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# JZA

YOUR JEWELLERY MAGAZINE

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GOING GAGA  
OVER GUCCI

*JZA's international and  
inspiring storybook* GLOBAL  
CONNECT

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### Assael

"We're very aware of the importance of pearls throughout history and how extremely important they are now in fashion. Due to the success of Sean Gilson's Bubble Collection, we knew we would expand it. During the pandemic, we decided to do pieces that would have a special place in someone's collection and heart... associated with memories. We realised that a bubble tiara could be such a piece and a modern, yet soft take on the tiara. Sean was able to engineer it to be convertible to a choker," says Peggy Grosz, Senior Vice-President of Assael.



## Davidor

“Our first Couture show was a great experience. We debuted our signature collection, L’Arc de Davidor, at the exhibition. It’s our iconic line and features the repetitive arch pattern in 18k rose, yellow and white gold with 16 unique proprietary colours of lacquered ceramic and four patterns of diamonds. The collection has more than 7 000 combinations and allows the wearer to continually add more pieces to their personal collection. The bangles from L’Arc de Davidor were the most popular pieces for people to see and try on. We also unveiled our newest line, L’Arc Voyage, that captures these beautiful and poetic stories, inspired by landscapes and cultures, flora and fauna – it tells the story of travel,” says David Gusky, the Creative Director of Davidor. The maison uses its patented arch cut diamond, which was designed and developed by Davidor himself and these diamonds are masterfully cut from very rare, rough diamonds. “A select few master cutters in the world are chosen to shape the brilliance of the arch cut diamond,” explains Gusky.

## Yana Nesper

“One of the newest pieces and a piece with great design significance that I had on display at the Couture show was The Middle Pendant. My time in lockdown really impacted my design process and how I went about seeking inspiration. I made a shift to designing more meaningful jewellery. My new yoga pendant, The Middle, was a result of Covid-19 anxiety and destabilisation. The design of this pendant emulates a person meditating in the lotus position, which promotes physical strength, mental strength and flexibility. The heart shape of the design represents our energy centre in yoga. I’ve practised yoga for over 10 years now, so this piece means a lot to me,” says Yana Nesper, designer.



## Harwell Godfrey

Lauren Harwell Godfrey of Harwell Godfrey launched several new one-of-a-kind pieces, as well as two new collections at Couture — Other Dimensions and Between the Lines. A colourful and maximalist line, the Other Dimensions uses a new technique for Lauren where she's incorporated tiny beads, a material that she loves, into the pieces themselves – medallions, bracelets, rings and earrings will be launched soon. “Between the Lines is exactly the opposite – it's my first attempt at minimalism and my first-ever collection using 22k gold. It's intended to be gender-neutral and I designed it with a more subtle



client in mind. Living and working in the San Francisco Bay area is wonderful, but I often feel pretty far removed from the jewellery universe and it was wonderful to reconnect with so many people,” says the designer, who snapped up a Couture award for “Best in Colored Gemstones Under \$20 000” for her turquoise and gold totem pendant.



## Milamore

“The Kintsugi Collection, which is our core collection, was the biggest hit at the Couture show. We were so happy to see this, as I've worked for many years developing these designs. Buyers loved our Kintsugi Victoria float pavé diamond ring, Kintsugi infinity hoops, Kintsugi infinity emerald necklace and Kintsugi Infinity Akoya pearl necklace. Our Diamond Braille Collection and Duo Chain Collections also received a lot of interest. And, of course, our SELF LOVE diamond ring stole the show, as it was featured on the Couture issue of *WWD* magazine. What I love about Milamore is how it can be worn every day and styled to create the most unique looks. Whether you're looking for something classic, edgy or luxe, I've designed options for all,” says George Inaki Root, CEO and Creative Director of Milamore.

## Almasika

Catherine Sarr of Almasika debuted the Harmony Collection at Couture this year. "This collection was inspired by sound mediation, sound waves and the shapes in which those waves ebb and flow, imagined in 18k gold and marquise diamonds. I wanted to explore this state of harmony that stands in contrast to the often-



imbalanced energy of life around us," she says. The line includes necklaces, rings, bracelets and earrings.

"These pieces should remind us that the brief moments of dissonance we all experience, however forceful they may feel, are short-lived. The true state of harmony is a lasting one," adds Sarr.

Although the Sageesse explores ancient symbols representing traditional wisdom, concentric circles inspired by West African Adinkra tradition are at the centre of the collection, the Le Cauri Endiamanté delves into ancient times, symbology and the Art of Divination to create cowrie shell-inspired gold and diamond pieces.



## Tariq Riaz

Tariq Riaz melds his engineering background with architecture, history and culture to create fine jewellery. His expandable rings and bracelets are lovely and often feature enamel detailing on the inside. Iconography also finds its way into some of his works. The Qasr Al Hosn ring, for instance, which "expands up to nine sizes", draws its inspiration from the historic Qasr Al Hosn palace and fort situated in the heart of Abu Dhabi. "I've captured elements of the building's design in the ring. The enamelling details come from the patterns of the decorative tiles that I saw on

the wall inside the fort." The Wishbone Collection, featuring rings, earrings and bracelets, is indeed inspired by the wishbone – in this case, the chicken wishbone. Riaz, who designs jewellery with a distinct philosophy "where design meets functionality", spent over eight months researching and developing mechanisms to articulate the Wishbone creations and make the movement fluid and natural. He dreams up his pieces from his Abu Dhabi-based studio, which he says is his "creative zone".

