



THE HAUTE JOAILLERIE REPORT SPRING 2023 PART III



GRAFF,
GUCCI,
LOUIS VUITTON,
LYDIA COURTEILLE,
REPOSSI AND
TIFFANY & CO.

Writer: Olivier Dupon



The inception of the Important Necklace in 18K white gold set with one 50-carat oval-cut D Flawless diamond, and 100 carats of pear-shaped, emerald-, oval-, round- and baguette-cut diamonds. POA.

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The master of diamonds, Laurence Graff, has taken the Haute Couture week to new heights by unveiling an allwhite diamond neckpiece featuring one 50-carat oval-cut D Flawless white diamond. Discovered in Lesotho, the stone measures more than 30 x 20mm. Graded by the GIA as triple X, with excellent polish and symmetry, perfect colour and clarity, the stone joins the unparalleled trove of remarkable diamonds that Graff has sourced and nurtured throughout its 63-year history. "These include the legendary" 1,109 carat Lesedi La Rona rough, discovered at the Karowe Mine in Botswana, which Graff cut and polished to reveal the 302 carat Graff Lesedi La Rona diamond, the largest square emerald cut diamond in history. The master cutters at Graff also crafted the 157 carat Infinity diamond - one of the largest heart shape diamonds in the world and the pinnacle of romance – from a 373 carat rough stone that was unearthed at the same mine in Botswana", the team says.

The challenge for the design team was certainly to highlight the central gem while setting it in a harmonious composition that would not be entirely overshadowed by the importance of its main component. The solution was to frame it medallion-style, with a flurry of various, carefully positioned cuts. Book-ended by circumflex accent (calibré-cut diamonds), fitted with tiered baguette-cut diamonds on each side, and dressed with a multi-dimensional pendant (oval- and pear-shaped diamonds of graded sizes). The devil being in the detail, each pear-shaped drop is visually elongated by a semi-crescent of round diamond paving. The 'chain' of the neckpiece is in itself a superb parure necklace, picking up some of the motifs of the medallion as well as emerald-cut diamonds, within the precious confine of two strands made of round diamonds.



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Graff Tribal Ruby and Diamond high jewellery Earrings in 18K white gold set with two cushion cut Pigeon's Blood rubies (respectively 8.10 and 7.40cts each), and diamonds (19.40cts). POA.







Graff Tribal Emerald and Diamond high jewellery Earrings in 18K white gold set with two emerald-cut Colombian emeralds weighing more than 9 carats each, two pear-shaped emeralds (total weight of emeralds is 24 carats), and diamonds (4.50cts). POA.

The master of diamonds...and cardinal gemstones! Emeralds, blue sapphires, rubies and a medley of yellow diamonds adorn the new pieces from the Tribal collection. It must be said that this ongoing collection is a playing field for exceptional gemstones and extremely valuable renditions.

Important high jewellery Ring in 18K white gold set with one 30.73-carat emerald cut unheated Ceylon sapphire and diamonds (4cts). POA.









