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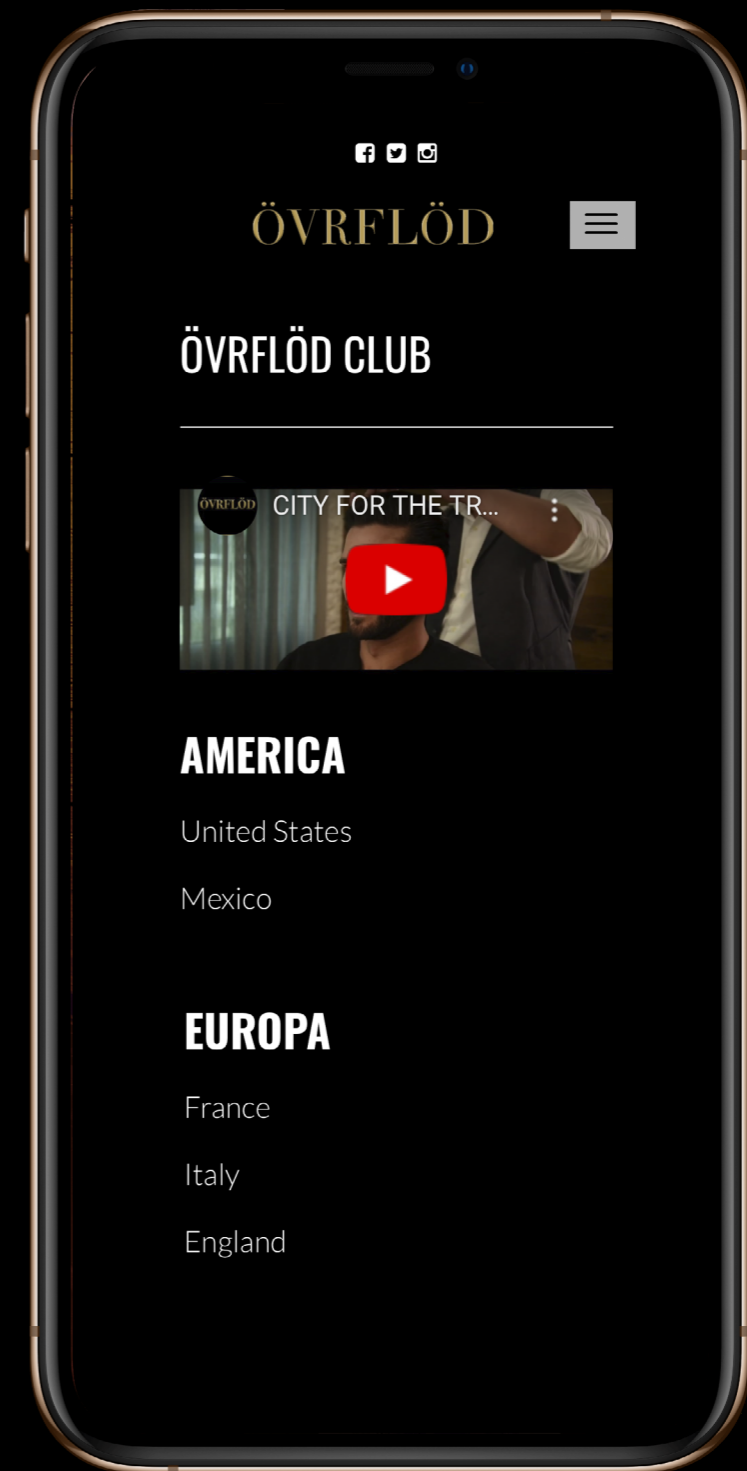
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JULIAN ROYER

Julien Royer is one of France's top chefs, recognized all around the world for his international trajectory. Born in Cantal, France, he comes from an old lineage of farmers. As a youth, Royer attended a culinary school and since his early years he has learned to differentiate a myriad of fresh ingredients.

