

TheStar

APRIL 2020 ISSUE

# LIFE INSPIRED

T H E E S S E N C E O F L U X E L I V I N G

## A MAN AND HIS STYLE

What makes a man stylish is determined by his sense of dressing, his character and the charisma he exudes

RM 8.00



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PP18339/10/2014(034033)



## On the cover

Photo | 123.rf



## 04

### Admirably elegant

Different men have different means by which they prefer to view time. Whatever these inclinations are, know your options.

## 06

### Intricate accessories

Feast your eyes on these awe-inspiring pieces, while taking a moment to appreciate the hard work that goes into their creation.



## 08



### Gifts for a man

There are many ways to show your partner, father or the men in your life how much you appreciate them, including surprising them with a gift.

## 11

### Shopping in an intimate setting

Audemars Piguet has opened up a new store in the Westin Hotel, KL, for a year.

## 12

### A time to reflect

Three personalities shared their current endeavours, how they make use of time and what is on their mind this month.

## 17

### Banding together for good

All over the world, people are doing their part in helping to support those fighting against the Covid-19 pandemic.

## 10

### The emancipation of men's fashion

After what feels like an eternity of muted colours, cowboy materials and macho cuts, clothing for men is finally borrowing feminine styles that were once a no-go for men.

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Volume 143

Editor

**SUNITA CHHABRA**

sunita.chhabra@thestar.com.my  
03-79671297

Contributing Editor

**DZIREENA MAHADZIR**

dzireena@thestar.com.my

Senior Writer

**NASA MARIA ENTABAN**

nasa@thestar.com.my

Creative

**ADZNAM SABRI**

adznam@thestar.com.my

Designers

**NURUL AMNI  
ASHARAH KAMARUL**

**BELINDA LIM**

belinda@thestar.com.my  
03-7966 8256

#### Feedback

If you have any comments or suggestions, do email us at:  
[lifeinspired@thestar.com.my](mailto:lifeinspired@thestar.com.my)  
We look forward to hearing from you.

#### Publisher

STAR MEDIA GROUP BERHAD  
(10894-D)  
Menara Star, 15, Jalan 16/11  
46350 Petaling Jaya  
Selangor Darul Ehsan  
Tel: 03 79671388  
Fax: 03 79577798

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#### Printed by

Superior Press Sdn Bhd (032092-H)  
Lot 2063A Jalan Kusta  
Sungai Buloh  
Kawasan Industri Taman Jaya  
47000 Daerah Gombak  
Selangor Darul Ehsan  
Malaysia.

# Editor's Say

Photography  
**TIAN XING**  
Assistant  
**ARES CHAN**  
Makeup  
**YUNN G/ A**  
CUT ABOVE  
Hair  
**ANITA**  
**TANG/ A**  
CUT ABOVE

Life can change in an instant and now everyone in Malaysia and probably all over the world realises this. The Movement Control Order (MCO) came as a shock to many in our country and suddenly reality struck that despite the many advances in medicine and technology, life and health is still an uncertain factor. On top of that, our income, jobs, careers and businesses could be affected without any notice.

So, what can and should we do? The age-old advice still stands that "This too will pass ..." However, being complacent is not the answer. If we don't follow the rules and don't stay at home and take proper precautions, then it won't pass and the toll on ourselves, our family, friends and society might become too big a price to pay.

So, as many have been saying again and again, Stay Home and Stay Safe.

Count your blessings, be they big or small. If we still have food on the table and shelter over our heads plus our loved ones close to us, we are already among the lucky.

Use this extra time to reflect on your life and maybe at the end of the MCO, many of us will come out as stronger and more compassionate people. The world could be trying to tell us something and it's time to listen.

We cannot take anything for granted anymore. Instead, let's live every moment to the best of our ability and find the little things in life that can still bring lots of joy and hope into our daily existence.



**SUNITA CHHABRA**



## Editor's picks

### NATURALLY GORGEOUS

A multi-tasking innovation that immediately adds a natural flush of colour to your face comes in the form of Nudestix's Metallic Lip Plush Paints. Created for the cheeks, eyes and lips, they're formulated with eight natural extracts and have a light velvety texture that glides on easily. The dot and blot technique of using them is so simple and yet, the effects for that pout-perfecting radiant look so attractive.



### BAG OF STYLE

If you're looking for a bag to lift your spirits, check out the Gucci 1955 Horsebit top handle, which has a domed shape with a detachable leather shoulder strap, crafted from GG Supreme canvas with white leather. The collection unifies details first introduced on the original bag that inspired the line from over six decades ago with a modern spirit, highlighting the Horsebit.



### EYE IT

Wear shades when the sun shines. DB Eyewear by David Beckham is the latest top choice to frame your face with. Combining effortless British style and attitude with a timeless spirit, the brand gives you a perfect functional accessory that can be worn at any time. The lightweight materials used and the craftsmanship will make DB Eyewear a favourite with many.

## Art for auction online

As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread across the world, auction houses have revamped their online offering to accommodate collectors stuck at home.

While several houses have rescheduled their spring New York auctions, Christie's has refreshed its Private Sales site to provide collectors with continued opportunities to bid and buy outside of the auction calendar.

The revamped site offers online viewings and immediate purchase options for aficionados of fine and decorative arts, jewellery and watches, with Christie's deputy chief marketing officer Matthew Rubinger noting that "art and objects are an important source of enrichment and enjoyment for so many."

"Our goal is to ensure our doors remain open from a digital standpoint, so that our audiences across the world can continue to engage with us, whether that means learning more about their favourite collecting category, seeing a work of art in a virtual viewing room, or bidding on an item through our trusted online sale platform," he added in

a statement.

The auction house has also revised its calendar of online sales in an effort to attract a broader range of collectors, some of whom often prefer the ease of bidding online. Online sales had already increased significantly in recent months, with Christie's revealing that 41% of new buyers came online in 2019.

Also betting on online auctions in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sotheby's fetched £1.1 million (RM5.92mil) for its recent online Banksy sale, surpassing the pre-sale estimate of £672,000 (RM3.6mil) to £1 million (RM5.92mil).

Almost half of buyers of the sale were new to Sotheby's, testifying to the appeal of the British artist to attract bidders despite the detrimental impact of the coronavirus on the art market.

Bonhams has experienced a similar boom in online bidding with its recent "Modern and Contemporary African Art," which made a total of £1.8 million (around RM9.69mil) and also established new world record prices at auction for eight artists. - AFP Relaxnews



Irma Stern, "Watussi Chief's Wife" (1946)



Irma Stern's "Grape Packer," which was also up for auction online



Cheri Samba's "Le Blanc Africaniste" (2007)

# Admirably elegant

Different men have different means by which they prefer to view time. Whatever these inclinations are, know your options. While some models may only come as one-offs, and you are unable to get your hands on it, they can always serve as inspiration for your next purchase.

▶ **AUDEMARS PIGUET**  
Like a remastered recording from the 1940s, [Re]master01 Selfwinding Chronograph reinterprets one of the brand's rare chronograph wristwatches with the Manufacture's latest technology and a dial design increasing legibility for the present day.



## BVLGARI

The epitome of sophistication, the Octo Finissimo Automatic Satin-Polished Rose Gold is powered by the 2.23mm thick BVL 138 Finissimo caliber and features a polished black lacquer dial, fitted in the sophisticated Finissimo case. It is fitted with an alligator strap, perfectly integrated and complemented with a pin buckle.



