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POLO LIFESTYLES

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Silver Cup
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LETTER FROM THE **EDITOR**

OUR ANNUAL LATE-SUMMER HEAT WAVE HAS STRUCK NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, AND MY STARBUCKS CAFÉ FRAPPUCCINO CONSUMPTION HAS EITHER DOUBLED OR TRIPLED DEPENDING ON MY PROXIMITY TO – AND WAIT TIME FOR – A LOCAL 'BUCKS.

I hate ordering a Frappuccino in person, but honestly it's basically just a blended ice coffee as far as I can tell, so the Order Ahead feature in the app is a lifesaver. Maybe some day I'll be bold enough to walk into a coffeeshop and look a barista in the eyes and order an unironic Frappuccino, but today is not that day. Tomorrow's not looking great, either.

Our digital world has changed the way to interact with other humans: dating apps, order ahead, this magazine that you're more likely to read on your phone than from a physical copy. Our Jetsons-Futuristic-Life seems to be loading at quantum speed sometimes. Further evidence of that is in one of our stories this month. Would you let a robot carry your child to term? Is the question we chose for the headline, because – get this – in China, scientists have developed a robot that can and it will cost around $13,000. In the United States, the average surrogacy costs between $100,000-200,000, so that's just something to think about.

Luckily, polo seems wildly unaffected by the rise in AI and technology. This summer has given us some amazing polo from around the world, capping off this end-of-summer run in Gstaad before the French Open begins this month. All the players, patrons, photographers, coaches, grooms and families deserve this upcoming break prior to the start of the Argentine season. Next month is our annual fashion issue… we have some incredible content we're working on and can't wait to show you.



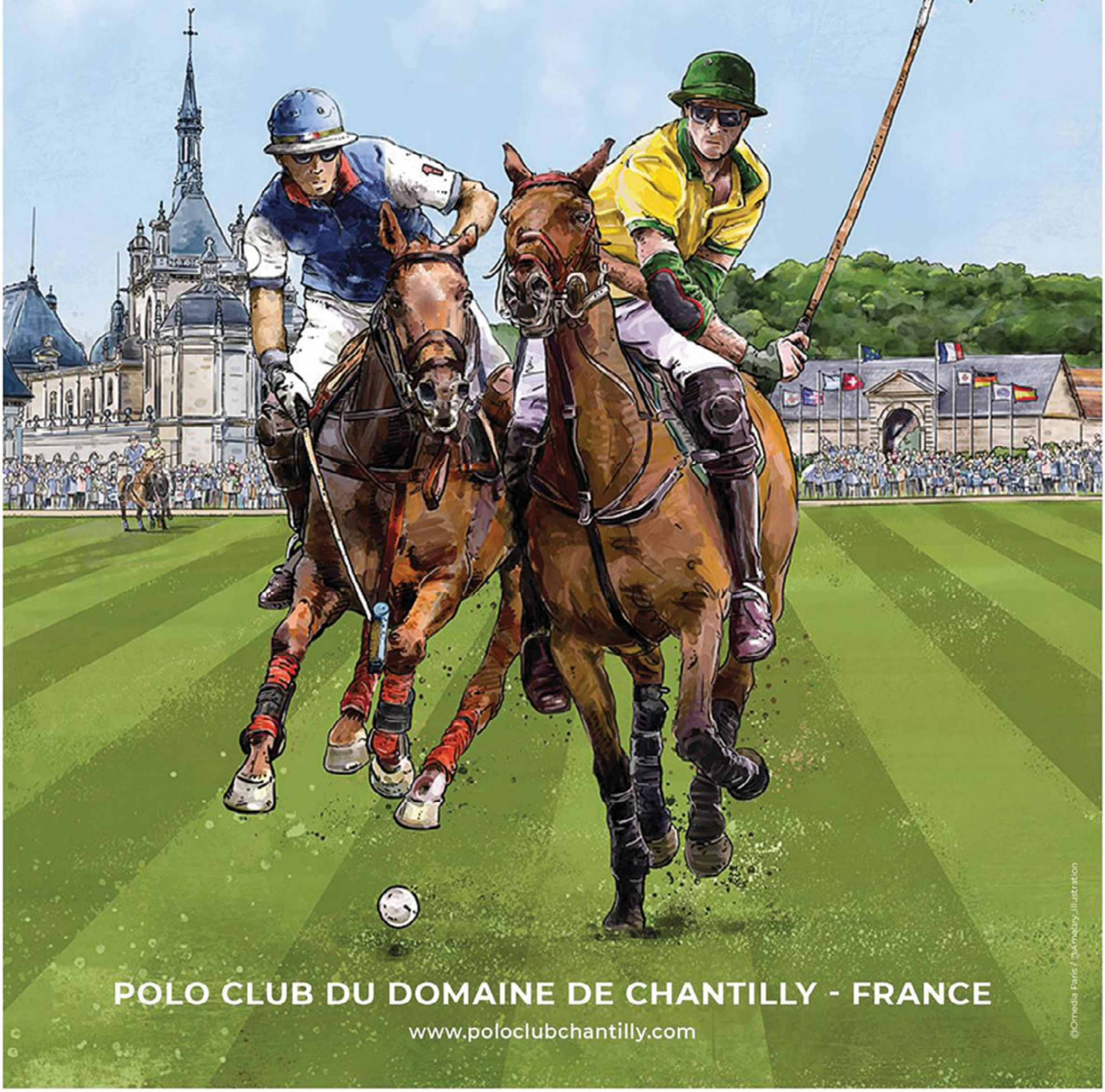
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IN THIS SPECTACULAR SETTING, NESTLED IN THE IDYLLIC SWISS ALPS, THE 28TH EDITION OF THE HUBLOT POLO GOLD CUP ENDED THIS SUNDAY WITH A FINAL FULL OF FLAIR. FOUR SWISS PLAYERS TOOK TO THE FIELD, INCLUDING TEAM CAPTAIN MARKUS GRAEFF, WHO LED GSTAAD PALACE TO A MEMORABLE VICTORY.