He promptly formalized his gastronomic studies, learning to deeply respect the integrity of each and every component in every dish. His professional debut happened with Michael Bras in Laguiole, a chef who taught Roger the value of the commitment to keep the flavour of each ingredient in every dish. Julien Royer soon moved on to Auvergne, a small french restaurant where his trajectory was propelled by working with Bernard Andrieux, considered a Master Chef in France. His interest in learning continuously took him to the French Antilles, where Roger worked in the Carl Gustaf Hotel; soon after he travelled to the Polynesian subregions where he cooked in chef Jean George Vongerichten's restaurants. Going forward on his travelling chef journey, he is named sous chef in chef Antonin Bonnet's restaurant The

Greenhouse, adorned with a Michelin-Mayfair.

After some time, he became chef de cuisine in La Brasserie les Saveurs in Singapore's hotel St. Regis. In 2013, Roger became chef de cuisine in Jaan, which took him to be featured for the first time in the 50 Best Restaurants in Asia by San Pellegrino. This is the moment Julien Royer became one of Asia's most coveted chefs, participating in the Ubud Food Festival in Bali, Indonesia, as one of the main personalities in the event. In 2016 he became judge and mentor in San Pellegrino Young Chef 2016 Competition, taking place in Seoul, Korea. In 2017 he also serves as a panellist in the Madrid Fusion Manila along other great chefs in the industry.

Already a renowned chef, Royer began his new project: Odette, a classical French cuisine restaurant now available to the Asian society in Singapore. As always, he treaded away from his comfort zone, Julien Royer creates his own style and brings it forth in his establishment. Opening Odette was a great opportunity for Royer, one which would drastically change his life thanks to its astounding success. Since its opening in 2015, the restaurant has been recognized with several awards, helping it stand out as one of the best in the world.



Text: MAX SÁMANO.

Photos: courtesy.

PRODUCTS FOR A CORRECT HAIRSTYLING

N

owadays, there is an immense array of hairstyling products aimed towards males. However, depending on each type of hair, different specific needs emerge, including fixation level, volume and finish. Here we enlist some of these factors to help determine which best suits your own necessities.

Three main categories can be named regarding hair products: sprays, gels and paste.

Sprays tend to offer the most variety when it comes to fixation levels. For example, traditional hair sprays, the oldest in the category, create a thin layer over the hair that prevents it from moving at all. However, this also means a completely rigid hair and most sprays leave a residue behind after some time. Newer technologies allow to fixate the hair correctly without stiffening the hair strands and leaving no residue behind.

The best way to apply the spray is to coat the hair once it's completely dry, and right after the combing or styling has finished. Certain sprays may be used on damp hair, allowing it to be styled using a blow dryer and comb, offering extra texture. While some select sprays are used with the sole purpose of adding shine to the style, they are usually recommended for thinner hair, for elaborate structured hairdos and to bring additional volume.



A genius styling treatment that allows you to style and treat in one step for smoothness, volume, conditioning, strength, and polish.



For long-lasting styles. This Is A Medium Hairspray eliminates frizz, adds structure and provides hold without leaving residue. It is easy to work with and brush out.

Text: EMMANUEL SERRA.

Photos: courtesy.



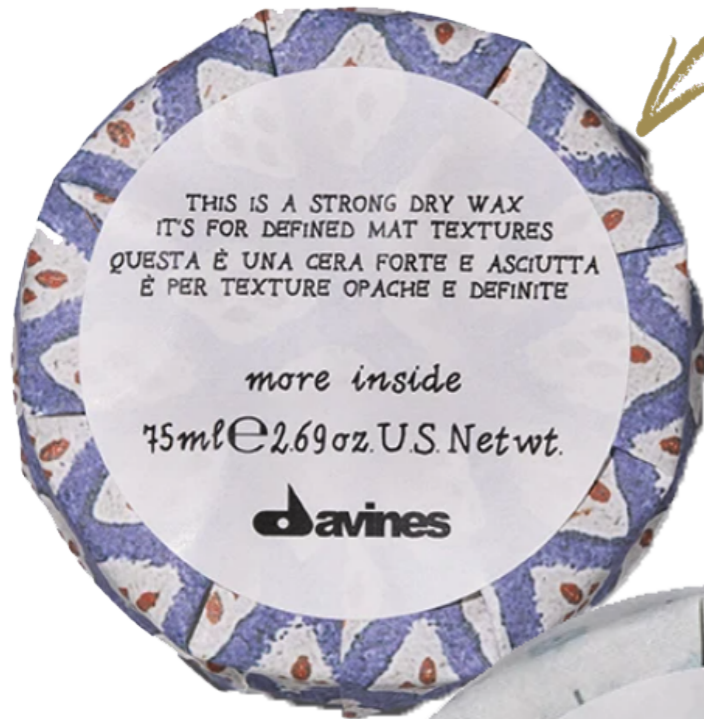
Timeless pomade with strong hold. Use to create slick, shiny looks on short to medium hair. Contains Creatine and Hemp.