## JAEGER-LECOULTRE

There are few watches that have a more classic elegance than the Reverso, and there's no better way to make something truly yours than to have it engraved, as actor Nicholas Hoult did with his watch (pictured here). Introduced almost 90 years ago, the timelessness of the Reverso lives on in newer versions, like this Reverso Classic Large Small Second in Steel.

## PATEK PHILIPPE

The brand's chronograph of classic architecture for men, the Ref. 5172G (column wheel, horizontal clutch and manual winding), has been redesigned, endowed with a new white gold case with round guilloché pushers and three-tier lugs. Its subtle vintage allure is underscored by a sapphire-crystal "box" glass.



# A Man's style

Heads turn when a stylish man walks in. It's in the dressing but it is also his charisma and character that makes the whole irresistible package. Work on all three to be the man of the moment at all times. For some pointers on how to put your best foot forward, here are 10 basic styling tips.



A light jacket in good quality fabric is a must, like this one from Ermenegildo Zegna.



Shades are an important accessory every man should have a few of, as seen in this pair from Boss on Orlando Bloom.

1

## Suit-up

Of course, one thing a man must always have in his wardrobe is a dark suit that fits well, preferably made-to-measure or bespoke. You can have as many suits as you like, but try to make them in several hues and styles – formal and smart casual – for different occasions.



A staple to have in every man's shoe rack – brown boots like this example from Gucci

2

## Keep track of time

There's a time and place for every type of watch, but you absolutely must own a great classic-looking watch that goes well with a business suit. Nothing too loud or busy, and something from a reputable, respected watch brand that is functional and classic.

3

## Bag it up

Invest in two important bags: a sturdy suitcase and a stylish day bag.

There are plenty of bag options for the modern man, such as a classic messenger bag, leather briefcase, tote bag, satchel, or even a trendy backpack.

4

## Buy belts

Either fill your closet with belts of varying colours, materials, shapes and sizes, or check out belts with interchangeable buckles for an easy way to change up your look.

That said, some may find it more fun to have a belt – or two – for every occasion.

7

## Shoes to save

Many men collect shoes like women collect handbags, but for the uninitiated, here are the five shoes every man should own, in no particular order: athletic shoes, white sneakers, moccasins or loafers, Oxford or Derby dress shoes and a pair of brown leather boots or shoes.

8

## Make patterns work for you

Know your shape and size, and wear patterns that flatter your body type. For example, broad checks add weight and breadth, and vertical stripes add height and create a slimming effect.

9

## Pointers for pants

When choosing pants, or trousers, remember the golden rule: everything should be worn at the natural waist, except jeans, which can sit on your hips. How you wear your bottoms can make or break your look, and reputation.

## Sort through shades

Vary your look with a collection of different styles of sunglasses. There are so many to choose from but aviators, horn-rimmed, round frames, wayfarers and colourful frames top the list.

Be sure, however, to consult an expert on which frames suit your face shape.

6

## Get a staple jacket

Everyone needs a good outdoors jacket. Find one that you really love, crafted from comfortable and durable material. It's hard to go wrong with a windbreaker, a golf jacket, or a harrington.

10

## Keeping it real

Always keep in mind that size matters, and by this, we mean the right size matters. Ill-fitting clothes, whether they are too tight or too loose, are a hard no.

As they say, dress the body you have, not the body you want. Of course, there's nothing wrong with aspiring towards your goal physique, but until then, be practical with how you style yourself – Nasa Maria Entaban

# Intricate accessories



**DEGEM**  
The new Infinity@Brique wedding bands inspired by the art of bricklaying

**DE BEERS**  
Each diamond in the Horizon Ring is hand-set and it features 46 diamonds in the central band

Feast your eyes on these awe-inspiring pieces, while taking a moment to appreciate the hard work that goes into their creation.



**GUCCI**  
This Lionhead ring in yellow gold chromodipside and diamonds is both fierce and elegant



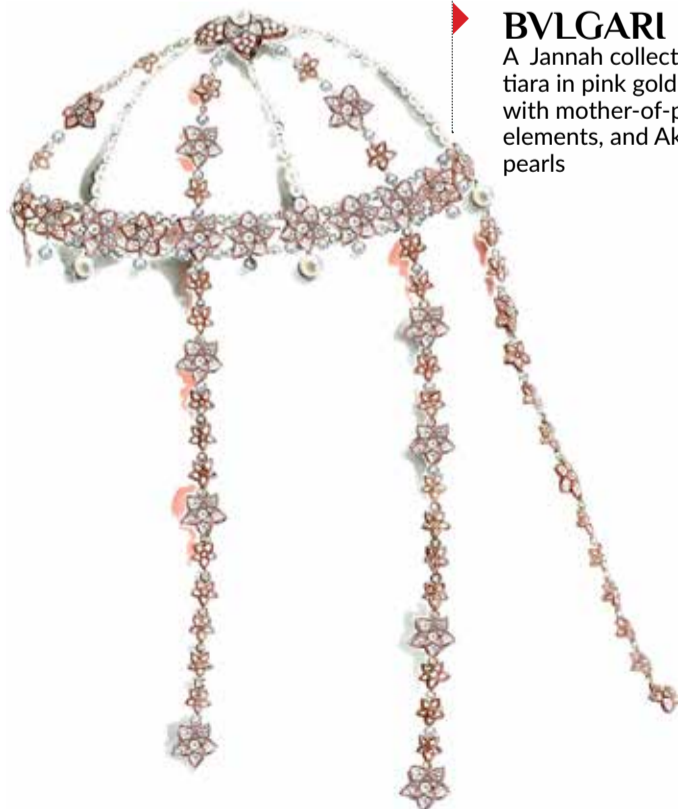
**BVLGARI**  
Adorning actress Sonam Kapoor is an exquisite High Jewelry necklace from the Jannah collection

**DE BEERS**  
This Enchanted Lotus bangle is the best of subtle chic



**DEGEM**  
Inspired by the honeycomb structure, the Infinity Hexa rings boast a unique design

**BVLGARI**  
A Jannah collection tiara in pink gold set with mother-of-pearl elements, and Akoya pearls





Gucci pledges a donation of RM9.6 mil

## Gucci supports the fight against Covid-19

Gucci will make two separate donations to crowdfunding campaigns amounting to €2 mil (RM9.6 mil): locally, in Italy where the company is based, for the Italian Civil Protection Department (Protezione Civile) in partnership with Intesa Sanpaolo; and globally, for the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund in support of the World Health Organization, through a matching campaign with Facebook.

The initiative follows donations from Kering, Gucci's parent company, in China, Italy and France and the production of over one million masks and gowns for healthcare personnel.

The #GucciCommunity is invited to make a donation to the Solidarity Response Fund for WHO through the "donate" feature available in the IG stories on [www.instagram.com/Gucci](http://www.instagram.com/Gucci). (Note: For Malaysia please use this link directly <https://bit.ly/3bmE5w7>).



Festive Foods on the Asian Food Network

## Culinary indulgences

If you're looking for good food-related programming to catch up on, look no further than the Asian Food Network (Astro Channel 703) for the latest shows.