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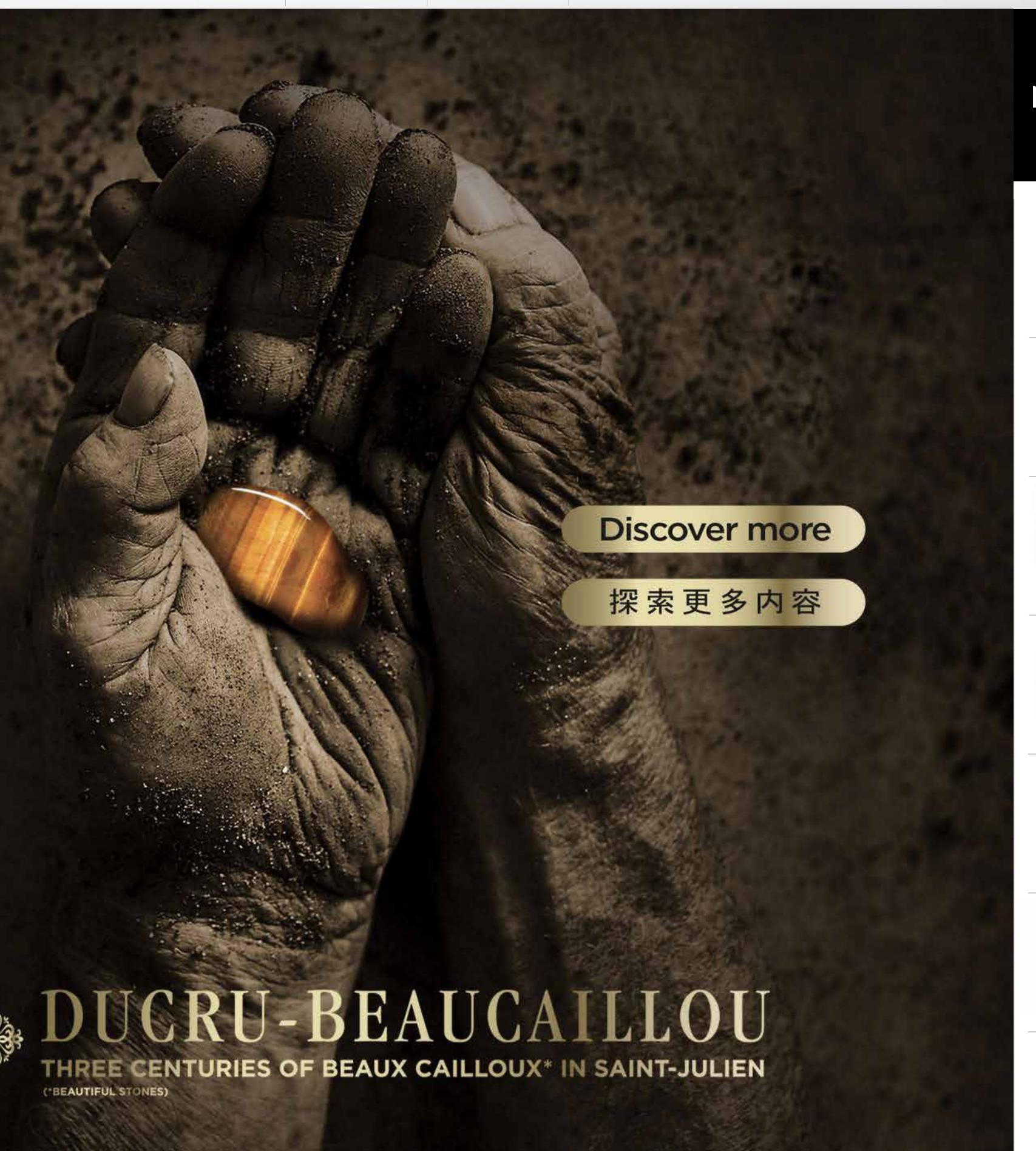
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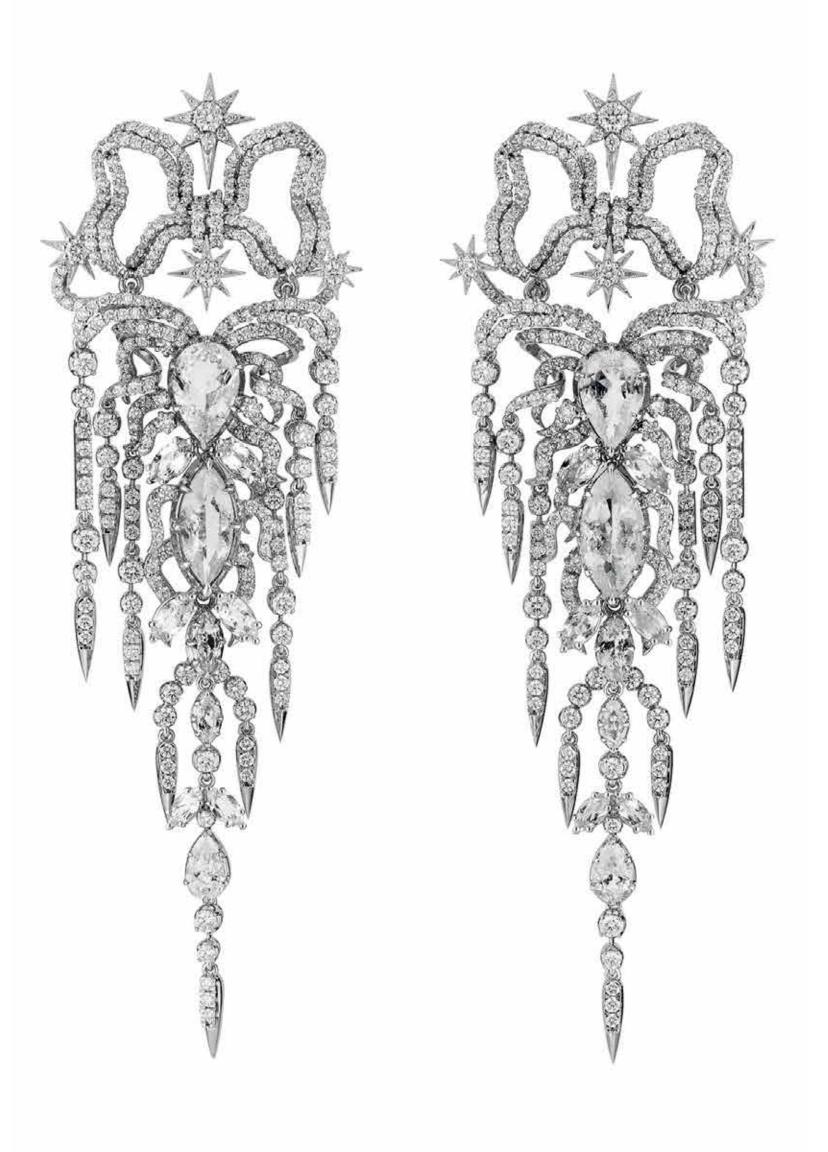
www.gucci.com