Shaping wax with medium hold and a shiny finish. Perfect for sleek styles on shorter hair. Contains Creatine and Hemp.



Pastes can be further classified into three subcategories: wax, ointment and clay, each with their own unique characteristics and their specific usage conditions. Wax, for example, can be both oil-based and water-based. Oil base usually contains beeswax and offers a greater volume, while both types are recommended for men with abundant hair and offer a shiny finish and varying levels of fixation. Depending on the wax, the best way to apply them is on damp hair or just as it is drying, using the hands to apply and style, integrating a blow dryer if needed.

Ointments are as well based on water or oil, with a greater variety than waxes, with matte or shiny finishes and different specific uses: some control hair while others integrate a technology that allows to control volume depending on how much product is used. Lighter than waxes, they can be used on any kind of hair style. Applying them is easy, just like wax, with the additional need of rubbing the, between the hands to create friction and heat the ointment up, allowing for an easy hair modelling.



For creating soft definition and separation. This Is A Strong Dry Wax texturizes hair, leaving it matte and residue-free.



For matte styles with a strong hold. This Is A Strong Moulding clay allows for lets you get creative with hairstyling, providing a long-lasting hold without a sticky or wet-looking finish.

Clays are usually made with a water base and offer a matter finish, adding volume and texture. They are ideal for a casual style without much structure or specialized care to the hair do.

Finally, gels are all water based and help style the hair but offer less movement and texture than wax. They work similarly to a resin, applying them while wet and drying off on top of the hair, with a stiffer finish. Certain gel types can also be styled without leaving a residue behind.

Products available at: **Homme Grooming Center.**

Styling gel with extra strong hold and shine. Locks any style in place. Contains Creatine and Hemp.



For creating structure and definition on short hair styles. This Is A Strong-Hold Cream Gel is quick-drying, residue-free and workable. It leaves hair with a wet effect and eliminates frizz.



FASHION HUNTER

DUARTE

Text: ROBERTO ALCÁNTARA.

Photos: courtesy.



DUARTE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF ATEMPORALITY

Established in 2016, Duarte is already considered as one of the leader brands in high couture in Madrid's fashion industry. Their presentations are always highly anticipated each year in the Madrid Fashion Week, always bringing a new proposal which revolutionizes textile expression. Presented in January 2020, the Fall-Winter 2020 collection, created by Kiko Font, the creative director behind the brand, inspires awe and does not disappoint.

Silhouettes and colours for this season are directly inspired by the Alfa Romeo automobiles, specifically a mid-1950's model which was never properly commercialized, but which had many units made. The colour palette, which has always been a main concern for Duarte, is now reinterpreted in the outfits: the most vibrant colours, seen in the car's interiors, are now featured in the innermost clothes, such as shirts, and the neutral tones are placed on the overcoats and covers, just as the Alfa Romeo model had their sober exterior decorated.

Bright yellow shirts and deep blue dress shirts contrast and harmonize with the muted marron on the blazers and trench coats, creating a well-balanced colour palette, pleasing to look at from all directions. Some of the bolder details in the most sober ensembles can be found either in the accessories or the prints in the clothing. Shirts are printed with patterns which immediately remind of the bumps in a car's body, the rust over metallic plates and the temporal nature of a car. Handkerchiefs hang loosely from buttonholes, sleeves and pockets, and asymmetric cuts are

emphasized with dissonant colours, pulling attention to the whole outfit any way one looks at it.