Premiering today at 9pm is Valerie's Home Cooking (Season 10), hosted by TV personality and best-selling cookbook author Valerie Bertinelli, who welcomes you into her Los Angeles kitchen as she

prepares meals for friends, family and celebrity neighbours.

Also tune in to Festive Foods (April 24, 9pm), for a look into the heritage of cultural festivals, with an emphasis on the special foods made to celebrate each occasion – all which have been lovingly passed down through generations.



Jean-Christophe Babin, Bvlgari CEO

## Geneva Watch Days rescheduled

The initiative, by several major luxury brands including Bvlgari, Breitling, Ulysse Nardin,

Girard-Perregaux, Gerald Genta, Urwerk, H. Moser & Cie, De Bethune and MB&F, will now take place from Aug 26 to Aug 29, 2020, in Geneva Hotels and Boutiques.

Organised as a decentralised and self-managed multi brand watch event due to the Fairs cancellations – Baselworld and Watches & Wonders, the Geneva Watch Days project was unveiled in early March by Jean-Christophe Babin, CEO of Bvlgari.

The objective is to introduce to retailers and media on a "see now, buy now, resell now" base key watchmaking novelties from a broad choice of Brands representing Swiss Watch industry diversity.

This will allow retailers to regain momentum during the last months of the year usually corresponding to a strong consumer demand peak.



The new Casa Loewe in Pavilion KL

## New store opening

Loewe's new Pavilion Kuala Lumpur store is the most recent addition to the brand's retail network, spanning 285sq m and housed in one of the most prestigious retail addresses in Malaysia.

Casa Loewe forms the foundation for all the brand's stores, designed to evoke the home of a collector, where products are interspersed with pieces of art, craft and design from the brand's growing art collection.

The new Pavilion store features works by three artists: South African artist Hylton Nel; Japanese contemporary artist Shihoko Fukumoto and Brazilian artist Solange Pessoa, showing a link between different cultures represented by the art in the store.

A curated selection of ready-to-wear collections, leather goods and accessories for men and women are offered in the store.



(from left) Zuraina Zaharin, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Soo Shea Pin and Datuk Tan Pei Ing

## Celebrating women

As a tribute to impressive ladies everywhere, an inspiring group of Malaysian women got together for an intimate event at the Halycon Days store in Pavilion KL, the British enamel homeware brand.

"Celebrate Women with Halcyon Days" is aimed to inspire, according to Halycon Days Malaysia managing director Soo Shea Pin.

At the event, each of the ladies' ac-

complishments and talents were shared among the group for everyone to feel encouraged and inspired by.

Guests included CEO of Sunway University Dr Elizabeth Lee, PI Architect founder Datuk Tan Pei Ing and Getha executive director Yong Mei Tsin. Known as the destination for luxury gifts, English fine bone china and fashion accessories, Halycon Days was established in 1950 as an emporium of antique gifts in London.

# Gifts for men

There are many ways to show the guys in your life how much you appreciate them, including surprising them with a gift.



**BURBERRY**  
These cotton and leather webb sneakers are great for comfort and look super classy



**GUCCI**  
A casual pair of shoes built for the man who values comfort above all else



**ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA**  
For when he returns to the office, this savvy-looking briefcase



**ALAIN DELON**  
This watch from the AD451 collection is meant to invoke feelings of freedom



**GUCCI**  
A step up from casual but not too formal, this belt is a great gift



**EMPORIO ARMANI**  
A hand-decorated jacket from the limited Stars collection, perfect for the bold dresser

## BOTTEGA VENETA

For the man who likes his bags in basic black, here's a carryall that's stylish and functional.



## BVLGARI

This handmade OlympicNeko pattern seven-fold tie in navy fine saglione printed silk is a luxurious choice.



## CARRERA

The new Flag Lab design is unconventional and which man doesn't need another pair of cool shades?





Clockwise from right: Dennis Yin, Frost Yaw, Siti Khadijah, Bob Low, Nurulain Edruce, Alexis SueAnn, Shweta Sekhon, Sachie Smira, Isha Norsham, Sarah Intan, Mysara Muhd and Melissa Th'ng



# A fresh new look

Furla welcomed guests and media to their Spring/Summer 2020 preview, held at Colony Star Boulevard at Jalan Yap Kwan Seng.

It was here that Malaysian guests got to see the brand's new logo, inspired by the architecture of the archway.

This is reminiscent of Bologna's iconic Portici arcades and the archway of Fondazione Furla in Bologna, Italy.

Furla says that the new logo heralds a new chapter in its long history, with 90 years of Italian heritage and elegance, "always forward looking."

As guests browsed through the collection, they took time to pose with pieces, made up of bags and other accessories for men and women.

# A brand new lineup

Malaysian Official Designers Association (Moda), announced their relaunch and new committee line-up at a press conference at Majestic Hotel, KL.

New president, designer Melinda Looi took to the stage to deliver a speech, followed by executive advisor, Dirk Luebbert. Following this, members of the executive committee and supporting committee were introduced.

The organisation aims at uniting and empowering Malaysian fashion to take a leading role in the local and global fashion economy.

It supports the Malaysian fashion and creative industry through education, business development, marketing and promotion and networking.

Members comprise mainly people in the fashion industry but is not limited to this, as everyone from hairstylists to makeup artists who are involved in the industry are welcome to join.

This year Moda will celebrate its 30th anniversary, and several events are in the pipeline, including retail and fashion show-cases and a grand party.



The full Moda committee - photo: Imagerom



(from left) Men's designers are seen in more soft tones such as pastel green for suits like this one from Salvatore Ferragamo; Tunics as shown in this Jil Sander design are a men's trend in 2020; Sportiness is still a big thing as shown by Dior's Sahara and cargo outfits; Short suit combinations are popular for the summer as seen with this Hackett design; The bucket or fisherman's hat, like this one from Marc O'Polo, is also a popular trend.

# The emancipation of men's fashion

After what feels like an eternity of muted colours, cowboy materials and macho cuts, clothing for men is finally borrowing feminine styles that were once a no-go for men.

► By **BENJAMIN FREUND**

Women's fashion is something of a mirror to current social trends and debates, and while that's also true of men's fashion, they have traditionally been restricted in their ranges, forced to look manly and avoid feminine styles.

But style experts say that Western fashion brands are giving men more and more room for creative expressive, allowing them to wear what they like.

It's not just women who are experiencing an intense moment of emancipation. "Lots of men have also been waiting to be able to let out their inner femininity," says Gerd Mueller-Thomkins, director of the German Fashion Institute (DMI).

Even on catwalks, male models are no longer styled as macho men.

One way the change can be seen on shop floors is in the colours, described as diverse by Patrick Pendiuk, head of online fashion at men's magazine GQ.

"Lots of soft colours are being used for suits: pastel tones, off-whites, pinks, creams." It fits with another suit trend – but more on that later.

Pendiuk also thinks 80s fashions are making a comeback for men, including shiny materials. "It ranges from nylon to shiny satins and silks," he says.

And it includes items of clothing that would traditionally be made from other materials. Workwear trousers, for example, which would usually be made from a thick twill or denim may now be made using a light satin, according to Claus Bortas from Berlin's Academy for Fashion and Design.

But clothes are still meant to be practical. A tunic can still be combined with sturdy sandals, says Bortas, who describes it as "functionality with stylish design." Outfits can also have a sporty element such as a utility jacket or cargo pants.