At 1:30 p.m., the subsidiary final set the tone with open, fast-paced play between two teams determined to leave Gstaad on a positive note. Less tense than Saturday's semifinals, the match unfolded in a spirit of true sportsmanship, with each team freely expressing their game.

EXCLUSIVE

NICOLÁS PIERES FINDS HIS RHYTHM

More comfortable on the field than in the semis, Nicolás Pieres (4 goals) found his rhythm and steered Team Kielder Agro Group to a narrow but meaningful 8–7 win over Adrian Laplacette Jr. (5 goals), ever inspired in his game reading.

"This was my first time in Gstaad and I hope it won't be the last!" said the Argentine star after the match. "It's just fabulous here, so beautiful… But the field is quite unique. To be honest, on the first day, I felt out of sorts;I couldn't play my usual polo. But then I realized I had to play more directly. Now that I've adapted, if I come back next year, I promise I'll play a very different game!"

The former 10-goaler will fly out to Buenos Aires tomorrow to prepare for the highlight of his season: the Argentine Open and the qualification of his Kazak team for the Triple Crown. "I'm pretty optimistic," he adds. "It's a team I really like, and this year with Pelón Stirling joining, I'm quite confident."

GSTAAD PALACE: A FAMILY AFFAIR AND A PODESTÁ MASTERCLASS

The final started off cautiously, with players understandably showing a touch of nerves. But momentum quickly shifted in favor of Gstaad Palace, who took control and dominated throughout. Albinati Aeronautics struggled to break through a rock-solid defense orchestrated by Martin "Min" Podestá (7), with every teammate executing their role to perfection starting with captain Markus Graeff:



GSTAAD HUBLOT POLO
GOLD CUP 2025

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTINE JACQUEMOT, KATHRIN GRALLA & PASCAL RENAULDON



"It's such a pleasure to play here. I'm the oldest player on the field at 73, and as far as I know, the next oldest is 20 years younger and most of them are between 20 and 30! I'm thrilled I could contribute… a little. I put this team together, and I'm proud of what we achieved. Playing here in Gstaad is wonderful. Each of my teammates played their part. I had my role to play, and I think I did it well. Like football, polo is a team sport. If I'm invited again next year, I'd be delighted to return."

The captain's son, Thommy Graeff, certainly did more than play his part, delighting the crowd with a stunning golaso

DOMA SIMOCA, QUEEN OF THE DAY

No horses, no polo. Most players will tell you that 70% of their performance depends on their horse. For this tournament, Min Podestá brought six of his top horses from the UK. Among them, Doma Simoca, a nine-year-old gray mare, was awarded the Best Playing Pony of the Final.

EXCLUSIVE

And it wasn't her first trophy: "She's already won several BPPs, including in the Copa Cámara final and the playoff match for the Argentine Open," explained Podestá, who was also named MVP (Best Player of the Final). "She's generous, tireless — I can bring her back into the game two or three times without issue. She's easy to ride and always gives her best."

A touching tribute to an exceptional mare, bred at the prestigious La Irenita stud. For connoisseurs: she is by Clarín out of Irenita Nazarena, both outstanding polo horses in their own right.

TEAMS, SCORES & STATS

Subsidiary Final

Team Kielder Agro Group: Antonio Manzano (0, 1 goal) – Juan Pepa (2 penalty goals) – Bautista Bello (4, 1 goal) – Nicolás Pieres (8, 4 goals)
vs.
Team Hublot: Jürgen Schröder (0) – Antonio Grabosch (3) – Adrian Laplacette Jr. (6, 5 goals) – Juan Esteban Uribe (5)

Progression Kielder Agro Group: 1–2 / 4–3 / 6–6 / 8–7



FINAL

Team Gstaad Palace: Markus Graeff (0) – Thommy Graeff (3, 2 goals) – Martin Podestá Jr. (7, 4 goals) – Francisco Fucci (4, 1 goal)
vs.
Team Albinati Aeronautics: Luca Meier (1, 1 goal) – Patricio Gaynor (2) – Santiago Cernadas (7, 2 goals) – Fabian Bolanterio (4, 1 goal)

Progression Gstaad Palace: 1–0 / 3–1 / 6–3 / 7–4

Best Playing Pony: Doma Simoca, 9-year-old gray mare bred by La Irenita, ridden by Martin Podestá Jr.
MVP: Martin Podestá Jr.