The use of a simple and very specific silhouette is already a brand staple. Font describes it as the triumph of simple lines; Duarte outfits are characterized by their ample nature, almost akin of an XL size, broad overcoats and loose, relaxed pants which constitute a simple and roomy appearance. This season's collection aims to achieve a fitter line, without losing its signature straight lines and almost androgynous look. This results in a collection capable of being used in a day-to-day fashion, and its colour scheme helps to mix and match its elements freely.

The most interesting pieces are perhaps the slanted-cut jerseys, and the long and floaty overcoats which perfectly complement any wardrobe. It is also worth noting Duarte's tendency to create layered looks: runway models wore shirts, trousers, coats, trench coats, and quilts one over the other, adding the aforementioned handkerchiefs and brightly coloured accessories, elements that break the expectations and modernize the look. Font himself states that "it's the details that mark the difference from the really basic".

Without a doubt, this collection is one of the purest from the Spanish brand, a demonstration of Kiko Font's ability to balance vintage and modern and his high couture team's dexterity in luxury tailoring. This collection inspires atemporality and contemporary ideals, the high-quality pieces combine to create an homage to the interaction between old and new, classic and modern. Duarte keeps on offering fresh proposals, and Madrid can't wait to know what new ideas they bring forth on the next Fashion Week.



Stemming from an earlier project involving wallet making by hand and in search of boots with an innovative proposal, the sibling duo composed by Antara and Elías combine their own individual taste and passion for fashion and travel to create a new, all-Mexican brand with an inherent artisanal essence. ANT is a Mexican brand specializing in footwear and leather goods, elaborated by craftsmen from the tropical state of Veracruz, who materialize the unique designs for both men and women.

With a wide variety of products, including wallets, cardholders, and of course the shoes themselves, ANT aims to seduce the wearer and offer new artistic proposals, specially regarding men's fashion, integrating unconventional materials. Their boots have, however, become the brand staple, adapting them to the male audience and offering unisex models. Each pair is crafted entirely from bovine leather and features finishes that offer impressive contrasts throughout the whole piece.

Ant takes their products to a whole new level when it comes to customization, since they are able to create an exclusive pair of shoes for each client, without any restrictions. The buyer can create their very own design or take one of the base models already available at the store. The size and shape of the tip are entirely modifiable, according to each customer's needs. There is no restriction regarding foot size or colour, as there are over 60 available tones, ranging from neutral, fluorescent and metallic which offer a special exclusivity to each pair.

ANT looks to go above and beyond, an emerging brand aiming to not only sell predetermined products. The objective is simple: create a deep connection with the wearer through unique pieces with their own identity, high quality and exquisite design, pieces that can fit in any gentleman's wardrobe. Ultimately, these shoes help to look and be different, to stand out of the crowd at any given moment, conjuring an air of sophistication and authenticity only ANT can offer.



ANT: ARTISAN FOOTWEAR WITH AUTHENTIC ESSENCE



Text: ARMANDO D'MONTOYA.

Photos: courtesy.

MONTBLANC TELLS THE STORY OF ANTIQUITY: PATRON OF ARTS HOMAGE TO MOCTEZUMA I



garments as an inspiration, featuring petrol and carmine, typical colours in the Mexica culture. The cap is adorned in Aztec symbols taken directly from the Mendoza Codex, a surviving document showing the Aztec way of life. The symbols presented state the dates in which Moctezuma I ruled, while the clip is styled after a quetzal feather, the sacred Mesoamerican bird, and set with a red stone. The cone-shaped posterior part of the body has a hammered look, in reference to the obsidian knives used in Aztec ritual practices. The Montblanc emblem is made of precious resin and placed in the middle of the cap, engraved with the Aztec Sun Stone, a tribute to the intricate Aztec architecture. The pen tip is handmade in solid Au 750 gold, engraved with the glyph for Tenochtitlan: a cactus with a royal crown and two paper scrolls.

