

# Together

magazine

**PERSONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

*Jogging for a better life  
Fitness & Health  
Winter skin*

**Money**

How to invest

**DINING**

*La Villa  
In The Sky*

*TRAVEL  
Boutique  
India*

**INTERVIEW**

**Mark  
Wahlberg**

*Seduction  
Belle de  
Bruxelles*

**LUXURY  
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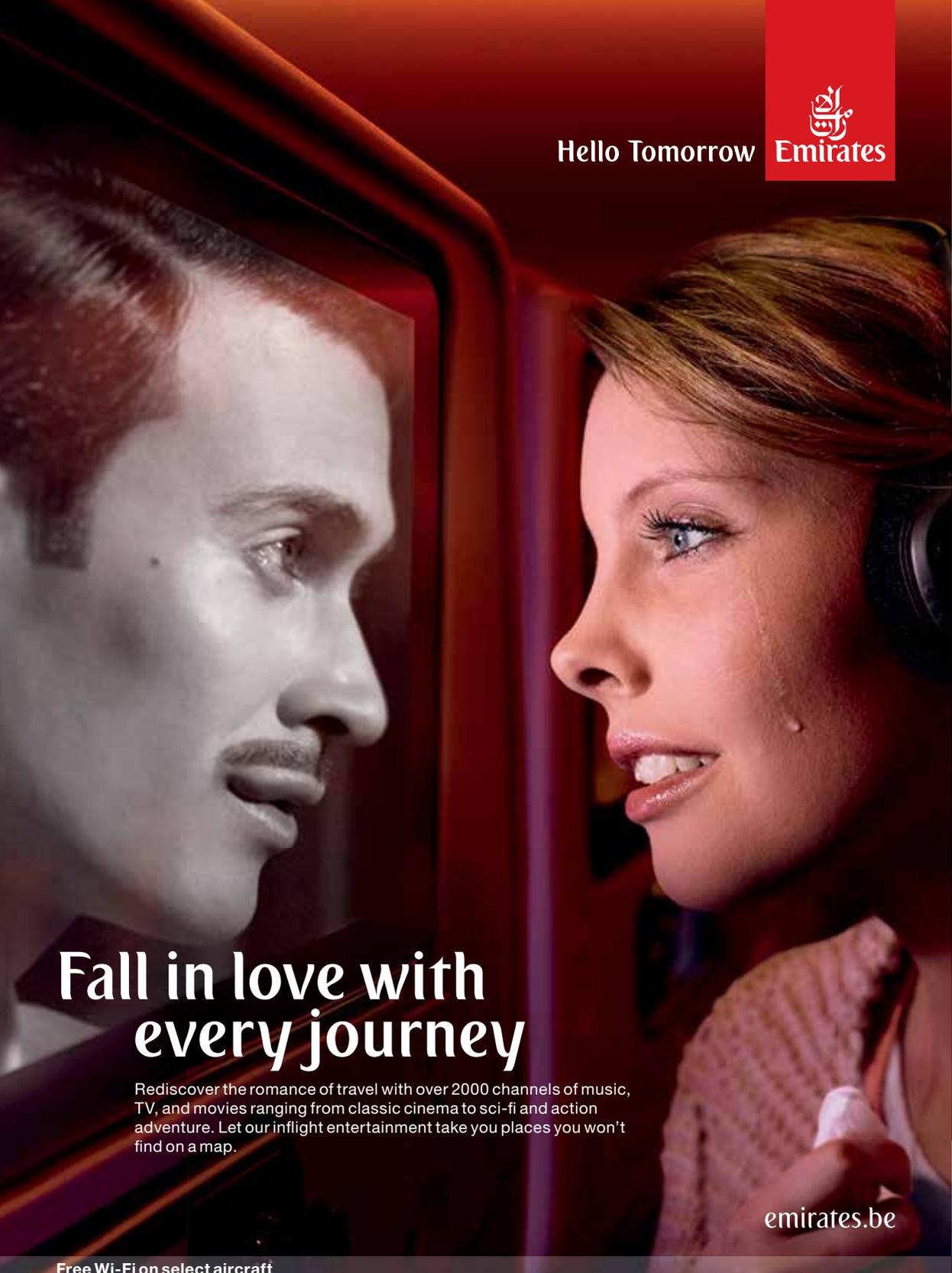
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## LEST WE FORGET CHARLIE

### Editor's LETTER

*Together:  
Inspiring you  
to reach your dreams...*

### ON THE COVER



Fashion shoot: Yana's Icons  
Photographer: Aylene Torres  
Stylist: Nicholas Sirot

Some commentators suggested that the *Charlie Hebdo* massacre would soon blow over, that people would move onto the next thing, the next piece of news. But I am among those who believe that it must stay in the headlines, not to regurgitate what has already been fed to us (and certainly not to add fuel to the frenzy) but to find a way for Muslims and non-Muslims to live together in peace across Europe.

In our politics pages, Gerry Callaghan takes a look at post-#JeSuisCharlie and attempts to map a future path for European leaders and voters alike. Several times recently I have spotted that famous hashtag logo on TV, principally on newsroom walls, on newsreaders' buttonholes or, in one case, plastered over the manager's dugout high up in Toulouse rugby ground's stand.

They say that out of every tragedy comes something positive. In this case it is very much a greater appreciation for the work of the much-maligned press (and in the case of the Paris march, of even more maligned police officers). It drew the attention of many young people who saw it not just as an outrage but also an attack on freedom and their futures. It made them ask, 'How did things get quite so bad?'

I know one young woman who has decided to stand as editor next year for her Belgian university magazine, her passion for journalism having been reignited by the attack on 10 Rue Nicolas-Appert, Paris' 11th arrondissement.

**Paul Morris**  
EDITOR





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Mark Wahlberg  
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**Life of leisure**  
Luxury yachts  
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**Belgian design: Souvenirs de Pomme**  
Our fashion expert Jeanie Keogh meets two sisters ...

@ TECHNOLOGY



**Innovations: To Infinity and Beyond**  
In our second innovations article, Colin Moors goes off the rails

@ TRAVEL



**Corsica: An ideal winter break**  
The Island of Beauty offers the perfect elements for a relaxing, romantic break

@ FASHION



**Diamonds are Antwerp's best friend**  
Colin Moors checks on the current health of an industry ...

@ LIFESTYLE



**Philippe Geluck's Le Chat is also now Le Cat**  
There are three albums to choose ...

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# Starring in Belgium



## The Show: A tribute to ABBA

With more than two million tickets sold in 38 countries over five continents, *The Show* is a huge success with audiences and has also won numerous awards. The repertoire contains the usual classics such as *Dancing Queen*, *Mama Mia*, *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, *Money Money Money* and *Fernando*.

**19 March.** Forest National. **Tickets: €29-€54** - [www.forest-national.be](http://www.forest-national.be)



## The Decemberists

The US indie rock/folk/Americana band presents brand new album *What a Terrible World, What a Beautiful World*, the follow-up to the very successful *The King Is Dead*, from which the track *Down by the Water* received a nomination for 'Best Rock Song' at the 2012 Grammy Awards Show. **24**

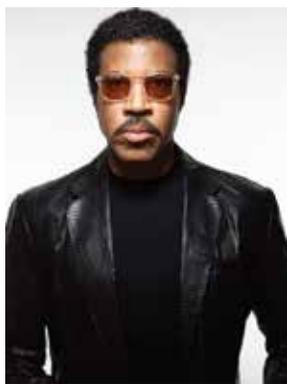
**February.** Ancienne Belgique. **Tickets: €27** - [www.abconcerts.be](http://www.abconcerts.be)



## Fink

The hypnotising, melancholy baritone of Finian Greenall, nom de plume Fink, has been captivating listeners for five albums now. His latest *Hard Believer* is as compelling, refined, subtle and soul-soothing as the previous albums. This highly-strung bard never disappoints, and certainly not live. **28**

**February.** Ancienne Belgique. **Tickets: €25** [www.abconcerts.be](http://www.abconcerts.be)



## Lionel Richie: Hits all, all night long

In 2012, the international star Lionel Richie came to the Sportpaleis in Antwerp with his *Tuskegee* world tour. He even surprised the local audience by performing *Angel* as a duet with Flemish singer Natalia. "I am looking forward to going back to

Belgium," said Richie, "The public is always fantastic and I have a great time when I am in Belgium." **19 March.** Sportpaleis, Antwerp.

**Tickets from €47** - [www.livenation.be](http://www.livenation.be)

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# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

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# Taking care of your skin in winter

**Julie Lizin**, Spa Expert at Aspria, shares her five top tips for better skin during the coldest season of the year

**D**uring the winter months, our skin is subjected to the harmful effects of cold and wind, and is also dried by contact with warm air when we're indoors. Long, hot baths and central heating help us feel nice and warm, but they drain the moisture from our bodies and dry out our skin. Protecting the skin is just as important in winter as it is in summer.

### 1. Moisturize regularly

This is the most important thing that you can do. Beautifully smooth, supple, radiant skin starts with well hydrated skin. In winter our skin tends to dry out, becoming tight, blotchy and coarse. These are all signs of dehydration. You can slow down the loss of water from your skin by applying moisturizer to create a barrier or film to prevent water molecules from escaping. Remember that your choice of moisturizer in the winter will be different from the one that you use in the summer. In winter, choose creams with rich textures to nourish and replenish the skin.

### 2. Cut down on long, hot baths

Hot water removes the skin's natural oils very quickly, so having a long, hot bath can deplete the skin of its natural moisture leaving it extremely dry. Try to lower your bath water temperature a little and reduce the time spent in the bath to a maximum of 10-15 minutes. In addition, use a moisturizing shower cream instead of harsh, drying soaps that will strip the skin of its natural oils. After bathing, apply an all-over moisturizer while the skin is still slightly wet so that the moisture is trapped in.

### 3. Don't forget hands and lips!

Containing less sebaceous oil glands than the face, these areas also suffer the most exposure to the elements. Keep hand cream and lip balm in your car, your hand bag and in your desk drawer – and apply regularly!



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## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Fitness

### 4. Hydrate from the inside

If you are dehydrated on the inside, your efforts with creams, serums and balms will be wasted. Drinking water will have a direct effect on your skin's moisture levels and should not be underestimated.

### 5. Don't forget the sunscreen

Just because it's winter doesn't mean you can forget about the sun. The sun remains powerful all year round and is particularly glaring around snowy areas, so use at least an SPF 30+ sun lotion on exposed skin before you go out.



### Aspria wellbeing for St. Valentine's

Make the most of the festival of lovers by enjoying a unique wellbeing experience as a couple. Every weekend during February, Aspria Brussels Royal La Rasante is offering a special St. Valentine's package including an overnight stay for two people in a superior room with breakfast, plus a massage or treatment as a couple.

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Question: How many rooms and suites does the hotel at Aspria Royal La Rasante offer?

# #1

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# How jogging changed my life

Life coach **Sarbani Sen** offers invaluable tips to help you stay on the road



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**W**hen I first started running I was 12. We used to run with school, and I used to hate it. So what is so amazing about jogging you might wonder? Well, it is something you can do wherever you are: in Brussels, Sao Paulo or New York, in snow, rain or sunshine, day or night. You do need some equipment though. But we'll go through that later.

First, you need motivation. What is the challenge? What will you get if you start running? Well, for me the thing was clear: the day I realized it keeps my cardio activity going and stabilizes my moods, I finally understood what my astrology teacher always told me

regarding my moon in Aries. Aries is a fire sign, and we tend to get very intense when we don't get all the energy out, so this routine became a salutary moment for all of us (meaning my family): I feel sweaty and satisfied, endorphins all over my brain, and my husband can enjoy a relaxed wife at home! Sometimes I even go running with my son and stepson (even better, it then becomes a perfect moment for intimate talks about classes and life in general). Gossiping while running is recommended as it is safer for the heart - at least you are sure you are not overdoing it.

Secondly, it pushes me ahead of my own limits, stimulates me competitively (again pleasing the



## “ SMALL STEPS ON THE UPHILL, BIG STEPS WHEN RUNNING DOWN ”

Martian ram in me), albeit with myself. This is when I remember the effort I made back in the day, and the good tips from my instructors: “Small steps on the uphill, big steps when running down”.

How did I get back to running after the school days? Well, you need to find yourself a good excuse: a peer group, a mobile app., your favourite playlist...

For me it all happened after my third child. One fine day, I felt I need to move! I then decided to enrol for a small and feasible challenge: run the 10km race in my neighbourhood. I organized myself for success by going to the gym and getting a proper training set up to measure for my goal. I actually succeeded and felt very proud of having run the 10km, even more since I just had a baby. But then, one thing leading to another, I quit.

