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T Introduces

In Taiga, North Mongolia,
a reindeer herder tends
to his reindeers.



*The Eye Has
to Travel*

A contemplation on the more
socially-conscious future of travel.

IMAGE COURTESY OF BEYOND EXPEDITIONS SINGAPORE

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For the most part, travel is designed to be self-serving in nature. Itineraries are often planned according to photo opportunities at places of interest, restaurants and novel experiences. Yet, there is a burgeoning community of globetrotters who veer off the beaten path when determining their travel agenda.

Motivated by a shift in priority and purpose, they traverse the globe hoping to achieve a greater good by benefitting the people native to the countries that they visit. Their itineraries are far less inspired by what a country has to offer them, than by what they can do to help.

For Randall Chong, the founder of non-profit organisation Books Beyond Borders, a trip to the Mount Everest Base Camp two years ago opened his eyes to the issue of poverty in Nepal. There he witnessed students arriving in classrooms with blank walls, untrained teachers and no materials to supplement their education. Since then, the 27-year-old Singaporean has inspired others to join his cause to “fight poverty with literacy” by building libraries and funding vocational training programmes for the communities there.

Non-profit organisations that strive to do good overseas, like Books Beyond Borders, are a dime a dozen today. Many go around scouring for volunteers to contribute labour efforts at overseas humanitarian expeditions or gather donations that help fund community projects. Nonetheless, social media has influenced how organisations approach these projects. “Don’t go to a new community and implement new solutions. Listen to what the community needs, then move on to working with local partners to create local solutions,” Chong says.

Travelling in search of a change takes other forms too. Where immediate action is not always possible, gaining awareness and reshaping the perceptions of people takes precedence. Beyond Expeditions, is a Singapore-based tour company that specialises in organising tours to Mongolia, Kazakhstan, and Ladakh, North India. The founder is 27-year-old Scott Tay. He encourages his clients to veer away from the usual destinations and explore uncharted territories, while interweaving the climate change narrative into his Mongolian tours. During these visits, travellers get to witness the tangible effects of climate change on the livestock — reindeers, sheep, and goats — that do not survive the plummeting winter temperatures. “I want to inspire more Singaporeans to travel to off the beaten path so that they can discover and learn more,” says Tay.

Amongst its myriad benefits, travelling can also be a means of gauging our place and purpose on this planet — in the process feeding the soul and ridding vacations of its sense of frivolity. — Sng Ler Jun

RISE OF VIRTUS

AMONGST VERSACE’S ECLECTIC repertoire of offerings, the brand’s motifs and designs often draw influences from Greco-Roman art and Roman mythology. A case in point: the Italian brand’s iconic Medusa head logo has long been synonymous with the sensual and intrepid woman who is bold, unabashed and free. For its Fall/Winter ’19 collection, Versace unveiled a new range of polychromatic carryalls and this time, it draws inspiration from the Roman deity of bravery and military strength, Virtus.

Symbolising strength, courage and character — the ideal personality of the modern women, the eponymous line features the new and iconic gold-embellished, Barocco-styled V-shape buckle on its all-encompassing silhouettes, which run from utilitarian fanny packs to contemporary belt bags and evening bags. The colour palette of the lavish collection panders across toned-down classics, such as camel, black and white, as well as vibrant and bold hues, such as fuchsia, turquoise and coral-red. While spectacular leather craftsmanship renders supple calf leather to form either a smooth leathered exterior or a V-letter pattern quilting finish, each evokes a unique personality of the Versace woman.

Embodying both the past and the present, the neoteric Virtus line of carryalls pays homage to the brand’s talismanic heritage. — Sng Ler Jun



The new line-up of Versace carryalls that made their debut at the brand’s Fall/Winter ’19 collection.



This is Brigitte

MIU MIU HAS an ongoing series of short films that invites established female filmmakers to interpret and investigate vanity and femininity in the 21st century. The latest episode of Miu Miu Women’s Tales features acclaimed Scottish film director, Lynne Ramsay, and one of the world’s foremost portrait photographers, Brigitte Lacombe, joining the dialogue.

The short film, which premiered in Venice in early September during the 76th International Film Festival, thrusts Lacombe into the spotlight and offers insight to the creative process behind some of her glittering works. Lacombe, who first made her mark in the industry as a photographer while shooting the 1976 American neo-noir political thriller “All the President’s Men”, has since photographed a variety of notables, celebrities and political profiles, including Miuccia Prada, Gwyneth Paltrow, Matt Damon, Meryl Streep and Barack Obama.

