Ralph Lauren
50 YEARS OF SELLING THE AMERICAN DREAM WITH SWAGGER & STYLE
FROM LONDON, MIAMI & L.A.
DESIGN, ART & ARCHITECTURE
Looking for the ideal piece to add to your collection this fall? Take a look at some of our favourites from the high-end, luxury designers below.

WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE CLARKE

1. Pomellato’s beautiful rose gold bracelet features pave diamonds created with rose gold and brown, black and white diamonds. www.pomellato.com
2. This original design from Mason’s D & P collection comes in rose gold and features three bars of gold and diamonds. www.masonstite.com
3. Plage’s Sunlight pendant offers radiant sparkle with 103 brilliant diamonds set into its rose gold design. www.piaget.com
4. Van Cleef & Arpels’ beautiful Fleur du Jour necklace features a floral pendant with its charms and contains many stones, including rubies, sapphires and diamonds. www.vancleefarpels.com
5. For those looking for a bit of elegance in their ear cuffs, this piece from Elsa Peretti offers sensuous curves in 18-karat gold. www.tiffany.ca

ALAN FAENA: THE PASSIONATE INSPIRATION FOR DYNAMIC URBAN TRANSFORMATION AND CREATIVITY

Faena District Miami Beach’s arts focus has created a cultural renaissance and vibrant community connections between North and South Beach.

WRITTEN BY RICK MULLER

In today’s millisecond and megabyte world, the term “Renaissance man” may seem slightly outdated. But as we experience the game-changing of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, it just might become a descriptor more valued than ever.

Traits of a Renaissance man include quality, passion, knowledge, creativity, vision, philosophy, dreams, curiosity and perhaps that seemingly rarest of personal traits, the magic of one-on-one personal connection that comes from human interactions instead of screen time.

Just such a man is Alan Faena. He is the creative Argentine hotelier and real estate developer who has constructed cultural incubators and forward-thinking urban districts in his native Buenos Aires, Argentina, as well as Miami Beach, while building his global Faena Group brand that touches architecture, design and art. His fascinating life story is revealed in his memoir released this year, Alan Faena: Alchemy & Creative Collaboration, published by Rizzoli International Publications.

Perhaps how you impact the world is somewhat preordained by when you experience it, and Faena arrived at a seminal moment of the 20th century. He was born in Buenos Aires on November 26, 1963. It was a Wednesday. Just 48 hours later, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, and the world changed in the blink of an eye.

By some almost mystic quirk of fate, Faena happened to be born during the opening act of the 1960s, one of the most turbulent decades of the last 100 years. A decade which brought us the cultural influence of The Beatles, the art of Andy Warhol and an exploding world of exploration,
Faena’s interest in art would manifest itself many years later in his hometown of Buenos Aires, once he transitioned and began a career in real estate development. He partnered with Len Blavatnik, Philippe Starck and world-renowned Foster + Partners to redevelop abandoned docklands in the Puerto Madero neighbourhood of Buenos Aires, with the acclaimed Faena Hotel a central part of the urban transformation. Faena calls this his “Faena Universe,” proudly saying “it conveys the spirit of the old, romantic Buenos Aires of yore, its Belle Epoque. We used the past to build the future.”

The Faena District, as it came to be known, is a $200-million development and is now estimated to be the most valuable real estate in the city. The Faena Arts Center, a converted flour mill opened in 2011, is integral to the entire district and displays the work of local and international artists, supplying those artists with the portal to art as a portal to another world.”

At the heart of the Faena District is the Faena Hotel, conceived of as a perfect balance between art, architecture, nature and technology, conceived to enhance people’s lives. The hotel is a celebration of luxury living within an urban setting. The Faena Theatre is a spectacular 150-seat cabaret offering live musical performances, as well as Faena’s original production Samsara Cabaret.

Design, colours, music, communal gathering places and hospitality. Faena’s passion for colours could erupt, which continues to this day as a signature trademark of Faena Group hotels, urban meeting places, residences and retail establishments. He launched his first fashion brand with 50 coloured shirts he funded himself, and the brand expanded to include ready-to-wear collections and a denim line, and Faena prospered as a fashion designer for more than 10 years.

As much as fashion was an interest to young Faena, so was music. Growing up, he listened to the giants of the day during the 60s and 70s, always entertaining his friends in his bedroom. “I’m sure every kid feels their bedroom is a special place, but my childhood bedroom really was,” writes Faena. “I was always inviting friends back home with me to entertain in my room. I took special care to make my bedroom a magical zone.”

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He is now thinking and the product of his times, in exactly the right places. As The Beatles told us, “There’s nowhere you can be that isn’t where you were meant to be, it’s easy.”

The entire Faena District is a stage choreographed in a succession of dreams,” explains Faena in his book. “It is a platform for the extraordinary, an incubator for talent, an engine that pushes the envelope forward. A perfect balance between art, architecture, nature and technology, conceived to enhance people’s lives.

Modesty, a sense of perspective and reflection are also traits of the Renaissance man, and in his memoir Faena writes words that give an additional glimpse into a remarkable man, born into the tumult of the 1960s, down maturing to create a most fascinating and memorable career to date.

“I have not tried to conquer the world, but to ignite a part of it and share that light with others,” he writes in the ‘Prologue’ of his book.

“Everything I’ve done has started from the spark of creativity and desire, walking from the darkness, transforming it into light. I can’t promise that what I’ve created will last forever – no person can. But I do like to think that in 100 years people will be able to see my creations. But for now, I surrender myself to my faith, and the magic of the present.”

Faena has been a transformational influencer in the worlds of art, culture, design, architecture and urban renewal. It is safe to assume that in 100 years, when people see his creations in various corners around the globe and hear the name Alan Faena, they will want to know everything.

www.faena.com

All Alan Faena quotes are excerpted from his memoir, Alan Faena: Alchemy & Creative Collaboration, published by Rizzoli International Publications, 2019.