Best Amateur Player of the Tournament: Juan Pepa, Kielder Agro Group
Top Scorer of the Tournament: Martin Podestá Jr. – 10 goals

Referees: Charles Seavill and Oliver Ellis

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTINE JACQUEMOT, KATHRIN GRALLA & PASCAL RENAULDON

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EXCLUSIVE

GSTAAD HUBLOT POLO
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EXCLUSIVE



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GOLD CUP 2025

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COUPE D'ARGENT / TROPHEE DIANE BARRIERE



PHOTOGRAPHY BY PIERRE-HENRI FLAMENT



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EXCLUSIVE


POLO LIFESTYLES PRESENTS EMERGING ARTIST
SILA ŞEHRAZAT YÜCEL



EXCLUSIVE

SILA ŞEHRAZAT YÜCEL IS A TALENTED ARTIST BASED IN ISTANBUL. HER BACKGROUND IN LANDSCAPE AND INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE SHAPES HER CREATIVE VISION. WITH EXPERIENCE AS AN ART DIRECTOR IN CINEMA AND THEATER, SHE HAS A DEEP PASSION FOR DECOR AND COSTUME DESIGN.

Her interest in Ottoman miniature art adds a unique touch to her work, which mainly features surreal imagery. This blend of influences helps her create striking pieces that encourage viewers to explore the connection between reality and imagination.

Yücel is known for her colorful and vibrant mixed media creations that celebrate the beauty of horses. With a unique approach, she combines various materials and techniques to produce aesthetic images that capture the essence of these majestic animals. Yucel enhances her artwork by incorporating geometric patterns and bold colors, infusing each piece with her distinctive artistic flair. Her work not only showcases her love for horses but also invites viewers to experience the dynamic interplay of form and color, creating a lively visual narrative that resonates with joy and energy.

Yücel's art and designs are available on her ArtStar store: https://www.artstar.com/collections/sila-sehrazat-yucel

Polo Lifestyles' editor-in-chief Josh Jakobitz found Yücel's work on Pinterest,

POLO LIFESTYLES PRESENTS EMERGING ARTIST

SILA ŞEHRAZAT YÜCEL



which connected him to her Instagram. He DM'd her about a feature to which she enthusiastically agreed and he was lucky enough to get to ask Yücel some questions.

Polo Lifestyles: When did you start expressing yourself artistically (at what ages and how)?

SSY: Since childhood, I have always been immersed in creative activities: music, photography, art, crafts, and writing. Transforming existing things and adding my own touch to create something entirely new has always excited me. As I grew older, I kept creativity at the center of my life. I earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture and a master's degree in Interior Architecture; I worked as an art director in cinema, and I also practiced computer-aided architectural visualization.

Alongside these, I engaged in crafts such as herbarium-making and jewelry-making, painted in the style of Ottoman miniature art, and pursued photography. Over time, I began blending the knowledge and experiences from these diverse creative disciplines with my artistic vision, and AI software became a medium for me, a way to create original images that synthesize everything I have learned.

PL: What is your connection with horses?

SSY: I've always felt that horses hold something beyond their physical presence; a quiet strength, a kind of wisdom that seems to exist outside of time. When I look at them, I don't just see animals; I sense a depth, a reminder of something essential that we often lose in modern life. In my work, I approach them less as subjects to capture and more as living symbols: representations of freedom, mystery, and our enduring connection with nature. Through their imagined forms, I try to explore that balance between what is real and what is dreamt, between the world we inhabit and the one we long for.



EXCLUSIVE

POLO LIFESTYLES PRESENTS EMERGING ARTIST

SILA ŞEHRAZAT YÜCEL





PL: What is your inspiration for your work?

SSY: Inspiration can come from anything at any moment. It may be folkloric motifs from different cultures, the works of classical and contemporary artists, films, songs, or fashion. Sometimes it appears in the smallest details of daily life, like a few objects casually placed in a basket, a fleeting color, or a texture that catches my eye. Everything has the potential to spark a new direction in my work.

PL: What is your process?

SSY: My process begins with an image that forms in my mind, which I translate into detailed words for the AI to interpret, a practice known as prompt engineering. The software transforms these descriptions into visuals, and I refine them through countless iterations until they capture the essence of my vision. From there, I curate, edit, and often rework the images digitally, sometimes pixel by pixel in Photoshop. The final works are printed on fine art paper as limited editions, giving them both a physical presence and a sense of permanence.