Until recently, when running came on the agenda again. We moved and I chose to settle down close to a forest. So now the issue was how to start again and keep it up? I bought myself a running magazine for women, typically the ones you find in the UK, full of tips and pictures of fellow women running and succeeding. The best advice I took from that book was: go along softly with yourself, be

progressive, don't expect too much or too little. Plan your evolution. I started with a 20-minute run twice a week. Then 30 minutes twice a week, before I realized it, I was running 45 minutes every weekend.

Today, me and my husband run twice a week: 30 minutes on week days (from 8 to 8.30 am) and 45 minutes to one hour on the weekends. When I stop for a while, I restart with a lot of indulgence. I also alternate with rollerblading when the weather allows. It's fun and many friends like to roller blade too. Give it a try!

As for the equipment: you definitely need a good pair of running shoes. Go and see a specialist that will advise you on the perfect match for your weight and needs (outdoor or indoor, flat surface or forest etc). I usually ask my kids to organize my playlist, which makes it more fun (I get to listen to their latest hits and it keeps my stamina kicking). I also downloaded a Nike running app (for the iPhone or Smartphone users). This app (there are many other ones) helps me keep up with my objective: informs me about each kilometre I run, allows me to share my score with friends, and even take a picture of 'all sweaty' me. A funky pair of shorts or sweater make it more fun too. Anything that will give you more courage to kick off. 1



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# Late bloomers

**Gemma Rose** writes in praise of those whose talent bloomed later in life

**A**t last year's TEDxBussels, I was particularly struck by one of the speakers, Lina Colucci, who spoke about health hackathons. Health hackathons bring together specialists from different disciplines as well as consumer groups to respond innovatively to medical problems. At the age of 16, Lina began redesigning the ballet shoe so as to limit the pain and deformity done to the ballerina's foot. This award-winning idea led her towards collaborating with Nike in updating the pointe shoe. Currently, she is a PhD student on a joint MIT and Harvard programme, dances ballet with the Harvard Ballet company and is an accomplished clarinetist. Judging by her CV and her appearance, she could not have been any older than 25.

Society tends to place a lot of value on youth. We often hear of the meteoric rise of actors, musicians, entrepreneurs, CEOs and inspirational leaders in their twenties, sometimes even in their teens. *Forbes* magazine does an annual "30 under 30" with movers and shakers in several domains including law and policy, education, entertainment and social entrepreneurship. This phenomenon is nothing new. Some of the greatest artists, composers, writers and scientists were so notable in part due to their youth – Picasso became well-known at 26, Mozart at 21, Orson Welles at 25 and Einstein at 26.

Whilst simultaneously being bowled over by Lina Colucci's talent, astounded by her young years, and ever so slightly envious of her good looks and presentational skills, I managed to revert back to a TEDx talk earlier in the day by the American cardiologist Jonathan Sackner-Bernstein, entitled 'It's not too late to make a difference'. He too acknowledges the emphasis on youth success and yet dispels the rhetoric that creativity diminishes with age. For example, he cites that the average age of the Nobel prizewinner in physics these days is in their forties, and that between 1995 and 2005 there were more successful start-up companies



Ben Fountain © Larry D. Moore

**“ I WANT TO FIND MY LIMIT. WHERE IS MY LIMIT? ”**

# Tw

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founded by people in their fifties than those in their twenties.

In his article 'Late Bloomers' for *The New Yorker* magazine, Malcolm Gladwell recounts the late bloom of Cézanne. Cézanne's paintings in his sixties are considered masterpieces, whereas he was criticized for not being able to draw in his twenties. Late bloomers are said to be those who became good at something late in their careers or lives, rather than those who took a long time to find fame (yet were always talented). Gladwell's muse in the article is the critically acclaimed author Ben Fountain, who only got his breakthrough 18 years after quitting his job as a lawyer. Being a writer did not come naturally to him; he had taken a few creative writing classes at university and found writing fiction a struggle at the beginning. Becoming a writer was something that he developed over time through trial and error.

There were, and are, many great late bloomers, including Alfred Hitchcock, Virginia Woolf, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, Julia Child, Harrison Ford and JK Rowling. Yet, the fact that these accomplished people were late bloomers hardly ever seems to make the headlines, almost to the extent that they are the exception rather than the rule. "The fashion in recent times has been for the young to hold centre stage," writes the philosopher A.C. Grayling. "As

if they were the only important form of human being."

By playing down the merits of the late bloomer, not only are we potentially dismissing other late bloomers, but we are also denying the fact that some people and some ideas take time to flourish. Charles Darwin spent many years observing animals and plants, letting his thoughts and ideas incubate before he could write *Origin of the Species* at the age of 50.

Late bloomers inspire us because they show us that the young do not always hold centre stage. They provide evidence that talent can be latent, or it can develop slowly. We ought not be too quick to place limits on ourselves.

On a recent holiday in Malaysia, I listened to an interview with Malaysia's Iron Man, affectionately known as "Uncle Yee". When Uncle Yee was 48, his doctor told him that if he wanted to live beyond 60, he would have to start getting fit. With no real interest in sport or fitness as a child, Uncle Yee has completed 18 Iron Man races and more than 150 triathlons to date. When asked why he has kept going, he replied, "I want to find my limit. Where is my limit?"

At 77 years of age, he's still searching. 🕒

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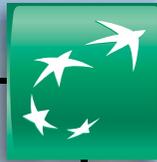


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# Belle de Bruxelles: Where am I?

In part two of our seduction series, *Belle de Bruxelles* by sexologist **Caroline S.**, Amanda awakes in a strange room...

**A**manda painfully opens one eye: it's nighttime, and in the room all is calm. The alarm clock shows 5:32, in the distance the sound of cars passing in the street. It's hard to move; she feels heavy and full of aches.. An unbearable pain in her skull makes her nauseous. She needs to get to the bathroom, quickly, urgently – she needs an aspirin.

Suddenly, a strange feeling invades her, one of anxiety. She sits up abruptly. She surveys the dark room and can make out the vague shapes of some open boxes in the corner. The apartment is large and strangely empty: an old sofa, a small desk and the bed in which she sits.

But where is she? What happened last night? Not a single recollection comes to mind.

A mixture of fear and anxiety paralyzes her. Her heart beat accelerates and she has trouble breathing. Something feels terribly wrong. "How did I get here?" She tries to gather her thoughts. Her clothes are scattered on the floor. She pulls the sheet back over her naked body.

Grazes and scratches cover her body, and her breasts are red and painful. From her skin emanates a bittersweet smell, a combination of

masculine fragrance and alcohol. The night must have been a rough one. She closes her eyes, tears streaming down her cheeks.

"Who did I spend the night with?"

She must go, leave this squalid apartment ASAP! She gets up and gathers her stuff, hurriedly puts on her underwear, her little black dress and high-heeled shoes.

Snippets of images come back to her in flashes: A bar, music, champagne. A handsome man, elegant, had approached her. An intense physical attraction, an irresistible and uncontrollable urge to touch his skin. His voice, his smell, his sweet and sensual mouth. Slowly, his hands had slid down her back to the base of her spine, their bodies came close together, intertwined to finally form just one. The fires of unstoppable passion burned in his dark eyes.

Amanda had lost control of events, giving free rein to her fantasies. She had abandoned herself to him throughout the long night,



forgetting her principles, her way of life. Inch by inch he had explored the most intimate parts of her body. For a few hours she had been this free woman without taboos, sensual and sexy. This double her... Eve. ●

# Investing your money

**Dave Deruytter** looks at the many angles when it comes to investing

Investing in your studies and later on in your career or business is a very valid option to succeed in life. You do not necessarily need an academic degree to be a good investor or to be successful in business.

In particular, individual stock picking is not an easy task when investing. When researchers compared the results of experts picking stocks from a list with chimpanzees throwing darts at the same list of investments pasted on a board, the experts did not outperform the chimps. That is one of the reasons for the success of mutual funds that invest themselves in a pool of individual stocks or bonds.

It is widely accepted that entrepreneurs produce three quarters of the wealth in the world. People like Mark Zuckerberg, who started as a student with a small local communication network at university to end up only a few years later with the multibillion dollar social media company Facebook, is a recent example. Succeeding in business takes initiative, perseverance, speed, action, energy and a good brain, but it's not rocket science. As Jack Welch of GE once said the trick is to surround oneself with people who are much cleverer than you are.

The old story of a father and his three sons is telling as far as the types of investors are concerned. He gave all three sons a rather

large sum of money for them to show him a few years later that they were ready for life. One of the sons buried the money under the ground in order to be able to return it to his father without it being stolen. The second one put all the money in the bank to earn some interest. The last one invested it in a business to grow the investment. Often the latter brother will outperform the former two if he does not take too many risks and surrounds himself with capable partners. The father was particularly proud of the last son and angry at the first one who just hid the money away.

Essentially, there is much more to life than investing money. You should first use your income to provide for your standard of living, then next in the standard of living of your family or other loved ones. With what is left projects can be realized: a house, a business... Eventually, if there is still anything left over, one can start looking at investing.

When thinking of how to invest, the investment portfolio theory is a good start. It says that the more you diversify your investments between asset classes the higher return you should obtain and with a lower risk, at least in the longer run.

Secondly, it is important to know who you are as an investor. What do you know about investing? What is your experience with

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OUTPERFORM THE CHIMPS ”**

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## “ THERE IS MUCH MORE TO LIFE THAN INVESTING MONEY ”

investments? How do you react to a decrease in the value of your investments?

Thirdly, what is your time horizon? Do you need the money soon or can it be invested for many years to come?

Bankers and financial advisors have the obligation to check your investor profile, and must also listen to your time horizon, before suggesting appropriate investments. Then they will categorise you as a Secure, Moderate, Balanced, Dynamic or Aggressive investor. This can roughly be translated in 0%, 25%, 50%, 75% or 100% of risk assets in your total investment portfolio. For example, shares in companies on the stock exchange are risk assets. No or low risk assets are savings accounts or short term government bonds.

If you are an entrepreneur, you will often invest all your money in your own company, and that is very logical. Yet by doing so, you have a 100% concentration of your investments in one single asset that is typically not very easily marketable, unless you have listed your company on the stock exchange. To take the example of Mark Zuckerberg again, once Facebook was listed on the stock exchange, and he subsequently invested the money he received from that listing in assets other than Facebook, he became much more diversified in his investments. He thus increased his potential return of his investment portfolio whilst reducing his risk, at least in the longer run.

All of this only holds true if there is no major shock to the financial system. Most of you will remember the big financial and economic crisis that started in 2007-2008 and is still somewhat lingering on. Nassim Taleb wrote his 'Black Swan' theory around that time to warn for such shocks that only occur occasionally but often change the norms in the financial markets. During such time all the investment classes worldwide go down together, with no place to escape except maybe pure cash or gold.

If there is one thing to definitely shy away from as a private investor, it is to borrow money in order to invest it on the stock markets in the hope of earning a higher return than the interest you have to pay on the loan. It should be considered as betting one's house, and it should not be done.

Beware, your investor profile will change with time. It is important to check it regularly, yearly for example, and adapt your investments accordingly. A good example here is your pension investments. At the age of 35 years old you have all the time in the world for your money to grow. By the age of 60 years old your timeframe will have changed dramatically, since in some five years time you will want to live from your pension assets, which warrants a different, more prudent approach to the investments you choose in your pension portfolio than at a young age.

Last word of advice: if an investment looks too good to be true, has a much higher yield than comparable investments on the market, you will find either special stringent conditions in the small print of the product or someone is trying to steal your money. Have your money managed by well-known, trusted parties and look at how easily you can sell the financial product and get your money out.

In conclusion, when thinking of investing your money, first take care of your standard of living and projects. If you have money left, invest it in a diversified portfolio in line with your investor profile considering the time horizon before you need it. Only then tax optimize it where possible. Do not borrow to invest, shy away from too-good to be true deals and choose a reputed, trustworthy manager for your money. Last but not least, compare the cost of similar financial products and check how easy it would be to sell the product and get your money out of it. ●

# Living with Charlie

EU Reporter's **Gerry Callaghan** takes a breath and calls for calm in the wake of the *Charlie Hebdo* massacre

**J**ust one week into 2015, religious fundamentalists launched an attack on the headquarters of French cartoonists' *Charlie Hebdo* and a Jewish supermarket in Paris, killing 17 people. In the wake of the Paris shootings, #JeSuisCharlie grew exponentially as a cause united in the resistance of censorship, with its proponents pledging loyalty to the freedom of expression. However, in its aftermath, fear and tension hang solemnly in the air, and the response that the European Union takes to this event must not be one borne of intolerance and fear, but one of rationality and foresight.