Mueller-Thomkins says people currently want more "freedom to relax and move."

Designers are responding to those desires with suits that look "as if you could go jogging in them," says Bortas.

And fresh colours are also being used: Instead of the usual black, grey and blue, men are wearing more eye-catching colours or pairing a plain suit with a pastel shirt for example. "It could be a blue suit combined with a pastel blue or pink," says Pendiuk.

Suit shorts are also still fashionable. That's right! Men only used to be able to wear shorts at the weekend. But the world of fashion has been trying to inveigle them into work wear for some time now.

"While long trousers are staying narrow-cut, shorts are stretching and getting baggier," says Pendiuk.

Natural colours are in as a result of the current global focus on environmental protection and sustainability, with lots of earthy shades.

Bortas thinks green in all its shades will also gain in importance as the season continues.

"At a time when lots of people are afraid that the environment is disappearing, we are still trying to connect ourselves with nature stylistically: nature networking," says Mueller-Thomkins.

The experts are also agreed on one must-have this season: "Reversible shirts will undoubtedly be important," says Pendiuk. They will be boxy in fit and brightly coloured with crazy patterns.

For those who don't like shirts or flower patterns, so-called normcore shirts are an alternative.

Normcore is a unisex fashion, characterised by its inconspicuousness. When it comes to T-shirts, for example, it means wearing one without well-known branding all over it.

Aside from that, "classic shirts with a straight, baggy cut" are still in, according to Pendiuk. "They shouldn't be tucked into trousers but worn as an airy, plain piece of clothing." – dpa

Less stiff suit variants or, as seen here at Herschel Supply, sporty outdoor variants in plain colours are the trend in men's fashion.



Loosened-up modern summer suits increasingly feature shorts, as with this one from White Stuff.

Green in all its shades is on track to become the new trend colour of the season in men's fashion. Roy Robson, for example, is banking on a dark olive green.—all photos:dpa



The boutique will be at the venue for a year

# Shopping in an intimate setting

Good things come in good time

The Audemars Piguet pop-up boutique is on Level 33 of The Westin KL

Audemars Piguet has opened up a new store in the Westin Hotel, KL, for a year.

If you are the type who prefers to shop away from crowds and in a private setting, Audemars Piguet's new pop-up boutique is just the thing for you.

Located on the 33rd floor of The Westin Kuala Lumpur, one can gaze out over the beautiful KL skyline as they peruse the brand's pieces.

Officially opened on 1 February 2020 for a duration of one year, the new Audemars Piguet pop-up boutique overlooks the popular shopping and entertainment district of Bukit Bintang, home to international luxury brands.

The concept design of the 268sqm pop-up boutique is inspired by the Manufacture's origins in the Swiss Jura Mountains, as well as by the blend of tradition and forward thinking at the heart of its craftsmanship.

Watch enthusiasts will discover a curated selection of the Manufacture's novelties across its collections, including Code 11.59 by Audemars Piguet.

A private room for even more personalised service will delight enthusiasts and serious buyers.

This pop-up boutique aligns with Audemars Piguet's commitment to bringing the finest experience to watch lovers and clients in Southeast Asia.

For a short time, the boutique will feature a showcase of Audemars Piguet's museum pieces.



Shop with the KL skyline in the background

The private room for more personalised service.



Novelties are displayed in glass cases



# A time to reflect

Three personalities shared their current endeavours, how they make use of time and what has been on their minds this month.

► BY NASA MARIA ENTABAN

IT has been an uncertain few weeks due to the Movement Control Order, and while we find ways to keep busy, stay on top of our work and spend quality time with our loved ones, many are trying to spread positivity during these challenging times.

For our mens' issue this month, we connected with three personalities who excel in their respective professions, while maintaining a good balance of work and play.

They spoke to us about their careers, reflections during this period and how they are preparing for the month of Ramadan.



Andre Amir

## Andre Amir Digital Creator

Andre, 39, worked for a brand consultancy in the corporate sector for 17 years, but juggled being a content creator and his full-time job for the past four years.

He recently made the brave move of leaving his job, as it was taking up a lot of his time, and went into content creation full time.

The fashion personality has made it his mission to share his interest and knowledge in men's fashion with his audience, winning numerous awards including many best dressed awards from magazines as well as garnering accolades for his fashion blog.

"I have also expanded my genre/niche into men's beauty/grooming as well. Since the majority of my viewers are urban male (71%) between the ages 18 to 44, I aim to cover more topics that interest men," says Andre, who is a "friend" of several watch and fashion brands and also works closely with beauty brands.

"There are plenty of projects in the pipeline for me but some have been delayed or postponed indefinitely due to the current situation, hence I'm not able to talk about them yet. But recently I was featured on a Kansai TV morning show in Japan when they featured fashion personalities around the world," says Andre. "That was an exciting and memorable experience."

### What inspires you, and how do you keep yourself motivated and passionate about your career?

I'm a perfectionist and have a high drive to be different and to do better. My mind keeps thinking about what else can I do, how can I do better, what else am I missing. Receiving messages, questions and compliments from my audience inspires me to do better. I've been doing it since I started. It is not easy when you have set a certain standard, a persona, a brand for yourself and have to maintain that.

I have never been a funny one, so I rely heavily on my need to inform and educate. When you want to be a leader, you must do better. I believe in that and I have learnt to always be positive, ignore the negativity. Most importantly, I read a lot on my niche (fashion, beauty etc.) and the latest in digital marketing.

### During this time of uncertainty, how have you been keeping yourself busy at home? What are the challenges you've faced?

This pandemic doesn't just affect me, but everyone, every brand, every business all over the world. Everyone is trying to find a different approach, a different strategy. While I wait for my next project, I am currently keeping myself fit, doing a lot of home workouts and maintaining a good diet. This is important because when this is all over, I know I'll be busy again. So I want to ensure that my fitness level and body is being well maintained. Fortunately for me, besides projects being on hold, I have yet to face many challenges at home. Plenty of pitches and proposals have been going back and forth. So right now, I'm focussing on my well being.

### Have you been self-reflecting a lot during this time? Do share a little about what has been on your mind.

I'm thinking of ways to be better. What else have I been missing? I look at what inspires people, trends and where we are going once the MCO ends.

So plenty of things will change, and I need to be ready. This current situation has already changed the way the brands reach the audience and I must know what and how they are doing it. Always keep myself on my toes, what I should do next.

### On the topic of time, in your opinion, how is time best spent?

Time is short. You need to do what you can with time, with work. I'll always be satisfied to learn how much I have done for the day. But at the same time, I need to know how to balance my time. This means that I must always allocate time for myself,

and time for my loved ones. No matter how busy it gets, there must be a balance. Only then my time is well spent.

### As the month of Ramadan approaches, how are you, and your family preparing for this time?

There are many uncertainties of course. But I'm guessing this Ramadan and Raya will be very humble compared to other years. I usually have a simple Ramadan, which is how it should be. We should be observing the fasting and refrain from overspending. A simple but good diet is enough for me when it comes to breaking fast. And I think it will be the first time without a new baju raya (no fabric store and no tailors are open right now) and that is fine too. The same applies to my family. What's most important to us is being together and spending time with loved ones.

### Could you describe your personal style, tell us about your dream car and what are your favourite travel destinations?