Model 888 features carmine and turquoise, privileged colours for the Mexica culture, and used by royalty. Crafted in Ag 925, the cap presents engravings of Moctezuma's weapons and traditional ornaments. The pen body is lacquered in turquoise and emblazoned with patterns reminiscent of Moctezuma's mantle, interrupted by four solid gold lines representing the four cardinal points. Styled as a quetzal feather, the clip is embedded with green jade, while the cone rear and the front of the pen are both made of the same silver as the cap, decorated with solid Au 750 gold. The pen tip is handmade and engraved with the Tenochtitlan symbol, while the Montblanc emblem is made in delicate pearl, right in the middle of the Sun Stone decoration.

The next edition is limited to 87 pieces, a call back to the year in which the Templo Mayor was declared Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO, 1987. Decorated in turquoise, the design reminds of crafts and jewellery elaborated in a mosaic fashion. The pen cap is handmade, giving the mosaic an authentic feeling and making each piece unique. Decorated with solid gold, the central motif in the cap represents the creation legend of the Fifth Sun in the Aztec cosmivision. This edition has its gold specially treated to appear worn to appear as if it was just uncovered at an archaeological site.

E

ach year, Montblanc, a brand synonymous with excellence in writing implements, awards the Montblanc de la Culture Arts Patronage award, which praises a modern patron, a person who pays artists and has an interest in forwarding the arts and culture. Along with the award, each year, a special edition of their fountains pens is presented, the Montblanc Patron of Art Edition, which commemorates an historic patron who favoured the arts in his or her own time. This year, the special edition pays homage to the late Aztec emperor Moctezuma Ilhuicamina or Moctezuma I, regent of the Mexica Empire in 1440. He is recognized as responsible of the glory of the Aztec capital, the great city of Tenochtitlan, where he built botanic gardens and renovating the Templo Mayor, the great central temple of the city, located in the heart of modern Mexico City. Honouring these great feats, Montblanc presents the Patron of Art Homage to Moctezuma.

Four different versions of this beautiful pen are available, each with its own characteristics and special details, while all sharing a common design. Styled after the atlatl, an antique weapon used as a blowgun by the ancient Aztecs, each one of the pen designs features high quality and luxury. All the pen caps are finished with a special golden plaque textured as if it was covered in strings, just like the original weapon.

Limited edition 4810 takes the concept of Moctezuma as a great warrior and uses his battle

Text: ROBERTO ALCÁNTARA.

Photos: courtesy.



Four golden lines cross the body, carved in a pattern akin to the old temples' staircases. It is made of precious cocobolo wood, a highly prized Mesoamerican tree, traditionally used in the confection of atlatl. The Montblanc emblem is made in pearl while the pen tip is handmade in solid gold, emblazoned with the Aztec glyph for "heart" and another one representing Moctezuma's second name, Ilhuicamina: he who fires an arrow at the sky.

The most exclusive edition is limited to just 8 pieces and is inspired by "the stone of Moctezuma", an artefact retrieved from Templo Mayor in 1988. The cap is made in solid gold and is embedded with diamonds, garnets, green tsavorites and sapphires. This delicate masterpiece is engraved with the figure of Huitzilopochtli, the Aztec Sun god, eagle symbols, and a cactus which represent the city of Tenochtitlan and its foundation myth. Two-headed snakes representing fertility and renovation are also featured in the cap, which aims to evoke the glory of Moctezuma I and his ascension to the throne. The body is made in red jasper, a hint to the Mexica human sacrifices of fable, enriched with solid gold and the clip is set with a small green jade stone. The cap is finished with a Montblanc diamond, right in the centre of the Sun Stone.

Along with the fountain pens, which are

better described as pieces of art made writing device, Montblanc launches a commemorative Stationery notebook clad in red Saffiano leather, decorated with Mexica motifs, and a special edition turquoise ink inspired in the jewellery and garments of the late Aztec emperors.

Montblanc is a brand with a pioneering spirit ever since its establishment in 1906. Always being an important actor in the development of writing and culture, Montblanc has always transcended barriers and favoured artisanal handiwork as the best example of high-quality. This idea is prevalent in all their products, from watches, leather articles, fragrances, glasses and of course luxury writing implements. Each product is made with high detail and care, regardless of the atelier they originate from: Hamburg, Le Locle, Villeret or Florence, each piece has a great legacy behind it. The mission has always been the same: create companions for life out of the most innovative of ideas. As part of Montblanc's initiatives to promote and forward the arts and culture, this iteration of the Patron of the Arts, with its delicate design details, tells the story of the great Emperor Moctezuma I and his overall impact on human culture as a whole.