PL: What was your breakthrough moment when you thought, Ok people really like what I'm doing?

SSL: When I began sharing my works on Instagram, they quickly resonated with a wide international audience, and I sensed that the imagery I was shaping touched something shared and collective. Later, as my prints were collected internationally, and as I began receiving invitations to exhibitions along with collaboration offers from people across very different fields and geographies, this realization deepened into a true breakthrough for me.

PL: Do you show your work in galleries and if so where?

SSY: Yes, I have exhibited internationally in Turkey, Germany, Italy, Brazil, Argentina, and the United States, both in solo and group shows. Most recently, I had a solo exhibition at Park House Dallas, which ran throughout the summer and will conclude on September 15.

EXCLUSIVE

PL: How does geography tie into your work being from Turkey?

SSY: Living in Istanbul means living between continents, cultures, and histories. This in-between space, where East and West meet, deeply influences my visual language. The city's layered textures, myths, and contrasts often appear in my work, even when abstracted.

PL: Where can we see more of your work?

SSY: You can find my latest works on Instagram (@silasehrazatyucel). Limited-edition fine art prints from my horse series are also available through ArtStar and can be accessed directly from my page: artstar.com/collections/sila-sehrazat-yucel

PL: Whom do you admire artistically?

SSY: My admiration spans centuries and mediums. I admire Hilma af Klint for her mystical abstraction, Ottoman miniature artists for their layered storytelling, Yayoi Kusama for her commitment to creating entire universes, and Schiaparelli for transforming fashion into a dreamlike spectacle.



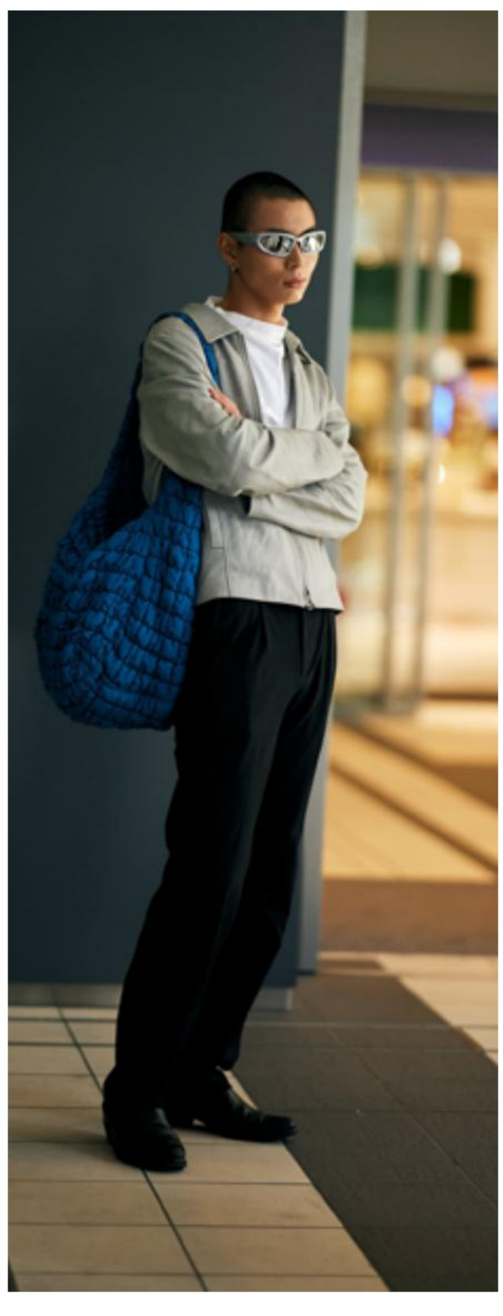
A BAG AFICIONADO'S DREAM JOURNEY THROUGH JAPAN





EXCLUSIVE





IT'S A NOT-SO-WELL-KEPT SECRET THAT TOKYO FASHION WEEK HAS SOME OF THE BEST (AND DEPENDING ON WHOM YOU ASK, THE BEST) STREET STYLE ACTION IN THE GAME.

Of course, no look is complete without a bag, and the city's reputation for eclectic style that blends an eye for silhouette, national and global influences, and avant-gard playfulness fully extends across accessories.

Throughout it all, five leading trends emerge: over-the-shoulder styles, men's bags, big texture, classic appeal, and whimsicality.

OVER THE SHOULDER BAG

Both practical and stylish, Tokyo's style leaders made the

A BAG AFICIONADO'S DREAM JOURNEY THROUGH JAPAN







over-the-shoulder bag a go-to staple, keeping both hands free for whatever may come their way.

MEN

While men's bags may still be taking a while to catch on in Europe, the fellas in Japan's fashion capital don't shy away from increased storage space and style statements. Still, many men's looks leaned towards bag styles that could be called typically masculine, offering intriguing new takes on the evolving status of menswear.