My style is structured. Most of the time I'll be wearing my suits (but not the business type) as a sartorial look is what I'm known for. But I love athleisure, and structured or innovative outfits as well.

I love BMW and Mercedes-Benz, but if I have to dial down my dream car right now, it would be Porsche Macan S. I like a city car, stylish but still large enough because I do sometimes carry a mobile wardrobe in my car for all those back to back events.

I'm an urban guy, so my favourite travel destinations are Bangkok and London where the transportation is good and shopping is heaven. Both feel like a second home to me. But my dream destinations would be Switzerland, Osaka and Istanbul.

Time is short. You need to do what you can with time, with work.

Andre in Lord's Tailor



Andre Amir  
with his  
mother Nik  
Zalma



Vince Chong



Vince's children, Heidi and Tyler

Respect is a two-way street, if you want to get it, you've got to give it



Vince with his daughter Heidi

**Vince Chong**  
Singer, vocal coach, music producer

He shot to fame as the winner of Akademi Fantasia season 1 way back in 2003, and has since released several albums, while also trying his hand at musical theatre.

Currently, he is more active as a vocal coach and music producer, but he still performs and emcees.

"I also am doing some freelance film directing, editing and voice overs too," says the 40-year-old father of two.

"I'm exploring a whole new spectrum which is an animation series for kids. It's my creation and I can't wait for it to materialise. It's still in the working process and we are aiming to pitch it to a streaming site," he adds.

**What inspires you, and how do you keep yourself motivated and passionate about your career?**

My children keep me going ... I work hard for them to have a decent future. My wife (Fiona Edward) is my rock who keeps pushing me in my work and health. Also seeing my vocal students improving in their vocals boosts my passion and drive.

**During this time of uncertainty, how have you been keeping yourself busy at home? What are the challenges you've faced?**

Well of course I can't go to my singing studio so I've been conducting online vocal classes. Also being in the entertainment line, I've had several big shows and projects cancelled and postponed, so that's a huge financial dent as we have so many commitments.. But we as a family, we are staying positive and staying prayerful as well.

**Have you been self-reflecting a lot during this time? Do share a little about what has been on your mind.**

During this lockdown, it's definitely given me a lot of time to reflect on how fragile and temporary our lives are on earth. You could have everything one minute and lose it all in the next. Hence, always count your blessings as there are people out there struggling to survive as they don't have homes or stable jobs. I pray governments

around the world see to this issue because it's all about humanity now. I'm grateful to have a big family to bond with during these trying times. At the same time if you notice, the skies are getting bluer and it makes you realise that mother earth needs healing too. So appreciate nature, appreciate life.

**On the topic of time, in your opinion, how is time best spent?**

Spending time with my children (Eva, five and Tyler, two) of course. Joining in with them in arts and craft and not just the idiot box. Time is also best spent on learning how to be domesticated. One thing I'm grateful for is I've learnt how to be a handyman in my wife's kampung.

From fixing a broken pipe, changing door knobs, fixing small electrical issues and overall to be innovative. Oh and do loads of exercise of course ... you still want to fit through your door after lockdown is over.

**As a non-Muslim with a large Malay fan base, how do you show respect for the month of Ramadan and what it represents? And also as a member of our melting pot of a Malaysian society, showing respect to your friends?**

I guess respect comes both ways. From my side I've always enjoyed the month of Ramadan, especially for the food. But I feel for them at this time as they're not sure if they will even get to buka puasa together or if it will be via Skype or Zoom... One thing this virus has managed to do is, unite all Malaysians regardless of race because it's all about human survival. We are fighting a common enemy together and that's a beautiful thing to see. I would tell the delivery guy to "Jaga diri" (take care) and he would say a very genuine thank you. Malaysians are caring more now.

**Could you describe your personal style, tell us about your dream car and what are your favourite travel destinations?**

To be honest, materialism is far from my mind right now. My dream car used to be a BMW 6 series but now my dream car is a mobile home. I can travel around Malaysia but still be at home. Eventually I would love to do that one day in New Zealand.



# Staying positive

## Razif Hashim

Actor, TV host, emcee

Razif, 36, is a familiar face in the film and television scene, and is well known for his humorous delivery as a TV host and emcee.

At the moment he is focusing on creating content around food, his latest endeavour being the creative director of a project called Wayang Kitchen.

"We create interactive gastronomic experiences that range from murder mysteries all the way to contemporary cultural shows that aim to educate tourists on Malaysian culture one dish at a time. As a recurring theme, we are always pairing food with stories and vice versa. That's the Wayang Kitchen experience," says Razif, who also works with brands and collaborations with other creative teams or production houses.

He is also working on his culinary and language skills, and has an ongoing "quarantine meals" project with his friend Mark in Penang.

"He runs a food tour company called Simply Enak and since none of us have any work, we just post up a video on Instagram of whatever we cook and dedicate it to each other everyday since the second day of MCO," explains Razif.

### What inspires you, and how do you keep yourself motivated and passionate about your career?

I guess I'm one of those very lucky people who love what I do - cook, eat, perform and write stories. I am passionate about making people think and feel beyond their comfort zones or what they can imagine. My motivation comes from the need to inspire my own life by coming together with my friends and innovating.

The moment we find we have created something that triggers a true spark of joy or makes us laugh out loud and feel excited about how this discovery would make our audience feel, it inspires me to propel further.

### During this time of uncertainty, how have you been keeping yourself busy at home? What are the challenges you've faced?

Watching what I eat, working out a little and trying to hustle and create work from the safety of our home. My team and I are feeling the pressure too especially because we were working on developing interactive gastronomic experiences in a live theatre setting. These projects were dependent on having people in the same room to receive the value of what we have to offer.

The challenge right now is to explore new ways to get the experience out to the masses under the circumstances. Not an easy feat but we are on to something. Look out for our "Dinner with a Show" series coming soon! We are developing interactive stories that are paired with meals from restaurants in KL delivered to you, so you can enjoy the experience in the safety and comfort of your home.

### Have you been self-reflecting a lot during this time? Do share a little about what has been on your mind.

I wonder a lot about how people will behave after this pandemic. A month of

staying at home can force people to do some amazing things or the complete opposite. I was out shopping for groceries the other day and it was just weird. Nobody talks to each other anymore, I couldn't even recognise my friend who was standing right next to me because we were all wearing masks, and when I could recognise and said hi, it was only a quick exchange because we had to focus on getting our stuff and getting out of there as fast as possible.

What's going to happen to theatre? What's going to happen to social gatherings? Will we have a new way of greeting? I was delivered some goods by a good old friend today whom I usually give a hug ... we did an air fist bump. With gloves on! Then there's the economy and how everyone is suffering and the prediction of how everyone will suffer. How many businesses will crumble? Will I have to find a new vocation? Will there be a rise of crime? How will we adapt? We are at the brink of change and it's an exciting time to be alive!

### On the topic of time, in your opinion, how is time best spent?

I would say it's best to spend an hour a day first thing in the morning to practice a little gratitude. Then carefully plan the rest of the day over a good breakfast. It's best to divide it into goals or tasks you expect yourself to complete or achieve in units of one hour. Then just go ahead and follow the plan best as you can.