Jamais deux sans trois! The third chapter of GUCCI's Hortus Deliciarum High Jewellery collection has been unveiled, and while perpetuating the symbols (lion heads, gorgons, stars and bows) and talismanic flamboyance of the first two opuses, it injects a vintage feel to the whole enterprise. Think of the roaring twenties, black and white movies and musicals of the time. Diamonds set as shooting stars are to be found in a parure comprising a white gold necklace and matching drop earrings. The former features diamond-embellished starbursts trimmed with ladylike diamond bows, while the earrings reveal diamond-encrusted bows and chandelier-like crystal droplets around two teardrop cut diamonds with a total of 16.7 carats.

Think also of the 60s & 70's and the era's love for gold worked with various techniques (the chevron pattern of a yellow gold bracelet set with a rubellite tourmaline), the bright colours, and the almost costume-like proportions (a double strand choker set with sizeable golden beryls transports one to the Riviera... martinis, caftans and straw sun hats).

Sautoirs, necklaces, double earrings, bracelets, double finger and cocktail rings highlight multi-coloured gemstones of dazzling carat weights. Here, a mandarin garnet of 36 carats, a green tourmaline of 38.8 carats; there, a tanzanite of 14 carats which is set in a solitaire ring made of sculpted white gold. Other noteworthy cocktail or signet rings showcase enamel work, in which subtle patterns have been imprinted. Each enamel colour is paired with the colour of a central gem to create appealing chromatic contrasts. Truly, the creative team has excelled at mixing eras, myths and legends, while never letting go of joy. Mind you, being led to immerse oneself in imaginary wonderlands can only induce elation.

GUCCI Hortus Deliciarum high jewellery Earrings in white gold set with diamonds. POA.









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GUCCI Hortus Deliciarum high jewellery Tiger Head Necklace in white gold set with fancy yellow and white diamonds. POA.





GUCCI Hortus Deliciarum high jewellery Solitaire Ring in yellow gold set with one 9.40-carat indicolite tourmaline and diamonds. POA.







GUCCI Hortus Deliciarum high jewellery Solitaire Ring in white gold set with one 11.50-carat heart-shaped pink tourmaline and diamonds. POA.







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Model wearing the Destiny
Necklace in yellow gold and
platinum set with one pear-cut ruby
of 3.13 carats, one LV Monogram
Star-cut diamond of 2 carats D
IF, 34 rubies for 27.33 carats and
diamonds; Spirit, Chapter II. POA.



First unveiled in June last year, LOUIS VUITTON's **Spirit** high jewellery collection was an instantly memorable proposition. The aspirational power of the name of the different sets (Liberty, Grace, Fantasy, Radiance and Destiny) matched the remarkable creativity and craftsmanship at play. It is safe to say that **Spirit** is Francesca Amfitheatrof's, the Maison's Artistic Director for Watches and Jewellery, fourth, most extensive collection (one hundred and twenty-five pieces at first) and most accomplished collection to date (the **Stellar Times** collection comes a very close second). Now comes a new batch of thirty high jewellery pieces, which complements the five foundational chapters.