TEXTURE

Hyper-texture was a trend that emerged on the European runways of Fall 2024, and it reared its voluminous head across Tokyo street style as well – from ruffles, fringe, and funky knits to even less familiar amalgamations of form.

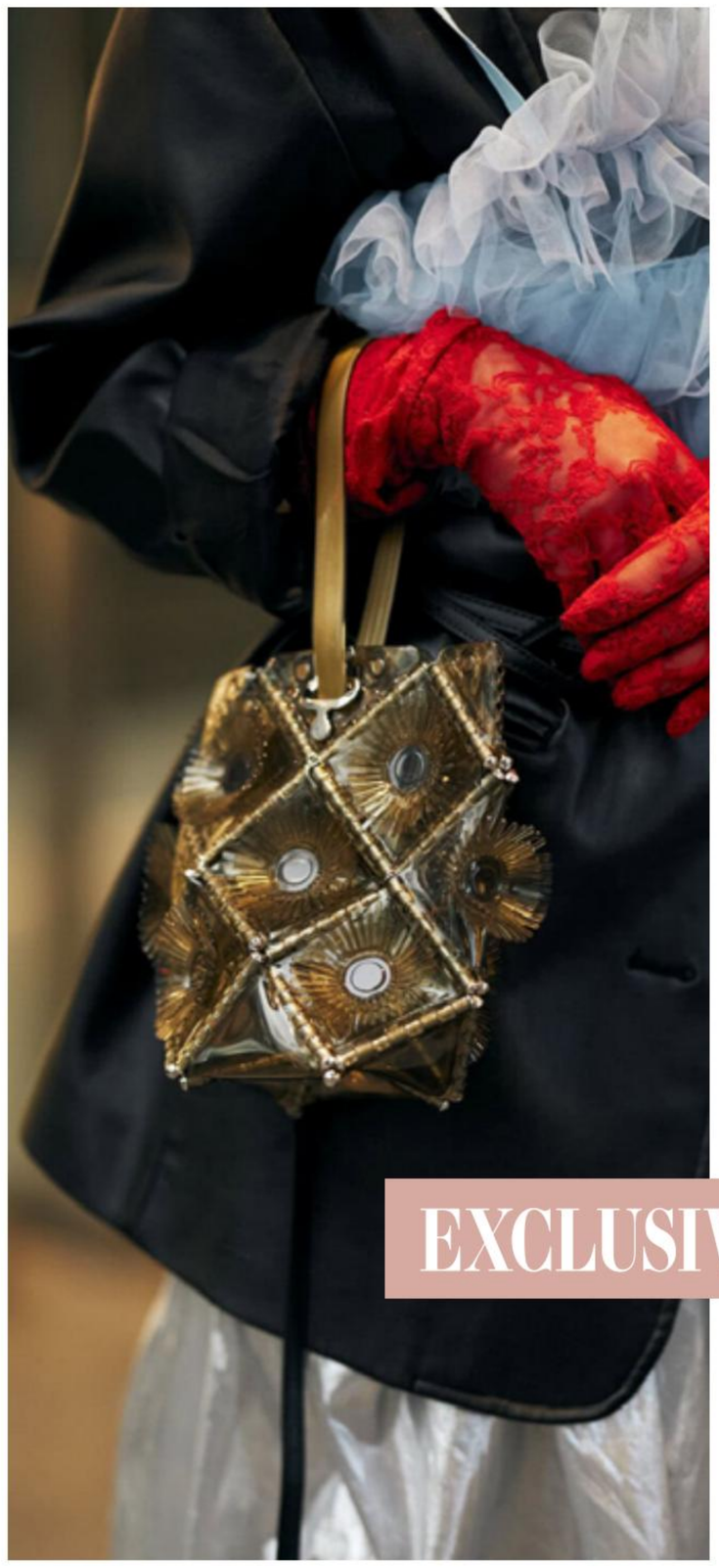
CLASSIC

One of the exciting things about Tokyo fashion week is seeing how the city's reputation for the avant-garde enters into conversation with the more chic and conservative mindset of its European counterparts, and one way this conversation manifested was how young creatives put their own spin on classic styles from handbag titans like Gucci, Dior, Bottega Veneta, and more. Often the most classically minded street stylers had the most classic handbags, but other instances saw some daring experimentalists anchor a bold look with a more subdued and timeless handbag.

