



# luxury briefing

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*Exclusive interview with chef Wolfgang Puck  
Salvatore Ferragamo steps back in time  
De Beers launches new collection Giambattista  
Valli for MAC Bulgari to open new property  
in Dubai and Six Senses Douro Valley  
opens Audrey Hepburn at the National  
Portrait Gallery and Bentley takes  
Continental GT Speed to new heights  
Plus: interview with TUMI and Q&A with  
James Duigan*

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INDUSTRY REPORTS

# Interiors & Design

## 1 London's first Versace branded residences

Luxury real estate developer DICO UK Property Holdings Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of DAMAC International Limited, has announced the first of its fashion residences in London with a 50-storey, 360 unit project with interior designs by Versace. The lobby, amenities and interiors for each property will be expertly designed and fitted out by Versace Home. Amenities will include a state of the art gymnasium, indoor swimming pool and spa, an owners lounge, children's play area, roof garden and cinema, all designed by the brand. AYKON Nine Elms is located at the heart of the UK capital's Nine Elms regeneration area adjacent to Battersea, overlooking the River Thames. The tower is due for completion in 2020. AYKON Nine Elms will be the first private residence project of scale in London to be fully designed and conceptualised by a luxury fashion house. The property combines a mix of premium penthouses, three-, two-, one-bedroom and Manhattan Studio units with City and River views along the Thames to the Palace of Westminster and the London Eye. Gian Giacomo Ferraris, CEO of Versace said: "Versace is synonymous with fashion and luxury and its participation in the real estate business provides the opportunity to fully experience the Versace lifestyle. Today, we bring the ultimate expression of Versace to the very heart of London." DAMAC is one of the largest luxury real estate developers in the Middle Eastern region, with an enviable portfolio of projects across the region. AYKON Nine Elms is not the first residential project collaboration between DAMAC and Versace Home. DAMAC Properties has already completed a Versace-branded tower on the banks of the Red Sea in Jeddah, Al Jawharah and will shortly complete a luxury tower in the centre of Beirut in Lebanon, also with Versace interiors.

## 2 Lalique launch AW15 Collection

Lalique's new collection is inspired by Languedoc, a vast and beautiful region in the South of France, which has influenced many artists over the years. In 1929, fascinated by the Mediterranean flora, René Lalique designed the Languedoc vase, which, over time, has become iconic to the brand. Fashioned in satin-finished and re-polished crystal, cactus leaves overlay in a graphic play on repetition. Today, Lalique gives a fresh vision on this historical design in the form of bowls and new vases available in three sizes: small, original and large in clear, green, purple and bronze (a new shade for Lalique) crystal. Other pieces

in the new aw15 collection include the Agave vase in gold lustre and the 2016 Hirondelles Decanter as well as other decorative items and figurative objects. Each piece draws inspiration from nature and invites us to admire its beauty. Over the years, Lalique has become a powerful icon, a synonym for excellence and a style characterised by the mastery of contrast between brilliant and satin-finished crystal. Lalique collections are composed of creations that have become classics. The new collection is exclusively available at Harrods now and will be available nationwide from 1 September.

## 3 Greg Natale Design launches book

September 2015 will see the launch of Greg Natale's first book, *The Tailored Interior*, during London Design Festival. With a forward by Jonathan Adler, this is a design-lovers tome, demystifying the process of interior design by addressing the process holistically and in real terms. Greg Natale's work examines the integration of design and decoration in residential, retail and commercial spaces as well as residential exterior design. Directing his passion for the principles, possibilities and heritage of design towards creating inspiring spaces that span from awe-inspiring to intimate, Greg Natale's style is a study into vibrant colours, contrasting graphic details, geometric patterns and rich textures. Through exploring the layering of textures, tightly editing a visual sense of balance as well as thoughtfully styled modern touches, Greg Natale has hewn for himself a signature look. Today, Greg Natale Design's product portfolio continues to grow with commercial and residential rug and carpet collections for Designer Rugs, wallpaper collections for Porter's Paints, furniture ranges for Stylecraft and World's Away as well as a cement tile collection with Teranova. Later this year Natale will also be releasing his first cushion collection.

## 4 The Berkeley launches new suites

Designed in the signature style of Robert Angell, the Berkeley has just launched five new Chelsea Suites exuding sophistication and timeless luxury in keeping with the acclaimed British designer's ongoing contemporary renovation of the iconic hotel in Knightsbridge. With a refined palette of pale mints and yellows and varied finishes, textures, corner details and hidden drawers, the layers of detail and expert craftsmanship are integral to the designs of these luxurious new suites. The hand-crafted beds, made from brushed timber and contrasting lacquer, take pride of place as the hotel's first-ever four-poster beds. And expansive soft cream marble bathrooms, featuring luxuriously large baths and shower rooms make for the perfect havens for guests to relax and unwind. Room interiors are lined with textured wallpaper made up of delicate strips of paper, which form a cross-hatched patina, creating an extra level of subtle detail. The luxurious sense of space is a key feature to the suite interiors, heightened by floor to ceiling sliding doors, which separate the suite bedrooms and living rooms and provide an added element of privacy. In the living room, curved sofas surround a circular limed timber table with nickel sabots. The completion of the Chelsea Suites marks the third stage of a total room refurbishment programme at the Berkeley, which includes the recent re-launch of the Caramel Room where the popular Pret-a-Portea is held, Marcus at the Berkeley, the Berkeley Suites and the Balcony King Rooms. Robert Angell Design International offers a highly considered and bespoke service that delivers timeless, elegant and inspired interiors with a forward thinking and innovative approach. Services span across residential, hotels, restaurants, clubs and bars to private jets and yachts.