The EU must take steps to avoid isolating European Muslims with policies directed at that specific community. It is now essential that member states aim to increase surveillance and security to stop a repetition of the shootings in Paris, without increasing the power of suspect detention and further marginalizing Islamic citizens.

Since the attacks in France, thirteen jihadist terror suspects are being held in detention and two others are dead here in Belgium after one of the largest ever counter-terror operations was carried out, hindering a plot to kill police officers. However, authorities warn that the cell's suspected mastermind, Abdel Hamid Abaaoud, is still on the run. Five suspects faced charges of taking part in 'terrorist activities', but two were conditionally released. Following the murders in Paris last week, these operations in Belgium and France have



reinforced fears that radicalized European Muslims returning from the war in Syria are preparing a series of outrages in Europe.

According to Europol Director Rob Wainwright, up to 5,000 European nationals have travelled abroad to fight in the 'jihad' and could pose a similar terror threat to that of the Paris shootings, if and when they return to the EU. Addressing British lawmakers at the Home Affairs Select Committee, Wainwright said: "We're dealing with a large body of mainly young men, who have the potential to come back and... carry out attacks [like] we have

Europe must be careful in its reaction to the 7 January massacre by avoiding a repetition of the tragedy through increased security measures while ensuring its reaction does not infringe the civil liberties of Europe's Muslim community.

At least 69 arrests in France took place in the days following the attacks on the ambiguous charge of 'defending terrorism'. This charge in itself risks violating the freedom of expression that the tag #JeSuisCharlie is supposed to uphold. "In a week in which world leaders and millions around the world have spoken out in

## “ THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO VIOLATE THIS RIGHT THEMSELVES ”

seen in Paris.”

Senior EU security officials met in Brussels in mid-January to come up with new counter-terror measures to be put to an EU summit on 12 February. Federica Mogherini, the EU's foreign policy chief, said cooperation should be extended to Arab countries. Speaking ahead of talks with Arab League Secretary-General Nabil Al-Araby, Mogherini pleaded in favour of an 'alliance' with Arab states to combat terrorism. Echoing her views, British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond stressed the need to work with Muslim countries, who "continue to be in the front line".

Immediately after the attacks, European officials pledged to reinforce cooperation in the fight against terrorism. One key issue to be discussed is a proposal for EU states to share records of air passengers (PNR); however this measure has been held up in the European Parliament over privacy concerns. The PNR row demonstrates the potential trade-off between anti-terrorist measures and the protection of civil liberties. The EU's response will undoubtedly be to step up surveillance measures, to increase intelligence sharing and possibly increase the powers of terrorist suspect detention. However,

defence of freedom of expression, the French authorities must be careful not to violate this right themselves," warned Europe and Central Asia Programme Director at Amnesty International, John Dalhuisen. Under international human rights law, states have an obligation to prohibit the promotion of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence. However, vaguely-defined offences such as the 'defence' of terrorism risk criminalising statements or other forms of expression which, while offensive to many, fall well short of inciting others to violence or discrimination.

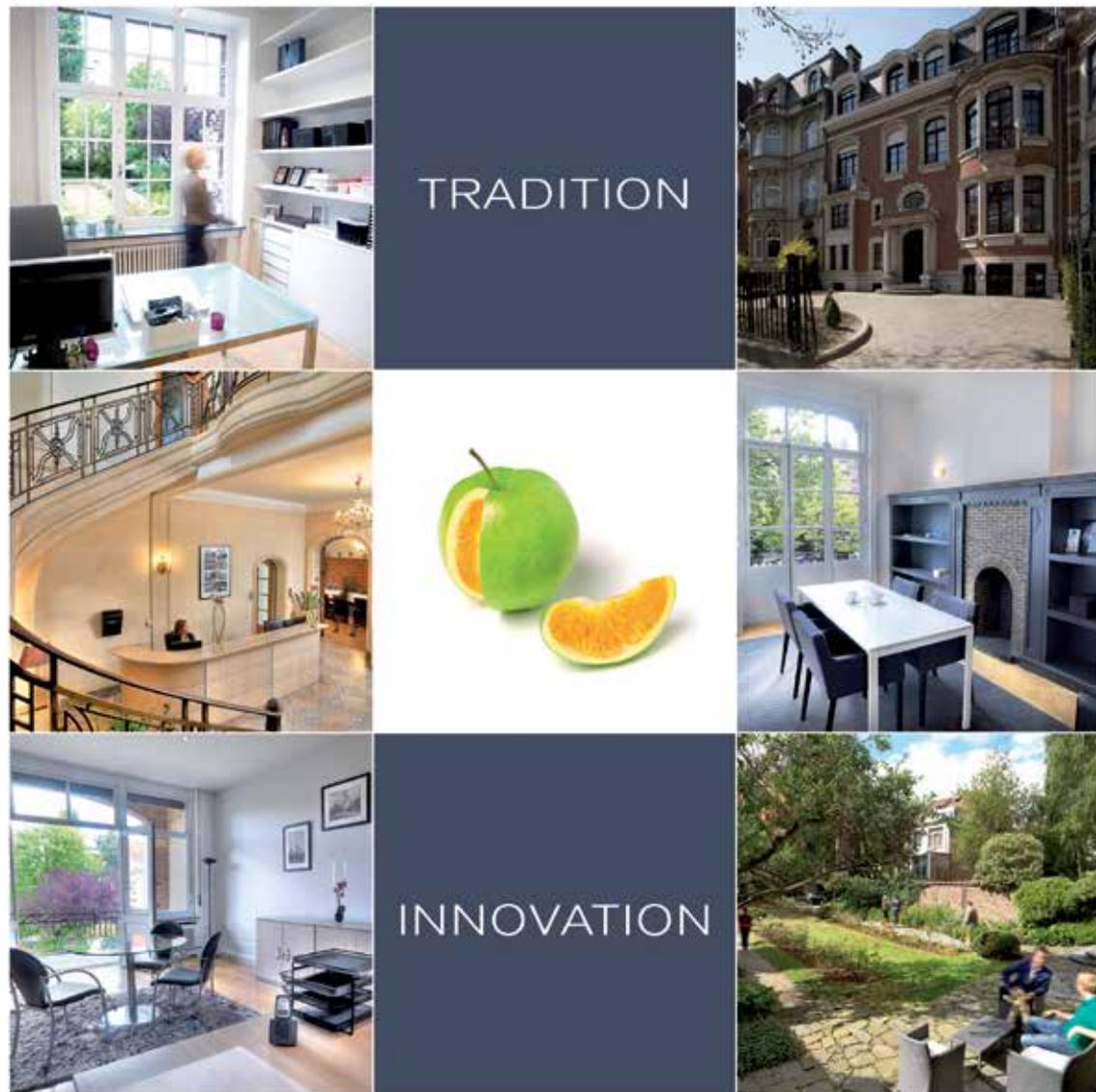
It is easy to get caught up in the mass hysteria surrounding the tragedy but we must not become hostile towards the Muslim populations throughout Europe. The EU and its citizens need to work hard to avoid increasing divisions in our society, reiterated by the more mainstream political parties. Fear must not play a part in the way Europe's lawmakers' deal with the incident. The horrific acts carried out in Paris must not be transformed into a recruiting tool for these fundamentalists already outraged by Europe's role in the Middle East.

*EUReporter.co*

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## Damien Foundation: The butterfly effect



die (one every 20 seconds!). The annual leprosy count is estimated at more than 230,000 new patients, who may suffer mutilation and exclusion if they are not treated in time. But each year, Damien spreads its wings. In 2013, the medical teams that it supports screened and treated 329,592 leprosy, tuberculosis and leishmaniasis patients. 329,592 people can get healthy and have a

### Indifference kills, Damien treats

Everyone has heard of the butterfly effect. Born among the meteorologists in the early 1970s, the idea is that the flapping wings of a butterfly in Brazil can cause a tornado in Texas. Since then, the butterfly effect has entered into our ideas and speech, but always with a negative, even catastrophic impact.

### A positive effect

Yet the butterfly effect can also be positive. It can last a long time. Since 1964, to be precise. That was the year Action Damien was born. For 50 years, the foundation has been treating leprosy and tuberculosis. Millions of men, women and children have returned to health, hope and dignity. For them, the Damien Foundation logo, the 'butterfly from the heart', has really had a dramatic effect: it changed their lives and that of their families for the better.

### A butterfly effect for €40

Every year, tuberculosis affects eight to 10 million patients worldwide, and nearly 1.5 million

future thanks to all those who help the Damien Foundation in Belgium. Raise or donate and you can create a butterfly effect and save a patient.

The foundation runs a yearly funds drive but you can donate all year round (tax deductible from €40) and save lives at the other end of the world.

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# LIFESTYLE

*Yachts originally started off being used  
by the Dutch navy to catch pirates*



Luxury

# Luxury mansions on the seas

**Brielle Gregory** goes in search of the world's most luxurious yachts

**Y**achts have been a form of luxury since the beginning of the 20th century, and with springtime quickly approaching, yachting season is raring to set sail. If there's anything more pleasant than a sweet springtime sea breeze aboard a fully-equipped vessel, it certainly has yet to be discovered.

Luxury yachts, frequently referred to as motor yachts (M/Y), are privately owned, professionally crewed sailing boats. Luxury yachts tend to include multiple bedrooms, a dining room and galley, a study and multiple sitting rooms. Some yachts in more recent years have even come to include Jacuzzis, gyms, libraries, bars and cinemas.

The massive growth in the luxury yacht business was sparked in the 1990s, and since then yachts have quickly become a purchase of choice among the wealthier crowds. Yachts, which range from between 50 to 450 feet long, make for the perfect means of a vacation getaway.

Yachting has become a growing culture, with places such as Cannes and Monaco hosting yachting festivals filled with swanky parties and expensive treats. In fact, some people choose to vacation on docked yachts rather than ever set sail on them.

Although today yachts are known for their prestige in status, taking a look back into history makes one see that this wasn't always the case. Yachts originally started off being used by the Dutch navy to catch pirates. The



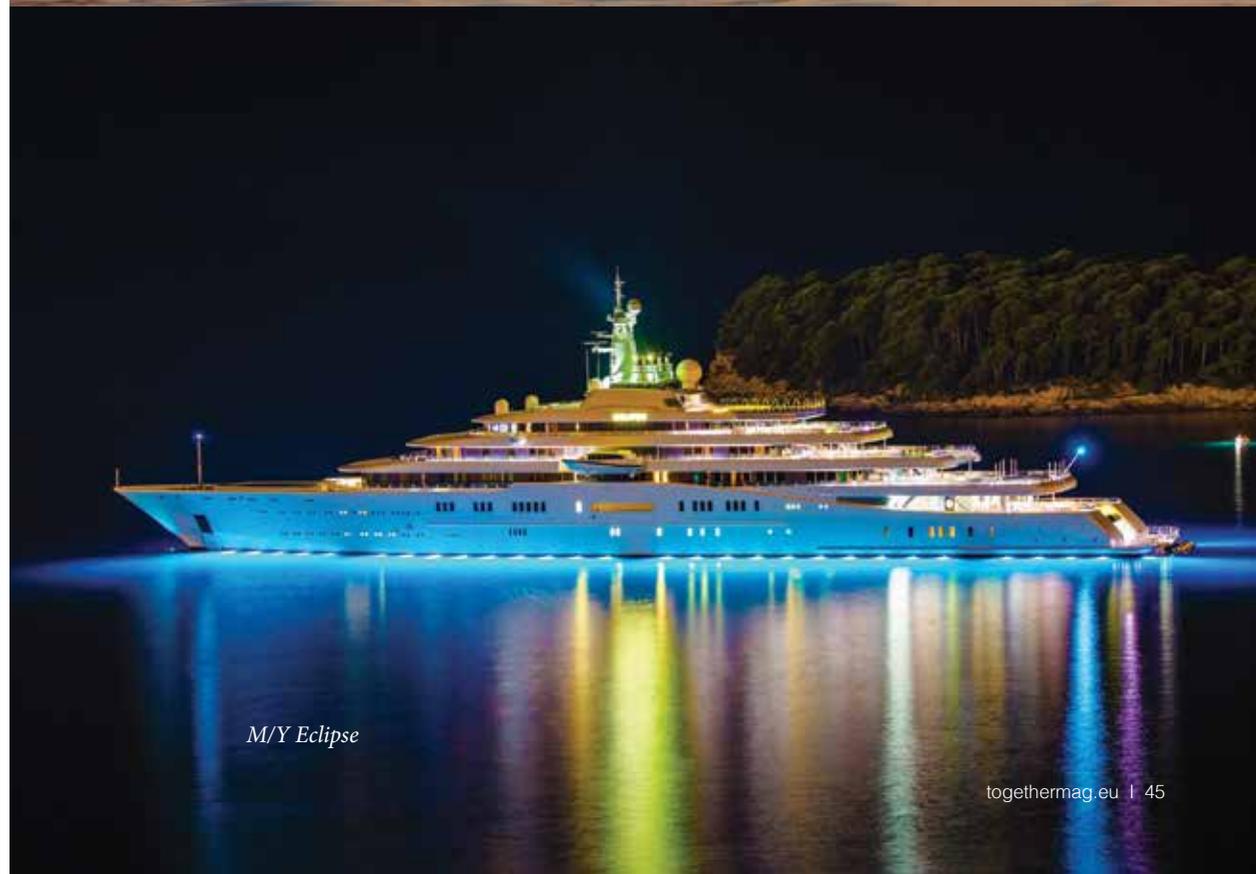
Steve Jobs' Venus yacht



M/Y Eclipse



M/Y Eclipse



M/Y Eclipse

### Luxury

privately owned, wealthy stereotype of yacht-owners wasn't coined until Charles II started using his own.