Destiny is associated with rubies, the bi-colour pairing of platinum and yellow gold, the V's and triangles in a repeated construction, and a multitude of LV Monogram Flowers. Lattice gold work (ring and bracelet) does wonders at showing the skin underneath. The main neckpiece features 34 pear-shaped rubies (it took three years to source them, each one perfectly matched in terms of colour, intensity and purity), one of which is a 3.13-carat pear-cut pigeon blood ruby that hangs from a LV Monogram Star cut diamond. In the other creations, emerald-cut rubies are used.

The five new renditions for Liberty retain the damier checkerboard pattern – a complex construction with a symmetrical placement of square and triangle custom-cut diamonds (the 'V' for Vuitton) as well as the Maison's Monogram Flower-cut. The pattern comes as a necklace, medallion pendant necklace, ring and earrings; all four set with emeralds. Whereas the latter was paired with blue sapphires in last year's masterpiece necklace, here they are separated. An emerald-cut blue sapphire is hidden inside its own trunk-style pendant necklace, which unlocks and expands, inviting one to discover the secret within (a message was also hidden within last year's main necklace).





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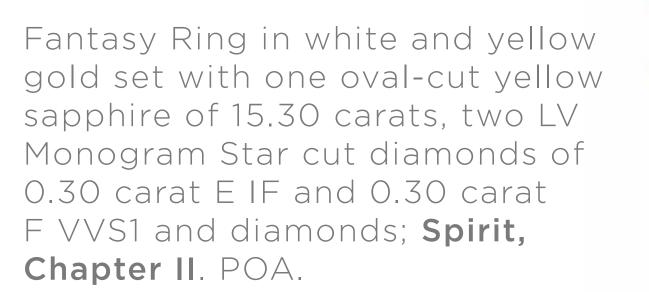
www.louisvuitton.com

Liberty Pendant in white gold and platinum set with one emerald-cut emerald of 5.14 carats and diamonds; **Spirit, Chapter II**. POA.





Liberty earrings in white gold set with two asscher-cut diamonds of 1 carat DEF VVS each and diamonds; **Spirit, Chapter II**. POA.





Destiny Bracelet in yellow gold and platinum set with one emerald-cut ruby of 4.05 carats, one LV Monogram Star cut diamond of 1 carat D VVS1, one LV Monogram Flower cut diamond of 1 carat D VVS1, eight LV Monogram Flower cut diamonds for 4.57 carats and diamonds; Spirit, Chapter II. POA.





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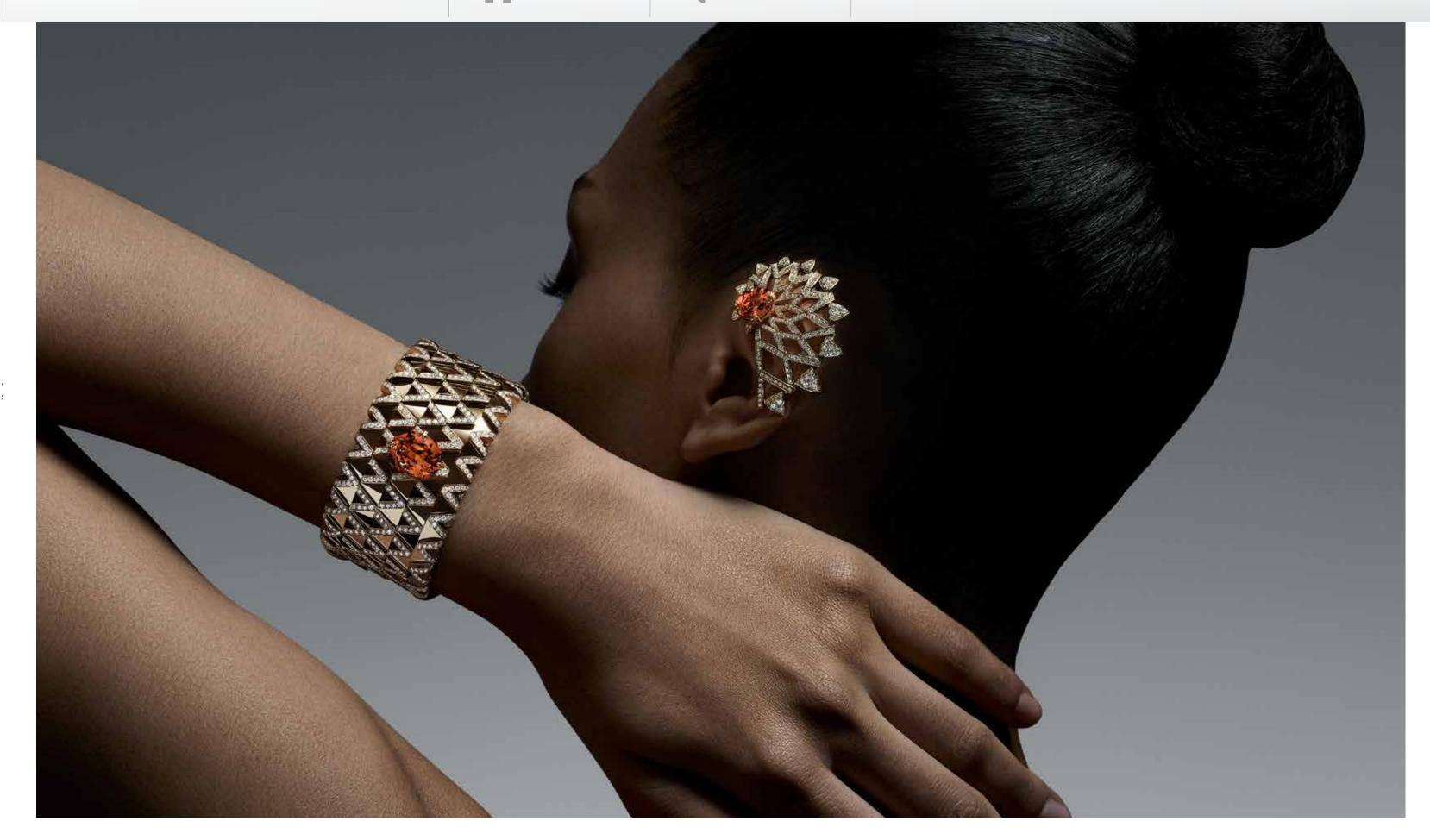