Give yourself the leeway to interchange things, sometimes you can switch things up, sometimes you can cram small tasks within the hour you set yourself to do completely different things. Sometimes, if you are in the zone and decide to just write for a few extra hours and forego everything else, that's ok too. The idea is to set the path but be flexible like water. Never beat yourself up if you don't end up following through, just be mindful to note what might have kept you from completing your tasks and carry forward your list to the next day. At this point of time in my life, time is best spent improving the way I spend it.

### As the month of Ramadan approaches, how are you, and your family preparing for it this time?

We aren't really. Except maybe intermittent fasting every other day as good practice leading up to it. To be honest, with what's going at the moment, we are managing the days as they come. It's been weeks since life has been put to a stand still, people aren't even going for Friday prayers. It will be a very different Ramadan indeed.

What is usually filled with gatherings to break fast and compulsory trips to the bazaar is going to be replaced with solitude and reflection. My sister might not be able to fly back. We might be at a very compromising time all over the world come first shawwal. Best to be frugal too with the uncertainty of work in the time to come. I am not trying to be pessimistic or negative. Most people will tell you I am quite the opposite. However as a realist, I tend to over prepare mentally as to not be terribly disappointed. Between my wife and I, siblings and parents, we are expecting a quiet one indeed.

Razif Hashim



Every day can be a new start



Razif and his wife Tiu Gi Gyn

### Could you describe your personal style, tell us about your dream car and what are your favourite travel destinations?

I'm not trendy. I'm very happy in loose comfortable clothing. I was trained in an acting conservatoire, so I wear things I can stretch in all in black. I love the beach, I own lots of board shorts and T-shirts. I dress to the occasion when it calls for it, but never to impress.

I spend my money on things I can consume. Food, drink, extreme activities. Things I can define with my senses rather than put on for others to define me. With cars, just because it looks like such a bad

boy with excellent resale value, my goal in the next few years is to have a Mercedes CLA 200 but a long term dream would be a Porche GT4. I love the Mediterranean. I love Spain in particular. I spent three months there in 2019 to learn Spanish. I love places where the food is good, the people are warm, the weather seasonal.

I want to go to South America! Particularly Mexico, Cuba and Columbia. I love the beach, anywhere I can dive. Watch a good sunset. I love a place, where the people can teach me a new way of life. Let's face it, that's everywhere. I can't be fussy, I've always wished I could see the whole world.

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# Trends in flexible furniture

This sofa from Artifort has a shelf on the back, making it good for more than just sitting on.



Middle: The back and armrests of the Liv sofa system by Rolf Benz are also shelves for books or accessories.  
Below: Artifort's footstool with a band for carrying it is an example of the practical multifunctional furniture that dominated this year's IMM trade fair in Cologne.  
— Photos by FRANZISKA GABBERT/dpa

Sometimes, a sofa is more than just a sofa. And a chair can be more than a chair. At this year's IMM trade fair in Cologne, designers were really thinking outside the box about what furniture can do.

Living spaces are becoming smaller, which leads to an increased demand for multifunctional furniture. And interior designers are jumping on this trend with furniture that is not only functional, but also chic.

One example is the new Liv sofa system by Rolf Benz. The back and armrests are also shelves for books or accessories. And a version of the Cila Go chair by Arper not only offers storage space in the footwell but can be converted into a mini office thanks to a small swivelling table.

"Multifunctional furniture can be quickly used in other rooms, for example, when visitors come," says Frank A Reinhardt, a trend analyst for the IMM. He cites the example of the footstool, like Artifort's version with a band for carrying it.

Sometimes furniture can disappear completely: The Floating Office hangs from ropes on the ceiling, and rolls up at the touch of a button when it's no longer needed. Naber, meanwhile, has designed a faucet that can be tilted and lowered down into the sink so you can use the sink as counter space by putting a board over it.

Durability is also a key theme contributing to the functionality of furniture right now.

"In the furniture sector, the question is no longer how high quality a piece of furniture is, but how durable it is," designer Luca Nicetto said at the presentation of his new sofa for Rolf Benz.

Sustainability is a major issue in the furniture industry as consumers are ever more concerned about the environment.

Of course quality has a direct effect on durability, which is why many companies are increasingly emphasising the quality of their furniture.

But it is also a matter of using recycled and recyclable materials. One example of this is a new mattress from the Euro Comfort Group that is made from old plastic bottles.

These trends also apply to garden furniture. More and more high-quality chic outdoor furniture is being made, and many



Naber has designed a faucet that can be tilted and lowered down into the sink so you can use the sink as counter space by putting a board over it.



classic living room furnishers have started to produce garden furniture as well.

Many brands do this in order to be able to offer devoted customers a complete range for indoors and outdoors, Christoph Kahleyss says.

Kahleyss is the designer for Freifrau, whose swing seat, originally intended for the home, is now also available for hanging under a big tree in the garden. — dpa

(top) The Floating Office hangs from ropes on the ceiling, and rolls up at the touch of a button.  
(below) Freifrau's swing seat, originally intended for the home, is also available for the garden.





# Daydream of these day trips

When it is safe to travel the world again, put Canada's wild islands on your list.

► By VERENA WOLFF

There are hundreds of islands around Vancouver. The biggest and best known bears the same name as the Canadian metropolis: Vancouver Island. But it's so big that a day trip isn't nearly enough time to explore it.

The Southern Gulf Islands to the southwest or Bowen Island to the west of the city, however, are perfect for a day trip, or even for a little island hopping.

The easiest trip is to take an hourly ferry from the Horseshoe Bay terminal north of Vancouver to Bowen Island. After the 20-minute ride, you're surrounded by nature. You don't need a car on the island to appreciate its beauty, though you can bring one on the ferry if you want.

If you're looking for a quieter getaway, Galiano Island is just the ticket. It's part of the Southern Gulf Islands, which you can reach from the Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal south of Vancouver. The voyage to Sturdies Bay takes about an hour, and cars are allowed on board.

Galiano Island has many well-maintained hiking trails on the coast and in the interior. Rachelle Hayden is a travel guide who frequently takes guests up Mount Galiano. When the weather is clear, you can even see the United States from the 314-me-

tre-high observation point.

"Many people come on the weekends from Vancouver to enjoy the quiet in nature," she says.

Bellhouse Park, near the Sturdies Bay ferry terminal, is also known as a great spot to spy orcas, or killer whales. In the straits between the islands and the Pacific Ocean, killer whales often pop by, searching for food. "They mostly eat salmon, and there's a whole bunch of it here," Hayden says. With a little patience and a little luck, you might spot them yourself.

You can also catch a ferry to Salt Spring Island, where dozens of artists sell paintings, sculptures, jewellery, ceramics and other items from their ateliers. In many of the studios, you can even watch the artists at work.

All over the hilly island are local wineries, craft breweries and organic food producers, such as Salt Spring Island Cheese, which makes cheese from sheep and goat milk.

It rains a lot on the islands and in Vancouver, but that shouldn't stop you from island hopping. Locals call rain "liquid sunshine."

Hayden says: "You live in nature and with nature." – dpa



## Need to Know

(above, clockwise from left) Salt Spring Island is a popular destination for climbers; Galiano Island has many well-maintained hiking trails on the coast and in the interior; Galiano Island is known for its unusual sandstone rocks; Bellhouse Park, near the Sturdies Bay ferry terminal, is known as a great spot to spy orcas, or killer whales; Bowen Island can be easily reached from the Horseshoe Bay terminal north of Vancouver.