Since then, yachts have evolved leaps and bounds. To see how, we've gathered some of the most impressive yachts from both the past and present.

#### The early yachts

##### *M/Y Savarona*

This yacht, built in 1931 by Blohm + Voss, was the largest yacht in the world when it was released. It is 124 metres in length and boasts 17 staterooms. Although it used to belong to a wealthy Turkish businessman, it is now reserved for the President of Turkey.

##### *M/Y Christina O*

Built in 1943, this sea-roaming beauty was originally used during World War II before being bought in 1954 by Aristotle Onassis. The yacht has hosted such prominent historical figures as Marilyn Monroe and Sir Winston Churchill, and has five decks along with 16 staterooms. It rides the sea at 99.06 meters and is made of steel and aluminum.

#### The yachts of today

##### *M/Y Eclipse*: €400 million

This Blohm + Voss yacht, built in 2010 for Roman Abramovich, is the world's second largest superyacht coming in at 164 feet. Although specifics on the yacht are extraordinarily well-hidden, some of its pluses are said to include two swimming pools, a leisure submarine and accommodation for three helicopters. It is thought to have a crew of 70 people.

##### *Equanimity*: €175 million

The most recent superyacht to steal sea-dwellers' hearts, this 91.5-meter beauty has won 'The Finest New Yacht of the 2014 Monaco Yacht Show' and 'Best Yacht of the Year Over 82 Meters' at the 2014 World Yacht Trophies. Among the yacht's lavish features are a beauty salon, a beach club, a spa, a Turkish bath and a sauna.





*Intermarine 55*

*Intermarine 55*: €2 million  
High-class car manufacturer BMW has taken to the seas to join the ever-growing market for luxury yachts with its Intermarine 55. Although a smaller option at only 57 feet, this most affordable yacht of the lot was specifically designed for comfortable day and night use, making it the perfect choice for a new sailor. BMW also takes pride in their yachts being more evolved to the modern purchaser.

"This is a really exquisite European-style boat," Laurenz Schaffer, president of Designworks USA, said in an interview with *Forbes* magazine. "This is a sleek, elegant style and a very refined approach. But still, use with family

and friends is a strong focal point."

Recently, intriguing snapshots have appeared of Apple mogul Steve Jobs' €100 million yacht, Venus. What's in the 79-meter yacht is anyone's guess, but one could imagine based on the sleek exterior that it has an impressive interior to match.

The increase in interest and status that has come with luxury yachts over the past couple of decades has certainly sparked a movement toward investing in the mansions of the sea. The pools, spas and lavish bedrooms certainly don't hurt either. 📍



*Equanimity*

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## BEAUTY

For her: La Vie en Rose

# The perfume of love

Our beauty expert **Delphine Stefens** searches for fragrances that will make your Valentine's Day



**Loveswept eau de toilette by Philosophy\***  
(60ML/€42.11).

**Modern Muse eau de parfum by Estée Lauder**  
(from 30ML/€51.72).



**SeeByChloé Si Belle eau de parfum\*** (from 30ML/€49.94).



**Chance Eau Tendre by Chanel**  
(35ML/€60).

**Les Délices de Nina limited edition by Nina Ricci** (50ML/€65.54).



\* Exclusively at Ici Paris XL and on [www.iciparisxl.be](http://www.iciparisxl.be)

\*\* At Senteurs d'Ailleurs in Brussels.

## BEAUTY

For him: Fifty Shades of...

**Reveal eau de toilette  
by Calvin Klein**  
(from 30ML/€43.89)

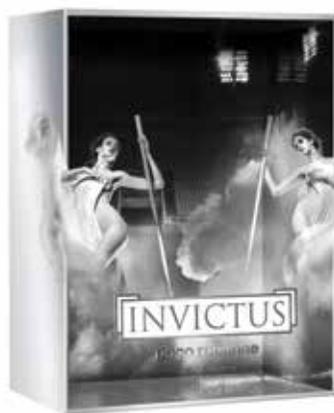


**Jimmy Choo Man eau de toilette\***  
(from 30ML/€40).

**Pluriel masculin  
eau de toilette by  
Maison Francis  
Kurkdjian\*\***  
(70ML/€115).



**Invictus Silver  
Cup eau de  
toilette by Paco  
Rabanne**  
(100 ML/€88).



**Bottega Veneta Pour Homme  
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50ML/€65.65)



# Profession: Property Hunter



“We are not an estate agent,  
we are specialists  
in property research”

Interview with

Julien Dessauy,  
Marc-Olivier van Bellinghen  
and James Goffin.



**What is it that makes you different from  
an ordinary estate agent?**

Firstly, we offer a made to measure service exclusively aimed at buyers or tenants. Secondly, we are in a position to search the entire market. We already work with all our individual clients, but we also work with no less than 700 professional partners in the property market. Our researches allow us to find 30% of the properties outside the market, before they have even been advertised. We don't have a portfolio of properties. We have information, and a very big address book.

**So anyone with a property to sell  
can get in touch with you about it?**

Absolutely. Our web site [www.propertyhunter.be](http://www.propertyhunter.be) lets anybody, an individual or a professional, to offer us a property – which might be just what one of our clients is seeking! No commission is due, because we are paid upstream by our buyer and tenant clients.

**What motivates your clients  
to use your services?**

Our clients are people who either don't have time to hunt for themselves or who don't know about the market – or people who aren't in a position to search for property because they live abroad. There are 9 of us working together, and each of us only works on 3 to 4 dossiers at a time, which means that we are devoting at least 25% of our time to each dossier. We are offering quality, not quantity.

**So in a way you are offering time  
and opportunities to your clients?**

Absolutely; but our work includes many other things. As consultants, we advise and assist our clients so that they can make their purchase in complete safety, and we accompany them through the whole process, right up to signature of the final agreement at the notary's office. Also, we help them buy at a fair price, because as we are experts in the property market, we know how to estimate the value of a property. And we know how to negotiate too.

**How many properties do you  
show your clients on average?**

3 to 8 visits are enough on average. Before that, we would have visited between 10 and 40, according to the nature and the difficulty of the search. During that time, our clients can relax and keep an eye on the progress of our search, and give us their feedback through their personal space on line. The aim is that they only visit the best ones! And of course that's another area where we bring our expertise to bear.

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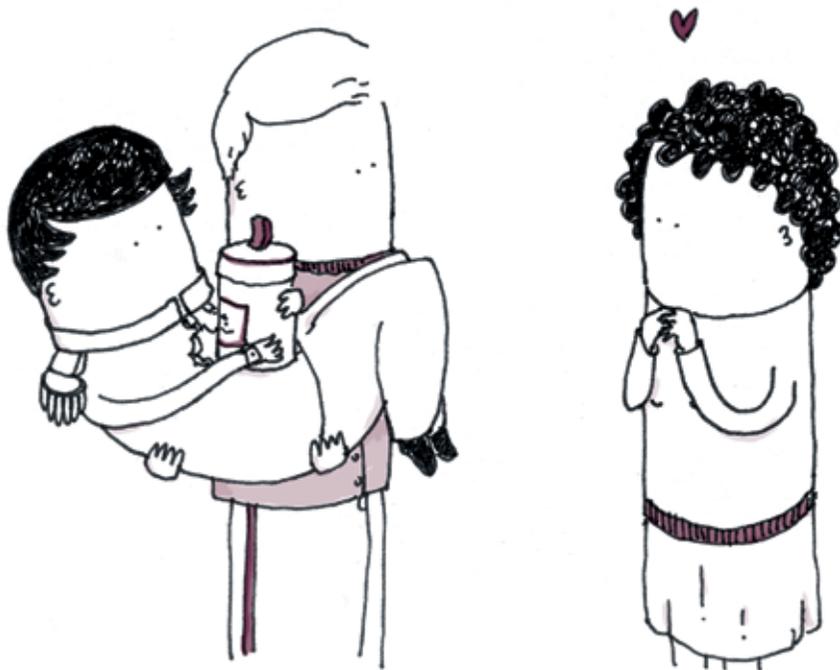




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# Caroline Dechamby: Art for your arm

**Brielle Gregory** chats to a woman who turned her art into fashion

**C**aroline Dechamby did not set out to become an artist. For her, it was something that just came naturally.

"I never thought I would do what I do now," Dechamby says. "But it's just something that's inside of me, and when I paint I feel good. It was a natural thing to be an artist. There's no forcing."

Dechamby has been painting for 30 years now and has had her paintings on display in such prominent cities as London, Paris and Singapore. Fueled by her love for art, she took the step to open her own gallery in the mountains of Crans-Montana, Switzerland in 1997.

"It's a passion really," Dechamby says. "Just like you don't do a sport to make money, you don't paint to make money."

Now, Dechamby is putting that same passion into a new form of art: the handbag, or as Dechamby likes to call it, the "art bag."

"I thought, why not let my paint get out of my canvas and on to the arm of a lady?" Dechamby says. "Then the lady walks with my art."

This winter, Dechamby is debuting her Les Inséparables collection, an all-leather goods handbag collection featuring five different styles, including a large and small handbag, an evening bag, a wallet and a cell phone case.

Although Dechamby has designed another collection



**“ I THINK IT’S A  
BAG THAT CAN  
LAST 10 YEARS  
BECAUSE IT’S A  
PAINTING ”**

## LIFESTYLE

Design



specifically for Crans-Montana in the past, this is the first time she will be spreading her handbag creations to the rest of the world.

"Since the first collection went so incredibly well, I thought now I'm ready to go into the world and make a bigger collection," Dechamby says. "It works because it's different and it's very good quality."

Much like paintings, the handbags are only available in a limited edition. The bags are entirely handmade in Rome and feature a neutral beige background with vivid characters in red, blue and green.

"It's hard work to get the right colors," Dechamby says. "It's a lot of investment."

Dechamby says she often makes little comics and funny designs when she is with her children, one of which she decided was right for her most recent collection. The particular characters featured in the Les Inséparables collection are ones Dechamby designed a long time ago, but the message of the painting remains the same: to show the love between two people.

What's unique about Dechamby's handbags is that they're more art than fashion. Dechamby views her bags as still being paintings, just on a different form of canvas.



"I think it's a bag that can last 10 years because it's a painting," Dechamby says. "Fashion is something that is very incredibly 'in', but then maybe one year later is out. My art bag isn't just current fashion because it will always be a limited edition."

The bags are designed for any woman, but more specifically, for a woman who is sensitive to art and has an eye for good work. Dechamby says she likes doing the bags as limited editions because it helps them remain unique. Once the limited amount is sold out, that's it.

However, once that amount is gone, Dechamby says, she can always move on and do another painting. The bags may be limited, but Dechamby's creativity is not. Since she cannot personally be everywhere, the bags are Dechamby's way of becoming universal.

"I'll keep going on with what I do, because I love painting," Dechamby says. "I always paint, I always go on. Every time I will get a new collection it will go into the world. It's just the way to do it."

For more information on the Les Inséparables collection, visit Caroline Dechamby's website at [www.caroline-dechamby.com](http://www.caroline-dechamby.com)

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2015



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# YANA'S ICONS

Jacket: H&M Studio  
Jewel: Urban Outfitters

Photographer: Aylene Torres  
Stylist: Nicholas Sirot  
Makeup artist: Noel Inocencio using Mac products  
Models: Yana @ Be models





Dress: The Kooples  
Shoes: Épisode



Dress: Annemie Verbeke / Belt: The Kooples / Ring: Thomas Sabo



Shirt: The Kooples  
Earrings: Thomas Sabo



Dress : Apc & Vanessa Seward  
Bracelet: Apc



Trousers: Levis  
T-shirt: Cos

Jewel: Urban Outfitters  
Sunglasses: Louis Vuitton



Suit & shoes: The Kooples  
Ring: Thomas Sabo



Top: Annemie Verbeke  
Shorts & sunglasses Épisode



Jacket: H&M Studio  
Yana's beauty treatment:

Face : Pro Long Wear Foundation  
Studio Finish Concealer  
Vintage Rose (Cream Blush )

Eyes: Bare Canvas (Cream Eyeshadow)  
Black Brilliance (Eye Liner)  
Switch to Blue (Eyeshadow)  
Studio Culpt Lash (Mascara)  
Lips: Patisserie Lustre (Lipstick)  
Damn Glamorous (Lipstick)  
Brows: Lingerling  
Brow set



# Bugaboo: The star stroller

You and your friends may have children, but may not have heard of this original and attractive product. **Jérôme Stéfanski** takes a look at a success story that's made in Holland.