CARTIER'S UNEXPECTED ENCOUNTERS

Text: ROBERTO ALCÁNTARA.

Photos: courtesy.

Maison Cartier has always combined all the shapes that were never meant to be together. Creating the atypical, bringing luxury from the dissonance, these Unexpected Encounters, the namesake of the 2020 Cartier Collection, are the emblem of the Cartier brand.

The *Pasha* model, a classic cult watch since its conception by the Maison in 1985, is brought back in this new collection carrying its characteristic design elements into this iteration. Extroversion is a staple for *Pasha de Cartier*, strong elements mix together to create this distinctive watch with an elevated profile.

The idea behind *Pasha* is simple: geometric figures interacting among themselves. Cartier breaks conventions and brings together a square shape inside a circle, a combination of the straight line and the curve, dissonant by nature, but somehow it works perfectly on this watch. *Pasha de Cartier 2020* is as faithful to the original as possible, however it is even more sophisticated. The traditional design is maintained, with the four Arabic numerals placed on the four classical positions, *four clous de Paris* decorate the strap with a delicate finish, an echoing fractal, the tetrad of elements originating in the square. The most exquisite detail in the whole construct must be the screw-down crowncover, a smart design choice to protect the winding crown. Both the crown and its cover are

topped with a beautiful blue spinel or sapphire.

The jewelled crowncover serves another purpose as well: in this *Pasha* watch, Cartier introduces the possibility to customize each purchased watch. Initials can be subtly carved in the watch's side, just below the cover, offering a very intimate experience and a personal touch to each watch.

Customization does not end there, as wrist straps can be selected from the available possibilities: gold, steel or leather. Each of them adapts to a different situation, a version of the strap exists for every imaginable lifestyle. Straps are also interchangeable, easily done by Cartier's very own QuickSwitch system, which incorporates a switch well-hidden to the sight and is promptly activated by the user, easily morphing the watch for the occasion at hand.

Pasha 2020 also makes use of the SmartLink system, a newly developed innovation by Cartier, which allows anyone to easily modify the length of the straps. Each link in the strap is equipped with a push button, facilitating the addition or removal of the metal links to adapt to perfection on the user's wrist.

The body of the watch itself is also available on different designs: steel grey, yellow gold, rose gold, and diamond covered are all options to acquire this graceful watch, not forgetting the skeleton versions, which allow to have a close look at the intricate gear at work inside the watch.

Pasha de Cartier 2020 promises to be a beautifully constructed watch, an elegant complement for every gentleman who praises himself in sophistication and luxury. The ideal companion for those looking to stand out and shatter expectations with this advanced and dynamic design, Cartier holds true to its commitment to excellence in watchmaking.



RELÆ: THE ORGANIC AND SUSTAINABLE EXPERIENCE

Christian Francesco Puglisi arrived to Denmark from his birthplace in Sicily, Italy, when he was 7 years old, and at seventeen started his career as a cook apprentice. He eventually moved to France and worked at *Le Taillevent*, later locating in Spain and collaborate with Ferran Adrià in the emblematic *El Bulli*. Later he would return to Denmark and join René Redzepi in *NOMA*. In this moment, the great story of one of the most relevant chefs in Europe.

Amidst the Nørrebro district in the Danish capital, the organic restaurant praised with one Michelin star, Relæ, opened its doors in 2010 shortly after Christian F. Puglisi left *NOMA*. The number 41 of *Jægersborggade* Street houses the project, which came to life after Christian partnered with Kim Rossen and features unique characteristics. No clutter, no excess, no complications, *Relæ* shows its bare bones to concentrate in the flavour and value inherent to the ingredients themselves.

Ecology and sustainability are key to Puglisi, which led him to create the *Farm of Ideas*, aimed to widen the limits of sustainable production, and create better products along the way. He also tries to initiate a direct dialogue between chefs and farmers in this place where gastronomy, agriculture, urban and rural environments unite. It represents the first link in the production chain, the Farm of Ideas produces all the ingredients for the restaurants at the *Relæ* community.



