!" It's that kind of thing that you cannot really see at first glance but at the same time they have an energy or aura about them that is amazing.

DOSSIER: How do you find beauty in your work?

MB: The beauty I look for is really in the emotion - there are certain skills as a photographer that you learn for example how to light a face in the best possible way but in the end when there is emotion it kind of transcends beauty and that is what sticks in your mind afterwards because you can be moved by it. For me beauty is a raw thing - I'm not really a fan of crazy make-up or lots of retouching. I like my images to be as raw and natural as possible so that you really notice the person and their natural radiance.

DOSSIER: And in the work of others?

MB: I would say that the work that moves me the most and honest moments - the kind of photographs that transport you into the world of the picture. Of course I'm a great fan of the older classic photographers such as Avedon, Newton and Penn but there are also contemporary photographers that I love and respect such as Bruce Weber and Herb Ritts. I'm definitely a photography junkie and I love and respect many different types of photography and points of view.

DOSSIER: Tell me more about your work process.

MB: I really love a fun atmosphere on set. I think if everyone is relaxed and having fun they give their best. It really depends on the person you are photographing, some people like to have direction and others like to do their own thing or go into their own world. It really depends on their personality so for me the most important thing is to create a space where they feel comfortable. With actors this is especially challenging because usually you only have a few hours with them so you have to get a sense of them very quickly. Often I'll start by having someone on set talk to him or her while I shoot to take their mind off the camera until they feel comfortable.

DOSSIER: How does photography for advertising and say still life photography differ for you personally?

MB: I love shooting advertising but still life is not for me - I get bored in two seconds since I love people but not objects. I would say I'm definitely a voyeur so still life does not interest me at all. Advertising can be very interesting: it's both creative and cerebral at the same time. You need to know the target market of the audience that will be buying the product and respect the fact that advertising is a commercial process so you have to respect the identity of the brand and at the same time try to add your own sense of style to that. I will always try to make a brand look as chic, expensive and timeless as I possibly can but my main aim in the end is to satisfy the art director and client I'm working with. My favourite advertising jobs to do are the perfumes. It's really fascinating to create a world and a dream around the scent.



NELSON MANDELA. I THINK FOR EVERY SOUTH AFRICAN NELSON MANDELA IS A GOD AND HE'S DEEPLY LOVED. HE REPRESENTS FREEDOM AND KINDNESS ON SO MANY LEVELS AND I WISH THERE WERE MORE LEADERS LIKE HIM.

DOSSIER: What inspires you most in the world?

MB: I think more than anything people inspire me - that's where the voyeur thing comes in. I love watching people: the way they move, the way they talk or laugh, the way they react to things around them. My friends inspire me and they are a great inspiration to my life. I'm also very inspired by Paris; the way of life there is so unique and the pace of life is quite poetic. I live and work between Europe and New York but it's always Paris that draws me back for rest and inspiration, as I seem to find my soul there.



DOSSIER: How is South Africa different to say New York for you?

MB: South Africa was a wonderful place to grow up. I spent much of my childhood on an African farm so I was lucky enough to grow up around nature. I think that's where my sense of natural things come in and also my love of natural light and being in the outdoors. In Africa man is really secondary to the elements of nature and you live your days looking up to the African sky - there are amazing sunsets and a million stars in the sky at night so the sky feels huge.

I feel very lucky to have grown up in such a place. New York on the contrary is an incredible city. I'm so crazy about cinema and I read a lot of comics as a young child so for me New York is really the land of cinema and iconic comics. All the sights and sounds of New York are already imprinted on your psyche if you love cinema so coming to New York was familiar right from the start and extremely exciting! The one thing I find about New York is the energy is so powerful and fast paced that it's both uplifting and exhausting so I find myself running back to Paris to recuperate.



DOSSIER: Who do you admire back home?

MB: Nelson Mandela. I think for every South African Nelson Mandela is a God and he's deeply loved. He represents freedom and kindness on so many levels and I wish there were more leaders like him.

PLUS IF YOU WANT TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN AT SOMETHING IT HAS TO BE SOMETHING THAT COMES FROM YOUR OWN SOUL

DOSSIER: And abroad?

MB: I think the people I most admire are actors - the great actors like Robert De Niro, Meryl Streep, Kathy Bates, Michael Kane, Helen Mirren, Julianne Moore, Cate Blanchett, Glenn Close: the list goes on and on. Along with the directors that I love from Jean-Luc Godard to David Lynch and Stanley Kubrick and the more sensitive directors like Clint Eastwood and Sophia Coppola. For me actors are open enough to be really raw with their emotions and I really admire this noble profession. I could watch "The Actors Studio" for hours on end listening how actors approach their craft. I think that's why I love taking pictures of actors as I have an enormous amount of respect for them.

DOSSIER: What gets you up every morning?