(below, from left) Salt Spring Island is home to wineries, breweries and organic food producers; The smaller islands around Vancouver can be easily reached by ferry; Travelling by kayak is a good way to explore Bowen Island.



Don't listen to what they say. Go see!



## Need to Know

Ryan Reynolds, Angelina Jolie, Jennifer Garner, Amy Adams, Rihanna, Blake Lively and Donatella Versace are all contributing to help those affected by the pandemic



Everything  
is better  
together



# Banding together for good

All over the world, people are doing their part in helping to support those fighting against the Covid-19 pandemic.

As almost three billion people globally remain confined to their homes in light of the Covid-19 situation, many are filling their time with working remotely, discovering new hobbies, preparing home cooked meals and spending quality time with their families.

While we are all doing our part by respecting and obeying the measures put in place by authorities to curb the spread of the disease, many have taken it a step further by raising funds whether it's to produce protection gear for medical efforts or to help the less fortunate.

Numerous individuals have made anonymous contributions while NGOs and charitable organisations continue to carry out their good works despite the challenges.

Luxury fashion houses and celebrities are also doing their part, with many stepping up to help in any way they can.

In Italy, which has been hit hard by the disease, the people behind luxury brands like Gucci, Armani, Bvlgari, Ermenegildo Zegna and more are helping in various ways.

The Zegna family, together with the Group's top management, have pledged personal donations to the Civil Protection in Italy totaling €3 mil (RM14 mil) in support of the nurses, doctors, scientists and volunteers across Italy.

They will also convert a part of their production facilities in Italy and Switzerland to the manufacturing of medical masks.

Bvlgari contributed donations of hand cleansing gel with sanitiser produced by its long-term fragrance-manufacturing partner, ICR, an important donation to the Spallanzani Hospital to acquire a new state of the art 3D high definition microscope, and the delivering of millions of masks to France, Italy and Spain.

The Armani Group announced that all of its Italian production plants have now switched to manufacturing single use medical overalls, to be used for the individual protection of healthcare workers engaged in the fight against the Coronavirus disease.

Following his initial donation to National

Civil Protection Department and the Luigi Sacco, San Raffaele, Istituto dei Tumori hospitals in Milan and Istituto Spallanzani in Rome, in recent weeks Giorgio Armani has also contributed to hospitals in Bergamo, Piacenza and Versilia in the Tuscany region, for a total donation of €2 mil (RM9.4 mil).

Gucci also donated €2 mil (RM9.4 mil) and is providing 1,100,000 surgical masks and 55,000 medical overalls.

Over in the UK, Burberry is using their global supply chain network to fast track the delivery of 100,000 surgical masks to the UK National Health Service for use by medical staff, as well as repurposing their trench coat factory in Yorkshire to make non-surgical gowns and masks for patients in UK hospitals.

They are also funding research into a single-dose vaccine developed by the University of Oxford, and donating to charities dedicated to tackling food poverty across the UK.

Other brands that are also doing their part include Ralph Lauren, Prada, H&M, Cos and Donatella and Allegra Versace.

Celebrities too, are chipping in. Singer Rihanna's Clara Lionel Foundation donated US\$5 mil (RM21.7mil) to support frontliners of the virus response efforts, especially in marginalised communities in the United States, the Caribbean, and Africa.

Actor Ryan Reynolds and actress Blake Lively donated US\$1 mil (RM4.3mil) to organisations Feeding America and Food Banks Canada. Actress Angelina Jolie donated US\$1 mil to No Kid Hungry to fight child hunger amid the outbreak.

Actresses Amy Adams and Jennifer Garner announced Save With Stories, which provides supplies to children who rely on their schools for food, partnering with Save the Children and No Kid Hungry.

The list of people stepping up to help in this time keeps growing, and it is hoped that with increased awareness from people with the platforms and resources to help, we can all beat this pandemic together. — Nasa Maria



# A tribute to history

Royal Selangor's latest additions to its British Museum collection are a combination of history, mystery and artistry.

Inspired by the artefacts of The British Museum, the titular homeware collection returns with more exciting new additions.

This time around Royal Selangor brings to life the iconic Lewis chessmen trove, one of the most popular artefacts in the whole of the British Museum's collection, which even had a cameo role in the 2001 film adaptation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.

Discovered on the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides in 1831, the 12th century Lewis chessmen are carved in walrus ivory, and very likely of Scandinavian origin.

An intriguing and mysterious tale, one of the more well-known stories relates how a local man found them at a sandbank and small pale little faces stared back at him.

Shaken and fearing for his safety, he rushed home, thinking they were elves or gnomes, but he later returned to retrieve them at the orders of his fierce wife.

The Lewis chess set features meticulously recreated replicas of the original chessmen selected from the museum's collection.

With the exception of the pawns, which resemble upright slabs with elaborate scrollwork, the king, queen, bishop, knight and rook all wear vivid facial expressions, which almost resemble real people.

This human-like quality lends a fun, unique emotive approach to an everyday chess game. The serious-looking king, the sword across his knees implies unbiased justice, and readiness to defend his throne, and by his side, drinking horn in hand, his compassionate queen surveys the carnage of the battlefield and wonders what solace she can offer.

Benevolent bishops in full regalia serenely attend to them, as do dutiful knights astride sturdy ponies, while fierce berserker warriors play the role of rooks.

In pewter differentiated by a glimmering polish and a dark matte finish, opposing sides face each other across a chessboard in nyatoh, scorched with an interwoven



knot motif from the king's throne.

The chessmen's unique foliate and zoomorphic motifs are also reinterpreted into contemporary tableware and drinkware that add a touch of character to any décor setting.

Sinuous serpents in pewter, taken from a bishop chess piece, coil around a half-pint glass fashioned after that most evocative of the period's vessels, the drinking horn.

Here's a fun fact: the drinking horn, in its original form, could not be set down but had to be held until its content was drunk (which was frequently achieved with speed).

The unHINGED expression of a berserker, a fierce Norse warrior biting his shield is meticulously recreated on a salt shaker.

Other items include a bottle stopper, tankard, pepper shaker and votive.

The iconic Lewis chessmen trove

Lewis Drinking Horn

Lewis Tankard

Lewis Berserker Salt Shaker

Lewis Votive

Lewis Queen Bottle Stopper



Leaf motifs are all the rage at the moment



Jungle motifs were everywhere at the recent Ambiente trade fair in Cologne and a pillow decorated with exotic jungle flora. Below: Jungle themes are huge in interior design right now



## Welcome to the jungle

► SIMONE A MAYER

Green leaves, sprawling palms, monkeys, tigers – anything related to the jungle is getting the thumbs-up from interior designers right now.

At the recent Ambiente trade fair in Frankfurt, all kinds of jungle motifs could be seen on cushions, tablecloths and decorations. But one character in particular was visible between the lush green palms and ferns – the monkey.

"We are seeing a lot of monkey ornaments and monkey print," says trend analyst Gabriela Kaiser. "Many people think of the monkey as a children's motif, but it works for adults as well."

Monkeys could be seen on wallpaper, sofa cushions and tablecloths with a jungle background and palms, for example. There were even gold monkey figures on display – "for a little glamour."

And this is not just a passing trend, the expert says. The monkey is not just the next trendy animal, after the hype that surrounded the unicorn for a few years.