Text: ARMANDOD'MONTOYA.

Photos: P. A. Jørgensen.



“We want to offer a gastronomic experience that is sustainable, from planting the seed to the food on the plate. Each and every interaction needs to be examined and judged to be responsible.”

A black and white space where light illuminates certain sober industrial touches, the decoration is sober and without much visual distraction. Passion and discipline can be readily seen with their open kitchen concept, letting diners be involved in the process for every plate. Just to walk into the dining area, one must traverse the space where creativity and aroma transform into new creations.

Wooden planks and tables for two, water filtered into glasses, sourdough bread, and olive oil vials receive the visitor. The silverware and the menu are, however, well hidden in a small cabinet on the table's corner awaiting to be discovered by the customer.

Christian F Puglisi lets the creative proposal be handled by Jonathan Tam, Canadian chef who arrived at Denmark to work at *NOMA*. He soon moved to *Relæ* and in 2016 he became the kitchen chief, offering a distinct synergy with a unique style, always keeping in mind Puglisi's original proposal, based on the raw power of vegetables as a main ingredient, potentializing and exposing their flavours.

Their menu is made up of ten different courses, a complex and singular experience in

flavour lacking any complicated preparations: foams, spheres and liquid nitrogen, all so heavily featured in most avant-garde restaurants are nowhere to be seen, since at *Relæ* the most important element is the ingredients themselves. Vegetables are the stars of every course, meat and seafood only present in one of them, with a simple presentation, with no excess decoration or baroque additions. While visually simple, the food is cooked with increasingly specialized techniques, allowing the flavours to pop immediately. Pairing is also available from a selection of biodynamic wines produced under the strictest of sustainable requirements.

The *Relæ* experience is unparalleled, visually unusual and enveloped in natural flavours and textures easy to recognize and remember. The journey through the organic and sustainable world is especially noticeable, given the importance of a green lifestyle in the modern context. Decoration and theatricality take a step back in favour of the knowledge of the origin of every ingredient, from their production up to the moment they are served, securing an environmentally-friendly and fair production.







W

aking up in a XVI century palace, richly decorated with a mix of fresco paintings and contemporary furniture, getting an outstanding view of the Grand Canal is all part of the experience offered by AMAN Venice.

With a privileged location in the building of the Palazzo Papadopoli, one of the most emblematic buildings in Venice, AMAN is located right in the heart of the city, on the Grand Canal, just a few minutes away from the main cultural attractions.

Each one of the twenty four rooms is equipped with a king-size bed and a sitting area fully furnished by Jean-Michel Gathy. Up to 103 square meters are available in each room along with luxuries such as views to the main gardens and the Grand Canal, frescoes painted by the artist Tiepolo, decor by sculptor Jacopo Sansovino, chimneys and even chinese, hand-painted sitting rooms.

Guests can also enjoy the famous Spa AMAN, which services include three separate spa suites, and Salsomaggiore Terme's signature treatments, originated in one of the most famous spa regions in Italy. Additionally, the Fitness Studio is also open to any guests, with personalized training in strength and endurance within the hotel's venues, offering panoramic views of the city.

With a private garden, a terrace with full-panoramic views, a lounge on the fourth floor, and a library housing new and antique books, AMAN Venice creates a space of intimacy with no comparison in Italy.

Each of these spaces can be used for private events, through a full-hotel reservation, guests have unlimited access to all the venues, and hold events for up to 150 people within the beautiful gardens built by the Papadopoli family in the

ELEGANT OASIS IN VENICE

XIX century; the Piano Nobile, which includes beautiful ballrooms and a dining room; or the smaller rooms for a more intimate experience.

Last but not least, AMAN's cuisine is a prominent feature, versatile between the simple and the sun-touse: two restaurant and a bar offer food supervised by the acclaimed Davide Oldani, Michelin-starred chef. Using fresh ingredients picked daily from the Rialto market, AMAN's kitchen is the golden lace in a complete, intimate, luxurious and elegant experience in the heart of one of Italy's most beautiful cities.

Text: ROBERTO ALCÁNTARA

Photos: courtesy.

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