**W**hen I first spoke to *Together Magazine* Publisher David McGowan about an article dedicated to Bugaboo, the reaction was immediate: "Fantastic! Bugaboo's great!" And this man knows what he's talking about. There have been around ten years since the birth of his wife's first child, and his wife has owned a convertible during this time. It's a beautiful sports car, but not at all suited to transporting a young family on the go. After visiting many shops for baby gear and looking at many varieties of strollers, they came to a conclusion: only a Bugaboo stroller would fit in the trunk of a convertible. David added: "This stroller is magic. You can go everywhere, from narrow store aisles and on elevators, and you can even take it on the beach and in the woods." Today, like millions of other happy users, this

enthusiastic young father of three girls does not regret his choice. But why is Bugaboo so different? What does one stroller have over another stroller? What is behind the brand's success? Explanation time.

### Creativity meets ergonomics

Bugaboo came about thanks to an encounter between designer Max Barenbrug and Doctor Eduard Zanen. A graduate of the prestigious Eindhoven Design Academy, Barenbrug presented two designs upon graduation: a city bike based on the concept of mobility and a stroller based on the concept of leisure. Together, the two men joined forces to devise a new concept stroller. They tried to sell their idea to several manufacturers, but none was yet ready to market this revolutionary product. But Barenbrug did not give up, spending two years



## LIFESTYLE

on the ergonomics and design of the stroller. The prototype Bugaboo was then created, with unique features such as its reversible seat, reversible handlebar and its singular folding mechanism.

In 1996, the two partners founded the company Bugaboo and worked on a large-scale production model. In 1999, The first commercial Bugaboo, the Bugaboo Classic, appeared in the Netherlands. Its success was immediate.

Four years later, Bugaboo began to develop its brand internationally. In the following years, the company increased the number of innovations by introducing ever more compact and customizable products, with complete sets of accessories. Beautiful design collaborations were undertaken with leading designers such as Marc Jacobs, Viktor & Rolf and the Italian fashion house Missoni.

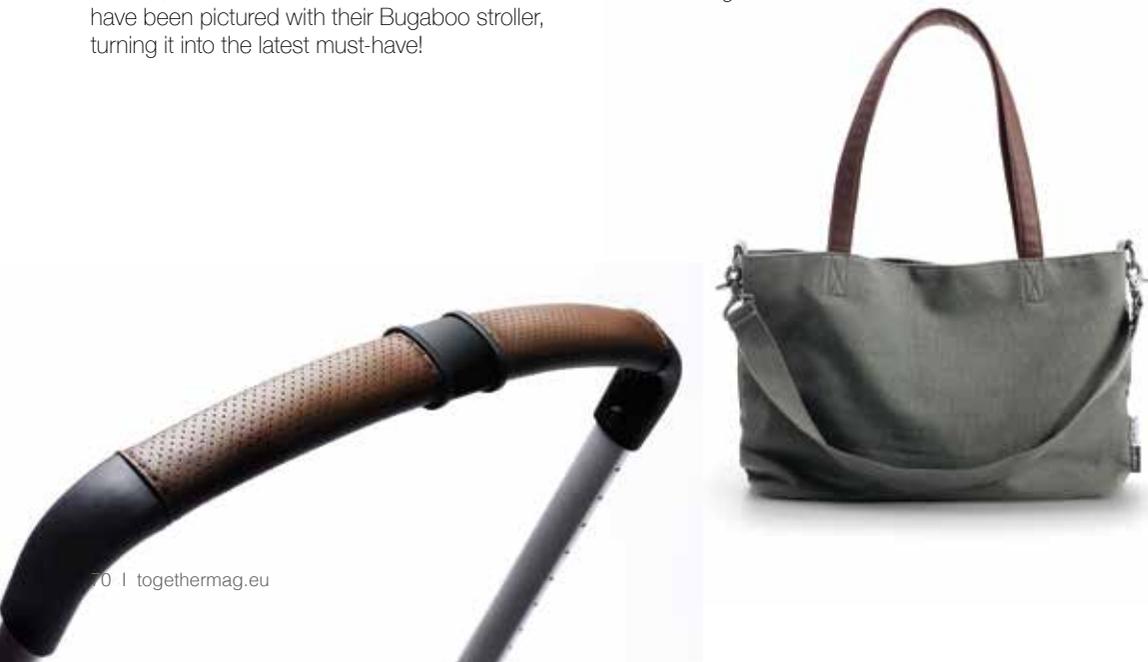
Today, the small Dutch start-up has become one of the most popular stroller manufacturers in the world and exports its products to 50 countries. Bugaboo employs around 1,000 people and has offices in many countries, from Australia to France, the United States and Japan. Many famous personalities, including Sienna Miller, Victoria Beckham, Gwyneth Paltrow, Gwen Stefani, Adele and Heidi Klum have been pictured with their Bugaboo stroller, turning it into the latest must-have!

Bugaboo principles and signature  
From the start, Bugaboo products have been loved by consumers for their design, quality, ease of use and light weight. Each Bugaboo product is easy to operate and incorporate state-of-the-art technological and innovative features, resulting in a design that successfully combines functionality and aesthetics. According to Bugaboo's Founder, Max Barenbrug "the function of a Bugaboo product must never clash with its styling – and the styling must never interfere with its performance. Only when function and form are in harmony will Bugaboo release a new product". Following this principle ensures that Bugaboo strollers are always logical and intuitive so that users immediately understand how they work and quickly grasp the full variety of features.

The brand's signature features include a smooth ride, comfort for parent and child, the ability to grow with your child (from baby to toddler), reversible and reclinable seats, independent use of seat and bassinet, height adjustable handlebars, high quality fabrics and, of course, its instantly recognizable design.

A real must for parents and their children.

[www.bugaboo.com](http://www.bugaboo.com)



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bugaboo

## LIFESTYLE

Shopping

# Shopping



### De Greef

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+ Interchangeable amethyst pendant: **€450**, in pink quartz: **€275** - [www.degreef1848.be](http://www.degreef1848.be)



### J&Joy boxers

The box contains two boxer briefs for men, made with two different designs but the same cut, promising premium quality, a vintage style, a colorful design and amazing comfort. **€29.95**  
[www.jn-joy.com](http://www.jn-joy.com)

### Gc Demoiselle

The Gc Demoiselle is the perfect St Valentine's gift for women who love a sporty design but with a glamorous fashionable twist. The

Gc Demoiselle is equipped with a quality Swiss Made quartz movement and is available in five different colours and material executions: **€450**  
[www.gcwatches.com](http://www.gcwatches.com)



### Nona

From the Nona Valentine Collection, this ring is in sterling silver 925 with a rhodium finish. The extra layer of rhodium on top of the silver ensures a beautiful white colour and protects the layer underneath. Nona jewellery is always hand set with top-quality cubic zirconia. 57 facets per stone ensure a perfect brilliant sparkle. Made in Europe: **€39**  
[www.nona-jewels.com](http://www.nona-jewels.com)

## LIFESTYLE

Shopping

### Ice-Watch

Ice-Checks is an eclectic collection which combines a leather strap and cloth with red, blue and beige tartan, a pink gold steel case and Swarovskis. A limited edition consisting of two unisex models: **€149**  
[www.ice-watch.com](http://www.ice-watch.com)



### Les Bijoux de Marie-France

Yellow gold snake ring 18K set with a faceted citrine yellow gold snake ring 18K set with a faceted citrine: **price on request**  
[www.lesbijouxdemariefrance.com](http://www.lesbijouxdemariefrance.com)

### Bronzallure

Made in Italy. Kaleidoscope earrings: **€89**  
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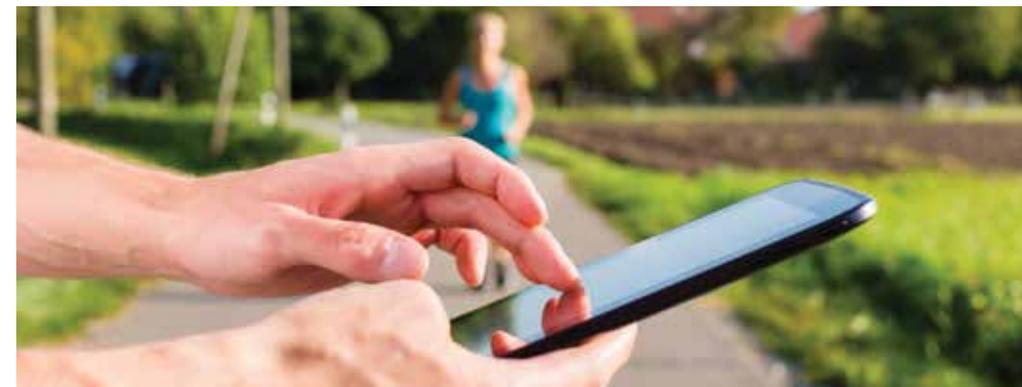
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# Promises, promises

Our tech guy  
**Colin Moors**  
runs the rule over  
some apps that  
may just bolster  
your resolve



**Y**ou know what it's like. You wake up on the first of January feeling either great about life or fiercely hung over. You look back over the events of New Year's Eve, a fond memory to get you through the trying times of winter. Then you realize what you promised to everyone last night, stub out the cigarette and flush the last of the cake down the toilet. Suddenly, winter seems a long and cruel season. Happily, your phone or tablet is here to help. There are apps that'll help you do everything these days, so round about now, when even the iron wills are crumbling, your favourite device can help you keep your promises.

#### Fit for the New Year

If you want one of those fancy fitness wristbands, you could always take a look at the Together roundup in issue 47 (<http://togethermag.eu/sites/default/pdf/TOGETHER47.pdf>) pages 38 and 39. But what app to use with your band of choice?

**Endomondo** is probably the best starting point. It's free but restricted at first but with more than enough features and free stuff to tell if it's worth splashing out the five dollars to buy

the full programme. It will track your walk, run, swim or any other activity that involves moving using your phone's GPS and report back with some surprisingly detailed data. It's high on the compatibility list too, accepting connections from most major fitness band producers. If you can't resist showing off how amazingly healthy you are in the new year, it will post to Twitter and/or Facebook for you. Remember, health is not a competition. Is it?

#### No butts!

Probably top of every smoker's New Year list is to not be a smoker any more, which as an ex-smoker, I can heartily recommend. Of all resolutions made in the hazy early hours while still indulging in the habit, this one is probably the hardest to break. For Android users, the imaginatively named **QuitNow** has to be the best, if a little gimmicky. Based on what you tell it (be honest) it'll let you know how many cigarettes you haven't smoked and the money you've saved. If that wasn't incentive enough, you get those cornerstones of all good apps these days - achievements. Unlike the intangible achievements of platform games, these are based on WHO guidelines. For

## LIFESTYLE

### Technology

iPhone, there's **Quit Pro**. Very similar to the aforementioned QuitNow, except for the achievements. It does, however, have 'inspirational quotes', so if you're the kind of person motivated by a picture of pebbles and a pithy caption, this could be for you. Go on, even if it's not new year any more - you'll thank me for it one day.

### Fitter, happier... more productive?

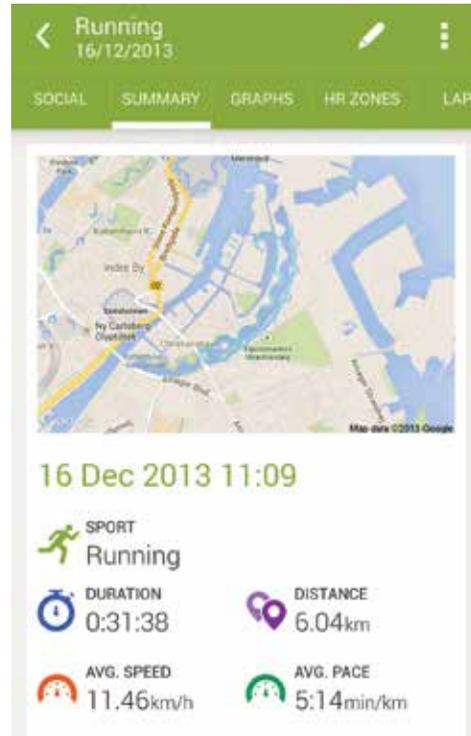
So, you've nailed smoking and got yourself the body of a Greek god. Perhaps now you've less to worry about, you could be more productive and use your healthy mind and body more efficiently? Wunderlist is a 'to do' list on steroids. In addition to the usual lists and reminders functions it'll allow you to collaborate in real time and even converse with members of your team or family. You can hashtag entries for later grouping or searching and it syncs in real time with your account, held on the Wunderlist servers on the web. Whether you use it as a life organizer or a shopping list, it'll surely make at least one aspect of your day easier.