MB: Yikes - that's a bad question because I'm a late sleeper and hate waking up early. The one and only thing that gets me out of bed is my work; that's the only time I can forget about my love for sleeping late.

DOSSIER: Tell me a story that defines your understanding of aesthetic.

MB: The story is two fold - one is growing up in South Africa and having a father who was a professional football player (he's English and played for many top professional clubs). I was raised in a sports family and in the sun and outdoors. I loved playing with my sister and cousins on the farm and we were always bare foot and dirty so I think that's where my aesthetic of raw and natural comes from. The second part was moving to Paris more than 10 years ago as this changed my life. The people are so refined and cultured and also being a sensitive artist is encouraged there and not frowned upon so I think it was the place that helped me to blossom. I am blessed with friends that have a great sense of style so they educated me in the French art of "less is more" and it's the finer details that make all the difference.

KEVIN MACKINTOSH



DOSSIER: What do you think is driving photography in 2013?

MB: It's really difficult to say - with the change of mediums from film to digital and from digital to moving image it's hard to keep up. I think as always in photography it's about your own world and how you see to project and express that. If you try to follow the trends you'll only get lost. Plus if you want to be the best you can at something it has to be something that comes from your own soul; that's the only thing you can own and the only thing that cannot be copied.

DOSSIER: What does beauty mean to you?

KM: Beauty is Unexpected. I like to find it in unusual places.

DOSSIER: How do you find beauty in your work?

KM: It's something quite instant for me - a feeling. I look at pictures and if it reaches me emotionally it is successful. It can be light, it can be a set, it can be a model or an object - there are no parameters.

DOSSIER: And in the work of others?

KM: I appreciate clear "handwriting" in photography. Whether it is Juergen Teller or Helmet Newton photographers had something to say. I am not influenced by fashion but more about imagery, whether it is from a film or something I see on the street - fashion is a small part of what I do.

BEAUTY IS UNEXPECTED.
I LIKE TO FIND IT IN UNUSUAL PLACES.

DOSSIER: Tell me more about your work process.

KM: I concept a lot with my partner and production designer Daryl McGregor. Drawings, references, colour etc. - these are scribbled in big black sketch books that I use constantly to try to make some cohesive pictures of what we are trying to do.

DOSSIER: How does photography for advertising and say still life photography differ for you personally?

KM: I understand advertising; a client foremost has something to sell, so therefore restrictions in how one approaches the project. My fashion and still life work is more narrative and personal.

DOSSIER: What inspires you most in the world?

KM: Art and food





DOSSIER: How is South Africa different to say New York for you?

KM: The way South Africa is at the moment seems quite similar in a way. South Africa has such a diverse culture, as in New York. I use my whole heritage of growing up there as a catalyst for my work. New York just seems to embrace photography a lot more than in South Africa. There are some very talented people out there that are starting to gain international recognition.

DOSSIER: Who do you admire back home?

KM: All those lovely strong Afrikaans women that helped me shape my career. In the days that I lived out there, those women changed the boundaries and still seem to be very pioneering; Karen Roos, Sumien Brink etc.

DOSSIER: And abroad?

KM: I admire "free spirited" individuals; people that stand on their own. There is a good reason that Woody Allen, Quentin Tarantino etc. are considered heroes in modern society; they have something to say and seem to be relentless in putting it out there.

DOSSIER: What gets you up every morning?

KM: Lots of very dark coffee

DOSSIER: Tell me a story that defines your understanding of aesthetic.

KM: It's a point of view. Everyone looks at things differently whether good or bad taste it is still valid. I like to think that my personal aesthetic encompasses everything that I do; how I eat, what I wear, what interests me.

DOSSIER: What do you think is driving photography in 2013?

KM: Standing on your own. Not allowing digital media to dictate imagery. One should be embracing it for sure but with all this information passed our way every day, it's about editing. Photography seems to have become very haphazard; everyone takes a picture in some way or another. I come from a classical training in photography; those techniques and masters of photography should never be forgotten but rather respected for their contribution. Making pictures last a little longer is my motto and opening up your eyes and seeing beauty in those unexpected places. ♦



DRESS UP, DRESS DOWN

HAVE WE LOST THE ART OF DRESSING - AND CAN IT RETURN?

By Daniel Scheffler

Somewhere post-90s minimalism, and definitely post-80s maximalist, has left us looking ever too casual, ever too slapdash. And with all this casualization came the old, or new, t-shirt, the backwards/forwards/any direction cap, the jeans (sometimes even distressed or baggy ones), the sloppy sneakers and the ever-so-popular hoodie. Maybe a quick spray of deodorant (Axe or something along those lines) and if there's an SPF on the backseat of the car it may make it to your face. Let's not forget the roll of the eye when your friends, or partners, spot you walking towards them.