"The sloth tried it, the llama tried it, but neither did it like the unicorn," Kaiser says. "This is because the unicorn affected us in an especially intense way, with its romantic roots and mysticism."

The jungle trend is more about creating a "world," she says. "Jungle motifs create a natural and exotic ambience. We associate the jungle with foreign countries and holidays. These motifs allow you to beam yourself into a different world."

Other items on display at the trade fair included coasters in the shape of leaves, and lampshades decorated with tigers, toucans and hummingbirds. – dpa



Exotic jungle creatures are a popular trend in interior design right now



For a touch of exotic glamour in the home, why not consider some jungle-themed ornaments?



This gold monkey ornament would be a cute addition to your interior. – FRANZISKA GABBERT/dpa



Teams from 23 countries celebrate on the beach.



Above: (from left) Chan Kiang Wei, Norizuan Abdullah, Robert Armstrong and Mohd Zulfakar Mohd Alghaus. (below) 40 teams from 23 countries took part in the competition.



Teams rode through various terrain.

# An impressive effort

Team Malaysia puts on a good showing at the BMW Motorrad International GS Trophy 2020.

Malaysian trio, Norizuan Abdullah, Chan Kiang Wei and Mohd Zulfakar Mohd Alghaus, finished in 18th place at the BMW Motorrad International GS Trophy 2020 to place above Team India and Team North Africa, amongst others.

This year, 23 teams comprising 40 different nationalities competed against each other on a thrilling 3,000km adventure, which is the seventh edition of the prestig-

ious motorcycle competition.

Spanning eight days and featuring multiple adrenaline-pumping, high speed challenges, riders competed against the scenic backdrop of the North and South Islands of New Zealand landscapes.

"The BMW Motorrad International GS Trophy is the world's most prestigious premium adventure motorcycle competition with diverse participants from across the

globe coming together to celebrate 'Make Life a Ride'. We are proud to see our local team at the competition, representing not just Malaysia but all of Southeast Asia as well for the very first time – making a name for themselves on the global stage," said BMW Group Malaysia managing director Harald Hoelzl.

Team Malaysia member Norizuan Abdullah said, "It is a huge achievement for us

to represent Malaysia in the International GS Trophy this year. Even though we had a bumpy start, we worked hard and came out better riders."

He added, "I believe this is what the GS is about, bringing people together through the thrill of the ride, despite the challenges we have to face. It takes true grit to make it to the finish line and I am so proud we did it. Thank you for believing in us, Malaysia!"



The one-off Fiat 500 Armani features natural, reused and recycled materials.

# Creativity and craftsmanship

Giorgio Armani designs a one-off Fiat 500 Armani.

In collaboration with Fiat and Earth Alliance, Giorgio Armani presented the one-off Fiat 500 Armani, an environmentally-friendly electric vehicle.

A part of a charity project in support of Earth Alliance, the non-profit organisation founded by award-winning actor Leonardo DiCaprio that fights climate change and

the loss of biodiversity throughout the world, the one-off model will be auctioned together with two other Fiat 500 versions, designed by Bvlgari and Kartell respectively.

The Fiat 500 Armani celebrates style, creativity and craftsmanship, hailing itself as the ideal car for the ideal city.

Based on the principles of sustainability – natural, reused and recycled – its construction bears the designer's signature: an unmistakable mark.

Partially laser-etched to create a fabric-like finish, its grey-green silk-effect metal body features innovative anti-pollution and anti-bacterial technology that helps

purify the air.

The exterior is equipped with alloy rims and a folding fabric roof personalised with the "GA" logo.

The interior is designed in natural controlled-origin leather and wool fabric, featuring regenerated wood inserts with aluminum details.



Members of Ferrari Owners' Club Malaysia pose in front of Genting Grand Hotel carpark



The Ferrari Owners' Club Malaysia convoy driving up to Resorts World Genting for their Annual General Meeting.



A total of 99 Ferraris drove up to the hillside resort

## Scenic drive

Members of an exclusive car club hold their annual general meeting at one of the nation's most famous hillside resorts.

The Ferrari Owners' Club Malaysia took a scenic drive up to Genting Highlands for their Annual General Meeting, held at Resorts World Genting.

The club prides itself as a safe haven for the car community and offers an array of activities to its members, including talks on competition, performance, presentation, and socialising.

Members are welcome to also peruse the club's photo gallery and video gallery whilst staying updated with the latest information.

The convoy featured over 90 Ferraris from the prestigious club, which were truly a sight to behold as they made their way up to the hillside resort.

Among the models spotted were the 430 Scuderia which is the new Ferrari high performance mid-engine Berlinetta with an eight

cylinder engine with 502 horsepower.

Its track record shows the 430 Scuderia is similar to the Ferrari Enzo which is the most impressive supercar produced by the Prancing Horse.

Other cars present included the 458 Speciale, 812 Superfast, F12 N-Largo, and newer models such as the 488 Pistas as well as two F8 Tributos that stood in its own league.

Vice president of casino marketing Winnie Lim personally escorted the convoy from Goh Tong Jaya, and they were put up at the Genting Grand Hotel for a night.

The meeting was held at the Genting International Convention Centre (GICC) for the committee, followed by drinks at the Genting Club and dinner at Maxim's E18ht-teen Inspired Cuisine.

## Harnessing creativity for good

A beach resort raised awareness on ocean pollution through a sculpture contest for children.

An idyllic five-star resort in Koh Lanta, Thailand, the iconic and idyllic five-star retreat in Koh Lanta, has reaffirmed its commitment to environmental conservation and community engagement by hosting a spectacular sculpture contest at the recent Laanta Lanta Festival.

Pimalai Resort & Spa invited kids from local schools to come up with creative sealife-themed sculptures using recycled materials.

Guided by expert instructors, including Koh Niair from the Art Faculty at Prince of Songkla University, and Khun Mook, a Bangkok-based designer who specialises in waste products, the teams of students, teachers and parents presented a series of impressive artworks that garnered a lot of interest from festival-goers.

Entries included colourful clownfish, squid, crabs, starfish and more, all crafted using waste products such as plastic bottles, drink cans, discarded shoes and food packets, many of which had washed up on the island's shores.

One of the most evocative artworks depicted a family of sea turtles caught in a

fishing net, which was demonstrative of how well the children understood the plight of marine creatures.

The first prize, as chosen by the President of Krabi Provincial Administration Somsak Kittidhrakul, was a sculpture of a seahorse made from rubber flip-flops, collected from the beaches of Koh Lanta.

The winning team from Baan Tung Yee Peng School was presented with a trophy and cash prize of 12,000 Baht (RM 1,587.65).

This activity, which was launched in cooperation with B. Grimm, the multinational conglomerate active in healthcare, energy, building and industrial systems, real estate, e-commerce, and transport, succeeded in educating the youngsters about the importance of marine pollution and waste reduction, while also showcasing their artistic flair.

This marks the latest important environmental campaign conducted by Pimalai; for the last three years, the resort has worked with the Thai government's Department of National Parks, Wildlife & Plant Conservation on coral restoration programmes at Koh Rok and Koh Haa, and it is planning to expand this initiative in future.



Pimalai's Beachside Private Pool Villa with two bedrooms



Left: Entries included a family of sea turtles caught in a fishing net

Right: First prize, the sculpture of a seahorse is made from rubber flip-flops collected from the beaches of Koh Lanta