If you're a more traditional meat-and-potatoes list user, a favourite of mine is **Remember The Milk**. Lists are presented in a traditional lit, checkmark and crossed out fashion, simulating the paper jotter experience - something that will provide comfort to the slightly technophobic among us. Behind the scenes, it's synchronizing your lists to the server so you never have to forget anything ever again. Simplicity is the key here.

Both these apps are fully cross-platform, meaning they'll work on your Apple, Android and desktop devices seamlessly, so there's no excuse for not using them to the full.

### A Turkey is not Just for Christmas

Let's say you're, as a completely random example, someone who writes for a magazine. You've got all your research done and you're set to write that article you promised your editor 'definitely this evening'. But what's this? There's a funny picture of a cat on Facebook, posted by Dave. I haven't heard from him, I wonder how...



You can see where it's going. The distractions of the internet are available 24/7 on the very machine you use to work. **Cold Turkey** is a PC app that will block access to Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr - anything you tell it to. It has a timer built in, so if you need two hours with no distractions, they're yours. A so-called pro version is available (if you're really a pro, you should probably have sorted out your self control by now though). For a one-off 10-dollar payment, Cold Turkey will also block programs on your PC and will set a schedule to deny access for whatever times of day you specify. Yes, you could just reboot your machine but how badly do you want to see the cute kitties? Mac users can download a very similar program called **Self Control**.

All that remains is for me to wish you good luck organizing 2015. ●

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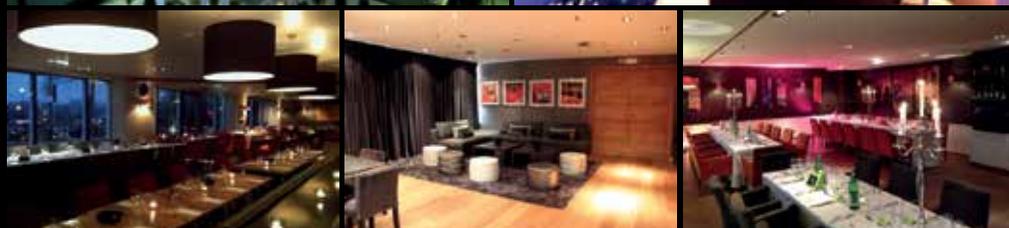


# **LIFE OF LEISURE**

*The cliff of Mont Garnier, nearly 900 metres high,  
appeared in the night of 24 to 25 November 1248*

# Mark Wahlberg: Gambling on the future

*Together* spoke to a man who acts, has a reality show and makes tasty burgers



**M**ark Wahlberg, 43, changes direction from his usual roles and plays a university professor who also happens to be afflicted with a gambling problem, and to add to his problems, he has a complicated relationship with one of his students.

He began his career as a rapper known as Marky Mark before finding his feet in the acting world. He's known for roles in films such as *Boogie Nights* (1997), *The Perfect Storm* (2000), *Planet of the Apes* (2001), *Rock Star* (2001) and *The Departed* (2006) for which he was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor. His resume also includes *The Other Guys* (2010), *The Fighter* (2010), *Ted* (2012), *Lone Survivor* (2013), *Pain & Gain* (2013)

and *Transformers: Age of Extinction* (2014).

Wahlberg has been in a relationship with Rhea Durham (a former model) since 2001 and they were married on August 1, 2009. The happy couple is raising their four children in Los Angeles.

**Together: Do you believe in addiction, such as your character with gambling?**

**Wahlberg:** I do to a certain extent yes; yes I do.

**You have always been open to the press about your demons, so how did this film and this character resonate with you personally?**

Well, for me it was very different from anything

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“ I AM USED TO PLAYING THE UNDERDOGS AS OPPOSED TO THE GUY WHO HAS EVERYTHING ”



that I had ever done before. I am used to playing the underdogs as opposed to the guy who has everything and is trying to strip himself of all that to become the underdog. So it was very different. I have a lot of people in my life who suffer from various addictions. Gambling was a big part of my upbringing, so those are things that I identify with, but the big appeal to me was saying the words created by William Monahan after working with him on *The Departed* and working with him on *Mojave* and him writing *American Desperado* for us. And anytime you get to speak the words of William, I will be the first one to sign up.

**There's an on-going theme in the film about not being complacent. I remember you said acting was addictive. What was the turning point in your life where you felt that this was more than a job?**

Just when I think about all the various projects that I have done, the different people that I have worked with, every day I just wake up and pinch myself. I am so lucky to have found my true calling and what really drives me and pushes me and challenges me and allows me to learn and see the world. I found that this particular part was another opportunity for me to do something different. Even having missed out on my college experience and going back to various universities and sitting with various professors and going to lectures with (director) Rupert (Wyatt) and wandering around UCLA, around the dorms. I didn't want anybody to think that was weird. (laughter)

But I remember the first time being on set with Penny Marshall and Danny DeVito and everybody else that I had met in the film world which was very different for me. And then I met them and they spoke the same language, and they seemed to be from the same sort of place that I was from. I remember being on set and it just reminded me, 'Oh my God, all I ever did was watch movies with my dad.' I had seen this movie as a kid and the first movie I ever saw in a theatre was *Hard Times* with Charles Bronson.

I knew who John Garfield was and Robert Ryan before I knew who Robert Redford was or Tom

Cruise or the guys who were like the stars of the day – when I actually started making movies I didn't really know who any of those guys were. So I just found out that this is a miracle I found in the process of making films.

So you came to Martin Scorsese. Yes, thanks again to Bill's words. That was another thing; I have to say these words to these particular people, in this particular way.

**Onto more personal matters, you have a daughter, Ella, not too far from reaching her teenage years, what are you going to do to the guy who breaks her heart?**

I don't know. I enjoy my freedom, so I don't want to have to do anything too crazy. But I don't want to think about it. There are only a couple of more years before I'll have to deal with that.

**What's it like for you now to be the older guy in movies?**

You know what? I agree that I am getting older, but I embrace that.

**Nothing sexier than a dad.**

Well, I don't know. I think that you are lucky to grow in this business and age gracefully and so I have no problem with that. I am married now with four kids and I don't think I have looked in the mirror in 10 years.

**You keep switching for every movie, you gain weight, lose weight. How do you do it?**

I don't have a little magic pill or anything. I exercise and change my diet. For *Gambler*, I went from 197 to 137, and I just jumped rope for two hours a day, and I drank only liquid.

**Vegetables?**

No, only milk. In the morning you put a little fibre, a scoop of fibre, and then all the rest of the day you put this little powder in and you have essential proteins and vitamins, but just that for over a month. A total month of no food and then afterwards twice a day you can have greens and you can have as many steamed vegetables as you want.

## LIFE OF LEISURE

Interview

### What does that deprivation do to your psyche?

I am miserable. My wife and everybody were just like, 'Eat, stay away from us.' (laughter) I was very cranky.

### What was your first treat after all this?

Oh God, I had a pancake breakfast with bacon and eggs and toast and an English Muffin. I remember ordering the meal and then the guy came with the English Muffin and I go, 'Dude, I have been waiting four months for this fucking English Muffin, take it back, and make it golden brown.' (laughter) But it's a place that I frequent, so he's not a stranger, he's a friend.

### Are you going to have a role in the new Entourage movie?

A small role. I will appear as myself. Just one scene, a little cameo.

### Do you still box?

I haven't boxed for a while but I jumped rope to lose all the weight, as I mentioned.

### So you have this movie, this reality show with your brother, the restaurant, Wahlburgers, what's next?

In Hollywood and outside of Hollywood I am just trying to expand my horizons.

### Do you still wake up at 4:30am?

Yes. The thing about the show, the show is designed to promote the restaurant. And people love the show because it's very different from anything else that's out there, and it's actually very inspiring and it's very real, it's really about my mum and my brother, and it will continue to be more about them as we go along.

I am driving it to build a real business. We have a CEO who was the COO of the largest growing franchise in the United States as our CEO, and it's a real serious business. The show is designed to promote the business and to also promote and inspire other people. And the great thing about it is that we are all in America right now; there isn't anything that can't be done. And if I go from prison at 17 years old to being in this situation right now, in one generation completely turn it around you can't do that with many places in the world. So I am trying to show people that anything is possible through hard work and how important a family is. And that experience has brought us closer together because for a long time we were off doing our own thing, but now we are building this business and we'll hopefully have something that we can pass on to future generations. ●



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Try a novel way of seeing the Island of Beauty

**LIFE OF**  
**LEISURE**

Travel



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# House Assist

The solution to your domestic problems: "Feeling at home is all about peace of mind..."

**W**e cannot imagine all the problems that can befall a house. The consequences are often very unpleasant for the inhabitants. Consider just a few: blocked drain, a lack of heat, power failure, water leakage, misplaced keys, a broken window, a locked garage door, a tree that threatens to fall on your house. Inevitably this kind of problem often occurs at the worst possible time and almost always unexpectedly. Things can get very complicated when you need to find professional tradesmen who can come quickly, especially on weekends or public holidays. You don't know who to call, your heating contractor, plumber, fitter? And they are not necessarily available immediately or may have gone on vacation.

The breakdown or the damage appears to be more serious than expected, forcing your family to find an urgent solution so as not to have to spend several nights in a cold or flooded house. Even worse, you could be on vacation or travelling abroad when domestic problems occur. Who can you call? Where can you find a reliable tradesman? You also have to bear in mind that the average wait for a repair is usually five working days.

Europ Assistance has created an effective solution for just such occasions to help you quickly solve these uncomfortable times in your daily life. 'House Assist' is a network of professionals available 24 hours a day, seven days a week who can help you out or make a temporary repair – it also includes support for householders, taking care of small jobs and providing an information and advice service.



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Faulty boiler, blocked drain, broken window, garage door blocked, water problems, power failure... Europ Assistance is there 24h/7 to help you out or make a temporary repair. Europ Assistance books the repairman or company and pays directly for travel costs, labour costs and replacement parts up to

€400, including €50 VAT for spare parts.

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An unexpected incident occurs at your home and you are elsewhere or perhaps abroad? Normally, a difficult situation to manage, except House Assist helps you deal with the practical consequences of an incident in your home. Boiler failure or your electrical system can't be repaired within 24 hours? Europ Assistance



## “ SOMETIMES YOU DON'T WANT TO WASTE YOUR TIME ”

provides you with another solution or puts you up in a hotel. Your home is uninhabitable after a natural disaster strikes? Europ Assistance will help you relocate, secure your home, move your furniture or even find baby-sitters. Your garage door is blocked and you can't get your car out? We provide a replacement car. Lost your key to your home, your child is locked in his or her room? We send a locksmith.

### Taking care of small jobs and services on demand

Who hasn't had to deal with small repairs or house renovations? For all small jobs and occasional repairs, Europ Assistance provides access to its network of professionals because it is not always easy to quickly find a tradesman who is available. House Assist puts an end to flicking through directories or searching online – make one phone call and everything will be taken care of. Also, we have a team at your

disposal to keep you informed of the latest administrative and legal procedures related to your home (disasters, moving, buying).

House Assist is a simple and effective daily service, providing emergency solutions for your home and for its inhabitants. Ideal for peace of mind so that you can enjoy your home. 📍

## PRACTICALLY

House Assist: we send an emergency specialist to help you out, paying the repairman directly for travel costs, labour costs and replacement parts up to €400 including €50 VAT for spare parts. House Assist costs €109 per year

**More info: 02 541 9999**  
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# A Beach Symphony

**Jeanie Keogh** gets away from it all in an authentic 'boutique' location

**I**t is difficult to find affordable luxury resorts that are not big, imposing eyesores gobbling up waterfront property on what used to be untouched stretches of beach. Mostly, where there is one resort, there are usually many and they become crowded with noisy, spoiled tourists. And, admittedly, there is something colonial about the whole thing – rich westerners coming to live in gated communities staffed by locals.