WHIMSICAL

The pendulum swings in both directions at once in Tokyo, and the vivacious, playful pop styles associated with the city's





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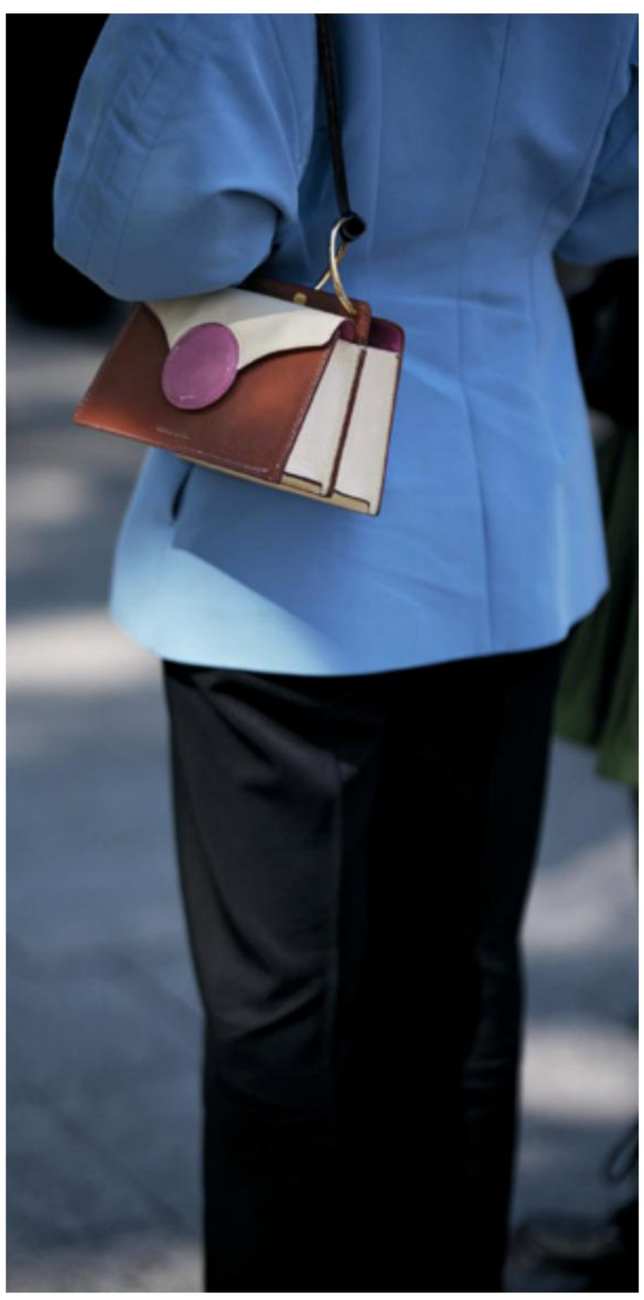


Harajuku district spilled out across the city during fashion week. Unexpected construction and bright details characterize this trend, underscoring that when it comes to street style, you're only as old as your bag feels.



A BAG AFICIONADO'S DREAM JOURNEY THROUGH JAPAN

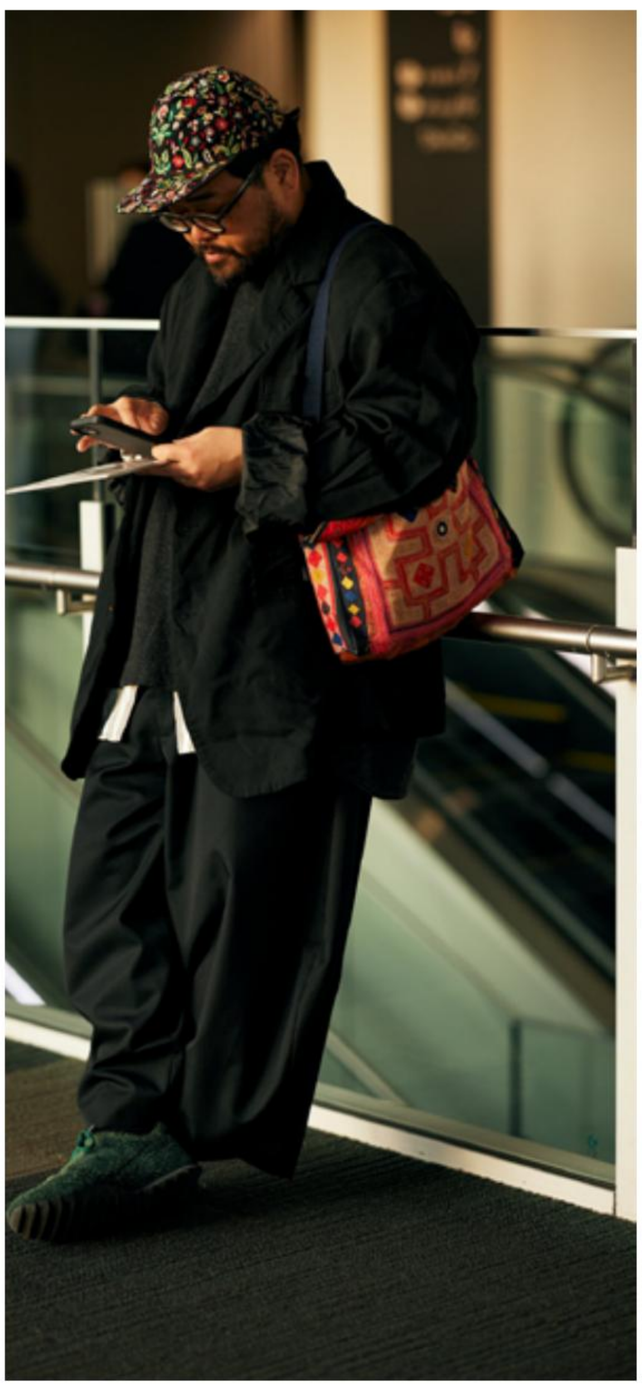






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Once home to prominent owners and a hub for New York's social elite, it offers six bedrooms, dramatic entertaining spaces and thoughtfully crafted renovation plans, making it a rare opportunity to own one of the city's most architecturally significant private residences.