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Model wearing the Radiance Earrings in yellow gold set with two oval-cut mandarin spessartite garnets of 6.02 and 5.87 carats and diamonds; and the Radiance Bracelet in yellow gold and platinum set with one oval-cut mandarin spessartite garnet of 10.76 carats and diamonds; **Spirit, Chapter II**. POA.



The new creations for Fantasy confirms that this series is most suited to daywear. The chevron-style concept, in which for polished yellow gold is prominently featured, is paired with chevron 'Vs' in white gold set with diamonds. The interplay between diamond-paved chevrons set in highly glossy yellow gold and diamond paved white gold ribbed with yellow gold lines can be seen as a photo and its negative. There are an elegant bangle, a two row necklace which lassoes around the neck and a spectacular cocktail ring set with a one 15.30-carat oval-cut yellow sapphire, flanked with two LV Monogram Star-cut diamonds.

Last year the Radiance theme was heralded by the Radiance masterpiece, whose reptilian quality was suggested by polished yellow gold scales (individually mounted). Although similar in essence, this year's new neckpiece differs with V-shaped scales. In both instances, the beating heart of these amazing pieces is a mandarin garnet (one 18.80-carat oval-cut in the new rendition). Dazzling ear cuffs fan out over the ear, cut-out lozenges of diamond-paved gold jut out from each central mandarin garnet. The five row cuff is a marquetry of polished V-shaped ingots, topped with diamond-paved Vs to create a lozenge. The lozenges all face the same direction, except for one half row on the upper edge which faces the opposite way. A sizeable oval-cut mandarin garnet floats over the geometrical pattern.