Not so with A Beach Symphony, a boutique eco-resort in Alleppey on the south-western coast of India, run by a Belgian couple since 2007. In fact, Flemish couple Jan and Cristel Arryn shy away from using the word resort altogether, calling it a beach "stay". It is boutique in the true sense – there are but four cottages on the beach and the layout and tasteful, understated décor are such that you feel very much at home in your own personal vacation bungalow. There are little to no sight lines of the other cottages and when there are, the landscape architecture has been done in such a way that the foliage provides for a high-level of privacy.

The staff are discreet, their service is impeccably timed, and your meals are served on the expansive balcony (there is no restaurant) so you never have to leave your day bed, lounge chair or hammock. Perfect for the overworked businessperson, the hermit or the famous celebrity keeping a low profile.

One of the most attractive features is that the cottages were originally fishing huts that were remodelled but still retain the original authentic feel so that eating seafood caught by the local fisherman becomes an historical experience. At



the shore, which is about 150 meters from the cottages, the beach is just as pristine: no shops, no vendors hawking their wares, no swarm of surfers, kite surfers or jet skiers. At peak time, there are all of eight white people, a handful of Indians swimming in their clothes (as per conservative Indian culture) and fishermen repairing nets. A Beach Symphony is a place where you understand, from the moment you read the welcome package, that it was created with the Indian community in mind – there are tips on how much to tip the staff, making a charitable donation to a local school and a reminder about water shortages in the region in the section on cleaning and laundry facilities.

It is the antidote to Goa and let's hope, for the sake of those for whom taking a vacation is not about flocking to the popular holiday hot spots, it stays that way. It is here you will discover the unique flavour of Kerala culture in your own time, at your own pace.

[www.abeachsymphony.com](http://www.abeachsymphony.com)



# Aquastelle

*Love is in the air*



**E**vents are supposed to be enjoyable, but there are few things more stressful than all the planning that comes before them. You have to find a venue, and then you need to decorate it. And what about food, lighting and music? And is everyone really having fun? If you're like me, you're so wrapped up in everyone else that you forget to eat and don't get a second to enjoy yourself.

This time, let someone else take the reins. Aquastelle is a private wellness centre with a spa and sauna that will vaporize your stress with their all-inclusive event packages. Got a birthday coming up? Aquastelle will plan it all, and they'll handle the decorations for you – so leave your balloons at home!

If you're looking for a more intimate experience, packages for two come in a variety of times and prices. Some offer massages for two, while others give you access to a private sauna, Jacuzzi steam room, heated swimming pool, aromatherapy showers and relaxation area for two hours.

No matter which one you choose, the facilities simply ooze relaxation, with blue and purple lighting and an understated ambiance. Even if you're not hosting an event any time soon, the sauna and relaxation spa make for an incredible afternoon just spending time with yourself. Among other amenities, Aquastelle offers massages and luxurious private baths heated to 32 degrees, and it's located only ten minutes from the centre of Brussels.

For more information, visit [www.aquastelle.be](http://www.aquastelle.be) or call 0032 485 07 28 86.

# Waerboom: An exceptional venue

“ AND THIS FAMILY BUSINESS IS CELEBRATING ITS 25<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY THIS YEAR ”



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- Waerboom Farm
- Hotel and studios for short or long stays
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- Wellness Waer Waters close by
- Professional team

**I**t is rare to find such a gem in the heart of the capital, a place that boasts a unique setting and exceptional food. Indeed, Waerboom relies partly on its own farm to ensure such high quality from its kitchen!

Located 10 minutes from Brussels, Waerboom is the ideal place for all your main events! And this family business is celebrating its 25th birthday this year.

This is a venue that offers a rich and varied choice, with customized formulas. It can accommodate up to 400 people. You can reserve it for a baptism, first communion, ball, jubilee, birthday or your wedding! Note: a magnificent gift from us - free entry for a year to de Waer Waters Wellness Centre if you book a wedding for over 150 people!\*

And, whether it's a private event or for business, you are guaranteed that our very professional service will make your day a success! Hotel accommodation is also available for guests. Stay overnight in the hotel and you have the possibility of having access to the Wellness centre and the Aufguss sessions – infinite relaxation.

Every month, Waerboom offers gourmet buffets - a great brunch or lunch, and on some afternoons tea dances. Unique and varied concepts which you can enjoy as a couple or in a group. It's a great way to discover gastronomic delights which will surprise your taste buds.

Check the calendar and book online. 📅

*\*subject to conditions and noncumulative:  
150 guests for the full menu*

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Did you know that cheese has eyes? **Brielle Gregory** finds out more

# Say cheese, Swiss style

**C**heese has been a staple in diets all over the world for thousands of years, with evidence of cheese-making dating all the way back to 5,500 BC. However, over the past few centuries, one cheese in particular has quickly taken over cheese-lovers' hearts: Swiss.

Swiss cheese is a shiny, pale yellow cheese that is best known for being spotted with holes. Swiss has a milder flavour than many other cheeses, which makes it a popular choice as a pairing with other foods and fine wines.

However, to many peoples' dismay, the cheese we first think of when we think 'Swiss' is actually an Americanized version of one of the original Switzerland-made cheeses known as Emmental.

Emmental, which today is the most widely known form of Swiss cheese, was originally discovered in its namesake area of Switzerland. The cheese is made from whole cow's milk and has a buttery, sometimes nutty taste. It is often considered one of the most difficult cheeses to produce because of its complicated fermentation process, which is the cause of its holey exterior.

What gives Swiss cheese its trademark hole-spotted look is the process of combining the bacteria in the cheese with cow's milk which then creates curds. The curds are then sent through moulds and pressed in brine, and finally wrapped in a film and stored in a cave where they ripen.

As they ripen, one of the strands of bacteria called 'P. shermani' produces carbon dioxide that creates bubbles in the cheese. Then, when

the cheese is later sliced, the bubbles burst, leaving behind those signature Swiss cheese holes. These holes are better referred to in the cheese world as 'eyes', and if a slice of Swiss is without eyes, it is appropriately called 'blind'.

This process of cheese-making quickly took the wheel around the

15th century because previous ways of making cheese didn't keep the product fresh. The new method of cheese-making and storing then spread to the US during the 19th century, which is how the stereotype of Swiss cheese eventually evolved into what it is today.

Even still, Emmental represents only a very small sliver of the cheeses hailing from



Switzerland. In fact, Emmental is just one type of cheese among about 450 different types of cheese produced in the country. We composed a list of the eight most popular aside from the famous Emmental.

### Sbrinz

Claimed to be the oldest European cheese, dating back to 70 AD, this hard cheese is typically compared to Parmesan and is often used for the same purposes. Sbrinz is made with very top-quality raw milk and has no additives.

### Gruyère

This cheese is often seen as the second most popular type of Swiss cheese right after Emmental. It's produced mainly in the French-speaking areas of Switzerland, and is also produced in France itself. In fact, this production of the cheese in both Switzerland and France has caused quite the controversy between the two countries as to where the claim of the cheese lies. Gruyère is the ideal cooking cheese for its ability to melt, and is used often in French onion soup and in fondues.

### Schabziger/Sap Sago

A very distinctive cheese due to its cone-shape and green color, Schabziger is one of the healthier Swiss cheese options. The cheese is made with skim milk and is essentially fat-free. It is often used as a spread with butter or as fondue.

### Appenzeller

Having a more fruity flavour than the other types of Swiss, this cheese is sold at different stages of its aging process. The three types of Appenzeller are: classic, which means it's aged three to four months; surchoix, which means it's aged four to six months; and extra, which means it's aged six months or longer.

### Raclette

Most commonly used for melting, this type of cheese also refers to the Swiss dish it is used to make. Raclette, the dish, is made by heating the Raclette cheese and then scraping off the melted part.

### Tête de Moine

One of the most pungent cheeses, Tête de Moine is often served in an incredibly thin format. Its name translates as 'Monk's Head', in reference to the monastery where it was originally produced.

### Vacherin Fribourgeois and Vacherin Mont d'Or

Both of these cheeses are made from cow's milk, although Vacherin Fribourgeois is the firmer of the two and is often used in fondue recipes. Vacherin Mont d'Or is quite a bit softer and is often heated and then used as a dip.

Overall, Swiss cheese makes for one of the healthiest cheese options in the world. It's extremely rich in phosphorous, and the calcium in Swiss cheese helps maintain a healthy blood pressure. Furthermore, it's very high in protein, with just one ounce of Swiss cheese providing 16% of the daily protein the average person needs.

Because Swiss cheese has grown to be such a popular cheese, a world championship called the Swiss Cheese Awards is held every year to determine who has the best Swiss cheese. This past year, 830 cheeses competed to win in front of over 100 jurors.

With its varying flavours and distinct nature, it's no wonder Swiss has quickly become one of the world's most beloved cheeses. 🧀



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## La Villa in the Sky: Très Haute Cuisine

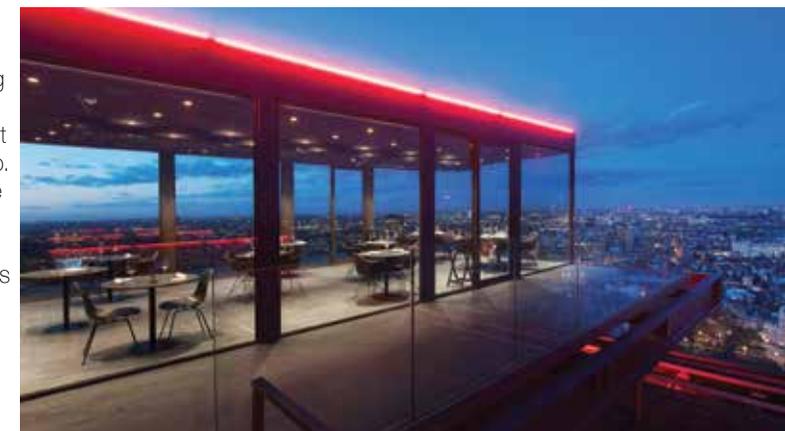
**Colin Moors** braves his vertigo to scale the heights of Brussels gastronomy

**L**isten carefully, we haven't got much time. I've been given a mere page to sing the praises of La Villa in the Sky. Of course, I'm not obliged to sell it to you but I honestly don't have to. If you can get a table, go and see for yourself. Imagine fine dining atop the highest building on the skyline, surrounded by three glass walls and you'll be close but nowhere near.

Of course, the sum of the parts are so much greater than the "good food plus good views" equation. The staff is friendly and efficient. Pleasant at all times and extremely well drilled, they move around what is quite an intimate space effortlessly. One keynote of a great dining experience is how often you remember the staff hanging around. The only time you notice them is when they are foisting delicious sourdough bread upon you. The female staff wore sneakers, which must have made their evening easier but which also added to the informal-yet-sophisticated vibe of the place. The chefs, however, were fully dressed for the occasion and had obviously earned their whites.

There was music, something I don't care for personally, particularly at higher-end eateries but this was a quite hip soundtrack (depending on your age, I suppose) and it faded to almost nothing as conversations got going. Perfect. So, with the ambience and cool credentials checked off and satisfactory, how good could the food be?

In short, a revelation. We decided to let the staff pair the wines for us, which turned out to be a



good choice, given the wide variety of dishes we were served. The wines were young but thoughtfully chosen to balance against the dishes, with nothing overpowering.

The courses were as varied as the season dictated, the stand-out but not show-off amuses-gueules were varied and seasonal and followed by several courses, of which two stood out in particular for me. The soy-marinated Scottish salmon with wasabi, fish roe and squid crisps was finished off with lightly pickled red onion and coriander for a real fusion explosion, traditional meeting Oriental and shaking hands firmly. The star for me, as a fish fanatic, was the turbot. Served with a rich, reduced lobster bisque, I was concerned by the addition of the coffee foam. When you eat it, though, you realize why the chef does the job he does. Just wonderful.

Go, get eating, and look out of the window – if you can take your eyes off the food.

[www.lavillainthesky.be](http://www.lavillainthesky.be)

# Smooth loving

New smoothie and chocolate collections for St. Valentine's night

## Healthy Smoothies for Wellness

Fancy treating your loved one to something a little different this Valentine's Day? If so, why not try out the aptly-named 'Sweet Kiss' smoothie, which gives a romantic twist to the popular fruit drink.

The product, Healthy Smoothies for Wellness, is the brainchild of Belgian Morgane Ball and her best pal Anicée Massant, who have produced a new "smoothie package" containing all the fruits necessary to make your own blended drink.

Each package has its recipe highlighting the health benefits and, as Morgane says "some tricks".

She explains: "Each package contains enough fruits for two smoothies or one big smoothie to drink all day. There are fruits for two smoothies: one green and one more fruity. For example, you could have an immune defence smoothie and also a detox one."