Excuse me, what's happened? Where is the Saville Row gentleman, or the Ralph Lauren one if you prefer. What's happened to the European I-just-look-queer dresser and the extra efforts of the subcultures be it those hippy chic, black tiers or Oriental razzmatazzers. Somewhere between the Oscar Wilde dandy's demise and the rise and fall of the Brooklyn hipster casualization has become the zeitgeist of our time. But have we become too casual?

Surely the art of dressing, the celebration of your manliness, the expression of some kind of brute and a new flow of testosterone will kick in again? Luckily the expectations now have changed, grooming and dressing are forever more to be personalized (doesn't mean it can be slack) and doesn't need to be an all day affair. Just a dash of the right products finally, a tiny investment in the right clothes and a moment's thought of putting it all together. Not just for your girlfriend, or boyfriend, but for yourself.

Whether the budget takes you to Topshop, Uniqlo, Prada or Dries Van Noten is no longer the concern (and really it doesn't matter) as the bullshit of the 21st century and the emptiness of Gatsby's dream has taught us yet again. The dandy has fallen, and the new man has risen. Perhaps this new guy flips through a magazine on his Ipad mini and amalgamates the styles to form his own, perhaps he has a hot shave at a barber before boarding the plane or even perhaps he slaps on some of his grandfathers after-shave in the middle of the afternoon just to seduce his lover.

So there it is, casualization without losing the art, the essence of style and let's call it sophistication. When the jeans, t-shirts and sneakers are in full force why shouldn't they be slightly fitted (or fit for that matter) and look 'put together' with even the slightest hint of concern and knowledge. Call it self-respect, or just a nod to the art of dressing and grooming.

So yes you can leave your hat on, if you'd like. ♡





BEAUTY

SOME BEAUTY WARES, AND A SPOT, FOR THE SEASON

By Daniel Scheffler

DIPTYQUE

The simple, yet exceedingly elegant, French brand Diptyque spends an inordinate amount of time searching for beautiful raw materials and with no exception has created their latest perfume with such sentiment. Eau Moheli, with tongue-slipping ylang-ylang as a major note, offers a narcotic scent that drifts through floral forests and valleys. The tropical nature of the flowers used means the distilling process, fickle as it may seem, needs to be carefully constructed at dawn to not lose its scent and of course the distillation process then takes up to twenty hours of loving labor. For more on the brand see diptyque.com.



AESOP

The Australian brand, now available in South Africa, started in 1987 in Melbourne as a commitment to efficacy and quality. And with their latest product, a Petitgrain Hydrating Body Gel, this is no exception. With their plant-based and laboratory-made ingredient combination the product cools skin suffering from sun exposure, waxing or shaving. In hot, humid climates in the height of an upcoming European summer the thickness of cream suddenly seems much less appealing now that the body gel with Panthenol and Aloe Vera juice has come onto the market. A relieving, calming and reviving treat for summer with your ice-lolly. For more on the brand see aesop.com and locally look at Loading Bay.



SERGE LUTENS

The new fragrance by Serge Lutens is called La Fille de Berlin. Serge describes this girl as "a rose with thorns, don't mess with her. She's a girl who goes to extremes. Her fragrance lifts you higher, she rocks and shocks." The deep red fragrance will rock your world. Available from Metropolitan Cosmetics.



BYREDO

The Stockholm based fragrance house has since 2006 created products with such meticulous care that entire theses papers have been based on the brand. With a philosophy of creating full on experiences and infusing a flock of memories the brand has created a spectacular niche for itself. This season the launch of their Inflorescence Eau de Parfum celebrates nature's rebirth with spring. A wild Byredo garden is explored complete with flowers and blossoms dazzling all around. The mixology of roses, freesias and hints of jasmine at the base give way to this escape of romance into a flower bush. For more on the brand see byredo.com



MALIN + GOETZ

Founded in the forever-interesting area of Chelsea, in New York, is where the founders Matthew Malin and Andrew Goetz decided to mastermind a beauty line dedicated to an urban lifestyle. Stocked in many of the boutique hotels across the city and on Delta Business Class flights the brand with its unisex appeal has risen to success with in-house product development and its attention to locavore ingredients. Their latest product, a bug spray perfect for Africa, protects against all biting insects and is safe for children to use. Manufactured in upstate New York their newest addition promises to protect and nourish with Vitamin E. For more on the brand see malinandgoetz.com.



Tucked underneath the celebrated Greenwich Hotel in Tribeca is the Japanese inspired Shibui spa. A zen-like space as expected complete with gentle pool area and steam baths is not all that this spa offers. Their signature treatment, the Drunken Lotus, uses sake-soaked towels to relieve muscles and essential oils to hydrate the skin. The spa also tenders a traditional Japanese bath, which is considered Balneotherapy. This service is usually booked in conjunction with a massage, and includes a dry brush session leading to an increase in circulation, detox of the lymphatic system, all while exfoliating the skin. A below the surface heavenly spot in the center of the busy city of New York - all thanks to owner Robert De Niro.

For more information see thegreenwichhotel.com/spa/.