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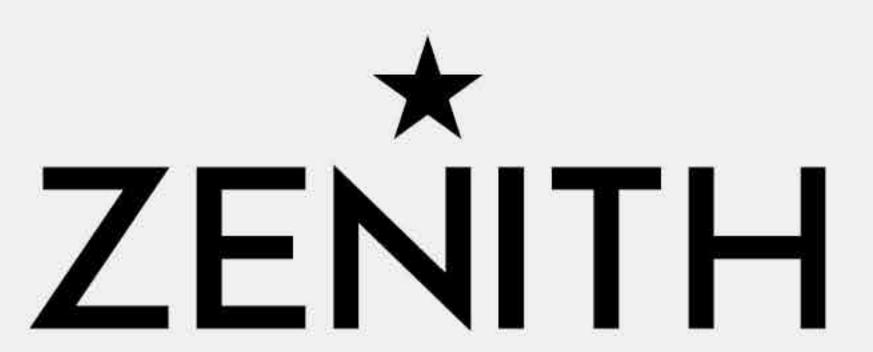
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The most romantic high jewellery collection to date is courtesy of story-teller maestro, LYDIA COURTEILLE and it is called Love Story. Her quest has led her to select "heroes from the Greek and Roman mythology, from Middle Ages poems and Italian Renaissance erotic art", the team says. It has also made her wonder "what could exactly represent all the nuances of these feelings? What is the best way to depict all details - literature, painting or jewellery art?". By revisiting historical and mythological amorous affairs, the jeweller has concocted mostly pink pieces steeped in symbolism in every finely executed detail. Not least the many miniature portraits of some of the famous couples (made of enamel or gem engravings). In the Cleopatra and Marc-Antoine ear pendants, the queen faces her lover. Her Egyptian origin is reflected in the headdress, the Ankh or key of life, and in the Nehebu-Kau snake coiled around her enamel portrait and the lower rectangular morganite. On the other hand, the portrait of Marc-Antoine is framed by laurel crowns, which entwine around a second morganite gem. The two souls are linked by one orange sapphire cabochon in each earring. The use of portraits extends to the Heloise and Abelard earrings (their tragic love story being represented by coffin-shaped hexagonal rock crystal from which crosses hang); the Tristan and Isolde earrings (a sobering affair of deception and lies for which watchful eyes and a myriad of little stars surely represent blessing over despair), and the Orpheus and Eurydice earrings (the most famous love story in Greek mythology, a story of songs, yearning, one chance and lost love).

Cleopatra and Marc-Antoine Earrings in 18K gold set with seven rubies, 123 orange sapphires (1.66cts), 303 pink sapphires (5.06cts), fire opals (5.29cts) and pink morganites (31.79cts), with enamel; Love Story Collection. POA.







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Leda and the Swan Cuff in 18K pink gold set with one 354-carat morganite, 1590 pink sapphires (58.03cts), 2 black sapphires, and 25 DTS white diamonds (0.55ct); Love Story Collection. POA.



Jupiter and Ganymede Ring in 18K white gold set with diamonds (2.84cts), 296 pink sapphires (12.16cts) and one 41.34-carat morganite; Love Story Collection. POA.



Of the several rings, one has a particular resonance with our times. First is the Jupiter and Ganymede ring. "Ganymede was a young man from Troy. His beauty was unparalleled and for that reason, Jupiter transformed himself into an eagle. He brought Ganymede to Olympus to serve as his cupbearer and lover. Ganymede's myth is an important step in the history of homosexuality", the team explains. A diamond-paved white eagle has wrapped his wings around a central morganite in which a full portrait of Ganymede is engraved; bewitched, Jupiter protects his young lover in a loving embrace.

It is the Leda and the Swan cuff, which steals the show. A morganite of 354 carats has been engraved with a portrait of Leda. The sizeable gem is literally captured by a pink sapphire-paved swan ("Zeus changed into a swan to better seduce Leda during a nocturnal visit"). The pink blush of other pieces is here replaced by a more vivid hue, marking the intensity with which the Greek God of Gods does not let go of the object of his obsession. Will you be as possessive of this cuff, should you own it?





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La Ligne Cuff in 18K white gold set with one 1.9-carat pear-shaped diamond and 269 diamonds; La Ligne Collection. POA.



La Ligne Ring in 18K white gold set with one 1.01-carat pear-shaped diamond, one 0.8-carat pear-shaped diamond, and 63 diamonds;

La Ligne Collection. POA.

It is fascinating to follow the creative path of REPOSSI a.k.a. Gaia Repossi, collection after collection. Already in previous high jewellery collections, the signature equilibrium and stackable effect underwent innovation, and were a departure from the previous line: the concentric infinity of **Blast**, the elliptical abstraction of **Brevis** or the tense purity of **Serti Inversé** to name a few. This year it seems that the pursuit of sculptural perfection by REPOSSI has triggered an even greater desire to jump forward. The La Ligne collection is indeed an accomplished exercise in pairing frailty with solidity, movement and stillness. It is a feat of architectural construction, in which the radiance of pear diamonds is deconstructed through sharply linear white gold. 15-piece strong, it is also the first thematic collection of the jeweller. The choice of to-the-point titles indicates Repossi's obsession with minimalism, as in reaching the very essence of her subject. An 'all white' approach guarantees 'blank canvas' simplicity; errors cannot hide behind a single line. Take the La Ligne cuff that plays with fixed axes (two diamond-paved gold bangle linked by a diamond-paved gold bar) onto which another bar rests. A pear-shaped diamond is precariously sitting on the edge of that top line. Seen from above, the top bar is not totally perpendicular to the lower bangles. It rests on an angle towards to the right. It is as if it is not possible to totally let loose or be completely rigid, as if harmony was achieved from the balance between the two.