Morgane says: "Sweet Kiss is a very original smoothie which has an aphrodisiac effect. Unfortunately, I can't divulge the ingredients as we prefer people discover it themselves."

[www.facebook.com/ma.smoothies](http://www.facebook.com/ma.smoothies)



## Atoms

For St. Valentine's Day take your loved one on a tour of the world. Belgian artisanal chocolate maker Stephen Vandeparre has used the Atomium and its spheres as inspiration for a three-box collection entitled 'Atoms'.

In the spheres he revisits the flavours of 15 countries, including Belgium, of course. Let your taste buds travel from Texas and back to Brussels, via popcorn, gingerbread cuberdon or babelutte.

[chocolaterie-vandeparre.be](http://chocolaterie-vandeparre.be)



# MARTIN'S BRUSSELS

## One of the Martin's hotels

Martin's Hotel provides the cosy, classy setting for a Valentine's Day feast.



So, what do you have prepared for your beloved for the year's most romantic day? We're guessing that whatever it is, you would be hard-pressed to find a better setting for a steamy tryst than Martin's, which is to be found just down the road from the Berlaymont, perfectly placed for just about everything that the capital of Europe has to offer, from the beautiful park Cinquantenaire (Jubelpark), the European Parliament, and the majestic Grand-Place just a short Metro ride away.

And, as Together has previously reported, the hotel's culinary centre-piece, Icones, is also difficult to top - and what a splendid meal is being proposed for your nuit d'amour.

The theme, unsurprisingly, is marriage nuptials - from At first sight (delightful, surprising amuse bouches) to A bouquet of flowers (Carpaccio of duck, smoked foie gras and deep-fried brioche, creamed beets and flowers), taking in, naturally, The white dress (Fresh crayfish ravioli, white soy-lime mousseline sauce and crispy prawn crackers), The ring (Pure Iberian filet, stuffed zucchini flowers and sea urchin mousse with a garland of string potatoes) completed, of

course, by True love (Macaroons flavoured with saffron and dark chocolate and a coulis of red fruits). All this can be yours for the truly crowd-pleasing price of €48, with wine, namely Cava bubbles, two glasses of Cuvée Bouchard Aîné (white, rosé or red) and coffee for a mere €16.50 en plus.

And, after a meal like that, you're not going anywhere else, are you? Thought not - enjoy the rest of your night in one of Brussels' best bed-chambers; sleek, stylish but also very cosy, in the only hotel in the city that offers individual Aquamass bubble baths in more than 60% of bedrooms.

It's all about service at Martin's - and you're certain to have a night that any other Valentine's rendez-vous is set to pale before.

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Belgium  
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[www.martinshotels.com](http://www.martinshotels.com)

# Au Repos des Chasseurs



Cette adresse de référence né au début du 19e siècle, est devenu un incontournable rendez-vous gourmand. C'est dans un cadre somptueux que sa cuisine raffinée et réputée s'affirme : anguilles au vert, tartines au fromage blanc, poissons grillés à la braise et bien sûr ses petits et grands gibiers.

Pour un banquet, une réunion de travail, un mariage, une communion, ...L'établissement propose plusieurs salles multifonctionnelles. Pour un diner en tête à tête compter sur une ambiance chaleureuse !

*A noter : unique en Belgique, l'hôtel 3 étoiles est doté des 3 cheminées logis d'Europe et est le seul logis de Bruxelles. Flat hôtel : possibilité de louer un flat meublé pour des longs séjours*

## Menu de la Saint-Valentin (tout le week-end !)

Amuse bouche



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et sa gelée au Porto

ou Il vitello tonnato à la Piémontoise



Bisque de homard tradition



Marcassin au Cerry,  
pommes, airelles et croquettes

ou Filet de Bar aux petits légumes et purée

ou Filet de bœuf forestière  
et ses pommes rissolées



Assortiment de fromages



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## Wine of the month: Vines and slopes

**Geoffroy van Lede** of vin du mois  
discovers the Savoie vineyards

**T**he next time you go skiing, enjoy a visit to the vineyards of Savoie! You will discover beautiful landscapes and welcoming winemakers, ready to share their passion with you. Above all, enjoy fine wines with unique identities.



schist soil.

Here you will find perfect wines to accompany cheese and preparations based on cheese, such as raclette or fondue. Red wines are mainly characterized by their fruit and a spicy finish (white pepper), begging to accompany your plate of charcuterie and red meat.

The vineyard of Savoie, not as famous as it should be, is very beautiful. You see the mountainside where ski slopes end among the vines. These are vineyards on land with steep slopes where tractors do not have access and where everything has to be done by hand. This particular soil needs local grape varieties used to bad weather conditions: Apremont, Altesse, Mondeuse and Persian. In addition to local grapes, classical varieties are also grown, such as Chardonnay, Pinot and Gamay.

### The vineyards

The wines are predominantly white (85%), then red (10%) and sparkling (5%). They are mostly varietal wines. Some winemakers do some assemblies that can be very interesting, but they remain confidential. In these assemblies you lose a little typicity of Savoie wines and the influence of the soil but you gain in accessibility and immediate pleasure.

What I like in the Savoie wines is their typicity, coming from their difficult soil and weather conditions. You will find a unique acidity, a little fruit and a sense of the soil. In some wines, you will find a nice minerality from limestone or

### Our selection: Altesse, cru Frangy by Bruno Lupin.

The flavours are reminiscent of pear, gingerbread, spice and honey with a touch of nougat and the mouth feel is soft, mellow and off dry with a breathtaking whiplash of acidity. This would be splendid with river fish such as pike or perch, or veal escalope, or even the local Beaufort cheese. €9.15

### Did you know about the landslide of Mont Garnier, the origin of exceptional vineyards?

The exceptional soil of Apremont was created following the landslide of Mont Garnier, dotting the vineyards with various kinds of rock (limestone, marl etc.) and giving the vineyard real specificity.

The cliff of Mont Garnier, nearly 900 metres high, appeared in the night of 24 to 25 November 1248, following a gigantic landslide which removed a part of the mountain. This is probably the largest known landslide in the history of Europe. 📍

What's On

# What's on Belgium

## Photography: Au gré des lignes

As a daily spectator, Jean-Luc Feixa "likes to let his gaze settle on mundane scenes until he identifies the anecdote that will transform the pallor of the anodyne into a beautiful picture".

From New York to Paris, via the bridges of Budapest to the ports of the island of Madeira, the 18 photographs in this exhibition recreate this journey. Verhaeren gallery, rue Gratès 7 (place Keym) Brussels 1170.

Until February 22

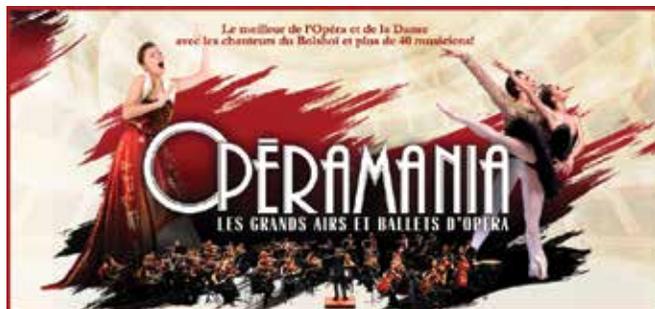
[www.facebook.com/jl.feixa](http://www.facebook.com/jl.feixa)



## The Offscreen Film Festival

This annual event is the Belgian rendez-vous for fans of unusual cinema. It is a showcase for independent, cult, new and, above all, unconventional films. This uncompetitive and crazy event is known for the multiplicity of genres and uses various locations to better spread its eccentricity. **4-22 March**

[www.offscreen.be](http://www.offscreen.be)



## Operamania (Moscow Ballet)

A meeting of the most famous operas and classical ballets in the world accompanied by orchestra.

On the bill are Bizet's Carmen, Puccini's La Bohème, Rossini The Barber of Seville's, Verdi's La Traviata, Nabucco and Rigoletto. Among the ballets are Swan Lake, The Sleeping Beauty and The Nutcracker. **15, 2, 28 March**. Forest National. **Tickets: €39-€73**

[www.forestnational.be](http://www.forestnational.be)



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## LIFE OF LEISURE

What's On



Photo © Musée des Beaux-Arts de Caen

### FACES THEN:

#### Renaissance Portraits from the Low Countries

The 16th century was the golden age of the portrait. For centuries only saints and monarchs enjoyed the privilege of having their portrait painted. As of the late 15th century the share of portraiture grew exponentially in line with the economy and meant that the bourgeoisie were now able to have themselves immortalised increasingly often.

With around 50 exceptional portraits from the Low Countries (Antwerp, Bruges, Brussels, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Haarlem...) **FACES THEN** gives us a good overview of different portrait genres and their role in the 16th century. It is the first major retrospective of this subject since 1953. **BOZAR. Until 17.May** - [www.bozar.be](http://www.bozar.be)



### Maasmechelen Village

Maasmechelen Village celebrates the Chinese New Year. The shopping village will be colourfully adorned with oriental decorations, and there will be Chinese entertainment during the weekends. **1 to 28 February.** [www.maasmechelenvillage.com](http://www.maasmechelenvillage.com)

### Art & Design Sessions

The BMW Brand Store Brussels is home to exceptional cars, prestigious guests, the latest lifestyle collections, high-end events and themed exhibitions.

It will open its doors to art and design, by introducing new sessions each month, during which artists will have the opportunity to exhibit and explain their works and make themselves known to our public by presenting themselves next to their pieces. Antwerp photographer Marc Lagrange's work is evocative, sensual and voluptuous, celebrating beauty and pleasure with a subtle touch. Until 20 February. BMW Brand Store, Brussels. - [www.bmwbrandstore.be](http://www.bmwbrandstore.be)



What's on

# Cinema



Picturenose.com's **James Drew** previews films coming your way in February

## A Most Violent Year

Set in New York City during the winter of 1981, statistically one of the most violent years in the city's history, J.C. Chandor's (Margin Call (2011)) film concerns the life of immigrant Abel Morales (Oscar Isaac) and his family, who are trying to expand their business and capitalize on opportunities as the rampant violence, decay and corruption of the city drag them in and threaten to destroy all they have built. Advance word is very good – a gritty, hefty crime drama, by all accounts.  
*125 mins.*

## American Sniper

But Clint's always worth a view, isn't he? Eastwood adapts the autobiography of Chris Kyle. The film depicts Kyle's tour of duty in Iraq and his struggles to be a good father and husband despite his deployment and reputation as the country's finest sharp-shooter. Bradley Cooper and Sienna Miller are the husband and wife.  
*132 mins.*

## Fifty Shades of Grey

Admit it, you're going to watch it, aren't you? Samantha 'Sam' Taylor-Johnson OBE adapts E.L. James' bestseller and I have no doubt, just like the book, that the film is really going to blow the lid right off nookie. Dakota Johnson and Jamie Dornan star.  
*124 mins.*

## Lucifer

Gust Van den Berghe continues his cinematic experimentation with Lucifer, the last part of his religious-themed trilogy, which has been filmed in a newly invented 'round' format called 'Tondoscope', in which the image is shot via an optical cone-shaped mirror. The story concerns Lucifer's Mexican hiatus as he shifts from heaven to hell, and Van den Berghe has said that he drew visual influences from Hieronymus Bosch and other artists: Bosch's Creation of the World, as well as Giovanni di Paolo's work on the same subject, depicts enclosed circular spaces reflecting the era's general conception of celestial paradise. But how well has Berghe adapted this into cinematic language? Intriguing, it must be said.  
*110 mins.*

Read more reviews: [www.picturenose.com](http://www.picturenose.com)



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# What's on international

Photo © 2010 Vancouver - Comité International Olympique (CIO), Kishimoto



### The Olympic Games: Behind the Screen

This exhibition explores the history of broadcasting the Games on radio and television, as well as looking at how the Games will be experienced in the future. Thanks to their audiovisual coverage, each edition of the Games creates a global community around the host city.

The exhibition looks at this universal dimension of broadcasting from two angles: the new technology used in the cause of sporting excellence to develop original solutions for viewers around the world, and the creation of emotions made possible by systems to broadcast content above and beyond the purely sporting performance. **19 February 2015 to 26 January 2016.** The Olympic Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland. **Tickets from €4**

[www.olympic.org/museum](http://www.olympic.org/museum)



### Jeff Koons

This retrospective is designed to take stock of an unquestionably great body of work, now inseparable from the man who created it: Jeff Koons. The Centre Pompidou devotes a retrospective to 58-year-old artist.

**Until 27 April 2015.** Centre Pompidou. **Tickets: €13** (free first Sunday of the month [www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr))

### Cinderella for Children (Gioachino Rossini)

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