Shot entirely in black and white, the documentary depicts a portrait session involving Brigitte Lacombe herself, Ramsay, and Lacombe’s friends and family. An intimate conversation, inserted as a voice-over, between the two female trailblazers has Lacombe candidly discussing her life with Ramsay.

This is also the first documentary effort for Ramsay, whose latest feature “You Were Never Really Here” — starring Joaquin Phoenix — won Best Screenplay and Best Actor at the Cannes Film Festival in 2017.

“I absolutely wanted to be a part of it. And I always saw this as a collaboration. I knew I wanted at the end to turn the camera on Lynne,” says Lacombe in the brand’s official release, who playfully inverts the question of who is directing who with her photography of Ramsay. “I hate having my photo taken. Brigitte was the first person who captured me. She cast a magic spell. I wondered, ‘How did she do that?’” reveals Ramsay. — Sng Ler Jun

Film stills from the short film “Brigitte” by Lynne Ramsay.

WATCH ART

LONG RENOWNED FOR its illustrious watchmaking history since 1839, Geneva-based luxury watchmaker Patek Philippe will be hosting its fifth showcase, entitled “Watch Art Grand Exhibition 2019”, in Singapore. This is the brand’s inaugural exhibition in Southeast Asia, which comes after successful debuts in Dubai (2012), Munich (2013), London (2015), and New York (2017).

Inaugurated in 2001, the Patek Philippe Museum in Geneva is considered one of the world’s foremost horology museums.

In the world of Patek Philippe, where exceptional heritage and impeccable craftsmanship coalesce, guests to the exhibition can immerse themselves into the prestigious artistry behind the family-owned Genevan watchmaking company. Here, 10 thematic rooms, spanning across a 1,800-square-metre arena in Marina Bay Sands Theatre, invite visitors to celebrate the watchmaker’s rich heritage and admire the brand’s eclectic assortment of collections and movements.

Some iconic headliners slated to be featured in this exhibition, which are kept in the vault of the Patek Philippe Museum in Geneva, include rare timepieces from the mid-16th century and a few of the watch world’s first innovations. Enamelled pocket-watches like the world’s first Swiss wristwatch made for Countess Koscowicz of Hungary in 1868, as well as the Calibre 89, which was known to be the most complex, portable timepiece with 33 complications at that time, are among some of the other illustrious collections in the museum. Live demonstrations by acclaimed watchmakers and artisans of their finesse and skills for the horological artistry will also be one of the highlights at the exhibition.

A special-themed Singapore 200th Anniversary Room will be made part of the exhibition to celebrate both Patek Philippe’s and Singapore’s histories and key milestones as this year marks the 200th anniversary of the first time Sir Stamford Raffles set foot on the island. — Sng Ler Jun

“Watch Art Grand Exhibition Singapore 2019” will run from 28 September to 13 October 2019 at the Marina Bay Sands Theatre.

RADIANCE RITUALS

SKINCARE BRAND Clé Peau Beauté is known for its luxurious yet efficacious skincare and now it has rebooted some of its staples, including The Serum, with new ingredients and technology. The Serum is now formulated with an algae complex that activates the skin’s ability to regenerate, but it also keeps its wonderfully light texture. Rounding off this basic skincare range are two kinds of lotion — one softening and one clarifying — that help to reduce the look of pores and plump up the skin, as well as two textures of a day and night moisturiser. The lightweight emulsions of the former absorb perfectly into the skin in our humid climate, while the latter two creams offer more intensive hydration. — Renée Batchelor



Clé de Peau Beauté’s everyday skincare range offers a choice of textures and formats for every preference.

Little Luxuries

These new skincare products offer both instant effects and long-term benefits.



Sisley Velvet Sleeping Mask, \$157. Specifically formulated to offer instant comfort to dry or dehydrated skin, this mask can be worn as a thin layer (as an overnight mask), or spread on thick as an SOS treatment for stressed-out skin. The combination of saffron flowers, glycerine, shea butter and honey cocoons your skin in velvety comfort.



La Prairie’s Skin Caviar Eye Lift, \$740. Enriched with the brand’s caviar premier and exclusive cellular complex, this helps to smooth eye contours and tighten upper lids, while reducing the look of eyebags and puffiness — physically redefining the gaze.



La Mer The Regenerating Serum, \$580. The new formula of this classic product now supports the skin’s metabolic energy — using concentrated plant stem cells — as well as its ability to produce collagen, resulting in a younger, smoother complexion.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PATEK PHILIPPE, CLÉ DE PEAU BEAUTÉ, LA MER, LA PRAIRIE, SISLEY