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EXCLUSIVE

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EVERY FALL, I RELISH WRITING MY ANNUAL COLUMN ON CRYSTAL, STEMWARE, AND GLASSES. TO BE HONEST, I HAVE A BIT OF A PROBLEM WHEN IT COMES TO STEMWARE AND MY COLLECTION NOW REQUIRES NOT JUST A DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNT OF CABINET SPACE IN MY KITCHEN BUT ALSO OVERFLOWS INTO MY STUDIO (WHERE IT COMPETES FOR SPACE WITH MY AFFECTION FOR TABLEWARE).

I feel no shame and love having the perfect glass at hand for whatever elixir finds its way into my abode.

Yes, one can drink wine from any old vessel, but certain glasses are tried and true. Such glasses embrace the philosophy wherein form follows function and, when enrobed with style and artistry, elevates the very nature of the wine and one's experience of it. Perhaps no glass represents this dynamic better than the champagne coupe.

The origin of the coupe is not entirely clear, but there seems to be some agreement that it emerged in 1663, designed by a Benedictine Monk in England. Other origin tales attribute its unique shape to being molded after the breast of Marie Antoinette or the mistress of King Louis XV of France, Madame de Pompadour. Though the timing doesn't quite work out for the breast-inspired design tales, it's a titillating tidbit of lore.

What we do know is that the coupe was widely used in the French courts of several monarchs as champagne's popularity soared following its debut in 1668. Thereafter, it was the glass for partaking in champagne for several centuries.

There are many opinions and preferences for what constitutes the ideal glass for enjoying champagne and other sparkling wines. Some prefer a glass with a large enough bowl to truly experience the aromas of the wine, something a flute typically does not yield. Others argue that larger bowls, including the saucer style of a coupe, utterly fail in appreciating the nuances of bubbles, which quickly dissipate in the larger bowl.

Here is my take: drink your bubbles in whatever feels elegant and elevated. For me, that is sometimes a flute (Tiffany and Co.'s discontinued Hampton line is a bold and sublime statement of classic style), but more often than not, I reach for a coupe. Its saucer-like bowl provides ample opportunity to appreciate the color and bouquet of a sparkling, although, admittedly, one loses a bit of the magical effervescence. For my taste, the price is well worth it for the statement of distinction that results from a gracefully and gleefully cradled coupe.

This month, we profile four gorgeous coupes from the world's top glassmakers. They represent an evolved approach to the coupe, where longer stems and therefore greater height are dominant, which in turn, feels more natural to hold them not just by cradling the bowl, but



holding them by the stem as well, much like one holds a flute. Some of this evolution is also powered by the role that coupes play as the glass of choice for the emergent cocktail culture, a trend reminiscent of 100 years ago when coupes also reigned.

Make no mistake – coupes are back and when executed properly, they are high fashion crafted in crystal and deserve space in your collection of stemware. So make room, celebrate like a monarch, and consider these immaculate examples for your collection and your next celebration.

As Always, Salud!



WATERFORD LISMORE ESSENCE CHAMPAGNE SAUCER

Waterford Crystal dates back to 1783 when George and William Penrose started the Waterford Glassworks in the city of Waterford in Ireland. That company was shuttered in 1851, and the company would not be revived until 1947 in the economic promise that emerged after the Second World War.

In short order, Waterford Crystal products became the definition of post-war luxury and several fine designers began to make their own mark within the House. Among these was Miroslav Havel, who in 1952, launched the iconic Lismore design. As the company describes it, "(t)he pattern was an ode to the Gothic architecture of the 800-year-old Lismore Castle, inspired by the symmetry of the towers, pointed arches and elegant curves of the windows."

Although entrenched in Irish history and design, the contemporary take on the Lismore pattern is entirely modern. I kept thinking to myself, "this isn't your grandmother's Waterford set." And yet, even the contemporary interpretations are resonant with Havel's original aesthetic. Signature hallmarks of the design, such as diamond and edge cuts, have been scaled back in volume, creating a sleeker, more understated expression.

The Lismore Essence Saucer is a statuesque glass at just over seven inches tall, nearly three inches taller than the traditional Lismore coupe. The stem is slender and elongated and the bowl, at 4.6 inches in diameter, is generous in its proportions with a 9-ounce volume capacity. Another departure from the traditional design is the absence of cuts into the underside of the glass' base – another nod to a cleaner and more modern style.