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The same principle of broken lines applies to the other pieces. For the two torque necklaces, a system of hidden springs allows a certain suppleness; the pear-shaped diamonds punctuating the end of each open line, the weights that keep the composition literally in line. Note how the pear diamonds of the second neckpiece are positioned upside down from each other. That detail alone is what makes REPOSSI's renditions so captivating.

Mini versions of the larger cuff and bracelets, the rings play with this idea even more subtly.

The signature pear-shape for diamonds is combined with a specific way to set them in gold. "The bold mirror polish and the 'Eiffel Tower' bezel setting also reinforce the tension of the lines and the geometry of the design", the team shares. Considering the lack of a central nexus and the interrupted symmetry, how difficult was it to decide where to stop the lines, how large the gap between two lines should be, how long or short those lines should be, which line should not be paved with diamonds? Prep work with lost wax was essential to this experimentation. As for the Japanese Mikado game, what matters is the art of patience.

If I had to sum up **La Ligne**, I would say that it is an homage to REPOSSI *lignée* (family tradition) by means of minimalism that takes your breath away.

La Ligne Necklace in 18K white gold set with one 2.84-carat pearshaped diamond and 392 diamonds; La Ligne Collection. POA.









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Here is a capsule collection like no other. 'Capsule' is also too diminutive for what the new TIFFANY & CO. Bird on a Pearl collection is truly about. An homage to one of Jean Schlumberger's most illustrious designs paired with an exclusive access to the world's rarest saltwater natural pearls. Let's start with the inception of the Bird on a Rock brooch in 1965. Since that date, the jewel has undergone several versions: the same bird however perched alternatively on a topaz, an aquamarine, a citrine, an amethyst, a pink tourmaline, a green tourmaline, or even on the iconic Tiffany Yellow Diamond. Coming a close second to the latter in terms of rarity value are the natural pearls sourced in the Gulf region and collected over many decades by Mr Hussein Al Fardan for his private collection, the largest from the Gulf region. In a meeting of great aesthetes' minds, the expert welcomed TIFFANY & CO. to curate pearls for this exclusive collection, "a rare opportunity among high jewellery houses, even offering the jeweller some of his favourite pearls", the team says. Naturally, TIFFANY & CO. debuted the capsule collection at an exclusive gala dinner for over 250 guests held at the Museum of Islamic Art in Doha, Qatar, in late February. Notable attendees included Yousra, Elyanna, Dorra Zarrouk, Sumaya Rida and more modelling TIFFANY & CO. jewellery.

Set with rare natural saltwater pearls in dark grey, grey, light cream, light pinkish-brown and white, there are five Bird on a Pearl brooches, one pair of mismatched Bird on a Pearl earrings (one black and one white baroque pearls), one Bird on a Pearl pendant necklace, and then more abstract Jean Schlumberger re-edition pieces (two Ribbon Pearl Drop Brooches, one Flame Pearl Drop earrings, one Pavé Wire Wrap ring and one Inverted Petals ring). The most exceptional piece within the collection is the three-strand necklace of graduated natural saltwater light cream pearls of over 371 total carats.

Tiffany & Co. Schlumberger Bird on a Pearl Brooch in 18K yellow and 18K white gold set with one natural saltwater pearl, diamonds and rubies; **Bird on a Pearl** collection. POA.



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Tiffany & Co. Schlumberger Bird on a Pearl Earrings in 18K yellow and 18K white gold set with natural saltwater pearls, diamonds and rubies; Bird on a Pearl collection. POA.



Tiffany & Co. Schlumberger Pavé Wire Wrap Ring in 18K yellow and 18K white gold set with one natural saltwater pearl and diamonds; Bird on a Pearl collection. POA.



Tiffany & Co. Schlumberger Bird on a Pearl Brooch in 18K yellow and 18K white gold set with one natural saltwater pearl, diamonds and rubies; Bird on a Pearl collection. POA.









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