In the hand, this is a grand, yet balanced glass that feels more comfortable being held by the stem. The large bowl allowed for bubbles to emerge from the bottom and then float and congregate to the sides and the thin walls of the glass create a refined mouthfeel when drinking. A set of two currently retails for $220 at waterford.com and other fine stores, including Bloomingdales and Nordstrom.





WATERFORD COPPER COAST MASTERCRAFT COUPE

The majority of Waterford Crystal's products are now made outside of Ireland, but the House's Mastercraft collection continues to be handmade and mouth-blown in Waterford. The Copper Coast Coupe is part of this collection and, whereas the Lismore Essence coupe feels entirely contemporary in style, the Copper Coast coupe feels classic and wonderfully of another era in time, yet updated for today's tastes.

Waterford's description of the glass anchors it in the company's Irish roots, saying it "beautifully captures the essence of the rugged Irish coastline. The wide central band of tight refracting caro cuts imitates the ocean's movement, while the deep cut rings symbolise the horizon. The olive cuts at the base reflect the minerals extracted from the rocks by the ancient miners, making this piece a conversation starter."

The bowl itself is large with a volume of 10.5 ounces, and the glass stands at 7 inches tall with a 4.7-inch diameter. The olive cuts at the base of the bowl are a stunning element in how they capture the light through the golden hue of a sparkling wine. The glass is elegant and a true marriage of cuts in the traditional style (including to the underside of the base) with a more modern and curvaceous design to the bowl. What differentiates it entirely from older designs of the House is the upsizing which creates both a classic and an on-trend statement.

Waterford's website currently offers at least nine different styles of coupes, including the higher end Copper Coast coupe (a set of two is $460) to Waterford's affordably priced Marquis line where coupes are offered at $20 a stem.

RIEDEL VERITAS COUPE/ COCKTAIL

Austrian glassmaker Riedel is prodigious in their designs and production and can be found nearly everywhere and at a wide variety of price points. Some of my favored stemware for both everyday and entertaining is from Riedel.

It was odd then, when I ventured into research on coupes, to find only a single coupe in Riedel's entire line up of currently available products. I found the answer on their website in a blog post about the history of the champagne glass (https://www.riedel.com/en-us/blog/education/evolution-of-the-champagne-glass):

"While it may help you live the life of a flapper, its shape is completely ineffective when it comes to expressing wine's profile…The open design causes both bubbles and aroma to dissipate almost immediately and, if you consider that 70% of our perception of flavour comes from aroma, you're losing a lot of your experience for fashion's sake."

To quote the inimitable Vivienne Westwood, "Fashion is very important. It is life-enhancing and, like everything that gives pleasure, it is worth doing well." And doing well with drinking champagne is finding the appropriately fashionable glass, including the coupe. This is very important.

And while Riedel prefers stemware for champagne that stylishly leans deeply into the appreciation of the wine itself, their Veritas Coupe/Cocktail glass is a work of refined, minimalist art. When our publisher at Polo Lifestyles first saw the glass, he said it reminded him of Naomi Campbell on the runway. Now that… is fashion.

Of all the glasses tested for this feature, the Veritas coupe did marvelously on being able to visually appreciate the bubbles. This is in large part due to the entirely clear and unencumbered view through the bowl's delicate, thin walls. The glass stands at 6 ¾ inches tall and visually, the most interesting feature is the large diameter base which feels almost as large in circumference as the bowl itself. It creates a splendid balance to the piece, and a long, slender stem harmoniously marries the two discs.

The Riedel Veritas line debuted in 2014 and is a precision, machine-made glass and is available at www.riedel.com. The Coupe/Cocktail retails at $89 for a set of two.



BACCARAT TALLEYRAND BY STARCK

Established in 1764, Baccarat is the epitome of luxury and style in crystal. My own collection of coupes includes both the discontinued Provence and Capri lines of Baccarat, but several coupes are currently available from existing collections.

The Talleyrand collection dates back to at least the 1930s, but in 2023, the Talleyrand line was re-imagined through the artistry of designer Phillipe Starck, whose history and collaboration with the House goes back two decades.

The Talleyrand coupe is magnificent in every respect. It's weight and clarity – hallmarks of Baccarat – impart an elegance from the moment you hold the glass (which, for me, was holding it by the underside of the bowl as opposed to the stem). It's luminous, with sculpting to the underside of the bowl creating a depth of visual interest. The hexagonal base, etched with a modern "Talleyrand by Stark" underneath the iconic "Baccarat" etching, contrasts with the rounded, flared bowl. More than a statement piece, this is a generational heirloom of perfection.

As we go to press, the Talleyrand Coupe is sold out on Baccarat's own site, but is available at Neiman Marcus and Saks Fifth Avenue, among others, and retails for $1,500 for a set of two.

